



Bethel College Mennonite Church
November 24, 2019 — Worship 9:30 am

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

GATHERING

Lighting the Christ Candle

*The prelude invites us into a time of silence
as we open ourselves to God’s presence among us.*

Prelude *Now thank we all our God* (J.S. Bach)
Greta Hiebert, organ

Introit *We gather together* (arr. Raney)
Chancel Bells; Suzanne Burch, director

Call to worship, prayer Dorothy Nickel Friesen

*Hymn of praise *Let the whole creation cry* **HWB 51**

(children come forward during hymn for children’s conversation)

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

Children’s conversation Florence Schloneger

Worship Music *Now thank we all our God* (arr. Thompson) Chancel Bells

Scripture reading Psalm 46, Colossians 1:11-20 Joe Peters

Sermon *Cosmic Christ* Nathan Koontz

RESPONDING IN FAITH

*Hymn *Christ is alive! Let Christians sing!* **HWB 278**

Kingdom Report: Celebrating Mennonite Central Committee’s
100th anniversary—Jim Robb

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.*

*Those with November birthdays please come forward for a blessing
(bring hymnals)*

Offertory *Comfort, comfort, O my people* (Anton Heiller)

*Dedication hymn *For the fruit of all creation* **HWB 90**

*Dedication prayer

SENDING

*Sending hymn *We are people of God’s peace* **HWB 407**

*Benediction

*Benediction response

*Postlude *These are the Holy Ten Commands* (J.S. Bach)

*All who are able are invited to stand
HWB = Hymnal: A Worship Book (in rack)
STS= Sing the Story (in rack) **STJ**=Sing the Journey (at end of bench)

**We light the Christ candle to welcome God’s presence among us. Sent out
from worship, we carry the light of Christ with us into the world.**

Welcome visitors and friends! May you sense God’s presence at BCMC.
Personal hearing devices are at the north sanctuary entrance.
The nursery at the back of the sanctuary is available during worship for
families with infants and toddlers.

Today is the annual fish bowl offering for the Caring Fund. The fish bowl will
be in the back of the sanctuary before, during, and after the church service.
Money collected is used to help those in the larger community who find them-
selves in need. The Deacons are thankful for your generosity and your willing-
ness to share with others.

Staff: Pastor Dawn Yoder Harms will be on vacation Nov. 25-30.

Next week, the office will be closed and the building locked on Nov. 28, Thanksgiving Day, and the day after, Nov. 29. The bulletin for Dec. 1 will be printed on Wednesday, Nov. 27. Any announcements for the bulletin must be in the office by Tuesday, Nov. 26.

We offer sympathy to Darlene Wynn and Omer and Zona Galle on the death of Darlene's husband, Ted Wynn, Nov. 20 at Ascension Via Christi St. Francis, Wichita. Darlene is the sister of Omer Galle. Funeral arrangements are pending.

We offer sympathy to Evelyn Lehman and family on the death of Evelyn's husband Ralph, Nov. 21 at Kidron Bethel Village. Arrangements for the memorial are pending and will be announced later.

The Gifts Discernment Committee has distributed a survey which aids in identifying and calling on BCMC participants to share their gifts with the congregation and the community. Everyone aged 12 and up is encouraged to fill out a survey—either on paper or on-line by going to bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org and clicking on **READ MORE** in the Gifts Discernment Survey article. The GDC uses this tool to identify leaders for the next two years along with commissions, committees, task forces and Church Board. Additional surveys are available by the mailboxes. Please return the surveys to the box in the Gathering Place or preferably on-line by Dec. 8.

Thanks for visiting the Climate Change Challenge table in the Gathering Space! Check it out this month to learn about Energy Vampires and add your reflections on going meatless to the Community Journal!

Next week Kansas Electric will be in the church building doing some preliminary work on running cable to extend the wireless network and make the entire church more capable to receive internet access. If it's wireless why do we need more cable? *Wikipedia* explains Wi-Fi this way: "Wi-Fi's wavebands have relatively high absorption and work best for line-of-sight use. Many common obstructions such as walls, pillars, home appliances etc. may greatly reduce range."

Thank you to Facilities Committee members Ron Preheim, Steve Schurr, and Lowell Stucky for working on the lights in the sanctuary. Each light fixture was rewired and new bulbs installed. A frightening, but sturdy, system of scaffolding with an extremely tall ladder was used to reach the lights with no major mishaps!

