

# KALEIDOSCOPE

BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

July— August 2016 10:4



## Candidating Weekend and the Congregational Vote for Dawn Yoder Harms

Dawn Yoder Harms and husband Doug arrived Thursday June 16 to begin their weekend of getting acquainted with the BCMC congregation. Friday, June 17 was a full schedule including meeting with the Search Committee (Rosalind Andreas, Judy Friesen, Jennifer Scott Koontz, Dale Schrag, and Jonathan Zerger), with Monica Lichti, the church secretary, and the rest of the staff; a time with Frank Stucky, Finance Committee chair and Sondra Bandy Koontz, Church Board chair/church moderator; lunch with the Deacon Commission, and a time exploring housing options and getting acquainted with the community. The day ended with dinner with the Church Board.

On Saturday, June 18, come and go coffees were held for adult Sunday School classes, ending with a picnic with

the Agape Sunday School class.

Sunday, June 19 Dawn preached the morning sermon following by an elective Sunday School class session about Dawn's faith journey followed by a time of questions.

Monday, June 20 started with a breakfast, followed by meeting with Kidron Bethel Village residents, then Bethel College conversations. Dawn met for lunch with the Search Committee, followed by a trip back to the airport.

The next Sunday, June 26, the congregation voted.

The vote was positive with 99% of those present voting to invite Pastor Dawn Yoder Harms to be the next Bethel College Mennonite Church lead pastor. Dawn will start at BCMC on November 1, 2016. Welcome Dawn and Doug!

~ Lois Goertzen



Doug Harms And Dawn Yoder Harms

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Editorial committee: Lois Goertzen, Dianne Epp, and Monica Lichti

## Karen Penner Retires as Kaleidoscope Co-Editor



In 2007 Karen Penner began as editor of the Kaleidoscope serving with Dale Horst and Esther Bohn-

Groves. Esther continued on for one year, and Dale until 2009 when Leland Harder accepted the position. For a time Karen was the sole editor. Since 2010 she has served with Lois Goertzen until this last issue was finished. Karen announced her retirement after the May/June edition was published.

Highlights for these years were learning to know people she interviewed for articles (two come to mind – Jennifer Scott Koontz, and most recently, Roland Brown). Also important to Karen in this role was interaction and becoming more acquainted with the office staff. The groups who have spent time folding and labeling each issue of newsletters that went out in the mail were most enjoyable, whether it was Junior High, Senior High, or a group of peers who diligently worked at this task. Refreshments and visiting always follows these work sessions. *Editor's comment: It was a delight to work with Karen. She paid attention to detail and submitted well written articles. She will be missed, but know she'll be there to pitch in whenever she's needed. Thank you, Karen, for all these years of service.*

~ Lois Goertzen

## Welcome Dianne Epp as Kaleidoscope Co-editor



When asked to co-edit the Kaleidoscope I agreed as it appears that editing is part of my history including editing "The Star" at Freeman Jr. College and co-editing "The Collegian" at Bethel with Tony Epp. Likely, it was those long hours of work on "The Collegian" which laid the foundation for our later renewed contact and eventual marriage. During the years we lived in Lincoln, NE and attended the Antelope Park Church of the Brethren, we returned to joint editorial work, first with the church newsletter, "Antelope Tracks" and later helping to edit Sunday School curriculum which was jointly published by the Church of the Brethren and the General Conference Mennonite Church. Perhaps there is a journalism gene that runs in the family as my father, Willard Waltner was a photo-journalist and both of our

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children, Rachel Epp Buller and Alain Epp Weaver have written and edited a number of publications. I look forward to using this position to become better acquainted with the Bethel College Mennonite Church family. ~ *Dianne Epp Editorial comment: I couldn't be more delighted to welcome Dianne to our team – her credentials and past experience make her an excellent fit for this job. – Lois Goertzen*



