

KALEIDOSCOPE

BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

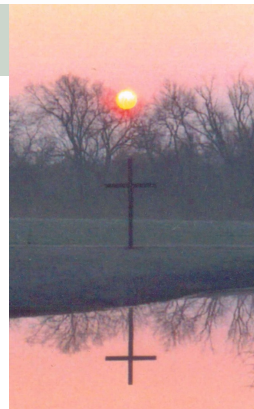
April—May 2011/5:2



THREE DECADES OF SUNRISE SERVICES



While attending the Bethel College Mennonite Church in my youth (1951-1963), I knew Mary Esther Graber belonged to a family that served the church faithfully. I also wondered which lucky young man would win her hand. The successful suitor turned out to be Lanoy Loganbill whom I idolized for his basketball skills. Though we did not interact directly, he endowed me with lifelong lessons in humility and priorities through his choice of Bethel over K-State that had focused frenetic recruiting efforts on him—including a “kidnapping” from which his brothers had to rescue him.



Since returning to this church in 2010, I have met them both and now know that the two of them have become pillars of this congregation. Over the decades Mary

Esther and Lanoy Loganbill, like their parents, have served this church unflinchingly—her church since birth—in nearly every capacity, from Sunday School teacher and superintendent, to Bible School teacher, to trustee, to deacon. They recall having witnessed unheralded service by members of this congregation: Bible School teachers who remained on duty for six extra hours as torrential rains descended, for example, and the volunteer who chiseled by hand the edge of every stone in our building. Many of us take little notice of the faithful service of others as long as it is well done. This month, however, the editors would like to send a “well done, ye good and faithful servants” message to the Loganbills for hosting the Easter Sunrise Service these past three decades.

In 1965 they purchased 80 acres along Sand Creek with a dream of turning the site into a nature sanctuary. Working with the ASC, they put in two ponds, planted an orchard, (apples, cherries, peaches, pears and mulberries) and dug in a thousand walnut trees. By 1980 nature was cooperating and beginning to give the dream intimations of reality. That year the Loganbills began hosting the Easter Sunrise Service for the Youth Fellowship of Bethel College Mennonite Church. The service is held pond side facing a cross on the opposite bank. The youth provide rolls and coffee. The Loganbills have ready answers for most any excuse for not attending. In case of cold weather Lanoy builds a giant bonfire. Ever since allowing the state to lease 10 acres for a batching plant during the construction of I-135, the Loganbills enjoy a long cement driveway; thus mud no longer poses an impediment. Lanoy cherishes two memories from the three decades of hosting the Easter sunrise service: the year that the youth arrived on bikes and the time a flock of ducks flew in over the cross and landed on the pond just as the service was starting. Mary Esther nurtures the dream of recreating a legendary Moravian Easter Sunrise service. In the late 1700’s, unbeknownst to the Moravian faithful gathering for the service slated to begin with a trumpet fanfare at the rising of the sun, a large band of Indians was preparing to attack. As the sun crept over the horizon, however, and the trumpet blasts announced the resurrection, the marauders fled in fright. Enemy forces may not surround us this Easter morn, but will a trumpet chorus proclaim the good news? ~ *Tony Epp with pictures by Visual Arts Intern, Maggie Goering* [This year’s sunrise service will be April 24, 6:30 a.m. at Lake Loganbill.]



A few words about the writer:

Tony Epp returned to the North Newton community retiring to the Kidron Bethel community. He grew up in this community, and attended school in the Newton school system and at Bethel College. Shortly after he and his wife Dianne joined BCMC in 2010, he expressed interest in writing for the Kaleidoscope and this is the second article he has produced for the paper. Welcome, Tony, as a much appreciated member of the newsletter staff.

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HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY ORLETTA WIEBE!



