

## Prayer Requests

**Menonite Mission Network:** Early next year, Moriah Hurst will conclude seven years of Menonite Mission Network ministry in Australia. Pray for her as she lives with difficult good-byes, and confides her work into the hands of colleagues.

**Western District Conference:** Pray for joy and wisdom for Jennie Wintermote in her new role as WDC Resource Library Director, a ¼ time position that began December 1.

**This congregation:** Advent 3 invites us to the path of trust. Pray that BCMC will speak out about God's presence in our lives, in our history, and in our ministry of reconciliation in local and global contexts.

To request prayer or a visit, or if a family member is hospitalized, please contact the church office or a pastor so that visits and prayer support can be offered. Names of people receiving medical care are printed in the BCMC bulletin only by permission of the patient or a guardian/family-member. This is part of the caring network at BCMC, which includes support among members of Sunday school classes and small groups, as well as the Prayer Network, Visitation Team, and Caring Fund sponsored by 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.*

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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](mailto:office.bcmc@sbcglobal.net) Web site: [bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](http://bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)

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

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

Notary public service is available in the church office.

**Pastor:** Dorothy Nickel Friesen, [dorothy.bcmc@gmail.com](mailto:dorothy.bcmc@gmail.com)

Home phone 281-9364, office hours Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to noon

**Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care:** Susan Wheeler [susanmwheeler@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:john.bcmc@sbcglobal.net)

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

**Administrative Assistant:** Monica Lichti, [office.bcmc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:office.bcmc@sbcglobal.net)

**Custodian:** Michael Crawford, 316-727-9840

**Music Coordinator:** Rebecca Schloneger, 316-772-6084

**Chancel Bell Choir Director:** Vada Snider, 283-5231

**Menno Ringers Director:** Suzy Burch **Chancel Choir Director:** William Eash

**Cherub Choir director:** Jill Siebert **Junior Choir director:** Elizabeth Schrag

**December 6 at BCMC:** Attendance 290. General Fund \$14,453; Living Stones \$1,970; Funeral Transfer \$612.50; General Fund 2016 \$1,525; *The Mennonite* \$148; Caring Fund \$200; Flower Fund \$180.



# Bethel College Mennonite Church December 13, 2015

**Bethel College Mennonite Church**  
**December 13, 2015 – 9:15 a.m. Prelude**  
**9:30 a.m. Worship**

**ADVENT 3 –FREEDOM BOUND: THE PATH OF TRUST**

**GATHERING**

**Prelude** Chancel Bells  
*Coventry Carol* arr. Dobrinski  
*What Child is This?* arr. Frederick  
 Donna Woolery, French horn  
*Pat-a-Pan* arr. Eithun  
 Keith and Donna Woolery, percussion  
*A la Nanita Nana* arr. Gramann  
*Go Tell it on the Mountain* arr. Dobrinski  
 Joel Linscheid, clarinet

**Introit** *There is more love somewhere* **STJ 109**  
 (Congregation sings twice) Karen Loucks, pianist  
 Advent 3 Candle-lighting: Bonnie Krehbiel and Laura Tran

**Opening Prayer** Vern Preheim, worship leader

**\*Hymn** *Come, thou long-expected Jesus* **HWB 178**  
 (a capella)  
 (children come forward during hymn)

**LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD**

**Children’s conversation** John Tyson and “John the Baptist”

**Worship Music** *Celtic Silent Night* arr. Raney  
 Chancel Bells

**Scripture readings:** Isaiah 12:1-6; Luke 3:7-18 Dianne Epp

**Sermon** *Clear the way* John Tyson

**RESPONDING IN FAITH**

**\*Hymn** *No wind at the window* **STS 11**  
**(purple)**

**Prayer of God’s people**

**Offering**  
*During the offering, please sign and pass the friendship register in your pew. When all have signed, return it to the first person.*

**Offertory** *Christmas in the Trenches* McCutcheon  
 Bethany Schrag, soloist

**\*Dedication hymn** *Alleluia!* **STS 17 (purple)**

**Dedication prayer**

**SENDING**

**Words of Liberation** Bonnie Krehbiel and Laura Tran

**\*Hymn** *It came upon a midnight clear* **HWB 195**  
 (vs. 1, 2 with piano; 3, 4, 5 a capella)

**\*Benediction**  
**\*Benediction response**  
**\*Postlude**

\*All who are able are invited to stand

**HWB** = *Hymnal: A Worship Book*      **STJ**= *Sing the Journey*  
**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).

