

Prayer Requests

Mennonite Mission Network: Mennonite churches in Bolivia have vacation Bible school this month. Margrit Kipfer Barrón, serving with Mennonite Mission Network, helps prepare the curriculum and train teachers. Pray that the Spirit of God will move in a powerful way among the children who attend and their families.

Western District Conference: Pray for the WDC Resource Commission as they meet this week to support congregations in witness, mission and faith formation.

This congregation: As we are aware of the unrest in our lives and the world around us, pray that God will show us the ways that make for peace, and that we will have the courage to follow.

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@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Web site: bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Church office hours: 9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. on Mon–Fri; 1:30 –5:00 p.m. on Mon – Thur
Church office is closed on Friday afternoons

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

Saturdays—building is locked at noon; Sundays—building is locked at 2 p.m.

Notary public service is available in the church office

Pastor: Dawn Yoder Harms, dawn@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org;
Phone: 316-283-3667; cell phone: 316-212-1847; Day off is Friday

Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Susan Wheeler
susan@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org; cell phone: 316-706-0887;
Day off is Monday

Associate Pastor for Faith Formation: John Tyson,
john@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org; Phone: 316-283-3667; Day off is Monday

Administrative Assistant: Monica Lichti, office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Custodian: Michael Crawford, 316-727-9840; day off is Tuesday

Music Coordinator: Barbara Thiesen **Chancel Bell Choir Director:** Vada Snider

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

Junior Choir Director: Monica Schmidt **Cherub Choir Director:** William Eash

Dec. 4 at BCMC: Attendance 283. General Fund \$17,147.80; Living Stones \$1,235; MCC Meat Canning \$240; Gen. Fund 2017 \$1,275; Caring Fund \$50; Flower Fund \$144.

The Holy Way

Walking in the way



of God's heart

Third Sunday in Advent
Bethel College Mennonite Church
December 11, 2016

Bethel College Mennonite Church
December 11, 2016
9:00 a.m. Prelude 9:30 a.m. Worship

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

GATHERING

Prelude *Der Friedensfürst* Leslie Brickman
Joy to the night Erich Boschmann, piano
O come, O come, Immanuel [HWB 172] Alahna Wheat
Amen, Amen Sojourn
Brent Dungan and Maggie Dungan
Behold, a rose is blooming Brahms
Pastorale and cradle song Saxton
Carol Medley Nancy Hilty, organist

Introit *Kyrie* Mozart
Chancel Choir and Senior High Youth Group

Call to worship, prayer Susan Wheeler, Worship Leader

Lighting the Advent Candle *Come, light of the world* STS 3
Eric Massanari & Yolanda Kauffman., candlelighters
Congregation join in singing when indicated

Psalm of praise -- from Psalm 146

L: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God.

P: Our hope is in the One who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them.

L: Our hope is in the one who keeps faith forever;

P: who executes justice for the poor;

L: who gives food to the hungry;

P: who sets the prisoner free;

L: who opens the eyes of the blind;

P: who lifts up those who are bowed down;

L: who loves the righteous;

P: who watches over strangers;

L: who upholds orphans and widows.

P: The Lord has shown mercy from generation to generation; lifted up the lowly and filled the hungry with good things.

L: The Lord will reign forever.

ALL: Praise the Lord!

***Hymn** *Rejoice, rejoice, the Savior comes* STS 4
(children come forward during hymn)

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Children's conversation John Tyson

Scripture reading Isaiah 35:1-10 Bill Swartley

Anthem *O come, divine Messiah!* arr. Helvey
Chancel Choir and Senior High Youth Group

Scripture reading Matthew 11:2-11 Susan Wheeler

Sermon *The saving work of disillusionment* Dawn Yoder Harms

RESPONDING IN FAITH

***Hymn** *I'll praise my Maker* HWB 166

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 *O come, all ye faithful*
Chancel Choir and Senior High Youth Group

***Dedication hymn** *Praise God, the Source of life* HWB 95

***Dedication prayer**

SENDING

***Sending Song** *My soul cries out* STS 124
Maggie Dungan, solo on verses; Eric Massanari,
LaVera Schrag, percussion; Suzanne Burch, guitar; Nancy Hilty, piano
Congregation joins in on refrain

Benediction

Postlude Please remain seated during the benediction and postlude

*All who are able are invited to stand

HWB = Hymnal: A Worship Book STS= Sing the Story
STJ= Sing the Journey (at the end of the bench)

This Week at BCMC: December 11—December 18, 2016

The McPherson Community Brass Choir under the direction of Jerry Toews will give a Christmas Brass Concert, today, 7 p.m., at the Alexanderwohl Church, located 1 mile north of Goessel on K-15 Hiway.

