

Prayer Requests

Mennonite Church USA: Benin Bible Institute, a Mennonite Mission Network partner in West Africa, celebrated its 30th anniversary last month. Praise God for the more than 1,000 church leaders BBI has trained for ministry, and pray for the resources necessary for the school's continuation.

Western District Conference: Give thanks to God for God's good provisions and for the strong financial giving for Western District Conference ministries of pastoral support, congregational resourcing, and church planting.

This congregation: Gives thanks for new members joining BCMC today! Pray that we may be a welcoming congregation, eager to learn from the perspectives and questions that new members bring, and to offer a place of hospitality and opportunity for growth and ministry.

If you would like to request prayer or a visit, contact the church office or one of the pastors. The Prayer Network and Visitation Team are ministries sponsored by the Deacon Commission.

Bethel College Mennonite Church welcomes into fellowship and membership all persons who confess faith in Jesus Christ, without regard to their race, ethnic background, gender, age, sexual orientation, education, ability, and other factors which give rise to discrimination and marginalization.

Bethel College Mennonite Church, 2600 College Avenue, Box 364

North Newton, KS 67117

Phone: 316-283-3667

Fax: 316-283-2079

Email: office.bcmc@sbcglobal.net

Web site: bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Church office hours: 9:00 a.m. – noon on Mon – Fri; 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. on Mon – Thurs.

Building is locked daily at 5 p.m. unless evening activities are scheduled.

Notary public service is available in the church office.

Pastor: Heidi Regier Kreider, heidi.bcmc@sbcglobal.net

Home phone 284-0448, day off is Friday

Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Susan Wheeler, susanmwheeler@gmail.com

Home phone 620-327-2295, cell phone 316-706-0887; day off is Monday

Associate Pastor for Faith Formation: John Tyson, john.bcmc@sbcglobal.net

Cell phone 215-896-1047; day off is Monday

Administrative Assistant: Monica Lichti, office.bcmc@sbcglobal.net

Custodian: Michael Crawford, 316-727-9840

Music Coordinator: Rebecca Schloneger, 316-772-6084

Bell Choir Director: Vada Snider, 283-5231

Chancel Choir Director: William Eash

Cherub Choir director: Jill Siebert

Junior Choir director: Elizabeth Schrag

November 16 at BCMC: Attendance: 254. General Fund \$4,791.76; General Fund 2015 \$5,014.57; Living Stones \$60; Ken Deckert Memorial \$50; Transfer-Funeral \$485.68.



Bethel College Mennonite Church November 23, 2014 - 9:30 a.m. Worship

GATHERING

Prelude

Karen Loucks, piano

Greeting

John Waltner

***Call to worship** from Psalm 65

We come to praise you, O God, the One who answers prayer!
When sin overwhelms us, you forgive our transgressions.

By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation. You are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with might. You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples.

Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs; you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.

You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.

You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy!

***Hymn**

Sing to the Lord of harvest

HWB 98

(Children come forward during hymn)

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Time with children

Dick Koontz

Scripture reading

Deuteronomy 8:7-18

Worship music

We gather together

arr. Dobrinski

Chancel Bells; Vada Snider, director

Scripture reading

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Meditation

Heidi Regier Kreider

RESPONDING IN FAITH

Reception of new members

Congregational response

HWB 794

Prayer of God's people

Offering

To learn more about BCMC or share a prayer request, please fill out a card from the pew rack and place in offering plate.

Offertory

*Dedication hymn *We plow the fields* HWB 96

Pony Express captains come forward during hymn,
to return financial commitment packets.

*Dedication prayer

SENDING

*Hymn *We will walk with God*

STJ 78

*Benediction

STJ 158

*Benediction response

*Postlude

Prepare for the coming season of Advent! As you leave your seat please stack *Sing the Journey* songbooks at end of each pew on the inside aisle. *Sing the Story* will be in pew racks next Sunday.

