

Prayer Requests

Mennonite Church USA: Nearly 50 participants are three months into their Mennonite Voluntary Service assignments, a Christian Service program of Mennonite Mission Network. Pray for these young adults as they adapt to life in community and work in fields that include public health, immigration law, and home repair.

Western District Conference: Pray for David Stevens who will be installed as pastor today at Hope Mennonite Church, Wichita.

This congregation: Give thanks for musicians who prepare and perform extra music for Advent and Christmas, and pray for God to strengthen them with health and joy during this full season.

Prayers in today's service are adapted from *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion* by permission, Westminster John Knox Press, c. 2014.

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

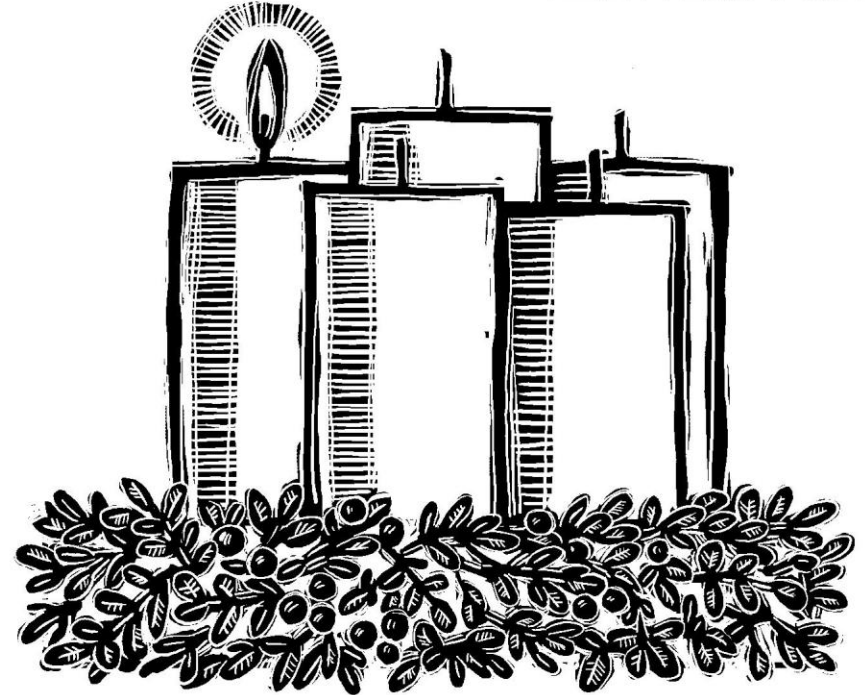
Chancel Choir Director: William Eash

Cherub Choir director: Jill Siebert

Junior Choir director: Elizabeth Schrag

November 23 at BCMC: Attendance: 294. General Fund \$9,049.68; Mennonite Mission Network (Janet Stucky) \$1,835; Media Supplies \$5; MCC Meat Canning \$150; Transfer-General \$92.69; General Fund 2015 \$250; Caring Fund \$400; Living Stones \$2,555; Flower Fund \$90; Transfer-Funeral \$455.55; Roland Ensz Memorial \$25.

First Sunday in Advent



Bethel College Mennonite Church
November 30, 2014

Bethel College Mennonite Church
November 30, 2014 - 9:30 a.m. Worship
First Sunday in Advent: *Keep Awake!*

GATHERING

9:00 a.m. Prelude Rebecca Schloneger and Jason Wong, violin;
Keith Neufeld, viola; Danny Friesen, cello

Greeting Heidi Regier Kreider

Call to worship **HWB 664**

Hymn *O come, O come, Immanuel* (verse 1) **HWB 172**
Verlene Garber, organist

Lighting of Advent candle Dick and Barb Koontz

Prayer of confession Susan Wheeler, leader
God-with-us, even in Advent we confess that you can seem far away. You are hidden when we need you near. We turn away from you in our hurt, doubt and fear. In this time of silence, we offer to you our prayers of confession. *[Silence]*
Forgive us and come to save us. Let your face shine until our tears are dried, our sins removed, our hope restored. We belong to you, and in your hands we can be made new. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Words of assurance

***Hymn** *O Savior, rend the heavens* **HWB 175**
(Children come forward during hymn)

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Time with children Marlene Ewert