Children and youth of all ages gathered at BCMC from May 31 - June 3 for VBS 2016! The theme of the week was *Surprise! Stories of Discovering Jesus*. VBS 2016 kicked off each day with worship, drama, Bible memory, and singing in the sanctuary. After worship, children and youth moved to different sessions that engaged the scripture story of the day in different ways. Activities included: Bible lessons, diverse arts and crafts, team-building exercises, physical activity, learning about Mennonite Central Committee, yoga, and many fun games! The offering project for VBS 2016 was school kits for MCC. By the end of the week, the children and youth were

able to donate 75 school kits for MCC to distribute around the world! VBS 2016 ended with a worship service on Sunday morning that helped give the congregation a window into another wonderful week! ~ *John Tyson*

VBS pictures courtesy of Austin Prouty



## Senior High Youth Group and Community Week

The Senior High youth group is gearing up for Community Week 2016 on July 5 - July 9! Students and sponsors will participate in several local service projects and learning experiences, including a visit to the Islamic Community Center in Wichita. The week will also include a pool party, a team-building obstacle course at Prairie View, and an evening cookout with BCMC mentors! Over the week, students and sponsors will stay in the mod's on Bethel College campus - a home away from home! Community Week 2016 will end on July 10 as the youth will lead worship at BCMC! ~ *John Tyson*

introduced to a variety of social justice issues that exist around mining, water rights and urban farming. As a congregation we can support Nathan and Leidy through prayer and emails:

([nathantoews@mcc.org](mailto:nathantoews@mcc.org) and [leidymunoz@mcc.org](mailto:leidymunoz@mcc.org)). MCC provides basic support for its overseas workers, however, gifts to MCC may be designated in honor of Nathan and Leidy. ~ *Margaret Toews*



Leidy and Nathan

## Living Stones II Update

Several of the projects approved by the Congregation as part of Living Stones II are planned to begin in mid July. The first project will be cleaning the stone. Mid-Continental Restoration Company will start by cleaning two areas of the stone in the sanctuary, under the stained glass windows where condensation has left some water marks and on the north side towards the back of the sanctuary where water has leaked in the past. Then the contractor will move outside and begin cleaning and sealing the exterior stone as well as tuck pointing the grout where needed. They will also reseal window and door perimeters. While the stone work progresses outside, Regier Construction will begin working on the main entry foyer, installing a new ceiling with significantly improved lighting. Regier Construction will also begin work on the new ramp for the front entrance, including new light poles along the ramp and side-



Youth Group on the Sand Creek Trail—picture courtesy of Ben Lichti

## BCMC Reaches Bolivia

As of February, Nathan Toews of this congregation and his wife, Leidy Munoz began a three-year service term with Mennonite Central Committee in Bolivia, living in Cochabamba where they will be co-facilitating the MCC program called Seed. Seed is a two year service term for young adults which focuses on community accompaniment and peace building. In their April newsletter to the church, Nathan and Leidy wrote that they have spent the past several months being in-

walk. They will also add the new light poles along the side walk between the north/office entrance to the church and the street. To allow access to the stone for cleaning and for ramp construction, the shrubs and plantings on the north side of the sanctuary will be removed in June. Access to various entrances will be impacted at times by these projects and your patience and understanding are appreciated while these improvements are being made.

~ Annette Lamp

*Editor's Note:* Cleaning stone in the interior has been completed. Cleaning the stonework on the exterior of the church is almost complete. Tuck-pointing and sealing will follow. Regier Construction will begin work at the church July 6. Below is a picture of the stone cleaning at the front of the church. ~ Monica Licht



### CROP Walk To Be Changed

The Witness Commission is planning for a September 25 event formerly known as the "CROP Walk" but will be renamed to "Harvest Giving". In collaboration with Mennonite Central Committee Central States offices in North Newton, the event will continue the intergenerational and ecumenical walk event in Newton to raise funds to combat hunger around the world. Put the date on your calendar and watch for upcoming details.

### Happy 80th Birthday Elsie Flaming!



Elsie Flaming's grandfather, Henry Wicke, came to the United States in 1882 from Kassel, Germany and settled in

the Moundridge area with his cousin Chris Rupp. When the Cherokee Strip opened up in 1893, it gave him a chance to own land of his own. He settled around Deer Creek, Oklahoma. Elsie's half brother, Glenn Henry, born in 1945, lives on that farm which means it is still held by a member of the family of Henry Wicke.

