

# KALEIDOSCOPE

BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

May—June 2018 12:3



## Pastor's Corner with John Tyson



**What brought you here?**  
(Adapted from April 29 sermon)

A constant feature of my experience as a Kansan has been the question, "What brought you here?"

I've received this question countless times: at the Cross-Fit in town, at Hesston High where I play pick-up basketball with guys from Excel and Agco; by anyone who notices that my phone number doesn't begin with 316, and by students who wondered how I suddenly showed up in their youth group a few years ago.

It is a question that is both a barrier and an entry-point. It is a question that reveals both suspicion and curiosity.

Most of us can probably tell a clear and thorough story of how we came to be here. We know our history and our culture. We can trace our roots. We know the people, the places, and the events. We know how to answer the question: "What brought you here?"

I'm surprised by how different and diverse the answers to this question can be at BCMC. There is a growing multiplicity of answers to this question in this church by the day.

As I reflect on this, I'm

reminded of a now famous TED talk by the Nigerian author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie called the "Danger of a Single Story." The talk may be familiar to some of you. Using her own experience growing up in Nigeria and suddenly moving to the United States for college studies, Adichie draws attention to the way that story-telling shapes our perspective of others and ourselves. At one point in her talk, Adichie recalls how her American college roommate couldn't believe that a woman from Africa would be fluent in English and love to read. The "single story" her roommate had heard about the continent of Africa was a story only about poverty and war.

To only tell a single story about a place, in Adichie's words is to "show a people as one thing, as only one thing, over and over again, and that is what they become."

What stories are told first? Who gets to tell the story? How are some stories told or not told at all?

Story-telling is always caught up in power dynamics. Adichie's TED talk shows how it is often the dominant culture that determines the story of a place. But when this happens – when the dominant culture tells the story of a place – it is always incomplete. It is often a "single story."

It doesn't apply perfectly, but I've relied on Adichie's TED talk a lot during these past few years as I've pastored among you, as I've heard your stories; as I've come to know the history of this Mennonite community: a story of Russian Mennonite migration to Central Kansas inseparable from the story of this congregation.

Like Anthony Bourdain, I think food is the best way to experience the story of a place. I was reminded of this two weeks ago when I sat down to a delicious meal of zwieback, vereneke, bohne beroggi, and sausage at the MCC sale. These foods represent the culture of this Mennonite community. (I'm going to miss these foods!)

But as I enjoyed this meal, it was not lost on me that young people connected to this church, but with family origins in places like Honduras, Mexico, and Vietnam, also volunteered to prepare and serve the food that morning. You may not think much of that at first, but I think it represents a significant layer in the depth of your story and a window into your future.

To ask the question, "What brought you here?" – in this congregation – is to summon forth hundreds of answers. To me, this reveals the culture of generosity at BCMC that speaks to one of the better angels of your nature – and I think that generosity is essential to the theology of this church and a tremendous gift to me, many others, and many more to come.

But every community and every congregation has a dominant culture that is rooted in a

story. At their best, these foundational stories provide a framework and a sense of coherence for what has happened in the past and where you are in the present. This church has its own version of that story. The story that has served this place well, but I find it to be one of many stories told here.

The stories we tell not only have the power to limit our capacity to see others truthfully, but they have the power to limit our capacity to see ourselves truthfully too. In the end, this is Adichie's point. We are always more complex than the stories we tell. A single story never says it all – even the ones we tell about ourselves.

The danger of a single story comes in the fact that it prevents a community from seeing itself as what it is now and thus who it is becoming. And when it comes to this place we call church, a single story prevents a people from seeing why we are here.

From the very beginning, the church is called to be a place where all stories are held together...because it is when all stories are held together that we can finally see a vision of a church realizing why it is here: to bear witness to nothing less than a truly new humanity made possible in God's reconciling love.

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## A visit with Pastor John Tyson

Since the announcement of John Tyson's leaving for Des Moines, IA in June, I had the opportunity to sit down with him and visit a bit about his time here.

Almost four years ago when he arrived at BCMC in August of 2014, his first impression was how large the church/congregation is, and how rooted and connected it is to North Newton and the Bethel College community. Another first impression was that the congregation is hungry for substantive worship, preaching, and learning. He and his family felt very welcome, although being here was a culture-shock and it took a while to understand the community. They felt more welcome as time went on through relationships with the Agape Sunday School class and their families.