Join Mennonite Central Committee Central States for a holiday celebration, Dec. 15, 5 p.m.-7 p.m. at the MCC Center, 121 E. 30th, North Newton. At 6 p.m. hear from MCC International Volunteer Exchange Participants about the work they are doing in Kansas and about Christmas traditions from their home countries of Laos and Egypt.

The Tabor Mennonite Church Youth Fellowship will share their annual living nativity, *Night in the Barn*, Dec. 17 and 18 from 6-8 p.m. in the barn of Maynard Knepp and Carol Duerksen. Admission is free and donations to the youth group will be accepted. Directions to Night in the Barn: 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 information, call 620-386-0709.

Mennonite Church USA Convention 2017 is coming July 4-8 in Orlando, with the theme *Love is a Verb*. A new flier provides more details on speakers and other events. Learn more at: <http://convention.mennoniteusa.org> or find the convention on Facebook or Twitter. **BCMC is entitled to six delegates plus one alternate. If you are interested in being a delegate** contact Vern Preheim, Gifts Discernment Committee Chair **by Dec. 15**. Registration begins Jan. 17, 2017. Early registration costs \$299 which the church will reimburse to delegates.

A revised version of the Israel-Palestine resolution first brought to delegates at the Mennonite Church USA assembly in 2015 is now available for review. Visit www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/seeking-peace-israel-palestine to view the document and provide feedback **by Dec. 20**.

Jacob Miller, a senior at Bethel College, has the following request: "I am the food planning coordinator for the Intercollegiate Peace Fellowship (ICPF) Peace Conference that will meet at Bethel Feb.10-12, 2017. Would members of your congregation be willing to donate snacks or breakfast items to supplement our conference's food needs? Anyone interested should contact me (jacobmiller@bethelks.edu or 785-477-1820), or the conference coordinator, Sharon Kniss (skniss@bethlks.edu), at any time with questions or for more information."

Grocery stores in Harvey County and surrounding areas are beginning to carry Best Choice items. Collect the UPC code off Best Choice items, give them to Camp Mennoscah, and the camp will send them to Best Choice. Camp receives a \$30 check for every 1000 labels sent in. Contact Camp at office@campmennoscah.org or 620-297-3290. More information at <http://campmennoscah.org/how-to-help/donate/>

December 11, 2016—Third Sunday in Advent

10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time in the Gathering Place; coffee, tea, water available

10:50 a.m. Faith Formation—Visitors welcome!

- Infants & Toddlers—Nursery at back of the sanctuary
- Age 2 through K in B4; 1–3rd grade in B3; 4–5th grade in B8
- Junior High students (6–8th grade) – Room 26
- Senior High students—Room 22—*The Story*
- Agape—Fellowship Hall
- Bible Study—Lectionary Texts for Advent
- Catacombs—Rm B-5—*Stories of the Underground Railroad*, Omer and Zona Galle
- Fellowship—Rm B7
- Fine Arts—Rm 24—Book study, *Biblical Literalism: A Gentile Heresy*, J. Spong
- Issues & Christianity—Rm 23—*Great Figures of the New Testament*, dvd
- Mosaic—Rm 20—Sermon reflection and other current topics
- Open Circle—Rm 28—Sermon reflection and response
- Seekers—Rm 21—Book discussion: *Hillbilly Elegy*, John Pannabecker
- Sojourners—Chapel—*Being Christian in a Pluralistic World*, Eric Massanari

Monday, December 12

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

7:00 p.m. Facilities Committee—Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 13

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

5-8 p.m. BCAPA Suzuki Strings practice in sanctuary

6:30 p.m. Faith Formation Commission—Bonnie Krehbiel's 2423 N. Main, NN

7:00 p.m. Finance Committee—Rm 14
Worship Commission—Rm 23

Wednesday, December 14

8:00 a.m. Staff Worship Planning—Mojo's Coffee Shop, Bethel College campus

10:00 a.m. Bulletin announcement deadline

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

7:00 p.m. Senior High Youth

7:15 p.m. Menno Ringers—Rm B7

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir—Sanctuary

8:30 p.m. Chancel Bells—Rm B7

Thursday, December 15

7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship Executive Board—Rm 14
Safe Sanctuaries—Rm B7

Friday, December 16

6:00 p.m. BCAPA Suzuki Strings Concert—Sanctuary

Sunday, December 18

9:00 a.m. Prelude by Menno Ringers and organist Verlene Garber

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by John Tyson; music by the Junior Choir

10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time in the Gathering Place

10:50 a.m. Faith Formation—Visitors Welcome!

