

# KALEIDOSCOPE

BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

January—February 2019 13:1



## New Year Memorial Service

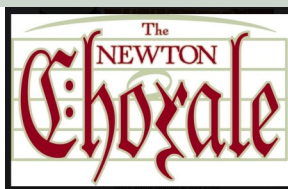
January 6, 2019, at 4 pm, the annual New Year Memorial Service will be held. This service is time set aside for us to remember the unique and beloved lives of all those members of Bethel College Mennonite Church who have died during the previous year. This worshipful hour opens with songs, litany, and verses of scripture. Leadership is shared among the pastors and Deacon Commission members. A time to remember each person begins as they are named and a family member or other significant person comes forward and lights a candle. All the candles are placed in the sand tray and the gathered light shines brightly. After each member has been named there is an open invitation for anyone willing to come forward, speak the name of a loved one who has died within the past year, and light a candle in their memory to place with the others in the tray. The service closes with song and benediction and the warm, bright, glow from many candles and loving memories go with us into the New Year. Please remember the BCMC members and friends who died in 2018.

- Feb. 17 .. Bertha Fern Gerber
- Mar. 3 ... Harold W. Vogt
- Apr. 1 .... Robert Schmidt
- June 20.. Ruth Baughman Unrau
- June 27.. Rubie Unruh Reimer
- June 30.. Arnold M. Wedel
- Aug. 2 ... Lois Duerksen Deckert
- Aug.12 .. Doris Nikkel Schmidt
- Aug.13 .. Rupert Hohmann
- Sept.2 .... Lonabelle Jantzi Yoder
- Oct.17 ... Lou Gomez, Jr.
- Nov.26 .. David Warkentine

~ article submitted by Susan Wheeler



Newton Chorale Rehearsals Begin Soon



The BCMC facility is shared with our community in numerous ways. One use is for rehearsals and

concerts of the Newton Chorale. There are BCMC members who are also part of this community choir. Mark your calendars for the Newton Chorale Spring Concert which will be Sunday, March 3, 2019, 4:30 pm in the Bethel College Mennonite Church sanctuary.

Music that considers hope, anticipation, and contentment includes Handel's *As Pants the Hart for Cooling Streams*, Barber's *Sure on This Shining Night*, Gjeilo's *The Ground*, Dolly Parton's *Light of a Clear Blue Morning* and choruses from Bernstein's operetta *Candide*. Admission is free. A donation is requested. The Newton Chorale is directed by Renae Schmidt Peters and accompanied by Karen Unruh. Their first practice for the season is Monday, Jan. 7, in the BCMC chancel.

~ Phil Koontz

## Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendars for the Congregational Meeting on January 27. This is the meeting where the congregation looks at the financial reports from 2018, hears a report from the Auditing Committee and approves the 2019 budget. There will also be some other

important items on the agenda for the congregation to consider. The Financial Report booklets will be in your mailboxes Sunday, January 20.

There will be a yummy fundraising luncheon served by the Senior High Youth Group before the meeting. (They are raising funds to go to the Mennonite Church USA Convention in Kansas City this coming summer.) Lunch will be at 11:45 am with the congregational meeting following at 1 pm.

## Guess Who's Coming to Dinner in 2019!



It's that time of year again! **Guess Who's Coming**

**to Dinner** is scheduled for **Feb. 24, 2019**. This has been described as one of the best events that the Hospitality Commission supports. Consider partici-

### Inside This Issue

OVM Prison Ministries .....	2
Dessert Auction .....	2
Comforter Blitz .....	2
New VBS Curriculum .....	2
80th Birthdays .....	3
12th Birthday .....	3
Senior High Youth Group ....	4
Rec Night .....	5
Christmas Program .....	6
Obituary .....	7
With our members .....	7
Worship schedule .....	7

Bethel College Mennonite Church  
2600 College Ave., P.O. Box 364, North Newton, KS 67117  
316-283-3667; Email: office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org  
web: bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org  
Editorial committee: Dianne Epp, Pat Friesen, Monica Lichti

pating as either a Host or a Guest. As a Host you will provide not only the space (you determine the number of guests you are comfortable having), but the main dish, drink and maybe the bread. As a Guest, you will be assigned either a side dish or dessert and depending on the size of your group, the bread. At noon on Feb. 24, everyone finds out who they're sharing a meal with. It's a wonderful way to get to know people in our congregation in a different setting. Sign up begins on Jan. 20. Chase the winter blues away with this enjoyable occasion. *Kathryn Simmons, Nadine Peters, Marilyn Stucky, Barb Voran, Doris Whillock—members of the Hospitality Commission*