Elsie was born on that farm to Paul Wicke and Freeda Luckert Wicke, July 23, 1936. Elsie's sister, Vesta, joined her in May, 1939. Their mother, Freeda, passed away in September, 1940. Elsie attended the Deer Creek schools. The elementary school had two grades per classroom. She graduated from Deer Creek High School in a class of 14. During these years she was also active in 4-H sewing and foods. The Wicke family attended the Deer Creek Mennonite Church and she was baptized by Pastor Richard Ratzlaff, June 5, 1949. During her early school years, she had a special friend, Florine Hohmann, who attended Bethel College. Elsie was invited to Bethel for weekend visits. The majority of the then winning Bethel football team was from Deer Creek. After high school graduation in 1954, Elsie decided to attend Bethel College where she majored in Home Economics with minors in English, Health and Physical Education, graduating in 1958. She taught in Howard, Kansas, teaching High School Home Economics, Health and Physi-

cal Education for one year. She then taught in Hillsboro for two years.

The following summer she visited a friend who had been teaching in Conway Springs. There she became reacquainted with Horton Flaming who she knew from being part of the kitchen crew at Bethel. In June 1961, they were married in Deer Creek. The following fall, Elsie and Horton were hired to teach in Augusta, Kansas. They lived there until they retired. During these years Elsie tutored students, substituted in classes of kindergarten through high school seniors. She also had a major part in developing the hospital auxiliary, which began in 1972 until the hospital closed in 2002. Elsie, Horton and family were very active members of the First United Methodist Church and Elsie was very active in Methodist Women. They had two sons: Kevan, born in 1962, and Garth, born in 1964. Kevan is in research and is a Vet School teacher at Iowa State Veterinary School. He is also involved in OIE, a world organization for animal health in languages of French, Spanish, and English. Kevan and Brenda, Kevan's wife, had a veterinary clinic in Des Moines, Iowa. Brenda now works at a Creature Comfort Veterinary Hospital in Ankeny, Iowa. They have a daughter, Billie, and a son, Garth Henry. Garth works for Conoco as a project manager in Sweeny, Texas. His wife, Lisa is a physical therapist. They have two sons, Braxton and Garrett.

After retirement and a dream of some day going to Alaska, Elsie and Horton went with Prudent Tours to Alaska and several other trips. Later Horton and Elsie were tour guides for 66 Prudent Tour trips. Elsie enjoys volunteering at Kauffman Museum, visiting Kidron Nursing Home residents, and

the Parkinson Support Team. It is a special privilege for me to have known Elsie and Horton for years and now to be able to spend some quality time with this multi-talented lady. Here is wishing Elsie a special 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, and many more years to come.

~ Deane Frey

### Happy 80th Birthday Emmy Midkiff!



If there are two words which are bookends for the life of Em-malayne Schmidt Midkiff, they must be FAMILY

and QUILTS. Her natal family was a large one as she was one of nine children, three boys and six girls, born to Susie (Buller) and John Schmidt. She was born on July 28, 1936 in what her mother called the "hottest, driest summer in Kansas". The family lived with her grandmother, Anna Buller east of Goessel, KS until Emmy was six years old when they moved to a farm near Burns, KS where they attended a new General Conference Mennonite church pastored by a young couple, Henry and Edna Goossen. Her parents were charter members of the Burns Mennonite Church and Emmy was baptized there as a teenager. Emmy attended Summit Country Grade School and then graduated from Burns HS in May of 1954. Following a year at El Dorado Jr. College she was employed as a full time bookkeeper at the El Dorado National Bank, working there until 1957 when she married Frank Midkiff, a young petroleum engineer from West Virginia who was working for the Magnolia Oil Company in El Dorado. Following their marriage, Frank and Emmy moved to Electra, TX and then to Wichita Falls, TX. These were