The Next Week at BCMC: November 24—December 1, 2019

Sunday, November 24, 2019—Thanksgiving Sunday

10:30 am Fellowship time in the Gathering Place

10:50 am Faith Formation

- **2 & 3 year olds**—Room B6
- **K through 4th grade** in Room B3; **5–8th grade** in Room 26
- **Senior High students**—Room 22
- **Agape**—Rm B8
- **Bible Study**—Rm 14—Book study: *Fire by Night*
- **Catacombs**—Rm B5—*Between the Testaments*, John Esau
- **Fellowship**—Room B7
- **Fine Arts**—Room 24
- **Issues & Christianity**—Room 23
- **Mosaic**—Room 20—Sermon reflection and other current topics
- **Open Circle**—Room 21—Worship reflection and response
- **Seekers**—Room 28—*White Fragility* book study
- **Sojourners**—Chapel—*Some time with Nathan Koontz*

Monday, November 25

1-5 pm Mission Quilters (all quilters welcome!)—Rm B5

2:30 pm BCMC worship DVD—Kidron Bethel Health Care

7:00 pm Library Committee—Rm 14

Tuesday, November 26

12:45 pm BCMC worship DVD—Kidron Bethel Assisted Living

Wednesday, November 27—No choir practices this evening

10:00 am Bulletin announcement deadline

Thursday, November 28—Happy Thanksgiving! Church office will be closed and the building locked

Friday, November 29—Office closed and building locked

Sunday, December 1—Advent 1

9:30 am Advent Prelude by the BCMC Orchestra; Worship with sermon by Renee Reimer

10:30 am Fellowship in the Gathering Place

10:50 am Faith Formation

Every three years, First Mennonite Church, Newton presents Handel's *Messiah* with an 80 voice choir, orchestra and soloists. You are invited to join the choir. Rehearsals are Nov. 24, Dec. 1, and 8 from 1:30-3 pm in the First Mennonite Church sanctuary, 429 E. 1st. Bring your own *Messiah* book or purchase one for \$15 at the first rehearsal. Dress rehearsal is Dec. 14 from 10 am-12 pm and the presentation is Dec. 15 at 7 pm. Contact Matthew Graber at 605-310-1656 or email mgrabr2013@gmail.com with questions.

Camp MennoScah has finished visiting colleges for the season, but is still on the lookout for summer staff. The positions to fill are Crafts Leader, Grounds/Maintenance, Lifeguard, Media/Office, Music Leader, Naturalist, and Office. These positions receive a stipend of \$250 per week. Apply online at campmennoscah.org under Summer Youth Camps!

Everence® will hold an all-inclusive retirement planning workshop, Dec. 7, from 9 to 11:30 am on Medicare, Social Security and retirement income planning. Workshop presented by Everence staff at Everence Financial, 3179 N. Main St., North Newton. Reserve your spot soon by contacting Michelle Ramer at 316-283-3800, 877-467-7294 or michelle.ramer@everence.com.

You are invited to join Mennonite Church USA staff for "Coffee and Conversation" at 718 N Main St, Newton to hear from Mennonite Mission Network International Service Worker, Deb Byler, Dec. 16, 11 am. She will share about the ministries in which she is involved with Kekchi Mennonite women in Guatemala. A recent article on Deb's ministry is available on-line: <https://www.mennonitemission.net/news/Spiritual-direction-in-Kekchi-context-brings-mutual-growth>

Everyone is invited to attend the Winter Luminary Walk at Dyck Arboretum of the Plains in Hesston from 5:30 to 8 pm Nov. 29 and 30, and Dec. 6 and 7. Admission is \$6 for Adults and \$3 for children ages 3 to 12, or advanced tickets can be requested by emailing arboretum@hesston.edu or purchased at the Arboretum office for \$5 for adults and \$2 for children ages 3 to 12. Outdoor highlights include the walking path lit up by hundreds of luminaries, a nativity scene in the leaf house, and roasting marshmallows at the fire pits. Performances by local groups will include Lindsborg harpist RoJean Loucks at 7 pm, Nov. 30 and the Prairie Bronze Handbell Ensemble, directed by Vada Snider at 6:30 and 7:30 pm, Dec. 6. December 7 is FAMILY NIGHT, with free admission for accompanied children 12 and under, crafts and hay rack rides.

Bethel College announcements:

- **All bakers and craft makers are invited to make items for 5 Places of Christmas Dec. 7**, at Bethel College Fine Arts Center. Bethel College Women's Association will be selling baked goods, (Christmas candy, zwieback, peppernuts, poppyseed roll and cinnamon rolls), crafts, and poinsettias. Please bring your items Dec. 6 from 1:30-4:30 pm or on Dec. 7, 7-8 am in the Fine Arts Center Room 140 which is behind the Box Office.
- **Friends of the MLA program, today, Nov. 24, 3 pm—"Remembering the Vietnam War" with Rachel Pannabecker** (50-year anniversary of Bethel's participation in the Moratorium to End the War in Vietnam), Kauffman Museum.
- **Annual sing-along to Christmas portions of Handel's *Messiah***, with Bethel College instrumentalists, soloists and student conductors, Dec. 4, 11 am, Bethel College Mennonite Church; scores provided.
- **Bethel College Steel Drum Band Christmas concert, Dec. 4, 7 pm**, Memorial Hall (**NOTE: different from some printed calendars**).
- **Christmas Gala jazz concert with Bethel College Jazz Ensembles I & II, Dec. 6, 8 pm**, Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center.
- **Five Places of Christmas, Dec. 7, 10 am-4 pm—Kauffman Museum** offers free admission (including the special exhibit "K is for Kansas"), refreshments, and sale items in the museum store. Bethel College Women's Association will have holiday food and gift items for sale in Fine Arts Center.
- **34th annual Lighting of the Green at Bethel College, Dec. 8, 8 pm.**

You are invited to the Treble Clef Christmas Vespers program, Dec. 1, 3 pm (with a 2:45 pm prelude) at First Presbyterian Church, 900 Columbus Ave, Newton, featuring RoJean Loucks, harp, Treble Clef Chorus, Blake Crawford, saxophone, Prairie Bronze-Handbell Choir, Hearts 4 Him, Men's Ensemble.