**Thanksgivings:** to Shirley Harms for her design of the foyer bulletin board; to the Decoration Committee for their imaginative design for Advent seasons; to the mentor pair, Bonnie Krehbiel and Laura Tran for candle-lighting; to Monica Lichti for bulletin design; to children’s conversation speakers George Leary, Cliff Dick and Doug Siemens; and to musicians who invite us to worship with special anthems.

**Nativity scenes** on display at BCMC during the Advent and Christmas season: The nativity in the Gathering Place was loaned by Barb, Jim and Terry Soth in memory of their son and brother Tim Soth. The nativity in the balcony foyer was made and donated by Ethel Abrahams. The nativity in the south entrance was donated by Rex and Connie Esau.

**We offer sympathy to** Ruth Linscheid and family on the death of Ruth’s sister in law, Marjorie Linscheid Isaak, Nov. 15, Sellersville, PA. Memorial service was Nov. 21 at the West Swamp Mennonite Church, Quakertown, PA.

**Receiving medical care this week:** Bonnie Neufeld, Newton Medical Center.

**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.”

**The Pastoral Search Committee** has completed the Congregational Information Form (CIF). Search committee chair, Rosalind Andreas presented the CIF to the Church Board at the last board meeting and it was approved. It is a document of value for the search process, and is also a document of value to the congregation. Copies of the CIF will be available in the church library soon. ~ *Jim Robb, BCMC moderator*

## This Week at BCMC: December 13 – December 20, 2015

**Thank you for your contributions to BCMC.** December usually brings higher expenses as we close out the year and we anticipate higher income as well. Contributions received in the church office prior to noon on Dec. 30 will be credited in 2015. Undesignated checks will be credited to the 2015 General Fund. All Pony Express neighborhoods have been turned in although responses from those on the mailing list take a little longer. Preliminary review—an estimated 220 giving units for \$440,000—suggests results similar to last year and provides a solid foundation for building the 2016 budget. Most of you will receive a report showing your intentions to give in 2016 and a brief recap of your giving to the 2015 budget and Living Stones. Please check for accuracy. A final contribution report for 2015 will be distributed in early 2016. ~ *Richard Friesen, Treasurer*

**The BCMC winter congregational meeting** will be Sun., Jan. 24, 12:45 p.m. following a fundraiser soup luncheon served by the Senior High Youth. The Church Board asks committees, commissions or individuals to provide a written motion proposal for any topic for consideration by Jan. 2 so that the Church Board can plan an agenda at their Jan. 7 board meeting. Send proposals or motions to the church office, [office.bcmc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:office.bcmc@sbcglobal.net), or to Jim Robb, church moderator, [jimandbeatyrobb@gmail.com](mailto:jimandbeatyrobb@gmail.com).

**Iglesia Menonita Casa Betania invites you to join them** for baptisms, Sun., Dec. 13, with potluck and fellowship time from 2:30-3:30 p.m., baptisms at 3:30 at the Newton Recreation Center, 415 N. Poplar St., Newton.

**Come to the Mennonite Central Committee Christmas Open House** Tues., Dec. 15, 4 p.m.-6 p.m., a come-and-go event with live music and snacks. MCC Central States office, 121 E 30th, North Newton.

**Over the past 67 years**, there have been a huge number of people who have worked at **Camp Mennoscah** as summer staffers. Summer staffers, their spouses, significant others, and kids are invited to gather Dec. 19, 2:30 p.m. at the Camp Mennoscah dining hall for coffee, other hot drinks and cookies. You're welcome to bring a snack to share. Call 620-297-3290.

**The annual living nativity, *Night in the Barn*** is Dec. 19 and 20 from 6-8 p.m. in the barn of Maynard Knepp and Carol Duerksen, (from Goessel: 3 miles north on Hwy 15, 4 miles east on 150th, ¾ north on Falcon. Follow these directions; not GPS.) Info, call 620-386-0709. Admission is free.

**Harvey County Homeless Shelter** needs volunteers willing to purchase Christmas gifts for their residents. Email or call James Wilson for more information: [james@hchs-ks.com](mailto:james@hchs-ks.com) or 316-283-7711.