only the first of many moves as Frank's job in petroleum engineering with several different companies took him to Pennsylvania, Kentucky, New Mexico, West Virginia, Kansas and eventually in 1977 to Colorado where they lived for 16 years. During those years of many moves three children, Paul, Kevin and Susan were born, homes were bought and sold and children eventually enrolled in different public schools. Emmy says of those years "we always looked forward to new adventures, I got involved in many volunteer jobs and most of our vacations were to go see our families in Kansas and West Virginia". Newton eventually became home in retirement, first on Regal Crescent and in the last few years in a townhome on Lakewood Circle, part of Kidron Bethel Retirement Village. Looking at her family "by the numbers", in addition to her three children, a son and daughter-in-law, she now counts seven grandchildren and two step-grandchildren and 23 nieces and nephews. With children living in Canada, Washington State and Colorado, Frank and Emmy enjoyed many trips to their areas and as much of her extended family lives in central Kansas Emmy keeps close familial ties by attending various family gatherings. Amazingly, it was only this spring when the large circle of siblings and spouses was broken, first by the death of a brother-in-law and then, only days later, with Frank's sudden passing on March 6.

As indicated above, quilts, form the other bookend for Emmy as anyone who has had the joy of seeing her handiwork can attest. Let Emmy describe this part of her story: "Frank's work often took him away from home into the 'oil fields', the children were getting older and didn't need me as much and Denver was on an up-surge of quilting – and I was ready for a new adventure!! And it hasn't ended yet

but I have slowed down. I've taken many class instructions, I've taught classes, worked in fabric quilt shops, volunteered at quilt shows, attended seminars and demonstrated new quilt gadgets. I have had a wonderful journey in quilt making and have met the greatest, most friendly people. I am currently a part of the Mission Quilters group here at BCMC and we donate a quilt each year to the Hutchinson MCC Relief Sale". Though modest concerning her quilting, one needs to note that it has received wide recognition, one quilt winning "Best of Show" in a Denver Quilt show and subsequently hanging in the Colorado State Capitol building for several months and another being selected for a "people's choice award" at a quilt show in Alabama, being disqualified for the 'grand prize' only when the judge learned that she was not a member of the local quilt guild. What struck me most forcefully as I perused Emmy's "quilt album" which contains photos and stories of her quilts was not only evidence of fine needlework but the love, caring and friendship which was so evident – not only were immediate family members recipients of these hours of work but that circle of love expanded to include so many others. Truly, she has shared love "one stitch at a time" and obviously, "is not done yet".

What a joy to extend to Emmalyne Midkiff the best wishes of the congregation as she marks this, her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on July 28. ~ *Dianne Epp*

### Happy 80th Birthday Keith Rhoades!



For Keith Rhoades, August 28, 2016 marks the start of his 80<sup>th</sup> year of stories. Stories of his

first 25 years range from milking cows after sports practice, to playing fast-pitch softball, to working in the oil fields during the summer. They include stories of how he registered for the draft in order to be able to qualify for the GI bill, allowing him to travel to Germany, and helping pay for his college education at Emporia State and Kansas State Universities. Stories of his next 35 years – spent as a family man, married to Susan (Schmidt), father of Mark, Eric, and Stacey – reflect how hard working and ethical Keith is. Employed as an architect, Keith's work took the family to Garden City, Wichita, Newton, and back to Wichita over the course of his professional career. On several cases, and as a testament to how important character is to Keith, he switched firms because of an ethical difference with his boss. In 1979, they settled on Newton as their home, designing and building a house on some family land east of town. As they settled, the family traveled to Europe, South America, and within the U.S., making Beaver Lake a regular stop for a series of summers. If you get the chance, ask Keith about his "bag of fruit" story; it is one of my favorites!

The most recent 20 years have given Keith (and Susan) a chance to slow down, although you wouldn't know it. Keith has enjoyed time spent ranching on a beautiful patch of land in the Flint Hills, working cattle, fixing fence, and simply relaxing in one of Kansas' most beautiful spaces. He has enjoyed volunteering at the Newton Et Cetera shop as a battery tester, and loves reading – especially westerns. Recently, they moved to the south end of Newton, where Keith took on the process of finishing the basement of their current home. And, he and Susan have enjoyed spending time with their three children, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren in their various

locations around the world. As you come in to the church sanctuary on the first Sunday of the month, Keith will be likely to greet you with a big handshake or hug, and with a grin on his face. Take a moment to engage Keith in story – and be prepared to laugh!