Anthem *Huron carol* arr. Warland
Chancel Choir; Doyle Preheim, guest director
Rebecca Schloneger and Jason Wong, violin

Old Testament reading Isaiah 64:1-9

Hymn *Save us, O Lord!* (text from Psalm 80) **STS 6**
Congregation sings refrain; choir soloists sing verses

New Testament reading Mark 13:32-37

Meditation *Hope against Hope* John Tyson

RESPONDING IN FAITH

***Hymn** *Sleepers, wake!* (verses 1-2) **HWB 188**

Service of Communion

Prayers of intercession and thanksgiving

Words of institution

Sharing the Bread (hold bread until all have been served)
Let all mortal flesh keep silence [HWB 463] Chancel Choir

Sharing the Cup (drink as the tray of cups is passed to you)
Soul, adorn thyself with gladness [HWB 473] String quartet

Prayer after Communion **HWB 789**

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** *Comfort, comfort, now my people* Near
People with November birthdays are invited to come forward during the offertory to receive a blessing.

***Dedication hymn** *Come, thou long expected Jesus* **HWB 178**
Sing a cappella as directed

***Dedication prayer**

SENDING

Anthem *Walk in the light* arr. Thomas
Chancel Choir; William Eash, director

***Benediction**

***Benediction response**

***Postlude**

*All who are able are invited to stand

HWB = Hymnal: A Worship Book

STS = Sing the Story

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.

***Keep Awake!* is the theme for worship at BCMC during Advent.**

During this season we await and celebrate the coming of Christ. Through the birth of Jesus and the in-breaking of God's shalom, God reveals the divine mystery and sheds new light on all things! **Advent banners** mark our movement through the Advent season. Created by Robert Regier, they present a gradual crescendo of light and color, providing possibilities for insight, discovery and renewal. 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. Today's questions:

1. What are sources of hope in your personal life this Advent season?
2. How does your church community help you experience hope?
3. What are some things you hope to see come true in the world?

This Week at BCMC: November 30– December 7, 2014

Join the Harvest of Love, the annual campaign 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.

Christmas season events in the area:

- **Newton Community Children’s Choir** celebrates 25 years of music with their winter concert, today, 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. **today**. See nccchoir.org/25th-anniversary-concert-in-honor-of-norma-preheim for music and details.
- **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.
- **Bob Regier's "Journey Through Time" exhibit** opens Dec. 6 at Carriage Factory Art Gallery, Newton with a reception at 7 p.m. Exhibit will be a retrospective of Bob’s work over nearly six decades. Reception is free and open to the public.
- **The McPherson Community Brass Choir** directed by Jerry Toews performs at the Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church, Sun., Dec. 7 at 5 p.m. Alexanderwohl Church is one mile north of Goessel on Highway K-15.
- **Newton Treble Clef annual Christmas vespers** is Sun., Dec. 7, 3 p.m. at First Mennonite Church, 429 E 1st, Newton. Music by Donna Stucky; Treble Clef Chorus, Sunflower Trio (Rebecca Schloneger, Matt Schloneger, Ken Rodgers); Michelle Armster, Joan Wulf. Nutcracker Suite music and photography by Vada Snider, Karen Loucks and Duane Graham. Freewill offering for Treble Clef Scholarship Fund.
- **Mennonite Central Committee, 121 E. 30th North Newton, Christmas Open House** is Tues., Dec. 9, 4-6 p.m. Meet new people in MCC Central States and visit with MCC alumni. At 4:30 p.m.: a reflection from Carol Duerksen about her recent MCC Learning Tour to Palestine/Israel.
- **Ten Thousand Village festival sale** will be in back of Prairie Harvest in Newton: Thurs., Dec. 4 - 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Fri., Dec. 5 - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 6 - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 7 - 1 to 4 p.m.

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!

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!