He felt supported and nurtured by colleagues and other members of BCMC. Confidence increased as he had opportunities to do a variety of tasks and felt this diversity in his responsibilities helped him develop his capacities as a pastor.

John said he will miss the opportunity of working alongside the team in the church office, as he will be the sole pastor of the Des Moines church. He will find new challenges engaging in a community that is still trying to figure out their identity and mission in the city.

His advice for our congregation is to keep investing in young people through resources of people and finances. There is a lot to be excited about the children and youth of the church and stressed the need to cultivate these ministries.

Amy will take some time off from working to get settled in after their move, and

help Levi adjust to his new surroundings.

Wishing you God's blessing, John, as you take on this new congregation and as your family gets accustomed to the new community.

~ Lois Goertzen

## What is the faith that draws us together at BCMC?

During the September 2017 Leadership Retreat, all present participated around tables as we viewed a bicycle wheel, analyzing its parts and comparing it to our congregation. We focused on "the hub" as a metaphor for what holds us together as a congregation. Then each table responded to four focusing questions. First question:

- How would you describe *the faith that draws us together?* ("the hub" of our congregation's wheel)

Following the retreat, Pastor Dawn Yoder Harms summarized the responses from each of the tables for each of the questions. Two church board members viewed those summaries and synthesized themes that emerged from that question and one other: *What gets in the way?*

On October 4, 2017 the Church Board viewed a two page synthesis of responses, offered initial comments and raised questions.

March 1, 2018, church board members revisited the document, and indicated its readiness to move forward. Pastor Dawn asked three members to work with her to draft 1) a *Statement of Common Purpose* from this work, as well as 2) to consider a *Process for bringing the congregation into this conversation.*

***Our faith in a God of love leads us to follow Jesus in doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with God***

At the April 5, 2018 meeting, the Church Board discussed the draft *Statement of Common Purpose*. In addition,

it responded to focused questions about the statement in order to test how well it resonated with each member. The Board then decided how it would bring the congregation into the process.

- In April, May and June, teams of two church board members will meet with every Sunday School class to test the statement. Responses will be recorded.
- Committees/commissions will be asked to discuss the draft *Statement of Common Purpose* as it relates to their work and respond by email.
- Watch for bulletin, email and other announcements inviting your responses to this draft statement.
- The Church Board will appoint an inter-generational task group to compile all responses and bring a report, including a final *Statement of Common Purpose* to its September meeting.
- The Statement of Common Purpose will be taken to the congregation at the September 2018 Congregational Meeting for *discussion* and to the January 2019 Congregational Meeting for *approval*.

Where might we use this statement? We envision it on each bulletin, newsletter, the BCMC website, church brochure, as examples, and as a statement for each committee and commission to guide their work. May we enjoy this journey of listening and learning from members in this BCMC community. ~ Rosalind E. Andreas for the Church Board

## Did you Know?—About the Cross in the Closet?

Our church building, erected in the 1950s, is a place for worship and Christian fellowship. However, there are many out-of-the-way spaces that we seldom visit – the nooks and crannies – needed for storage and overflow of odds and ends. Some-

times these spaces hold "treasures" from our past history. This is the case with the locked closet off of Sunday school room 21. When you unlock the door, you get a view of a jumble of storage items, but most prominently an electrically-lighted, gilded and glass cross, about 18 inches high, once used as an altar (communion table) adornment. Where did it come from? What is its story? Why was it "retired" and placed in deep storage (with several of its light bulbs burned out, never replaced)?

This cross once had a rather central role in College Church worship. Although the Mennonite architecture is most often plain, some of our members wanted a more dramatic space that produced a spiritual, worshipful atmosphere. The cross was the gift of Ralph C. Kauffman, a Bethel professor. Based on psychological and sociological insights, he urged the church to use more symbols, like the golden cross. When positioned on the communion table, and lighted, he proposed that it would encourage an enhanced sense of worship. Other members, more traditional minded, did not approve and complained that the electric lighting from the cross produced an annoying glare. This cross, now relegated to the closet, served our church for a number of years. It gradually was used only on occasions, and finally disappeared altogether. When was the last time it was plugged in and displayed? Retiring the cross was not a congregational decision, but something that the pastors gradually phased out. ~ Keith Sprunger



## How Does Artwork Enhance Your Worship Experience?

Continuing with responses from members of the congregation on 'How Does Artwork Enhance Your Worship Experience' here are what was said regarding works by Lora Jost, and Conrad Snider.