(Writer's note: Keith has been a special mentor to me through the last 20 formative years of my life at BCMC. He is an extremely special person, and is a model for how to live life in an ethical, fun-loving, and compassionate way. Happy Birthday, Keith!) ~ *Adam Robb*

### Happy 80th Birthday Jim Soth!



August 9, 1936, James Louis was born at Axtell Hospital. Because he was premature his mother asked Dr.

Wheeler to baptize "little Jimmy" as soon as he was born. Later he was baptized at St. Mary's Catholic Church by the priest. Jim was so small his mother Clara (Reilman) covered him with a man's handkerchief. His father Harry was a car mechanic, and both parents had large extended Catholic families. Jim's young life was filled with activities and meals with cousins, aunts and uncles because their home was the meeting place, and every Sunday after 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Mary's they all enjoyed Grandmother's fresh cinnamon rolls and coffee. Jim loved going to his uncle's farm near Walton, hunting and fishing, growing plants and flowers and shopping at Etcetera. His parents did not take time for "real vacations." He vowed this was something that would be a priority when he had his own family and they did love to go camping. Jim attend-

ed Catholic school through 8<sup>th</sup> grade and although he knew Latin as used in Mass, learning it as a foreign language in High School proved a challenge and a favorite teacher “pulled him through!” A photography class showed promise with pictures of his blue 41 Ford as evidence. On a whim, he and several buddies bought plane tickets to Cuba where they rented a convertible and were tourists in a foreign land. Jim was in the Army Reserves’ 6½ years, going in as a clerk and coming out as a cook. He was a hard worker who put his heart into his work - even as a kid who shoveled snow, mowed grass, pulled dandelions, painted a house. The job of mopping floors and cleaning windows at Dillon’s started the path to managing the produce department. A friend recommended him for management at Sherwin Williams paint store where he worked for thirty years, retiring in 1999. Jim met the love of his life, Barbara Balzer, on a double date with mutual friends. Barbara’s family was Mennonite and although her parents had reservations about this Catholic boy, her love for him won them over. Barb’s Dad always said, “We love him also.” The best advice Jim and Barb received was from Rev. Mast, “Don’t try to change each other.” They married on March 11, 1958 at St. Mary’s Rectory. Sons Terry and Tim brought much joy. He loved working with them on projects such as laying stone for the fireplace in their home and having Terry usher and Tim play in the Bell Choir at BCMC. His only grandson Brycen shares the enjoyment of animals with Jim. The family attended Bethel College Mennonite Church and St. Mary’s throughout the years. As an Eucharistic Minister Jim has

taken communion to hospital rooms and homes for 25 years. He joined a friend or Barb to pray weekly from 1-2 a.m. at the 24 hour vigil held in Adoration Chapel at Our Lady of Guadalupe. At BCMC he has always felt “overwhelmingly accepted.” He and Barb taught Sunday School together, served on the MCC sale committee, and the Visitation Team. Tragically on Dec. 24, 1980, 19 year old Tim was killed in a car accident. With Terry, Barb and Jim struggled with their grief, and a Compassionate Friends meeting in Wichita aided their journey toward healing. Jim and Barb began and led the Newton chapter of Compassionate Friends, retiring after 35 years. Jim, the grace of God, so evident in your life, has been and is a precious gift to many, many people. May this 80<sup>th</sup> year of life bring you and yours much joy and peace, I pray.

~ Susan Wheeler

### With Our Members



**After 47 years of meaningful service, Lil Peters, APRN (Advanced Practice Registered Nurse) retired from Prairie View,**

Inc. on May 19. Lil said, “Working at Prairie View has been a privilege, not a job. Prairie View has always been a visionary organization in how it fulfills its mission.” “Lil Peters ..... compassion for her patients can only be matched by her humility in service. She has been mentor to many and has touched thousands of lives in a positive and meaningful way” states Gary A. Fast, M.D., medical director at Prairie View. Lil first became interested in the mental health



**Longtime Bethel College Alumni Director bids Farewell — New Alumni Director Appointed**

After 16 years as Bethel’s director of alumni relations, Dave Linscheid ’75, retired June 30, with his last day in the office June 10. Pam Tieszen, vice president for institutional advancement, of which the Office of Alumni Relations is a part, said, “I’ve had the privilege of working with Dave only two years but I’ve learned he is gifted in a variety of areas.” “Among these,” she said, “are attention to detail, storytelling and a great sense of humor. Linscheid’s care for detail is among some of the best I’ve witnessed in my years as an administrator,” Tieszen said. “The next alumni director will be the fortunate recipient of [Dave’s] collection [of binders and electronic records] and every detail they need to know.”

