

## Prayer Requests

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Join Mennonite Mission Network in thanking God for the safety of five international workers based in Paris, France, during the November bombings. Pray for wisdom as French Mennonites and others discern how to respond to these tragedies and to the violence that occurs in other countries on a daily basis.

**Western District Conference:** Pray for the WDC Ministerial Leadership Commission as they offer support and accountability for pastors in WDC.

**This congregation:** Advent 2 reminds us that God's mercy never ceases. Pray that our congregation will extend compassion to our neighbors and those in our community with concrete acts of mercy and love.

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.*

\*\*\*\*\*

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

**November 29 at BCMC:** Attendance 168. General Fund \$1,316.60; Living Stones \$2,355; Facilities Use \$175; Wednesday suppers \$20; General Fund 2016 \$1,660; *The Mennonite* \$37; Caring Fund \$575; Flower Fund \$45.



**Bethel College Mennonite Church  
December 6, 2015**

Bethel College Mennonite Church  
December 6, 2015 – 9:15 a.m. Prelude  
9:30 a.m. Worship

ADVENT 2: Freedom Bound: The Path of Mercy

GATHERING

**Prelude** Selection of English Christmas Carols  
Margaret Toews, flute and Francis Toews, piano  
**Introit** *A waiting carol* Kemp  
Cherub Choir; Jill Siebert, director

*There is more love somewhere* [STJ 109]  
Chancel Choir; William Eash, director

Advent 2 Candle lighting: Valetta Seymour and Aneka Voth

**Opening prayer** Darlene Dick, Worship leader

**\*Hymn** *Bless'd be the God of Israel* **HWB 174**  
Verlene Garber, organist  
(children come forward during hymn)

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

**Children's conversation** John Tyson and "Zechariah"  
**Worship music** *O come, divine Messiah!* arr. Helvey  
Chancel Choir

**Scripture readings:** Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79  
Megan Kohlman

**Sermon** *Start the Fire* John Tyson

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

**\*Hymn** *On Jordan's Banks, the Baptist's Cry* **HWB 183**

**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** *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* Bach

**\*Dedication hymn** *Longing for light* **STJ 54**  
(vs. 1, 4, 5) **(green)**

**Dedication prayer**

SENDING

**Words of Liberation** Valetta Seymour and Aneka Voth  
**\*Hymn** *To us a child is born* **HWB 189**  
**\*Benediction**  
**\*Benediction response** *Amen* Rutter  
Chancel Choir  
**\*Postlude** *Oh, come, Emmanuel* Held  
\*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 (Valetta Seymour and Aneka Voth) for candle-lighting; to Monica Lichti for bulletin design; and to musicians who invite us to worship with special anthems.

**Take a moment to view nativity scenes** on display at BCMC during the Advent and Christmas season: The nativity on the main floor was loaned by Barb, Jim and Terry Soth in memory of their son and brother Tim Soth. Tim was working on the crèche at the time of his death and had one piece finished; his friends finished the other two. Tim loved Christmas and had shared with his parents how it would be nice if his church, BCMC, would have a crèche at Christmas time. Tim died 35 years ago this Dec. 24, in a car-truck accident; he was 19 years old. The nativity upstairs in the balcony foyer was made and donated to the church by Ethel Abrahams.

**Receiving medical care this week:** Frank Midkiff, Newton Medical Center. Maxine Fast is receiving skilled nursing care at Kidron Bethel.

**We offer sympathy to** Duane Koppes, Clayton Koppes, Barbara Koppes Beal, Dean and Linda Koppes and families on the death of Clinton C. Koppes, Nov. 25, Asbury Park, Newton. The memorial service for Clinton was Nov. 30 at BCMC.

**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 or 316-283-7711.

**Newton Treble Clef Club** presents Christmas Vespers, Sun., Dec. 6, 3 p.m. (prelude 2:45 p.m.), First Presbyterian Church, 900 N. Columbus Ave., Newton. Free will offering taken.

**Everence presents informational seminar**, “*Retiring soon? Make sense of your Medicare and Social Security choices*” at 11 a.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Mon., Dec. 7, Everence office, 371 N. Old Highway 81, Hesston. Reserve a spot with tanya.burns@everence.com; (620) 327-4043, (877) 467-7294.

**Join to Commemorate Human Rights** Thurs., Dec. 10, 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Douglas Ave. Bridge in Wichita (by Drury Hotel), sponsored by People of Faith for Peace–Wichita. In 1950, the United Nations General Assembly called for the establishment of Human Rights Day each year on Dec. 10. This will not be a protest but a statement of our support for the human rights of all beings. Feel free to bring your own banner or sign.

**Olson Annual Music Scholarship Fundraising Home Tour:** Ron and Lois Preheim are welcoming guests to tour their home on December 13 as a part of the Olson Annual Music Scholarship Fundraising Home Tour. The Preheim home is one of four homes on the tour. Seasonal Music will be presented at each location. The afternoon tour will begin at 2 p.m. and the evening tour begins at 7 p.m. Reservations are required and are available at Prairie Harvest.

**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. Come and catch up with folks and share stories. Questions? Call 620-297-3290.