*All who are able are invited to stand

HWB = *Hymnal: A Worship Book*

STJ = *Sing the Journey*

Welcome! New members joining BCMC today are Erin Brubacher, Brent Dungan, Lora Dungan, David Haury, Rose Haury, Al Peters, Nadine Peters, Rachel Poling, Amy Tyson, and John Tyson. Following the worship service, you may greet them at the rear of the sanctuary, and pick up a copy of their printed faith statements to read and get better acquainted with them.

Welcome visitors and friends! May you sense God's presence at BCMC. Personal hearing devices are at the north sanctuary entrance. The nursery at rear of sanctuary is available during worship for families with infants and toddlers. Following Time with Children, children receive activity bags to use during worship (return to baskets at the entrance as you leave). We invite members and visitors to fill out welcome/prayer cards located in pew racks and place them in the offering plates for response by pastoral staff.

We offer sympathy to Susan and Lee Wheeler and family on the death of Susan's father, Melvin Headrick, Nov. 15, LaJunta, CO. The memorial service was Nov. 22 at East Holbrook Mennonite Church, Cheraw, CO.

We offer sympathy to LaWanda and Emerson Wiens on the death of LaWanda's brother-in-law, Laurence E. Bartel, Hesston, KS. The memorial service was Nov. 20 at First Mennonite Church, Newton.

Pray for those receiving medical care this week: Lois Deckert and Dan Baumgartner and John Suderman (released) at Newton Medical Center.

Heidi Ensz and family thank you for the cards and other acts of kindness shown to them after the death of Roland Ensz.

BCMC's Pony Express, the financial commitment process for preparing the 2015 budget, concludes today as neighborhood captains return packets during the offering dedication hymn. Please return any additional intent forms to the church office as soon as possible. **If you did not receive a packet and want to participate, please contact the church office.** Information from the forms will be combined to determine total commitments for 2015. Based on this, Church Board will recommend a final budget for approval at the congregational meeting on January 25, 2015. Thank you for your participation!

BCMC budget update: Income exceeded expenses by \$1,938 in October, however year-to-date expenses were \$8,784 more than income at the end of October. As you prayerfully anticipate your commitment for the 2015 budget through the Pony Express, please review your 2014 giving as well.
~ Richard Friesen, Treasurer

During the Thanksgiving season, the Deacon Commission invites contributions to the above-budget Caring Fund to assist congregation and community members with needs such as utility and rent expenses, food or other emergencies. Contributions may be put in the regular offering, with checks made out to BCMC and designated "Caring Fund."

On December 7, during Sunday school at 10:50 a.m., the Witness Commission and Seekers Sunday School class will host BCMC member John Bergen who has recently returned from Iraqi Kurdistan where he served with Christian Peacemaker Teams. All are invited to hear John talk about his experiences during this Sunday school elective in Fellowship Hall.



You are invited to share a poinsettia for the sanctuary for the Christmas season. The Decorating Committee will purchase the poinsettias, and have them delivered to church later in December. To contribute, fill out the section below, attach payment of \$15.00 to BCMC (designated "Flower Fund") and place in offering plate or bring to church office by Dec. 7. Contact Mildred Voran at 284-2071 for more information. Contributors may pick up a poinsettia on Christmas Eve after either the 7 pm or 11 pm program.

Donor: _____

In memory of : _____

Or in honor of: _____

The Ministry Support Team for Janet Stucky thanks the congregation for its continuing prayer and financial support for Janet's work with Mennonite Mission Network in Benin. Her birthday celebration on Wednesday evening included an offering of \$1,735. If you want to correspond with Janet, you may email her at jhstucky@gmail.com. ~ *Dorothy Nickel Friesen, chair of Ministry Support Team*

All are invited to join the Harvest of Love, the annual campaign during November-December sponsored by Newton Ministerial Alliance and Salvation Army to gather non-perishable food and donations to assist households in need in Harvey County. Make checks payable to "Harvest of Love" and send to Salvation Army at 208 W. 6th St., Newton, KS 67114. Or bring food items to BCMC and place them on the first pew under the balcony, near the south entrance of the sanctuary.