Orletta's first breath was taken in Salem Hospital in Hillsboro, KS, March 25. Her mother (Lillian Bartel) developed "birthing" complications and died eight days later. For her first six months of life she was loved and cared for by Henry & Linda Bartel, parents of Floyd, so Floyd was a "big" brother until Orletta's father remarried. Her family consisted of three brothers and three sisters (all living). Her father, William and (step mother) Anna Brandt, worked at farming. Orletta said they moved every two years during her childhood, so she attended many schools! All four high school years were in Hillsboro, however, and she remembers enjoying reading, English, and studies in biology, along with music, piano lessons, and singing. As a thirteen year old she was baptized into the Johannestal Mennonite Church in rural Hillsboro. Orletta attended Tabor College for one year before spending two voluntary service years in Washington D.C., and Akron, PA. While in U.S. she felt a nudging to go into nurses training, recalling a childhood fascination with stories about nurses and medical themes. Returning to Bethel College and Bethel Deaconess Hospital, Orletta completed nurses training. This done, she worked in the small Mennonite hospital in Beatrice, NE, before moving back to Newton to be a staff nurse at Prairie View. It was there she met Marvin Heide. They were married at the Johannestal Church in 1960. They eventually settled in Hillsboro where Marvin managed a farm equipment business, Orletta worked part time as a nurse, as well as kept up with their growing family with the arrival of Jerold, Carolyn, Dennis, and Kendall. Sadly, after nineteen years of marriage, Orletta, along with three teenage children and an eleven year-old, said goodbye to Marvin who lost his valiant fight with cancer.

Orletta enjoyed working at the Marian County Health Department. She and family were blessed in 1988 with her marriage to John Wiebe, Conference Minister of the Mennonite Church in Manitoba. They lived in Winnipeg, where she completed chaplaincy training and worked as a Hospice Chaplain for twelve years. The pace of their lives "slowed considerably" as John's health became compromised, and he passed away in 2009. Now living at Kidron Bethel Village, Orletta is close to family, especially to four of her nine precious grandchildren. Some hobbies include; reading, music, playing the piano, travel, watching sports events, cooking and baking. Appropriately, the hymn, "In the Rifted Rock," comes to her mind, along with Isaiah 41:10, "Do not fear, for I am with you..." You are a testimony to the faithfulness of God, Orletta! May God richly bless your 80th year. ~ Susan Wheeler

HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY ESTHER THIESZEN!



Esther was born to Katharina (Woelk) and J.G. Klassen, April 1, at the small hospital in Goessel, located just across the street from their home. This extended community directly impacted their lives in that not only was the telephone switchboard located in their house, with J.G. the manager of the local telephone company, their home was also situated between the "Old Folks Home," the hospital, and the undertaker. Esther learned to say "number, please!" at an early age as well as visited all the elderly residents, calling each by name. She recalls the funny story of taking her cat into young friend, Vera's, room for a hospital visit. Esther believes these formative events shaped her vocational interests with a particular bent toward geriatric nursing.

Esther enjoyed early school years in Goessel, especially being involved in music and the girl's chorus. With her family she attended Goessel Mennonite church where she was baptized. Right after high school her first year was spent in Ganado, Arizona, at a Presbyterian Mission for the Navaho Nation. Next, nurses training began at Bethel College and Bethel Deaconess Hospital. September 3, 1953, was graduation day and her wedding day was September 18, 1953! Esther says she first noticed Harold, wearing a bright colored shirt and playing ping pong outside the dining room. They became even better acquainted when both were student volunteers, giving the devotional program at the Bethesda Mennonite church in Henderson, Nebraska.

With Harold, Esther was involved in church work in Marian, SD, Sugarcreek, OH, Buhler, KS, Mountain Lake, MN, Moundridge, KS, and Elkhart, IN. Their three children, Kathryn, Jon, and Barbara, joined them along the way. Esther enjoyed homemaking, women's circle, and singing with trios or other small groups. When Barbara was in fifth grade she began working part time at the Sunshine Home in Buhler. As their first RN, and working with Dr. Orlando Friesen, she was able to impact the overall medical care of residents, as well be a part of the team. Esther went on to work as a Director of Nursing in several locations for over 20 years. In moving to North Newton in 1994, Esther has kept her active mind and hands busy by volunteering at the Public Library and the Mennonite Library Archives, as a "plant whisperer" for Bethel College Library, along with ten years of knitting baby caps for the NMC! She is also an avid reader. She and Harold enjoy involvement at BCMC, visiting with friends and family that include her 91 year old sister, and find great joy in time spent with their children and three grandchildren. "In Thee is Gladness," a favorite hymn, is undergirded by a beloved text; Numbers 6:24-26, "The LORD bless you and keep you..." Esther- may the words of this hymn and Scripture speak joy and peace into your life throughout this 80th year. ~ Susan Wheeler

HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY RUTH LINSCHIED!



Ruth celebrates her 80th birthday April 13. She grew up on a farm near Goessel, Kansas. Her parents were Gustav and Emma Duerksen. Tragically, Emma died when Ruth was only thirteen. She had to take on many family responsibilities which included helping to care for a six year old sister. The family were members at Alexanderwohl congregation where Ruth was baptized when a freshman in High School. She says, "I never dreamed I would end up marrying my teacher!" But Goessel teacher, J. Willard Linscheid, with his Master's Degree and charms...won her over and they were married July 21, 1951 in the Alexanderwohl church. After marriage they lived in Goessel and were blessed with the arrival of twin boys (Ruth was unaware she was carrying twins!) David and John, and then Steve completed their family. When Steve was in grade school Ruth attended Bethel College, obtaining a teaching certificate. She taught second and third grades at Goessel Elementary School for 18 years, while Willard continued teaching in the High School. They also became active members at the Goessel Mennonite Church. The 1970s were pivotal years in Ruth and Willard's lives because it was during this time son John, who was the pastor of a Mennonite church, "came out" as homosexual, not only to them, but also publically. The church in Lawrence, KS, subsequently dismissed him from his duties. These were heart-wrenching events. This season of soul-searching propelled Ruth and Willard to become active advocates for Gay and Lesbian concerns. They were able to use their compassion, understanding, and newfound knowledge to support others with similar circumstances.

1986 was the year of a move to Willard's home place in North Newton, with retirement shortly thereafter. Willard passed away in 1992. In 2000, Ruth moved to a house on Main Street, and ten years later to an apartment in Kidron Bethel Village. Ruth is a gifted quilter and has made special quilts for her children and grandchildren. She loves to read and always has a book handy, and also enjoys baking and making breads, especially zwieback. In mentioning her family she says, "All the children have been wonderfully supportive through everything." She still volunteers at the Etcetera Shop, something she began to do in 1987. Psalm 103, I Corinthians 13, and Mark 12: 30-31, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart... soul, mind, and strength... and your neighbor as yourself," and hymn, "O Power of Love" are favorites. This hymn was sung at her wedding and also at Willard's funeral. God bless you, Ruth, as you experience, and demonstrate, God's powerful love throughout your 80th year! ~ Susan Wheeler

HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY TINA BLOCK EDIGER!



Tina Block Ediger was born April 25, to Katharina (Penner) and Julius Block at home in rural Steinbach, Manitoba. She arrived early at only 4 pounds, tiny enough to fit in a shoe-box, but already endowed with the determination that has seen her through life. She was the first child in her family born in Canada, after her parents came from the Ukraine in 1928, and grew up with six siblings. Steinbach was the center of Tina's school and church life; she was baptized at Steinbach Mennonite Church at age 20. She took secretarial training at Red River College, and worked in Steinbach and Winnipeg. Tina moved to Newton in 1955 to become secretary at the Board of Missions (General Conference Mennonite Church - later Commission on Overseas Mission, or COM). While in Newton, Tina also studied part-time at Bethel College, graduating in 1965 with an English major. From 1961-1963 she served as secretary-treasurer at Union Biblical Seminary in Yeotmal, Maharashtra, India; other trips took her to Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Colombia, Mexico, and Congo to visit mission workers, serving as an advocate especially for missionary women - both single and married - and children. She concluded her work with COM in 1981, and in 1999 created for COM the book, *Window to the World*.