Responses to Lora Jost's Mosaic Series



- The key word is "all." Jost's mosaics affirm that all of creation is singing praise to God, and that all people are invited to sing along. The individual pieces of the mosaic reflect the beautiful diversity of the singers, which excludes no one, a fitting symbol of BCMC's mission, a compelling and centering reminder as we enter the open doors for worship.  
~ *Weldon Schloneger*
- I deeply appreciate Lora Jost's mosaic series "With Nature Sing" for helping us visualize how brokenness can be made new, movement is embedded in stillness, the whole is inclusive of different colors, patterns and shapes, and how we are all God's creatures.  
~ *Rachel Pannabecker*



Response to Conrad Snider's Columbarium Pot

I like to think of Conrad's Columbarium pottery piece as a place to put our memories of those who have gone before us. Af-

ter a stroll through the Peace Garden or spending time at the columbarium, we can view this beautiful pot and mentally place personal memories in it. When we come back, at another time, we can see the vessel and draw out those thoughts and feelings that we placed in it.

The pot is both graceful and majestic. It's soft curvature and complex glazes are so beautiful, and the massive strength of the pot is so impressive. It's presence in the columbarium courtyard, provides an aesthetic focal point, which complements the many personal connections we may have in this sacred space. I really think he made a wonderful piece for us to enjoy for years to come. ~ *Glen Ediger*

## Global Climate Change is Real and Dangerous by Dwight Platt

Global warming, the increasing average temperature of the Earth's surface, is arguably the most crucial environmental problem we face today. Although the cause is politically controversial, there is a broad consensus among most scientists that a major cause is the increasing concentration in the atmosphere of some uncommon gases, the result of emissions from human activities. Three of these so-called greenhouse gases and some sources from emissions are: carbon dioxide (80% of global warming; sources: burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, loss of soil organic matter, landfill gases), methane (sources: natural gas industry, landfill gases, livestock industry), and nitrous oxide (sources: nitrogen fertilizers, industrial processes).

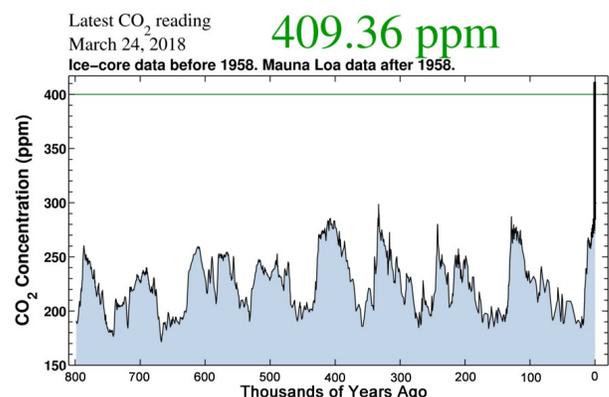
Greenhouse gases in the atmosphere retain more

heat on Earth. They are transparent to the short wavelength radiation from the sun which heats the Earth. But, due to their molecular structure, they absorb long wavelength infrared radiation which is what the Earth, as a warm body, radiates back out to space. As they warm up, these gas molecules re-radiate this heat energy in all directions so some of this heat that had been headed out to space now warms the surface of the Earth and the atmosphere. This is important in creating habitable conditions for life on Earth. Without greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, the average temperature of the Earth's surface would be minus 18° C (0° F) rather than the present temperature of 15° C (59° F). The problem is that human activities are releasing large amounts of these greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and as the concentration of these gases in the atmosphere goes up, the temperature of the Earth's surface increases.

The behavior of these greenhouse gases was first studied by scientists in the 19th century. John Tyndall did experiments demonstrating their absorption of infrared radiation in 1860. In 1896, the Swedish scientist Svante Arrhenius calculated the effect on the Earth's temperature if the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere increased. These were theoretical calculations. Now we are seeing those effects as the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere has increased

36% from 280 ppm in 1750 to over 400 ppm in 2018. See the graph from Scripps Oceanography Institute showing the atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide over the last 800,000 years. The dramatic increase after mid-twentieth century (the extreme right end of the graph) to more than 400 ppm is much higher than at any earlier time in that time period.