**Support Prison Ministries Programs at Hutchinson Correctional Facility**



Offender/Victim Ministries will kick off this year's season with the Valentine's Day Reaching Out Letter Writing Events on Thursday, **January 10, 7-9 pm** at Mennonite Central Committee-Central States, 121 E. 30th, North Newton and/or Jan. 21 from 1-5 pm at OVM, 900 N. Poplar, Newton. Letters and cards will be delivered to individuals incarcerated at

Hutchinson Correctional Facility on Feb. 14. Letter writing "kits" can also be distributed to churches and community groups. Contact [ben@offendervictimministries.org](mailto:ben@offendervictimministries.org) to arrange for delivery. Help us spread the love!

**Offender/Victim Ministries (OVM) presents The Prison Theater Project**, a collaboration between Bethel College and Hutchinson Correctional Facility, Jan. 25, 7 pm at HCF East Unit, 400 S Halstead Rd, Hutchinson. RSVP to [ben@offendervictimministries.org](mailto:ben@offendervictimministries.org) by Jan. 11 to attend. Preceding this event at 5 pm, all are welcome to join us for OVM's Annual Meeting at St. Teresa Church, 211 E 5th, Hutchinson. Soup supper provided.

**Camp Mennoscah Dessert Auction**



Supporting Camp Mennoscah will be that much sweeter in February. Bethel College Mennonite Church will be hosting the third annual dessert auction February 24 from 4-6 pm. All proceeds will go to Camp Mennoscah.

The dessert auction began three years ago as a unique way to auction off amazing desserts made by constituents. Over the last few years, desserts have included cheesecakes, poppy seed rolls, and even a catfish cake made by our very own Brenda Turner. In between bidding on desserts, bidders will enjoy being led by volunteer song leaders in a hymn sing.

Monies raised by the dessert auction have helped pay for the new whale play structure which was recently completed in the Spring of 2018. At this time a special project has not been chosen.

Come February 24 to bid on amazing desserts and sing hymns that represent the work of God at Camp Mennoscah.

~ Jill Robb

**Comforter Blitz**

Everyone is welcome to join the fun at the Mennonite Central Committee Comforter Blitz on March 5, 6, and 7 at Journey Mennonite Church at the Yoder Campus, one mile north of Yoder, KS. Comforters will be tied for Mennonite Central Committee to send overseas to people in need. Come and have a good time while helping others. Lunch available for a donation each day, or you may bring your own sack lunch. At the 3-day Blitz in 2017, 446 participants from 75 churches completed 306 comforters for MCC. The oldest participant was 96 and the youngest was 4. Workers came from Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Mexico and Alberta. Questions? Contact Shirley Jost 785-250-7437. Find the Blitz on Facebook at MCC Comforter Blitz for Kansas

**Creative New VBS Curriculum Ready for 2019**

In September 2017, Carol Duerksen, seasoned writer, approached me about a dream for a new curriculum for Vacation Bible School--on-line, multi-generational. I was immediately hooked

on a new way to do short-term resourcing for congregations. (MennoMedia continues to publish traditional VBS for children--good stuff!)

**SPRINGS FORTH!** Faith Formation, Inc. was born and is now functioning as a non-profit, tax exempt organization. The Board of Directors includes some from BCMC: Karen Ediger, Lois Thieszen Preheim, Pat Friesen, and Dorothy Nickel Friesen. The VBS PLUS curricula will be published on-line ([www.springsforth.com](http://www.springsforth.com)) for \$50 beginning January 1.

**"We are detectives of divinity We are looking all around For signs of God's activity Wherever they are found. God is up to something Of that you can be sure. So start the investigation The clues are everywhere."**

~"Detectives of Divinity" by Bryan Moyer Suderman

What if we all became detectives, every day, looking for God in the usual and unusual events of our lives? What if we taught our children, youth, and adults to be detectives of Divinity, searching both Bible stories and their daily moments for signs of God's activity? What if we had faith formation curricula to help us do just that? Welcome to Detectives Vacation Bible School PLUS!