A new chapter began for Tina when she married Elmer Ediger in 1975. In 1983 Tina met difficult challenges: She was diagnosed with cancer, undergoing radiation and chemotherapy treatments; and in September of that year Elmer died unexpectedly. Tina felt that it was an honor to his memory that she could work from 1986 to 1996 in the development office at Prairie View, where Elmer had been executive director. Significant experience during their marriage was travel to Paraguay, and to Europe for Mennonite World Conference and to see family. They met several of Tina's cousins who had fled Ukraine, been imprisoned, survived hard labor in Siberia, made their way to Central Asia and finally to Germany. That began Tina's quest to gather accounts of her family's experience in Stalin's Gulag. She has traveled to the Soviet Union and more times to Germany to meet relatives and do research. Currently she is writing this family story, and then plans to write her own memoirs.

Tina has been a member of BCMC since 1960. Involvements have included choir and serving as deacon, Sunday school teacher, with Personnel Selection Committee, Church Board, and women's fellowship. Several scriptures are especially significant for Tina: Psalm 139 affirms that God has had a purpose for her life since before she was born. Luke 11:9 (her baptismal verse) describes how God has fulfilled her persistent efforts to ask, seek, and knock; and Isaiah 55:8-9 confirms that God's thoughts and ways are always higher than ours. With Tina, we give thanks for God's amazing work in her life over these past 80 years, and pray for her health and strength in the years to come. ~ Heidi Regier Kreider

HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY ILENE SCHMIDT!



Ilene May Schroeder was born to Margaret (Isaak) and Richard J. Schroeder at American Falls, Idaho, May 12. Together with her older brother (Robert Richard) and younger sister (Cloris K.) she grew up in rural Fairview community and was baptized on September 10, 1944 at First Mennonite Church of Aberdeen, Idaho. Ilene was an energetic “tom-boy” and a proud tuba player. (Anyone who has attended a Bethel College “Faculty Follies” event might remember Ilene playing the tuba!) Ilene attended the two-room Fairview School and American Falls, public schools, graduating in 1949. That year, Ilene drove to KS along with four other cousins (she had 50 cousins), to attend Bethel College. While studying Elementary Education at Bethel, Ilene worked in the President’s Office where her principal duty was typing individual “thank you” letters (WITH carbon copies) for gifts of 25¢ and above. Later, after her mother’s illness and then death in 1952, Ilene returned to school and worked with Dr. E.G. Kaufman on *The Story of Bethel College*, and later as secretary to President D.C. Wedel. Ilene graduated from Bethel in 1954 and just a few weeks later on June 4, 1954, she married Hartzel Schmidt, a Bethel student worker in the Business Office. Pretty soon, three lively

sons brought much joy to their household. After working as a very part-time secretary for BCMC from 1956-1965, Ilene returned to work at Bethel College Development Office in 1965 and served continuously in that office and the President’s Office until retirement in 1993, except for spending six months in California and a short time working at Prairie View, Newton. Following retirement, Ilene and Hartzel accepted a two-year term of service with Mennonite Central Committee in Akron where they helped with Self-Help Crafts (now Ten Thousand Villages). And then, to Ilene’s surprise, she was asked to work another year as assistant to incoming President Doug Penner. She later also accepted some short term-assignments in the Alumni Office, presidential search efforts and the Kauffman Museum. Ilene continues to be grateful for her Bethel family. Currently, Ilene is busy with many activities including volunteering at Kauffman Museum, Etcetera Shop, and Newton Medical Center gift shop. Ilene also enjoys counted cross-stitch and playing cards and games such as Mah Jongg (a Chinese gambling game). And while Ilene would say that cooking and baking is “still a learning process,” anyone who has enjoyed her pecan rolls knows that Ilene is an extraordinary baker! Ilene and Hartzel have six grandchildren. This means, among other things, that Hartzel and Ilene are some of the newest members of the facebook community! Ilene, as you approach your 80th birthday, may you continue to experience and embody love—love that is patient and kind, love that bears all things, hopes all things and endures all things (1 Corinthians 13). And may you continue dedicating yourself to building a world where everyone has an opportunity to live an abundant life.