field after an instructor recognized a talent and affinity for the field and fostered that interest. Lil says, “I have been humbled by the gift of trust given to me by patients and colleagues. I have been honored to be invited into their hearts, minds and lives. This trust and honor needs to be treated with reverence.” Lil feels that the healing power of relationships is central to treatment of mental illness. Lil was honored with a retirement reception May 19, in the dining room at Prairie View. Congratulations, Lil, on a job well done and welcome to a much deserved retirement! *Edited from a Prairie View press release*

“I’ve truly enjoyed working in the alumni office and serving Bethel,” Dave said. “I’ll miss the automatic people connections that come with the job. Ultimately, it’s been about building relationships between alumni and Bethel, rather than some quantity of projects or events.” Dave worked as an assistant in the Bethel drama department from 1978-79. He returned to the college from 1981-86, to the Admissions Office, where he served as associate director for three years and director for two. From 1986-2000, he was communications director for the bi-national General Conference Mennonite Church denomination, where he met many alumni in congregations across the United States and Canada. Congratulations, Dave, on a job well done and best wishes for a great retirement!  
~ Information from Dave Linscheid, edited by Lois Goertzen



**Pam Tieszen, has announced the appointment of Brad Kohlman, from BCMC, as**

the new director of alumni relations. Congratulations and Best Wishes in your new position, Brad!

**Correction:** It was called to my attention that errors occurred in the 12 year old birthday articles for Eva Dungan and Oliver Dungan. They will spend one more year at Santa Fe before attending Chisholm in the fall of 2017.

~ Lois Goertzen

### Anniversaries:

- **Edwin and Mary Smith celebrate 65 years of marriage on August 19**
- **Doris and Menno Schmidt celebrate 50 years of marriage on August 27**

## Around the Western District

**Congratulations to Gladys and Clarence Niles on 65 years of marriage— August 12, 1951**



**Congratulations to Berneil and Ted Mueller on 60 years of marriage — August 26, 1956**



**Congratulations to Dale and Rosie Horst on 60 years of marriage — August 12, 1956**



**Congratulations to Bonnie and Weldon Epp on 50 years of marriage— August 23, 1966**

Friday evening, July 29 and all day Saturday, July 30 the Western District Conference Annual Assembly will be held on the Bethel College Campus. Friday evening's message will be presented by Marty Troyer, pastor of the Houston Mennonite Church. Saturday evening will feature a "mini music festival" with a variety of musical styles to enjoy at several venues around the Bethel campus.

WDC's Spring Reference Council was held at First Mennonite Church in Beatrice NE with about 45 persons in attendance. The theme of the day was "Held Together in Mission: Being Church in the Rural Context" and featured stories, discussions and questions such as "Where do you see God at work in the rural context?", "What is your vision for the rural church in the future?" and "What are the gifts that a rural congregation offers to the conference and to the wider church?" The fall Reference Council will be October 22, 2016 in Dallas, TX with the theme "Held Together in Mission: Being Church in the Urban Context".

As part of the implementation of the 2015 resolution by the MC USA delegates to support Palestinian and Israeli partners in peace-making and to discern ways we can see a more just future for all peoples of Israel and Palestine, Western District Conference Minister, Heidi Regier Kreider joined a Come and See learning tour to Palestine/Israel co-sponsored by MC USA, MCC, Western District Conference and South Central Conference.

### Celebrate the 4th of July At Kidron Bethel Village



A community family celebration of the Fourth of July will be held at Kidron Bethel Village from 8 to 9 p.m. featuring a Fireworks Extravaganza show at dusk. This show is an annual event orchestrated by the Kidron Maintenance team. Also included will be a bake sale and the raffle of a baby quilt which was pieced and quilted by Friends of Kidron. Proceeds will benefit the Kidron Bethel Health Care Benevolent Fund.