Today—First Sunday of Advent

10:30 a.m. Fellowship time in the Gathering Place; coffee/water available and refreshments served by family of Ted Mueller celebrating his 80th birthday

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 – *Bible study in the congregation*, John Tyson
- Catacombs—Rm B-5—Annette LaZotte of Kauffman Museum
- 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 with Patty Shelly
- Open Circle—Rm B-7—Sermon reflection and response
- Seekers—Rm 21 - “The Science of Inequality” - Understanding poverty
- Sojourners—Chapel— *Celebrating our Diversity*

Monday, December 1

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

Tuesday, December 2

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

5-9 p.m. Bethel College Academy of Performing Arts Rehearsal-Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 3

8:00 a.m. Staff meeting – Room 14

11:00 a.m. Bethel College *Messiah*-sing – BCMC sanctuary

6:30 p.m. Cherub Choir (Rm 24), Junior Choir (Rm 28), Sr Hi Youth (Rm 22)

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir—Sanctuary; Menno Ringers—Rm B-7

8:30 p.m. Chancel Bells—Rm B-7

Thursday, December 4

3-9 p.m. Bethel College Nursing Students’ Haitian Dinner-Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. Church Board – Room 14

Friday, December 5

6:00 p.m. Bethel College Academy of Performing Arts Suzuki Concert-Sanctuary

Sunday, December 7—Second Sunday of Advent

Scripture readings: Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2,8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

9:00 a.m. Prelude by Christopher Shaw, organist

9:30 a.m. Worship - music by Junior Choir, sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider

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

10:50 a.m. Christian Education; Sunday school elective with John Bergen speaking on Christian Peacemaker Teams in Fellowship Hall.

We offer sympathy to Ada and Wes Schmidt-Tieszen and family on the death of Ada's sister, Elaine Ruth Bartel, Nov. 20, Kansas City, KS. The memorial service will be Jan. 3, 2015, 2 p.m. at Rainbow Mennonite Church, Kansas City, KS.

We offer sympathy to Carmen and Kevin Loeffler and family on the death of Carmen's mother, Amparo Goering, Nov. 14, Wichita.

Pray for those who received medical care this week: Vi Ediger, Charles Graber and Dan Baumgartner (released) at Newton Medical Center.

A big thank you for my birthday recognition and your generous financial support. Your birthday wishes, emails, and prayer support on my behalf continue to sustain and encourage me. ~ *Janet Stucky*
(Janet serves with Mennonite Mission Network in Benin. If you want to correspond with Janet, you may email her at jhstucky@gmail.com.)

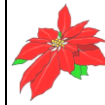
BCMC's financial commitment process for the 2015 budget has concluded and results are being tabulated. Return any additional intent forms to the church office as soon as possible. If you did not receive a packet and want to participate, contact the church office. Information from the forms is combined to determine total commitments for 2015. Based on this, Church Board recommends a final budget for approval at the congregational meeting on January 25, 2015.

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. John will also speak at Kidron-Bethel in Menno Hall at 7 p.m., Mon., Dec. 8. This meeting is open for anyone to attend.

Coming up: On Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) at BCMC the service at 7 p.m. will be led by children and youth, and Cherub Choir and Junior Choir will sing. At 11 p.m. will be a candle-light service of Lesson and Carols with anthems by Chancel Choir and congregational singing. Invite your family, friends and neighbors to join in these special times of worship!

Due to the college dorms being closed over Christmas holidays, Thang von Nguyen (Alex), a Vietnamese student attending Bethel College, and partially supported by BCMC, needs housing December 17 to January 4. Could you host him for any part of this time? Alex speaks good English and is a very congenial international guest. Contact Merrill and/or Boots Raber.



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: _____

At Western District Conference Reference Council on Nov. 15, delegates from BCMC and other congregations gathered to hear a report of the Discernment Task Force Survey and discuss 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 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:

- **Wed., Dec. 3 - Life Enrichment** (for community members age 60 and over), Bethel College, Luyken Fine Arts Center, Krehbiel Auditorium
9:30 a.m. *KPTS*, Michelle Gors, president/CEO, Channel 8, Hutchinson
10:15 a.m. Coffee break with Christmas goodies
11:00 a.m. *Messiah* sing at Bethel College Mennonite Church
- **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.
- **Thurs., Dec. 4**—Bethel College senior nursing students fundraising meal in the BCMC fellowship hall, raising money for infant formula to take along to their trip to Haiti in December. Reservations are required **TODAY, Nov. 30**. Call or e-mail Geri Tyrell, director of nursing, 316-284-5340, gtyrell@bethelks.edu. There are two seatings for this meal, at 6 p.m. and 7 p.m., and the menu is Haitian cuisine. Event special guest will be Wildy Mulatre of Hinche, Haiti.
- **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.