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 Children's conversation, children receive activity bags to use during worship (return to baskets at the entrance as you leave).

Thanks to the youth group for their participation in the choir this morning!

The flowers this morning are in honor of Ron and Carol Peters on their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married Dec. 17, 1966 at BCMC. Congratulations Carol and Ron!

Receiving medical care this week: Omar Voran had a cochlear implant this last week and Omar and Carolyn are recovering at Kidron Bethel Skilled Nursing. Duane Friesen, Wesley Medical Center, Wichita.

We offer sympathy to Gregory Nye and Elizabeth Schmidt on the death of Gregory's father, Arnold C. Nye, Dec. 3, Newton. The memorial service was Dec. 7 at the First Presbyterian Church of Newton.

Rebecca Schloneger and Nancy Johnson are performing violin duets today, for the 48th Annual Music Scholarship Olson Home Tour. Reservations are available at the Prairie Harvest store after church. Newton homes on the Home Tour belong to: Don & Marilyn Brown, Dede & Doug Trumble, Bill & Donna Mills, Gini & Deb Johnson.

BCMC supports the Harvey County Homeless Shelter (recently re-named the New Hope Shelter) through help with volunteer staffing, meals, and money given through the Witness Commission budget. The Shelter is launching an attempt to raise \$300,000 for 2017, and is asking supporting churches to keep them in mind with their end of year contributions. Some of this money would be used to hire a family to live on the Shelter grounds and would serve to staff the facility overnight, making the need for us to recruit overnight volunteers unnecessary. Please consider helping New Hope Shelter in planning your charitable contributions. Checks can be made out to BCMC with New Hope Shelter on the Memo line.

Registration for the 2017 season for Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus has begun. If you sang in the chorus last year you will find a registration form in your church mailbox. Complete it and return to Joe Peter's mailbox. If you have not sung in the chorus before and have some interest, contact Joe or complete a registration form found on the poster on the bulletin board. The blessings of participating are many. "We sing that others may live" supporting MCC. ~ Joe Peters, KMMC contact

A Variety Christmas program for families, Tues., Dec. 20, 7 p.m. in the sanctuary featuring Lily Schloneger, Brent and Maggie Dungan, a Barber-shop Quartet, and more. Refreshments in Fellowship Hall. Men, women, and children - all invited. An offering will be taken. (Sponsored by Women's Fellowship.)

Harvest of Love Campaign is Nov. 1-Dec. 31. The Salvation Army and the Newton Ministerial Alliance are working together to sponsor the Harvest of Love Campaign in Harvey Co. Goals this year are for 30,000 pounds of nonperishable food and \$30,000 to be used as assistance funds. Checks should be payable to Harvest of Love, 208 W. 6th, Newton, KS, 67114. Bring food to BCMC and place on the bench in the south entrance.

Mark Kreider will present "Colorado Photography", Dec. 27, 7 p.m., at Newton Public Library, 720 N. Oak. The program features photos taken by Mark during recent summers working on trails all over Colorado as well as images from other backpacking and hiking trips in Colorado in the last several years. The program is free and open to all.

Thank you, congregation, for your faithful financial support.

- Giving through the end of November was \$413,247 compared to expenses of \$417,483. December is a big month both for income and expense.
- Contributions received by noon on December 30 will be recorded for 2016. The time is short for this year but those older than 70 ½ might consider having a charitable IRA distribution sent to BCMC.
- Living Stones II contributions are needed to repay internal borrowing of \$77,053. Additional bills are anticipated for current projects yet this year.
- Thank you to those who participated in the Pony Express. This gives the Finance Committee and Church Board a basis for developing the 2017 budget which will be voted on by the congregation on January 29, 2017.
- Most of you will receive a "Special Financial Report" summarizing your intents and contributions as of December 5, 2016. The normal contribution report will be available in early 2017. ~ Richard Friesen, treasurer

Celebrate Christmas by donating a book to the Western District Conference Resource Library. A registry list of Resource Library wishes can be found on Amazon at <http://a.co/jasaOal> (or call the library). Order straight from Amazon and have it shipped to the library, or buy local and mark the book on the Amazon site as "buying this gift elsewhere." Also welcome are any Spanish language or bi-lingual resources and new, or like new/excellent condition books. If purchasing a book to honor someone, the gift will be acknowledged with a special bookplate inside the book, with the name of the person honored.

Third Thursday book discussion on *The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration* by Isabel Wilkerson, Dec. 15, 6:30 p.m., Kauffman Museum.



Dec. 11: Christmas Party at Tim & Bethany's