**The annual living nativity, *Night in the Barn*** is Dec. 19 and 20 from 6-8 p.m. The critters will assemble 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 and not GPS.) For more info, call 620-386-0709. The come-and-go event will feature a program in the barn, Christmas carols around a bonfire, hot drinks and snacks. Admission is free and donations to the youth group will be accepted.

**You're invited to the Mennonite Central Committee Christmas Open House** Tues., Dec. 15, 4 p.m.-6 p.m. The come-and-go event will feature live music, Christmas goodies and snacks and at 5 p.m. MCC alumni will reflect on Christmas traditions in Bosnia Herzegovina, Bolivia and Cambodia. MCC Central States office, 121 E 30th, North Newton. Questions 316-283-2720.

## This Week at BCMC: December 6 – December 13, 2015

### Today—December 6—Second 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—Potluck Lunch
- Bible Study—Rm 14-- *More than 40 days with the Holy Spirit*
- Catacombs—Rm B-5—*Sojourn to Ukraine*, John McCabe Juhnke
- 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—*Pastoral Survey findings*, Rosalind Andreas
- Young Adult Fellowship—Meets Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at Agape Center

### Monday, Dec. 7

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

### Tuesday, Dec. 8

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

**4:30-8:30 p.m.** BCAPA program dress rehearsal—Sanctuary

### Wednesday, Dec. 9

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

**12:00 noon** Office Staff Lunch—Rm 14

**4:00 p.m.** Art Committee—Rm 14

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

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

**7:30 p.m.** Chancel Choir—Sanctuary **8:30 p.m.** Chancel Bells—Rm B-7

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

### Thursday, Dec. 10

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

**4:00 p.m.** Hospitality Commission—Rm B7

**7:00 p.m.** Gifts Discernment Committee—Rm 23

Women's Fellowship Executive Session—Rm 14

Pastoral Search Committee—Rm B7

### Friday, Dec. 11

**6:00 p.m.** Bethel College Academy of Performing Arts program—*Festival of Carols*—BCMC Sanctuary

### Saturday, Dec. 12

**8:00 a.m.** Mennonite Men Breakfast/Program—Kidron Bethel Harvest Table  
Youthful Men's Group Coffee—Mojo's, Bethel College campus

*Sunday, Dec. 13 - calendar continued on the next page*

## Sunday, Dec. 13—Third Sunday of Advent

Prelude at 9:15 a.m. by Chancel Bells; worship with sermon by John Tyson; Is. 12:1-6; Zeph. 3:14-20, Luke 3:7-18, Phil. 4:4-7; music by Chancel Bells

**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. 6**. Contact Carol Buller, 283-6157, 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: \_\_\_\_\_



### **Bethel College Announcements:**

• **Donna Hetrick recital**, *Organ Music for Advent and Christmas*, Sun., Dec. 6, 3 p.m., Administration Building chapel at Bethel College

• **30th annual Lighting of the Green at Bethel College**, Sun., Dec. 6, 8 p.m., the Green in the center of campus; refreshments follow in cafeteria

**Men and women are welcome to the Mennonite Men** breakfast, Sat., Dec. 12 (breakfast 8 a.m., Harvest Table, \$4; followed by program in Menno Hall at 8:30) with Bonnie & Chuck Neufeld, as they present: *Eagerly awaiting what's already come! Maintaining an attitude of expectation with stories, music and corporate reflection on Advent*. See announcement on bulletin board for details.

**Men, Women, & Children are invited to the Women's Fellowship** Christmas Program Tues., Dec. 15, 7 p.m., BCMC Sanctuary. Featured will be the Schloneger family - Matt, Rebecca, Jonah, Lily and Grandparents Weldon and Florence. Refreshments in Fellowship Hall.

**Ten Thousand Village Festival Sale in Newton**. New this year: Coffee, tea, chocolate, items from new fair trade artisans, new items on display every day, Ten dollar Ten Thousand Village gift cards given to the first 30 customers who purchase \$100 merchandise. November 27-December 5 (except Sunday) 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. at Peace Connections, 612 N Main, Newton.

**The Lead Pastoral Search Committee** will meet this week with Clarence Rempel, Western District Conference Liaison. At that session we will secure guidance on the appropriate protocols our committee will follow since we are now in the candidate search and review phase. Thank you for submitting names to us and for your prayers to guide our discernment.  
~ Rosalind Andreas, chair; Judy Friesen, Jennifer Koontz, Dale Schrag, Jon Zerger

**WDC Resource Library Director:** Jennie Wintermote begins as the new 1/4-time WDC Resource Library Director Dec. 1. She currently also serves as 1/2-time supply pastor at New Creation Fellowship Church in Newton. Jennie graduated from Hesston College and Bethel College, and is pursuing a master's degree in Library Science from Emporia State University.

**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.”

**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.

**It is time for registration for the 2016 Kansas Mennonite Men's** Chorus season. For those who sang last year there are registrations in your church mailboxes. There are many other singers, young and older, who would enjoy singing with the KMMC as well. Contact me for registration forms. We sing so others may live. ~ Joe Peters, BCMC KMMC Contact

### **Spotlight on Senior High:**

Dec. 9 – Christmas Cookies with Ben Lichti (7 p.m.)

Dec. 20 – Christmas Eve service practice (11 a.m.) & White Elephant, Pizza, & Bowling at Tim & Bethany Schrags (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**.