~ Ruth R. Harder

HAPPY 12TH BIRTHDAY JACOB LINDENMEYER!



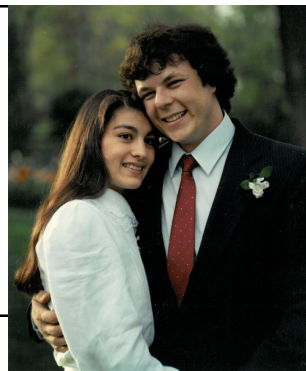
Jacob Paul Lindenmeyer was born May 25, 1999 to parents, Dan and Julie Lindenmeyer. Jacob is an active 6th grader at Santa Fe Middle School, Newton. He is also a big brother to sisters, Addison and Sofia. Jacob loves to play and watch sports. Currently, Jacob is a small forward on the Newton Railers MAYB team (Mid America Youth Basketball). However, his favorite sport is baseball and he has worked hard to become an excellent catcher. He looks forward to participating in the Rangers baseball club this summer. In the past, other sports have kept Jacob busy including football and wrestling. It’s no wonder that Jacob’s favorite class in school is physical education! Currently, Jacob has a 4.0 grade point average and he especially likes reading history books. Jacob enjoys swimming and hunting with friends. In fact, Jacob shot his first deer recently. Jacob has gone on several memorable trips including trips to Colorado where he has enjoyed fishing, climbing mountains and riding bike down mountains. Trips to Florida, New York City and Atlanta have also been memorable. Jacob likes a variety of music, including country, and he has been to several concerts including Bon Jovi, Nickelback and Chickenfoot. In fact, he and his dad had front-row seats during a Chickenfoot concert, and Jacob got to sing in the microphone during the concert. That day, he also received a drumstick from the band drummer. (Jacob is holding this drumstick in the picture

above.) We’re glad that Jacob likes listening to music AND making music with the BCMC Junior Choir. Jacob, I hope you have a great 12th birthday and I’m glad you are a part of the BCMC community. I hope you have a great basketball and baseball season and I hope you will always be a good sport! God loves you, Jacob. May you continue growing in faith. ~ Ruth R. Harder

WITH OUR MEMBERS

Births:

- Oliver Christian Boschmann born Feb. 11, 2011 to Mario and Kate Boschmann (Mario is a wider fellowship member), Thornton, Colorado
- Jude Simon Oswald born February 27, 2011 to Libby Schrag and Clark Oswald, Newton, Kansas



**Congratulations to
Carmen and Kevin
Loeffler
Married May 3, 1986
Celebrating 25 years!**

THE BCMC PACIFISTS



The BCMC PacifISTS were 2-2 at the Western District Conference basketball tournament played at Bethel College March 15-19. The team consisted of Cliff Dick, Jennifer and Matt Koontz, David Kreider, Joel Gaeddert, Matt Scholoneger, Adam Robb, Cris Nelson and Ruth R. Harder (pictured here) as well as Mike Claassen, Brad Burch and Aaron Gaeddert. Special thanks to highschoolers Nat Dick, Abe Turner and Mark Kreider for keeping score and to our loud cheering section pictured here, Jonah Schloneger, Caleb Koontz and John Koontz.

A fun time was had by all and we promise that no fists were thrown by these PacifISTS.

~ Ruth R. Harder



OBITUARIES

Everett David Lakin—September 30, 1919—February 19, 2011

Everett D. Lakin, 91, died on Saturday (Feb. 19, 2011). He was born on Sept. 30, 1919, in Macksville. He was a pharmacist. He married Anna Fern Regier on Sept. 12, 1944, in Moundridge. She died on July 20, 2008. He is survived by sons, Ned Lakin of Goddard, and Larry Lakin of Salina; brother, James Lakin of Mission, Texas; six grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren. Everett Lakin was a wider fellowship member at BCMC.