The increasing temperature is just the beginning of a series of related effects now usually referred to as global climate change. More heat energy in the Earth's weather system causes more extreme weather events: more extreme heat waves and cold waves, faster wind speeds, stronger storms and hurricanes, more extreme rainfall events and flooding, longer droughts. Ocean waters become warmer and more acidic which will affect ocean circulation and chemistry. Sea level rise, due to the expansion of warm water and the added water from the melting of glaciers and other ice on land, will flood coastal lands and islands. Both land and oceanic ecosystems will be disrupted and there will be a rise in species extinctions. Many of the effects will result in the displacement of peoples. In the next issue of Kaleidoscope, we will discuss responses we should consider as stewards of Creation to assist in protection of the climate of Earth.



With our members . . . . .

**The Mennonite Central Committee Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale— April 13 and 14**

In spite of blusterous winds, cold temperatures and even a few snowflakes, the 50<sup>th</sup> Kansas MCC Relief Sale carried on with enthusiastic workers and large crowds who bid on quilts, handicrafts and vehicles and enjoyed a variety of good food. Initial totals indicate that \$559,000 was raised for the work of MCC. Here are ONLY A FEW of the ways BCMC was involved.



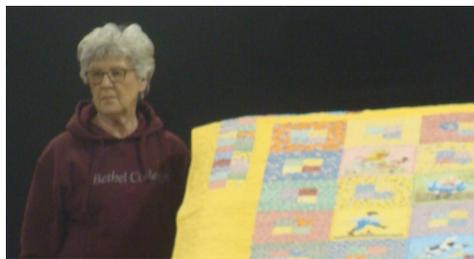
John Kliever loads zwieback for transportation to the sale.



T-Shirt blanket commemorating 20 years of Run for Relief made by Carol Flickinger, one of the runners.



The engine and coal car of a wooden train made by Ron Peters



Helen Nachtigal helps during the auction of Barb Koontz's baby quilt.

**The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Kansas MCC Comforter Blitz by Carol Peters**

The 12th Annual Kansas Mennonite Central Committee Comforter Blitz had 448 workers sign in during the three day event in early March. Twenty-two signed in from BCMC. The Journey gymnasium in Yoder was a bee-hive of activity with women (with a few men and children) from 104 different churches! Most attendees were from Kansas, but Oklahoma, Ohio, Nebraska, Missouri, Texas, and Alberta (Canada) were represented.

This year the workers completed a record 326 comforters with an additional 23, tied but not hemmed, returned to MCC for completion.

In the eight years that I (Carol Peters) have worked with this group, we have increased our emphasis on producing a quality product; in materials as well as in work-

manship. Our goal is to create a comforter *equal to one you would give a friend.*

Our experience at the blitz has been a constant flow of learning, discovery, and sharing new methods. For example we learned a neater way to miter the corners, and started using a rotary cutter for even trimming of the hems. Spouses made magnetic pin holders, magnetic rollers to pick up

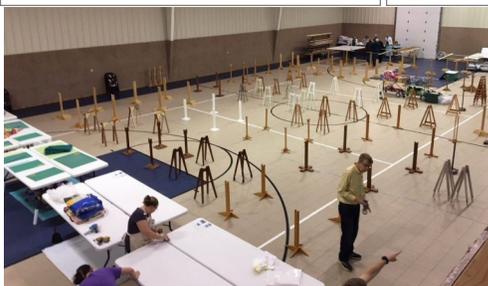
pins from the floor, a rack to dispense the batting, and a new rack to hold the 160 long quilting sticks in groups of four that match. One committee member made 48 large wrist pin-cushions that are filled at the sewing machines, and then traded for empties at the pinning station. We re-arranged our work flow to reduce movement and congestion. And by providing an

on-site luncheon (by donation), we increased interaction among the volunteers, provided a source of income to cover our expenses, and kept the workers on site.

Thank you, BCMC members, for participating in the MCC Comforter project by:

- sewing a 60 x 80 top from a color coordinated kit
- attending the blitz in Yoder, or one of our mini-blitzes in North Newton
- volunteering at MCC folding or tying comforters
- helping set up and clean up at the Blitz
- donating your unwanted fabric
- supporting MCC financially to help cover the cost of shipping

**Our next Mini-Blitz will be June 22-23 at the Central States MCC Center in North Newton.**



Setting up for the Comforter Blitz



The Blitz!