## Obituaries



**Ruth Elizabeth (Ewert) Harder—  
December 9, 1920—  
May 12, 2016**

Ruth was born in rural Hillsboro to Bertha and John Ewert. She attended French Creek Country School, Hillsboro High School, two years at Tabor College, and subsequent graduation from Bethel College in 1942. She was the first woman to attend the Mennonite Seminary in Chicago, where she met and married Ernst Harder Aug. 23, 1946. They served in Paraguay with Mennonite Central Committee helping with the resettlement of Mennonite refugees and participated in founding the German-speaking General Conference Mennonite Church in Asunción, Paraguay. They returned to the U.S. but later continued international church activities in Frankfurt, Germany for two years (1956-58). Ruth and Ernst had six children. After 17 years in Uruguay, Ernst and Ruth lived in Dallas, TX for 13 years and then in North Newton where Ernst and Ruth retired in 1990. March 2016 Ruth moved to Kidron Bethel Assisted Living in North Newton. Ernst Harder preceded her in death (in 1995), as did two children, Karl David (1953) and Ronald Ernst (1968). Four children survive her: Trudy Harder (Carlos Rauschert) and family; Mark Chappell-Lakin & Katie (Amalia, Greta, Quinn), Karl Lakin, and Paul Lakin & Andrea (Alina); Rich (Rosie) Harder and family; Katy Harder Fast & Brian (John) and Ron Harder & Katie (Trevor); Margie (Ernst) Wiens and family; Michael Wiens & Yolonda (Ellie, Isaiah) and Andrea Wiens (Bobby Larson); J. Robert (Cindy) Harder and family; Hayden and Hannah.



**Maddox Lee Crabtree  
June 14, 2006—June 1, 2016**

Maddox Lee Crabtree was born in Wichita June 14, 2006, to Nancy Jo Mueller and Jeremy Crabtree. He had been a student at Sunset Elementary in Newton through the third grade and completed his fourth grade year at Northridge Elementary. He was an avid soccer and baseball player and was a member of the Juventus U10 soccer team. He loved to read, especially Harry Potter and Calvin and Hobbes, and he loved nature, whether fishing and watching out for frogs and turtles, hiking trails or going on bird walks, where he could identify many birds. He had started learning woodworking skills from his grandpa and had made wooden mice toys for this year's Mennonite Central Committee sale. Maddox attended Bethel College Mennonite Church, North Newton, where he was a member of the fourth and fifth grade Sunday school class and an "ex-officio" member of the church's high school youth group.

Maddox is survived by his mother, Nancy Mueller; his stepdad, Jacob Schrag; father Jeremy Crabtree of Corpus Christi, Texas; grandparents Jim and Melanie Mueller; grandmother Charmaine Zenger; aunt Becky Mueller; great-grandmother Ruth Bose; numerous family members and friends; his cat Khaleesi; and his dog Monroe.



**Evelyn Marie Stucky Frey  
July 30, 1927—  
June 18, 2016**

Evelyn (Stucky) Frey, age 88, Newton, Kansas, died on June 18, 2016. She was born July 30, 1927 at the Alta Mill, Moundridge, Kansas to John E. Stucky and Katie E. (Friesen) Stucky. She lived there until her marriage to J.R. Frey on May 27, 1948. She is preceded in death by her husband J.R. Frey, sisters Feodora Mueller and Melba Nachtigal, brother Ransom Stucky, and infant brother Jacob Stucky. She is survived by son John and his wife Patricia of Athens, Alabama, son Monty and his wife Linda of Goessel, Kansas, daughter Rebecca and her husband G.K. Rhoads of Omaha, Nebraska, 7 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. Evelyn was a member of the Bethel College Mennonite Church, a homemaker, and retired elementary school teacher.



**Steve Yoder—  
October 29, 1955—  
June 1, 2016**

Steve's death ended a four-month stay at the Cleveland Clinic where he was waiting for a heart transplant. His wife, Janet was able to stay near the clinic during these months. In recent days before his death his health took a turn for the worse and his struggle ended. We're sure that the large, beautiful bouquet of flowers from BCMC meant a lot to the family. The memorial service was very meaningful with reflections by two co-workers and each of the three sons: Neil, Aaron and Jeff; two anthems sung by the church choir, a meditation by pastor Wanda Stopher, and congregational singing. Steve had been pastor at First Mennonite Church in Bluffton since 2003, and served as pastor at BCMC from 1994-2003.