Beth Eldridge Goering—May 2, 1918—March 18, 2011

Beth Eldridge Goering, 92, died on March 18, 4:00 p.m., at Kidron Bethel Health Care in North Newton. She was born May 2, 1918, to John P. and Grace Comstock Eldridge in Kansas City, Missouri. Although originally named Ann Elizabeth, she was always called Beth. Beth attended Paseo High School and Kansas City Junior College and received her B.S. degree in Home Economics at Bethel College, where she met her future husband, Jacob D. Goering. They were married in August 1941. During World War II, Beth served as dietician at Civilian Public Service Camps in Lapine, Oregon, and North Fork, California, where her husband was also on the staff.

With the birth of her first child, J. Daniel Goering in 1945, Beth gave her time and attention to her growing family as they moved to Akron, Pennsylvania, Chicago, Illinois and Smithsburg, Maryland. When her husband accepted a position on the faculty of the University of Maryland, the family, now including daughters Kathleen and Barbra, moved to Silver Spring, Maryland, where Beth and Jacob lived for 39 years.

In the mid-sixties, Beth received training as one of the first Head Start teachers in Montgomery County, and then taught Head Start in Burtonsville, Maryland for seven years. In 1973 she accompanied her husband to attend the C.G. Jung Institute in Zurich, Switzerland. She participated in workshops on the therapeutic art of painting images that emerge in dreams and the unconscious. Upon her return to the U.S., Beth hosted classes facilitating painting from the unconscious in Silver Spring for the next 17 years. Beth also studied the practice of reflexology and over the years performed foot massages for many friends and family members. In 1996, Beth and Jacob moved to Kidron Bethel Retirement Village in North Newton, Kansas, where Beth constructed a painting room, continued to give foot treatments to friends and family, and became a volunteer for Harry Hynes Hospice at Kidron Bethel Health Care until shortly before her death. Her sisters, Rosena Eldridge Peters and Grace Eldridge Halperin, preceded her in death. Beth is survived by her husband, Jacob D. Goering, son J. Daniel (Marian) Goering, daughters, Kathleen Goering (Kevin) McMahon and Barbra Goering (Jim Murray) as well as five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Beth's body was donated to the K. U. Medical Center in Kansas City, Kansas. Ashes will be inurned at a later date. A memorial service for Beth was held March 29 at BCMC.

REPORT FROM THE LONG RANGE PLANNING TEAM

The Long Range Planning Team has begun their work to lead BCMC in discerning priorities for our facility and programs in the future. A first step was to learn background and history about BCMC, as an essential foundation for future planning: We read the centennial history book, *Campus, Congregation and Community: The Bethel College Mennonite Church 1897-1997*; reviewed ideas and suggestions for long-range financial projects submitted several years ago by commissions and committees; and read a report from the former organ committee which researched possible proposals for the future of our 50-year-old organ. (We encourage everyone to attend the organ recitals coming up this year to celebrate this golden anniversary!) We took a tour of the BCMC facility, noting the myriad of activities and people which frequent our facility, acknowledging our wider neighborhood, and identifying possibilities and concerns to consider for the future of the building and grounds. What vision this congregation had over fifty ago when they planned and built this wonderful facility, adjacent to Bethel College! We need to

Long range planning team continued

keep telling this history, even as we seek vision for the future. The Long Range Planning Team has studied the BCMC vision statement approved by the congregation in 2005, asking: How does this relate to our current ministry and priorities? Where should we seek continuity with the past? Where is God calling BCMC in new directions?

This background will help focus questions which will form the basis for congregational conversation in the coming months. Recently the Team brainstormed a long list of ways to carry out this conversation, such as congregational meetings, small group discussions, creative moments in worship, electronic media, Sunday school sessions, a bulletin/comment board, and much more. We invite you to join us in preparing for this conversation: Read or talk to long-term members about BCMC history, review our congregation’s vision statement (on the BCMC website and available in the foyer), observe our facility, and the people and programs you see (or don’t see) here; pay attention to our neighbors, community and world; and listen for God’s voice in scripture and prayer. We look forward to learning what you see and hear, and what you imagine for the future! - *Long Range Planning Team: George Leary, chair; Jennifer Koontz, Harold Thieszen, Adam Robb, and Sondra Koontz; Heidi Regier Kreider, staff/ex-officio*

ABOUT OUR GRADUATES — AND THANK YOU BCMC!