With our members  
continued.....

### Women's Spring Event

Eighty-three women and girls from the church spent a delightful evening in fellowship hall recently for our spring meal/program together. After being seated at the round tables, we were treated to olives, almonds, grapes and sparkling grape juice, in keeping with the theme of the evening. Three plays were performed by a group of novice actors (women and children), Biblically based with a sprinkling of humor, all creatively written by Loretta Baumgartner. Then boxed meals were served along with a date pudding for us to enjoy. Following this the fourth play was performed. Along with pleasant conversation around the tables, another successful event was experienced. In addition to Loretta, credit goes to Lois Brubacher, Kathryn Simmons, Helen Nachtigal, Carol Buller, Sarah Turner, Bonnie Epp, Brenda Turner and two children who acted out the plays. Brenda Turner, LaVera Schrag, and Elsie Flaming decorated the tables, Carol Buller created the backdrop, and a group of women made the date pudding desserts.  
~ Lois Goertzen



Women and girls enjoy themselves at the Women's Fellowship Spring Event

### Congratulations!



Congratulations to Caleb and Abby Koontz and their friend, Lucy Buller (from Shalom Mennonite Church), whose history day project entitled "Conflict within the Conflict: Mennonite Conscientious Objectors in Central Kansas during World War I," was one of two website projects selected (their project

won 2nd place at the State History Day competition) to represent Kansas at the National History Day competition in Washington, D.C. in mid-June.

You are invited to come learn about their project on Wed., May 16, 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary at BCMC. Caleb, Abby, and Lucy will share stories from their archival research, the interviews they conducted, and will show the final format of their project. Dessert will be served and donations toward the cost of their trip will be gratefully accepted.

### Sincere Thanks!



It is with sincere thanks that we recognize the conclusion of Lois Goertzen's time as co-editor of our church newsletter. Lois assumed this position in 2008 and for 10 years has enjoyed researching and writing articles with which she has endeavored to keep the congregation apprised of what is happening both inside and outside of our church walls. Though she has now asked to be relieved of this responsibility she continues to believe in the importance of the connections which this newsletter provides. We thank her again for her part in keeping these connections alive. ~ Dianne Epp

Thanks Lois — it was fun working with you on the newsletter! ~ Monica Lichti



Tables set for the event; Kathryn Simmons, Carol Buller, Helen Nachtigal and Sarah Turner practice one of the skits in front of the backdrop created by Carol Buller



Members and alum of the BCMC Youth Group came together to run the Bohné Beroggi booth at the MCC Sale in April.

## Happy 12th Birthday Justin Zerger!



Before you know it, Justin Zerger will be turning twelve years old! (On June 6.) I recently visited with Justin to

learn a little more about what he's up to these days.

Justin is wrapping up sixth-grade at Santa Fe Middle School and looking forward to making the shift to Chisholm Middle School next year. He's got a head start on the transition, however, since he began taking math classes at Chisholm this year. In addition to math, Justin enjoys science, especially with Mr. Sisson, his favorite teacher. "He makes science a lot of fun," Justin says.

While Justin thrives in the classroom during the day, he takes his talents to the field and the court afterwards. Justin currently suits up for three sports: football, basketball, and baseball. Right now, he is enjoying baseball season and plays every position besides catcher and shortstop. When he's not on the field, he's rooting for the Chiefs, Jayhawks, and Royals and enjoys when he can catch a game in-person.

As much as he loves to play and watch sports, nothing gets Justin more excited than spending time out fishing. His love of fishing began when he was three years old, and it keeps growing. Recently, Justin reeled in a fourteen-pound carp in his backyard. Fishing, as Justin put it, "keeps me off of X-Box and helps me relax." He hopes to go on more fishing trips as he gets older!

Justin loves to spend time with his family. At the top of his favorite family activities is

going camping in Minnesota each summer. He loves this opportunity to stay in cabins with his cousins and catch up with them.

In addition to going camping in Minnesota this summer, Justin is looking forward to spending a week at Camp Mennoscah. He is eager to see friends, go swimming, and play games. Camp Mennoscah is always a highlight of the summer despite that, as Justin says, "it gets really hot out there."