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary-Kansas Center will partner with Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution to host the course *Conflict, Communication, and Conciliation* Jan. 6-9, 2015. This course led by Kirsten Zenger and Gary Flory will prepare students to navigate interpersonal conflict more fruitfully through a focus on conflict analysis, personal style in conflict, communication skills, conciliation and conflict transformation, and developing spiritual foundations for working with conflict. For more information, please see www.ams.edu/kansascenter.

Homeless Shelter update: The box in the back of the sanctuary is for items donated to HCHS, and contains a list of needed items. In lieu of a holiday meal fundraiser this year, HCHS asks for donations to be sent to HCHS, PO Box 978, Newton, KS 67114. Consider this ministry in your holiday giving!

This Week at BCMC: November 23– November 30, 2014

Today

10:30 a.m. Fellowship time in the Gathering Place; coffee/water available

10:50 a.m. Christian Education – Visitors welcome!

- 2-3 year olds through 4th grade—meet in Fellowship Hall for snack, then Room B-8 for singing before going to classrooms (2-3 year olds in B-6; Pre-K —1st grade in B-4; 2nd-4th grade stay in B-8)
- Grades 5-8 —Rm 26
- Senior High Youth—Rm 22

Adult classes:

- Agape –Patty Shelly speaking about Mennonite Church USA – KIPCOR at 2515 College Ave.
- Bible Study— Room 14 – Overview of Advent Texts
- Catacombs—Rm B-5—Steven Becker, Kansas House of Representatives, on *Capital Punishment*
- Fine Arts —Rm 24—*From Paul to Constantine* - Bart Erdman d.v.d.s
- Issues & Christianity—Rm 23—*Understanding of the New Testament*
- Mosaic—Joining Agape class at KIPCOR
- Open Circle—Rm B-7—Sermon reflection and response
- Seekers—Rm 21 - "The Science of Inequality"-Looking at the scientific approach to understanding poverty
- Sojourners—Chapel—Getting to know each other with John and Amy Tyson

Monday, November 24

3:00 p.m. BCMC worship DVD—Kidron Bethel Health Care

Tuesday, November 25

1:00 p.m. BCMC worship DVD—Kidron Bethel Assisted Living

Wednesday, November 26—No bell choirs or youth choirs

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir—Sanctuary

Thursday, November 27—Happy Thanksgiving!

Church office will be closed and building will be locked

Friday, November 28—Church office closed and building locked

Sunday, November 30—First Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. - 30 minute prelude by string quartet (Rebecca Schloneger and Jason Wong, violin; Keith Neufeld, viola; Danny Friesen, cello)

9:30 a.m. Worship with music by Chancel Choir and meditation by John Tyson; Communion will be served

10:30 a.m. Fellowship time in the Gathering Place; coffee/water available

10:50 a.m. Christian Education

Advent begins next Sunday! In church boxes today are fliers listing scripture readings, worship schedules, and special events for the season of Advent and Christmas. Beginning next Sunday, check the bulletin and BCMC website for reflection questions related to each Sunday's sermon. Consider using these for conversation in your Sunday school class, or for personal reflection during the week.

Check items in the kitchen on the counter by the big silver refrigerator. If some of these belong to you, take them home; otherwise items left will be taken to the Et Cetera Shop in mid December.

Check out BCMC's website at bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org to read the latest "Pastor's Post," and see other updates from BCMC. **And be sure to 'like' BCMC's Facebook page** to receive updates and connect with friends in our community of faith!

At Western District Conference Reference Council on Nov. 15, delegates and members from BCMC and other congregations gathered to hear background information and a report of the Discernment Task Force Survey, and for discussion on polity (how we relate to one another as congregations within the WDC and as a conference with the broader church). To read the survey report and other Reference Council presentations, go to the WDC website at mennowdc.org (click on "WDC Gatherings" then "Fall 2014 Reference Council") or check out a printed copy from the BCMC library. Another Reference Council will be April 11, 2015, to focus more directly on issues of sexuality and a resolution proposed by Rainbow Mennonite Church.