VBS PLUS! is a "traditional" VBS package with five sessions of Bible stories, activities, crafts, snack suggestions, worship, offering projects, skits, decoration ideas, graphics and more. But this VBS PLUS package isn't just for chil-

dren! There's also a stream of five lessons for youth, and another five lessons for adults. So, if a congregation wants ALL AGES to study the same stories together, it's all here: preschool, grades 1-5, youth (grades 7-12), and adults. Kindergarten children may fit well with the preschool material; and for others, the children's stream will be better. Grade 6 could go either with the children's unit or with the youth.

We will be presenting this VBS option to the Faith Formation Commission and inviting other congregations to consider a new way to form faith through all generations!

~ Dorothy Nickel Friesen

### Happy 80th Birthdays Al and Nadine Peters!



Their life stories begin at home: hers in an attached apartment to her father's barber shop on Main Street in a small Nebraska town; his in a Nebraska farmhouse surrounded by fields of corn with a nearby creek sheltering mink, raccoon, and deer. Their families worshipped at Bethesda Mennonite Church in Henderson, NE but Alvin Peters and Nadine Janzen attended different public schools, not noticing one another until high school. They

now celebrate almost 60 years of a life rich in service, family, and prison ministry.

Early in their marriage, two years of Voluntary Service in Chicago at the Woodlawn Mennonite Church with Delton Franz and Vincent Harding prepared them for a challenge years later, from their young adult Sunday School class, to put their faith into action: "Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." The state's Correctional Center for Women was only 15 miles away. Al wryly observes that they visited, and learned prisoners are people too. Now, after 40 years leading weekly prison Bible Studies, they carry with them the gratitude and life stories of hundreds of women, some with life sentences. A current project, at a warden's behest, is to "write a book."

Here at BCMC you'll find Al chairing the Finance Committee and Nadine part of the Hospitality Commission.

When you walk through the Et Cetera store, notice laser-



worked cedar magnets which Al makes in his basement workshop (with Nadine's help selecting the sayings or scripture.) Daughters

and their families are close by in Halstead and Wichita, with another daughter in Minneapolis to give them an excuse to travel. Their son died at age 4, that was also a life changing experience. Heartfelt good wishes on your 80th milestone birthdays, Alvin and Nadine!

Al turned 80 March 30, 2018 and Nadine turns 80 on January 18, 2019.

### Happy 12th Birthday Anne Koontz!



Anne Marie Koontz had a birthday on January 1 and she is ready for her next chapters. Having lived twelve years, Anne has a pretty solid sense of what's going on around her. She knows a good deal of what the world dishes up, she sees how each part impacts other parts.

Her parents and two older brothers form a strong base for Anne. Cooperation, respect, doing things together with each other are elements that she values in her family. Anne's home is in North Newton, a community she loves. The family attends First Mennonite Church in Hutchinson where her father serves as Associate Pastor.

She enjoys her cat, KC, who became part of their family on the day the Royals won the World Series!

When asked what her cat might say if it could talk, Anne replied without hesitation. "It would say, 'This is my food, this is my litter box, this is my bed, these are the people who take care of me.'" She carries a realistic view toward KC, even though the cat is a cherished pet.

Anne loves being strong and healthy. Some of her most satisfying moments have been improving on Pacer and on the pushups she includes in her workout. She enjoys volleyball, basketball and tennis. At the same time, academic material holds strong interest for Anne as well. When school starts up in August, she is eager to get the year going. Science and math are her interests, science because you learn how to ask questions, then learn how to find out the answers, and math because it is logical and has lots of uses in everyday life. Anne also enjoys playing upright bass with the school orchestra and singing in the BCMC Junior Choir. As a person, Anne engages the logical and the creative, and enjoys physical and mental challenge.

Friends are important for Anne – people to be with and get to know well. Anne understands the importance of being there for friends, the importance of listening. In the school setting, Ann observes how much work it takes from everyone to keep getting along. Even though some interpersonal problems may seem too unimportant to become upset over, the social dynamics are real and everyone is affected

*continued next page*

by them, everyone is a part of it all, she observes. For a twelve-year old, that is a wise perception.

Anne gets a kick out of socks! She has lots of them, they are useful for every day and feel just great. Her favorite pair was given to her and had these words on them: I'm not bossy, I AM the boss! If Anne could give everyone in the world one thing, it would be socks -- practical and comfortable for all.