Justin has enjoyed connecting at BCMC, since his family moved to Newton a few years ago. He is an active member of the Junior High Club and the Junior Choir. Justin also appreciates the sermons. "I listen to them," he says, "...most of the time."

Justin lives life with a spirit that is serious and thoughtful, but also fun-loving. The BCMC community will have a blast watching him continue to grow in the years to come. Happy birthday, Justin!

## May is Mental Health Month

This *May is Mental Health Month*, Prairie View is focused on how a healthy lifestyle may help prevent the onset or worsening of mental health conditions, as well as heart disease, diabetes, obesity and other chronic health problems. It can also help people recover from these conditions. Eating healthy foods, managing stress, exercising, and getting enough sleep can go a long way in making you both physically and mentally healthy.

### Mental & Physical Health Facts:

- What does your gut have to do with mental health? A lot, actually! Studies show that the bacteria found in your gastrointestinal tract can be a huge mood influencer.
- Health and wellness are hot topics, but did you know a healthy lifestyle can help to

prevent the onset or worsening of depression, anxiety and other mental health conditions, as well as heart disease, diabetes, obesity and other chronic health problems? It can also help people recover from these conditions.

- Getting the appropriate amount of exercise benefits nearly all aspects of a person's health. Not only does exercise help control weight, it also improves mental health, and chances of living longer and healthier.
  - Sleep plays a role in all aspects of our life and overall health. Getting a good night's sleep is important to having enough physical and mental energy to take on daily responsibilities. Sleep disturbances can also be a sign of a mental health condition.
  - Mental illnesses are the biggest cause of disability and illness in the world. Depression alone is one of the top five leading causes of disability across the planet.
  - Just one hour of exercise a week is related to lower levels of mood, anxiety and substance use disorders.
  - Among people in the U.S., those who make regular physical activity a part of their routines are less likely to have depression, panic disorder, and phobias.
  - There is a strong relationship between having mental health problems and having gastrointestinal symptoms like heartburn, indigestions, acid reflux, bloating, pain, constipation, and/or diarrhea.
  - Sleep helps the body to re-energize its cells. It also increases the amount of space between brain cells to allow fluid to flow and clear away toxins.
- ### Ten tips for dealing with stress:
1. Be realistic. If you feel overwhelmed by how many things are on your schedule,

it's ok to say "No" to new activities!

2. No one is perfect. Don't expect perfection from yourself or others. Don't hesitate to ask for help if you need it.
3. Meditate or pray. Just 10 to 20 minutes of quiet reflection and prayer may bring relief from chronic stress as well as increase your tolerance to it.
4. Visualize. Use your imagination and picture how you can manage a stressful situation more successfully.
5. One thing at a time. Take one task a time. Once you accomplish that task, choose the next one. The feeling of checking items off a list is very satisfying and can motivate you to keep going.
6. Exercise. Regular exercise gives an outlet to energy your body makes when it is preparing for a "flight or fight" response to stress or danger. Twenty to thirty minutes of physical activity benefits both the body and the mind.
7. Get a hobby. Take a break from your worries by doing something you enjoy.
8. Vent. Don't try to cope alone. Try to limit complaining and keep conversations constructive.
9. Be flexible. If you are willing to be accommodating, others may meet you halfway. Not only will you reduce your stress, you may find better solutions to your problems.
10. Go easy on criticism. Try not to hold on to frustration or disappointment when another person does not measure up. Also remember to be kind to yourself. Negative self-talk doesn't fix problems and will make you feel worse.

# Anniversaries



Congratulations  
Al and Sue Penner on  
60 years of marriage—  
May 30!



Congratulations  
Ruthann and Marvin  
Dirks on 60 years of  
marriage—  
June 21!



Congratulations  
Myron and  
Mildred Voran on 65  
years of  
marriage—June 16!



Congratulations  
Alice and John Suderman  
on 65 years of  
marriage—June 18!