## Pastor's Corner— June Thomsen



### Lying Down in Green Pastures

Eugene Peterson, in *Answering God; The Psalms as Tools for Prayer*, states that "The Psalms are acts of obedience, answering the God who has addressed us." When we read the Psalms, or sing them, or say them, we enter the world of ancient Israel and the world of Jesus. We hear God's word to us. And then, in response, we pray; we answer God. It is a most marvelous thing that God seeks us, addresses us in every condition of our human experience. And invites us to respond. Psalm 23 is no doubt the most familiar psalm of the 150, and yet there are new things to hear and wonder about with every reading. I will be using my preaching Sundays this summer to both revisit old verities and help us discover new thoughts about this beloved psalm.

And now a few words about Psalm 23, verse 2: "He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters." Phillip Keller, in *A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23*, "who ran a sheep ranch in both East Africa and in the United States, writes that sheep are wary of lying down. In fact, there are four conditions that must be met before a sheep is able to relax. First, they have to be free of fear. Second, they can't relax if they are being bullied by more aggressive members of the flock. Third, they won't lie down if they are being tormented by parasites or flies. And finally, they must not be hungry.

Keller goes on to say that these problems of fear, tension, irritations and hunger can only be dealt with by the shepherd. It is the shepherd who must ever be vigilant that the pasture land is free of predators. Keller says that when there is a cougar or other predator in the

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area, the shepherd’s very presence calms the sheep.

Sheep are hierarchical animals; each flock is led by an old ewe, and all others jostle for position. The sheep are leery of lying down, for in a vulnerable position they tend to lose status in the flock. Again, Keller says that the shepherd is the only one who can keep the dominant sheep from causing major disruption. It is the

shepherd who bops aggressive sheep to keep them in line, allowing the herd to quiet. When the shepherd is near, there is quiet peace.

A good shepherd dips his or her sheep to protect them from ticks, and rubs salves into the skin to ward off parasites. And, of course, it is the shepherd who leads the sheep to plentiful pasture,

so that the sheep can eat their fill, and then rest by quiet waters.

And so it is with us. Knowing that the Shepherd is near gives us confidence beyond our fears. We can commit our concerns and tensions with other people into God’s care. We can rest in the Shepherd’s care when we are “bugged” by life’s daily irri-

tations. And we can lie down in peace, having fed on God’s word. God is truly a Good Shepherd who provides the deep rest we need. Saint Augustine knew this rest. He wrote “O God! Thou hast made us for Thyself and our souls are restless, searching, ‘til they find their rest in Thee.” May each of us know that rest.

**Worship schedule** *(Check weekly bulletins and church web site, [bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](http://bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org), for updates and details on worship and other events) Sunday worship is at 9:30 a.m., unless otherwise noted.*

**July 3**      Worship with sermon by June Thomsen; music by Christine Lehman  
 Sunday school elective: Offender/Victim Ministries with Elizabeth Schrag

**July 10**      **Youth Sunday** — Worship planned by the Senior High Youth Group; Baptisms will be performed  
 Sunday school elective: Witness Commission discussion of the “Doctrine of Discovery”

**July 17**      Worship with sermon by June Thomsen; music by Brent and Maggie Dungen  
 Sunday school elective: Witness Commission discussion of the death penalty

**July 24**      Worship with sermon by John Tyson; music by Dave Anderson  
 Sunday school elective: Newton Community for Racial Justice with Sara Dick

**July 31**      Worship with sermon by Byron Pellecer; Music by Suzuki Violins  
 Sunday school elective: Western District Conference Church Planting with Byron Pellecer

**August 7**      Worship with sermon by June Thomsen; music to be announced  
 Sunday school elective: Western District Conference delegate reporting

**August 14**      **Back to School Sunday**  
 Worship with sermon by John Tyson; music by Sunflower Trio

**August 21**      Worship with sermon by June Thomsen; music by Billie Selichnow

**August 28**      Worship with sermon by June Thomsen; music by the Chancel Choir