**A CPR Training Course** will be offered at BCMC, Sat., Jan. 16 from 9 a.m. till noon, cost underwritten by the Deacon Commission. Ushers, SS teachers and others are encouraged to take the class. How to use an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) will also be taught. Upon completion of the course, a "Certified Community CPR" certificate will be granted. Contact Marlene Faul, 316-283-3342 or email: [marlene.violet@gmail.com](mailto:marlene.violet@gmail.com)

### **Today—December 13—Third Sunday of Advent**

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

**10:30 a.m.** Children's snack & singing gathering in Fellowship Hall

**10:50 a.m.** Faith Formation – Visitors welcome!

- Age 2 through K in B4; 1 – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade in B3; 4 – 5<sup>th</sup> grade in B8
- Junior High students (6 – 8<sup>th</sup> grade) – Room 26
- Senior High students – Room 22—*Can I ask that?*
- Agape— Fellowship Hall
- Bible Study—Rm 14-- *More than 40 days with the Holy Spirit*
- Catacombs—Rm B-5—*Gender discrimination in sports*, Stan Eitzen
- Fellowship—Under the balcony
- Fine Arts—Rm 24
- Issues & Christianity—Rm 23—*Understanding the Old Testament*, dvd
- Mosaic—Rm 20—Sermon reflection and other current topics
- Open Circle—Rm 28—Sermon reflection and response
- Seekers—Rm 21—*Dinah Roe Kendall's Christmas Images*, James Yoder
- Sojourners—Chapel—*Being Mortal*, Review by Florence Schloneger
- Young Adult Fellowship—Meets Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at Agape Center

### **Monday, Dec. 14**

**2:30 p.m.** BCMC worship DVD—Kidron Bethel Health Care

### **Tuesday, Dec. 15**

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

**7:00 p.m.** *Christmas is for families featuring Matt, Rebecca, Jonah, Lily, Weldon and Florence Schloneger* – Women's Fellowship program in sanctuary for everyone followed by refreshments in Fellowship Hall.

### **Wednesday, Dec. 16**

**8:00 a.m.** Worship Planning Meeting—Rm 14

**6:30 p.m.** Cherub Choir (Rm 24) and Junior Choir (Rm 28)

**7:00 p.m.** Senior High youth—Rm 22 **7:15 p.m.** Menno Ringers—Rm B7

**7:30 p.m.** Chancel Choir—Sanctuary

**8:00 p.m.** Young Adult Fellowship Group—Agape Center

**8:30 p.m.** Chancel Bells—Rm B-7

### **Thursday, Dec. 17**

**2:00 p.m.** BCMC worship DVD—Schowalter Villa

**4:00 p.m.** Visitation Team—Rm 14

**7:00 p.m.** Deacon Commission—Rm 14

### **Sunday, December 20—Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Prelude at 9:15 a.m. by Kara Tann and Rebecca Schloneger, violins; worship with sermon by Dorothy Nickel Friesen; Psalm 80:1-7; Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:30-56; Hebrews 10:5-10; music by Menno Ringers and Junior Choir

**Save the date!** Church retreat at Camp Mennoscah will be April 30 - May 1.

**Contact Joe Peters if you wish more information or registration forms** on the Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus. Phone: 316-283-8529.