Mennonite Central Committee is celebrating our 100th anniversary and attempting to collect 6500 comforters to deliver to people in need all around the world. Get involved by tying a comforter on January 18, 2020. We are looking for people to host a comforter tying event in their community. Contact Kate Mast at 316-283-2720 or katemast@mcc.org for details. It's more than a warm blanket – it's a message of love and compassion.

You are invited to the annual Mennonite Central Committee Christmas Soiree, Dec. 12 from 5-7 pm, at MCC, 121 E. 30th St., North Newton. Everyone is welcome to join them for snacks, fellowship and Christmas cheer!

As a way of addressing matters involving food equity and the growing number of students who are in need of food or a meal, the Bethel College Food Pantry opened its doors Mon., Nov. 4. The Bethel College Food Pantry is located in the lower level of Haury Hall. Interested in making a donation? Food donations may be dropped off at the Student Life Office in the lower level of the Administration Building. Monetary donations may be sent to the Institutional Advancement office. Make checks payable to Bethel College and in the memo line indicate it is a donation for the Bethel College Food Pantry. IN-KIND GIFT forms are available for food donations. A food list for the pantry is available on the BCMC bulletin board (on pink paper!)

Love to knit? We want your help! The visual arts committee would like to create a knitted display illustrating temperature changes throughout the years in BCMC's history (see www.tempestryproject.com for an example of a finished project). We will have limited space as each "tempestry" is 10-12" wide by 4' tall, so we're looking for interest to see how many knitters we can accommodate. If you're interested in knitting a tempestry, please add your name to the signup sheet at the back of the sanctuary before Dec. 11.

2019 budget update: As of October 31, expenses were \$28,509.69 in excess of contributions. Based on history, we do expect to reduce this shortfall by December 31, but not eliminate it completely. We ask everyone to prayerfully consider their giving through the end of the year. ~ *Finance Committee*

November 17 at BCMC: Attendance 248. General Fund \$8,908.83; Living Stones \$45; Wed. Supper \$263.26; MCC \$200; Sr Hi Youth \$100; Transfer-General \$150; Gen Fund 2020 \$7,438.01; Caring Fund \$200; Flower Fund \$55.95; Coffee \$24.50.



 **You are invited to share a poinsettia** for the sanctuary for the Christmas season. The Worship Decorating Committee will purchase the poinsettias, and have them delivered to the church. To contribute, fill out the section below, attach payment of \$7.99 to BCMC (designated "Flower Fund") and place in offering plate or bring to church office **by Dec. 1**. Contact Carol Buller, 283-6157, for more information. Contributors may pick up a poinsettia Dec. 24 after the 7 pm Christmas program or after the 11 pm Lessons and Carols program; or, if you can, leave them for the service on Dec. 29.

Donor: _____

In memory of: _____

Or in honor of: _____

Prayer Requests

Mennonite Mission Network: MMN requests prayer for Marvin Lorenzana and his leadership of the Missional Discipleship Initiative. More than 45 leaders in eight "huddles" (learning groups) began training last month. Praise God for their willingness to reach out into their communities to share the good news about Jesus' love.

Western District Conference: Pray that we as WDC congregations and leaders will sense God's peace and presence as we prepare for the season of Advent and enter the fullness of the holiday season.

This congregation: During this season of Thanksgiving, take time to give thanks for God's faithful, guiding presence in the life of our congregation.

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 the 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 Ave., Box 364, North Newton, KS 67117
Phone: 316-283-3667—Fax: 316-283-2079

Email: office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Website: bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Church office hours: 9 am–12:00 pm Mon–Fri; 1:00–5 pm Mon–Thur

Church office is closed Friday afternoons—Monica Lichti not in office Friday afternoons

Building is locked weekdays at 5 pm unless evening activities are scheduled

Saturdays—building is locked; Sundays—building is locked at 2 pm

Notary public service is available in the church office

Pastor: Dawn Yoder Harms, Day off : Monday—Phone: 316-283-3667

cell phone: 316-212-1847; Email: dawn@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Associate Pastor for Faith Formation: Renee Reimer, Day off: Friday—Phone: 316-283-3667; cell phone: 605-212-0081; Email: renee@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Nathan Koontz, Days off: Monday and Wednesday—Phone: 316-238-3667; cell phone: 316-212-4593

Email: nathan@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Office/Facilities Manager: Monica Lichti, office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

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

Music Coordinator: Barbara Thiesen

Menno Ringers Director and Chancel Bells Director: Suzy Burch

Chancel Choir Director: William Eash **Junior and Cherub Choirs Director:** William Eash