As for one rule that Anne would wish everyone in the world would abide by it? "Everyone should have the same rights."

Thank you, Anne Marie, for helping us get to know you! We are glad you are here at BCMC when you can be. We celebrate your presence!

~ Susan Jantzen

### Here's what the Senior High Youth Group has been doing

The BCMC Senior High Youth Group is preparing for an exciting 2019! Already we have celebrated Christmas and the New Year together at a party on January 2. Nachos, ice cream, and hot chocolate were consumed, white elephant gifts exchanged, and a game of "fishbowl" completed with team 1 narrowly beating team 2. January will also include a trip to the Mennonite Central Committee center in North Newton for a Pizza, Service, and Learning night; a "lock-in" evening at the church; and the annual soup fundraiser before the congregational meeting on the 27th. Beyond January

the group plans to attend Snow Camp at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp in February and MCUSA Convention in Kansas City in July.

Snow Camp has become a highlight of the youth group year. While it used to be a biennial event, for the last few years we have decided to go every year due to its popularity and what we sponsors see as its effectiveness in bringing the group closer together. Though it is a short weekend trip, the camp provides the perfect space for worship, food, games, camaraderie, activity, rest, and relaxation. Activities include several worship sessions, mountain hikes, table games, tubing (if there's enough snow!), meals, games on the frozen pond, snowball fights, and perhaps even naps.

Each year the youth group takes a week in the summer for a service and learning activity. These are scheduled on a rotating basis of local service, urban experience, rural/wilderness experience, and convention. Previous years have been spent in Rehoboth, New Mexico, and Denver, Colorado. This year we will be spending the week at the MCUSA Convention in Kansas City. The convention four years ago was a rich and rewarding experience for all, and this year will no doubt be the same. In addition to these large events the group regularly meets on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings in the Youth Room for bible study, conversa-

tion, and fun. We will also be continuing other yearly traditions of coordinating the Easter sunrise service, serving bohne beroggi at the MCC Sale, many help out with Vacation Bible School, and serving the hamburger fry on VBS Sunday. We would like to thank the congregation for all of its support!

~ Ben Lichti, Youth Group Sponsor along with sponsors Tim and Bethany Schrag, Megan Leary and Pastor Dawn Yoder Harms



BCMC Youth Group at Snow Camp—2018



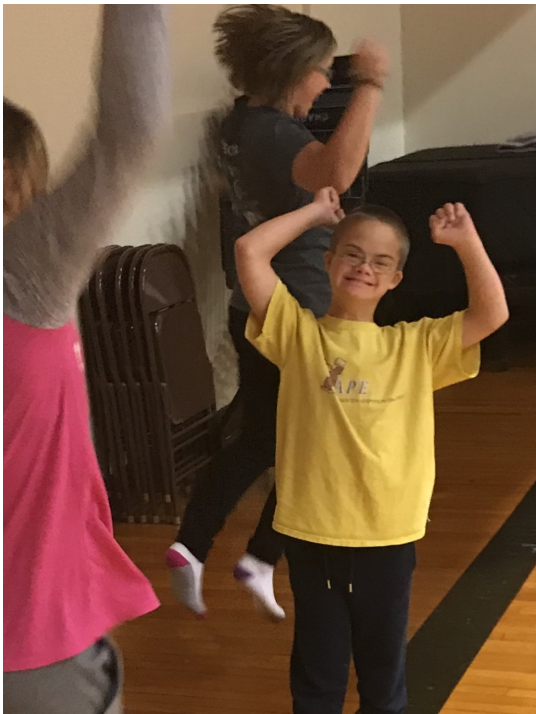
The Youth Group at MCC Meat Canning



BCMC Youth Group help at Mennonite Central Committee Service Night



It's a BCMC tradition that during the last Wednesday of the 7 week Wednesday night suppers — when the children attend Junior High Club and Journey Club — that all the children go to the Memorial Hall Gymnasium at Bethel College for a game night. These are pictures from the “rec” night at Memorial Hall, November 14, 2018. Thanks to Jennifer Koontz and Matt Schloneger for contributing these pictures.