**Poinsettias at the front of the church are**

<b>Donated by:</b>	<b>In memory/honor of:</b>
Ethel Abrahams .....	husband Norman and son David
Carl & Rosalind Andreas .....	Our parents
Ron & Virginia Benninghoff.....	George, Inez & Steve Koehn
Wade & Joan Brubacher Family.....	Harold & Elma Goering E. J. and Lucille Brubacher
Dennis & Kathy Campbell & family.....	Barbara & Orlando Friesen
Marlene Ewert, Nat Dick, Cliff Dick.....	Mary & Henry Dick Linda & Jake Ewert
William & Esther Kreider Eash .....	Elon & Lorene Eash
in honor of .....	Robert & Lois Kreider
Heidi Ensz.....	Henry, Olga, Sara Marie & Roland Ensz
Dianne Epp .....	Anthony Epp
John & Bernice Esau.....	Keith Esau
Marlene V. Faul, Sharon, Mary & Families.....	James O. Faul
Richard & Dorothy Nickel Friesen .....	John W. Nickel, Arthur & Viola Friesen
JoAnn Funk & Family .....	Francis Funk
Lou Gomez, Jr. & Elizabeth Raid.....	Pauline Krehbiel Raid & Howard Raid Lou Gomez, Sr.
Dorothy & Willis Harder.....	Kurt Harder
Paul & Shirley Harms-in honor of.....	Children: Doug & Dawn, Adley & Jen, Gwen & John
David and Rose Haury.....	Ben Haury
Dick & Barb Koontz.....	Ruth & Elbert Koontz Aldene Delk
Katherine and Elizabeth Lamp-in honor of.....	Evelyn Quiring
Evelyn Quiring .....	Frank Quiring
Merrill & Boots Raber .....	Ann Raber
Jim & Beaty Robb.....	Orlo & Helen Goering Stewart & Marge Robb
Peggy Souder & Nathan Dick.....	Norman & Arvilla Souder
In honor of .....	Nicholas & Harriet Dick
Ron & LaVonne Sawatzky, Sheri, Alan, Nick, Markus Leopard.....	Henry & Edna Goossen
Richard and Frances Siemens-in honor of .....	Our five Grandchildren
Frank & Kathy Stucky .....	Ruby Stucky
Myron & Mildred Voran .....	Kathleen J. Voran, daughter
Lenore Waltner & family .....	James Waltner



**Participate in this year's Advent giving project** for Mennonite Central Committee's aid to refugee camps. "Soap and towels" are useful in many settings. **Children bring soap:** new bars of bath soap—all sizes and brands of bar soap are welcome; please leave in wrapper. **Adults bring towels:** NEW bath and hand towels: good quality dark or bright colors, medium weight preferred; washcloths are not needed. Baskets will be located in the sanctuary for donations. Thanks to the Faith Formation and Witness Commissions for coordinating this project. All donations will be dedicated on Christmas Sunday – December 27.

**Spotlight on Senior High:**

Dec. 20 – Christmas Eve service practice (11 a.m.) & White Elephant, Pizza, & Bowling at Tim & Bethany Schraggs (5 p.m.)  
December 24 – Christmas Eve service (7 p.m.)

Many Senior High students are involved in various school activities during this season, feel free to go and support them! Just a few examples:

Katherine Lamp – Hesston HS Jazz Band  
Angus Siemens and Jon Voth – Newton HS Swimming  
Christian and Mercedes Rodriguez – Newton HS Wrestling

**Spotlight on Children & Emerging Youth:**

Dec. 16 – Joint Cherub/Junior Choir practice (6:30 – 7:00 p.m.) followed by Junior Choir only practice (7:00–7:30 p.m.)  
Dec. 20 – Christmas Eve service practice (11 a.m.)  
Dec. 23 – Joint Cherub/Junior Choir practice (6:30 – 7:15 p.m.)  
Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve service (7 p.m.)

Please let Pastor John know if your child/youth would like to sing/perform during the 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service by **December 13.**

**At this Christmas season remember BCMC members in service with a card or email of Christmas greetings:**

- ◆ Emily Harder, Mennonite Voluntary Service, Washington, D.C. Address: 1302 Kenyon St., NW, Washington, DC 20010-2306. Email: emilysueharder@gmail.com (Emily's birthday is March 3)
- ◆ Benjamin Kreider, Mennonite Central Committee SALT in Honduras. Address: Comite Central Menonita, Apartado 2720, San Pedro Sula, Honduras. Email: kreider.benjamin@gmail.com. (Ben's birthday is Dec. 18)
- ◆ Janet Stucky, Mennonite Mission Network, Cotonou, Benin, West Africa. Email: jhstucky@gmail.com (Janet's birthday was Nov. 19)
- ◆ Nathan Toews, Mennonite Central Committee, Colombia, South America. Address: Calle 28A, #16-41, Piso 2, Bogota, Colombia. Email: nwtwoews@gmail.com. (Nathan's birthday is May 21.)

**Centering Prayer meets every Monday, noon-1 p.m.** in the Richert House Agape Center, Bethel College. Note the December schedule: Will meet Dec. 14 and Dec. 21; will not meet Dec. 28. All are welcome, with no previous experience required. Try it once, come occasionally or regularly. For information, contact Nathan Koontz, 2nathankoontz@gmail.com, or Melanie Zuercher, mzuercher@bethelks.edu.