## Obituaries



**Harold W. Vogt—March 15, 1926—March 3, 2018**  
Harold W. Vogt died 12 days shy of his 92nd birthday,

at Life Care Center of Wichita. He was born to Jacob W. And Martha (Wiens) Vogt in Hillsboro, KS, and spent his childhood with his parents and 4 brothers in Corn, OK and Hillsboro. He graduated from Tabor College in Hillsboro in 1950 with degrees in History and Psychology, and the same year married Berdena Kornelson. After his graduation from the University of Southern California in 1954 with a PhD in Religion, they moved to Newton, KS where he served as the Director of Psychology at Prairie View Mental Hospital. In the early 60's he began a private clinical psychology practice in Wichita. He continued his psychology practice until he retired in 2016, a few months after his 90th birthday. In 1986, he married June (Toepfer) Walters. He is survived by his wife; his 3 children, Gregory Vogt (Kate Dewey-Vogt) of Black Mountain, NC, Bruce Vogt (Mary Holle) of Thousand Oaks, CA, and Laurel Vogt (Gianfranco Pezzino) of Topeka, KS; his step-son, Kent Miller (Roxie); his grandchildren, and step great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, Vernon W. Vogt of Newton, KS, Cornelius W. Vogt of San Carlos, CA, Milton W. Vogt of Konowa, OK and Eugene W. Vogt of Gunnison, CO; and his step-son Cary Miller of Wichita. The memorial service was March 9 at Grace Presbyterian Church in Wichita. Harold Vogt was a wider fellowship member at BCMC.



**Robert W. Schmidt—Feb. 16, 1930—April 1, 2018**  
Bob Schmidt, 88, died Easter Sunday at Schowalter Villa, Hesston.

He was born in Enid, OK to August and Esther K. Schmidt. He attended elementary/secondary school at Oklahoma Bible Academy, Meno, OK and then Bethel College, where he received his chemistry degree in 1952. He taught one year at Sun City High School before marrying Betty Enns Aug. 27, 1953. Bob and Betty moved to Norman, OK, where they started their family and Bob attended Oklahoma University where he received his Masters and Ph.D. They moved to Indianola, IA, where Bob taught for two years at Simpson College. They moved to Newton in 1961, and Bob was a Professor of Chemistry and Microbiology at Bethel College for more than 30 years. Bob was a member of BCMC since 1954. He is survived by his wife, Betty, children: Rebecca (Gary) Dick, Baldwin City, Brian (Debra) Schmidt, Lenexa, Kenneth (Linda) Schmidt, Salt Lake City and Karen (Kent) Richards, Baldwin City; siblings: Eleanor Nickel, North Newton, Wilbur and Arlene Schmidt, Hutchinson and James Schmidt, Oklahoma City and eight grandchildren: Jena Dick, Phillip (Jessica) Schmidt, Tessa (Ryan) Matheson, Nathan (Lauren) Dick, Bradley Schmidt, Heath Parmley, Wyatt Parmley and Betsy Parmley; and two great-grandchildren, Emmett Matheson and Brody Matheson. He was preceded in death by his parents, August and Esther Schmidt; and brother, Richard Schmidt. A celebration of life was Apr. 7 at BCMC.



Pictures from Retreat at Camp Mennoscah courtesy of Weldon Schloneger, Dave Linscheid & Orvin Voth— follow this link to see more <https://cruxphotos.smugmug.com/History/BCMC-Retreat-2018/>



**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. Fellowship Time in the Gathering Place with coffee, water and tea available is at 10:30 a.m. Faith Formation is at 10:50 a.m. Everyone is welcome! Note: Any given Sunday's events may be subject to change

**May 6, 2018—Church Retreat at Camp Mennoscah**

**May 13, 2018—Worship with sermon by John Tyson; music by Cherub Choir, Junior Choir and Chancel Choir**

**May 20, 2018—Bethel College Baccalaureate—No Sunday school—Service begins at 10 am**

**May 27, 2018—Pentecost—Worship with sermon by Dawn Yoder Harms**

**June 3, 2018—Vacation Bible School Sunday—Service begins at 10:00 am—No Sunday school—Hamburger Fry hosted by the Senior High Youth Group in the church playground after the service**  
**This is the last Sunday for Pastor John Tyson, Amy and Levi to be at BCMC. We wish you well Tyson family and we will miss you!**



**June 10, 2018—Things that make for peace: Vulnerability; Sermon by Dawn Yoder Harms**

**June 17, 2018—Things that make for peace: Commitment Sermon by Dawn Yoder Harms; music by the Dirks Family**

**June 24, 2018—Things that make for peace: Making peace at home**