- Alison Schmidt-Tieszen who attends Bethel College will be graduating in Social Work with a minor in Peace, Justice, and Conflict Resolution. Alison accepted a one-year assignment with Mennonite Central Committee in Zambia. We anticipate Alison will leave for Zambia shortly after the Aug.11 to Aug.18, 2011 orientation scheduled in Akron, Pennsylvania.
- Benjamin Harder, a senior at Bethel College, plans to attend graduate school but hasn’t decided which institution he will attend. His degree is in Music Performance: Trombone, and is also receiving Education Licensure.
- Christian Loeffler, a senior at Bethel College, will graduate with majors in History and Religion, and a minor in Literary Studies. He plans to do some traveling (and relaxing!) post-graduation.
- Chris Wagoner, a senior at Newton High School, plans to participate in a service venture for a year after graduation, and then attend Bethel College the following year.

Thank you BCMC

From Benjamin Harder -- I am very thankful to the members of Bethel College Mennonite Church for their financial support of my education here at Bethel College. As I end my time here, I am continually grateful for all of the love and support that I receive from members of the congregation. That support, and the caring attitude of many in this community have made my time at Bethel one of growth; both in times of joy and of sorrow. The next chapter in my life will include graduate school for jazz studies, at an institution which is yet to be determined. As I begin that chapter, I will undoubtedly take with me a strong foundation in the Mennonite faith and many great friends and mentors from this congregation. Thanks again for everything that you have done for me large and small throughout my time at Bethel.

From Alison Schmidt-Tieszen -- I would like to extend a thank you to BCMC congregation for the scholarship to attend Bethel College. I've appreciated being able to receive this the last four years but am also looking forward to graduating this spring!!! Thanks for all the community support, I always feel loved and supported at BCMC.

From Christian Loeffler --Thank you for the money. Bethel is expensive and every little bit helps.

From Kevin Leary --Thank you to BCMC for being so generous in your college scholarships for youth. I want every person in the BCMC community to know that I appreciate their commitment to my continuing education.

From Linda Gomes -- (Linda receives our international student scholarship) -- When I first heard that I was selected as a college scholarship recipient, I was very happy. I am thankful and feel very fortunate to get a scholarship. This scholarship will be very helpful to me in continuing my education and in helping me financially. Thank you for being a great support as I finish my years at Bethel College. I thank God for the support because of his grace given to you in Christ Jesus.

From Sophomore Leah Bartel --Thank you very much for the scholarship you give me to help me further my education at Bethel. My time at Bethel has challenged me academically and spiritually, and the skills I am learning here will help me with my future career. Thanks!

From Rebecca Trumble --Thank you so much for the church scholarship to help me attend a school like Bethel. This school has helped me grow not only academically and as a person, but in my faith as well. BCMC has played a huge role in my faith and continues to as I've come to college.

From Megan Leary --Thank you for supporting me in my journey at college! I appreciate the spiritual and monetary help!

From Joe Kondziola --Thank you for helping me pay my way at Bethel. Bethel has become a very special place for me. Chapel services and convocation have both become integral parts of my college life and experience. Thank you and peace.

From Cris Nelson --I am really grateful for the church support of me while I attend Bethel. Not only in the scholarship but in the moral support I receive from the members of the church and from the people I have made friends with throughout my life while going to BCMC.

From Emily Harder --I would just like to say thank you so much to the church for giving me a scholarship. Every little bit helps and is very much appreciated. Thanks again.