Bethel College announcements:

- **Mon., Nov. 24, 7:30 p.m.** – Bethel College Wind Ensemble "American Masterpieces" concert, with guest conductor Frank L. Battisti; Krehbiel Auditorium, Luyken Fine Arts Center
- **Wed., Nov. 26** -No Life Enrichment –Thanksgiving Week
- **Wed., Dec. 3, 11 a.m.** –Sing along to Christmas portions of Handel's *Messiah* at BCMC, with Bethel College soloists, conductors and instrumentalists; scores provided, and all are welcome
- **Fri., Dec. 5, 8 p.m.** – Christmas Gala Jazz Concert with Bethel College Jazz Ensembles I and II - Krehbiel Auditorium
- **Sat., Dec. 6, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.** – 5 Places of Christmas, Luyken Fine Arts Center (Christmas collections from 25 local contributors) and Kauffman Museum (indoor scavenger hunt with chance to win a crèche; museum director Annette LeZotte speaking on *Nuns and Nativity Cradles* at 11 a.m. Free admission.
- **Sun., Dec. 7, 8 p.m.** – Lighting of the Green at Bethel College, on the Green; refreshments follow in the cafeteria

Friends of Ted Mueller are invited to celebrate his 80th birthday (just a bit early – actual date is December 3) on Saturday, November 29, 2 – 5 p.m. at KIPCOR, also known as Kaufman House. Toasts and roasts around 3 p.m. No gifts, please! Compulsive givers can make a contribution to KIPCOR in Ted's honor, or contact Berneil Rupp Mueller for other ideas.

A Ten Thousand Village festival sale will take place in back of Prairie Harvest in Newton the next two weekends. Dates are: Friday, Nov. 28 - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, Nov. 29 - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4 - 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 5 - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6 - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 7 - 1 to 4 p.m.

Kidron Bethel Village Christmas Gift Market, Saturday, Dec. 6, 9 a.m. to noon, Menno Hall Chapel, 3001 Ivy Drive, North Newton. Artisan arts and crafts creations and food gifts, peppernuts, zwieback, wheat marquetry, woodturning, quilting, holiday décor and more!

Newton Treble Clef annual Christmas vespers is Sun., Dec. 7, 3 p.m. at First Mennonite Church, 429 E 1st, Newton. Prelude by Donna Stucky; music by Treble Clef Chorus, Sunflower Trio (Rebecca Schloneger, viola; Matt Schloneger, vocalist; Ken Rodgers, piano); Michelle Armster, soloist. Nutcracker Suite music and photography by Vada Snider, flute; Karen Loucks, piano; and Duane Graham, photography; offertory by Joan Wulf, organ. Freewill offering for Treble Clef Scholarship Fund. All are invited.

Mennonite Central Committee announcements:

- **Christmas Open House** is Tues., Dec. 9, 4-6 p.m. at the MCC Center in North Newton (121 E. 30th). Come meet new people in MCC Central States and visit with MCC alumni. At 4:30 p.m. will be a reflection from Carol Duerksen about her recent MCC Learning Tour to Palestine/Israel. There will be Christmas goodies to enjoy!
- **Thank you** for your support of girls at the Secure Unit at Youthville in Newton by supplying personal hygiene items in October. Over 740 personal hygiene products, plus socks, t-shirts, slippers and more were delivered.

Newton Community Children's Choir celebrates 25 years of music with their winter concert, Sun., Nov. 30, 2:30 p.m. in Memorial Hall, Bethel College. There will be an Alumni Choir honoring NCCC's founding director, Norma Preheim. Alumni are invited to join the rehearsal at 1 p.m. on the day of the concert. See nccchoir.org/25th-anniversary-concert-in-honor-of-norma-preheim for music and details.