The Children's Christmas Program in 2018 took place during the Sunday morning worship service on December 23. Tim Hodge wrote the play, "Greatest Story Ever," and directed the children in rehearsals on Wednesday evenings, Sunday mornings during Sunday school, and a last dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 22. The children worked really hard and all that hard work resulted in a wonderful program on Sunday morning. Here Tim Hodge coaches the angels on holding their arms up high.



Two Kings and a Shepherd



Tim gives last minute instructions before the performance

The shepherds have a meeting



## With our members.....

BCMC welcomed eight new members on November 18, 2018:

James Banman, Chuck and Pat Friesen, Donna Friesen, Tim and Mary Ellen Hodge and Elaine and Steve Schurr.

The congregation at BCMC welcomes these new members and is so glad that they are here!

## Obituary



**David A. Warkentine**  
August 31, 1926 - November 26, 2018

David A. Warkentine went to be with his family in heaven November 26, 2018. He was born on a farm near Goessel, Kansas, August 31, 1926 to Henry and Katie (Schmidt) Warkentine. Dave enjoyed life with his two older brothers, Ed and Marvin, and younger sister, Rozella, on the family farm. During World War II, Dave worked for area farmers. After he turned 18, he was drafted and enlisted in the Navy. He served a short time and then returned to work in Peabody, where he

met his future wife, Barbara, a local school teacher.

After marrying Barbara on June 9, 1951, at Bethel College Mennonite Church, he settled into married life in Peabody, Newton, and North Newton, Kansas. Three children were born into the family. Dave worked at Hesston Corporation for over 34 years, retiring in 1992. At that time, he and Barbara took a long-anticipated camping trip to Alaska, which was a real highlight for both of them.

After losing Barbara in 1996, Dave continued spending time each winter in an RV park in south Texas, where he met Marilyn Hawk. They were married in 2000, and lived in Larned, Newton, and Great Bend. After Marilyn's passing in 2017, Dave moved back to North Newton and spent his remaining years renewing old friendships and making new friends, as well as spending time with his

grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Dave is survived by his three children: Brian (Charlotte) Warkentine of Chandler, OK, Kendal (Marjie) Warkentine of Wichita, and Marty Warkentine of Newton; five grandchildren: Jessica Warkentine of Gilmer, TX, MeLissa Carter and Jeremy Warkentine of Chandler, OK, Joshua Warkentine of Newton, Jennie (Peter) Wintermote of North Newton, three great-grandchildren, and his sister, Rozella Warhurst of Newton. Other survivors include two step daughters, Marilyn L. Stude of Larned and Vicki Schmitt of Great Bend and their families, as well as nieces and nephews.

A memorial has been established with the Music Committee of Bethel College Mennonite Church. While he was not a musician himself, Dave found joy and comfort in the music of the church's bell choir.

**Worship schedule** (Check weekly bulletins and church website, [bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](http://bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org), for updates and details on worship and other events) Sunday worship is at 9:30 am, unless otherwise noted. Fellowship Time in the Gathering Place with coffee, water and tea available is at 10:30 am. Faith Formation is at 10:50 am. Everyone is welcome! Note: Any given Sunday's events may be subject to change. "The Kaleidoscope" can be viewed online on the website.

### January 6, 2019—Epiphany Sunday

Worship with sermon by Dawn Yoder Harms;  
music by Andrew Thiesen  
4:00 pm New Year Memorial Service—Sanctuary

### January 13, 2019

Worship with sermon by Susan Jantzen;  
music by Chancel Choir

### January 20, 2019

Worship with sermon by Dawn Yoder Harms;  
music by Chancel Bells

### January 27, 2019

Worship with sermon by Dawn Yoder Harms;  
music by Chancel Choir  
11:45 am Fundraiser Lunch served by the Senior High Youth Group—Fellowship Hall  
1:00 pm Congregational Meeting

### February 3, 2019

Worship with sermon by Dawn Yoder Harms;  
music by Cherub Choir and Junior Choir

### February 10, 2019

Worship with sermon by Dawn Yoder Harms;  
music by Chancel Bells  
4:00 pm Mennonite Central Committee presentation—Sanctuary

### February 17, 2019

Worship with sermon by Brad Kohlman;  
music by Chancel Choir

### February 24, 2019

Worship with sermon by Susan Jantzen;  
music by Chancel Choir

**Bethel College Mennonite Church  
P.O. Box 364  
North Newton, KS 67117**

**Return service requested**

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