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PASTOR'S CORNER— RUTH R. HARDER — ON THE WAY TO PRAY



Recently I asked a friend, half-jokingly and half-seriously, if he was a church-going guy. He said, “Ruth, I’ve been going to church my whole life, the problem is getting there.” In other words, while he had good intentions, the follow-through was difficult. His clever, honest response made sense. We face many distractions on the way to church (as well as during and after!). For me, I’m often distracted on my way to pray. It is in prayer that distractions often seem most difficult to silence and manage. It’s hard for me to be still, quiet down and listen. It’s hard for me to settle into the mystery that is prayer. I know I’m not alone. People often tell me that they would agree to be worship leader if it wasn’t for the praying part. Indeed, we often feel suspended between the desire to pray and the delivery, between our good intentions to pray and our follow-through. And there are many reasons for this. I’ve heard people ask: “How can I pray on behalf of others?” Or people say, “It’s hard to know what to pray for. Prayer is such a delicate, mysterious act. I’d rather pray privately than publically.” And there are those who wonder if prayer really *does* anything—whether it matters—or, whether prayer is just a form of talking things over in one’s own mind. I’d imagine many of us would consider ourselves on the way to pray—we just haven’t figured out how to get there! Our Lenten theme this year is *Lord, teach us to pray*. Lord, help us with the follow-through in other words. This Lent, consider talking with your neighbors and friends about prayer or consider joining the BCMC Tuesday noon prayer group or Friday morning prayer group (see below for more information). Or consider reading provocative books on prayer such as *In God’s Presence: Theological Reflections on Prayer*, by Marjorie Hewitt Suchocki. Suchocki posits that God works with the world not as a power over, but as a persuasive power with the world. God, she writes, works with the world in order to bring it to where it can be—toward richer, deeper modes of community. God needs our prayers, in other words, not because God is weak, but because God invites us to be co-laborers in bringing about increased well-being. Yes, prayer is mysterious and yes, God welcomes our prayers. So let us be on the way to pray this Lenten season and let’s hope that some of us actually follow through!

Bethel College Mennonite Church

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Return service requested

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AT BCMC

The annual VBS will be held from May 31 through June 3. BCMC will again be collaborating with New Creation Fellowship and there will be a joint service on Sunday, June 5 at Bethel College Church. "Taste and See: God is Good" will be the theme from the Mennonite Publishing Network curriculum. Mark these dates on your calendar and wait for more information.



APRIL — MAY 2011

Worship schedule (Check weekly bulletins and church web site, bcmc.ks.us.mennonite.net, for updates)

Worship 9:30 am — Fellowship time 10:30 am—Christian education 10:50 am

In a year-long worship and sermon series on practices that shape our faith and congregational life, worship during Lent will give attention to "the practice of prayer."

April 2011

- 3 Fourth Sunday in Lent**—Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Chancel Bells
3:30 p.m. BCMC Organ 50th Anniversary Recital with Roseanne Penner Kaufman
- 10 Fifth Sunday in Lent**—Worship with sermon by Ruth R. Harder; music by Chancel Choir
- 17 Palm Sunday**—Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Cherub Choir, Junior Choir and Youth Bells
12 Noon Potluck — Fellowship Hall
12:45 p.m. Congregational meeting—Sanctuary
- 21 7:00 p.m.** Maundy Thursday Communion and Tenebrae Service
- 24 Easter Sunrise Service — 6:30 a.m.** Led by Senior High Youth, Lake Loganbill (2 miles north of BCMC on K-15, 1/4 mile east.) Meet in Fellowship Hall if inclement weather.
Easter — 10:00 a.m. Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Chancel Choir
No Sunday school today

May 2011

- 1 Creation Care Sunday**—Worship planned by the Creation Care Committee, "Living for Tomorrow"; music by Chancel Bells
6:30 p.m. Camp [Mennoscah] Sing—Bethel College Memorial Hall
- 8** Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; baptism and communion; music by Chancel Choir
- 15** Sunday school and High school senior recognition —Worship with sermon by Ruth R. Harder; music by Junior Choir and Chancel Bells
- 22 10:30 a.m.** Bethel College Baccalaureate
- 29** Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Chancel Choir