

**Worship and events schedule** (Check weekly bulletins and church web site, [bcmc.ks.us.mennonite.net](http://bcmc.ks.us.mennonite.net), for updates)  
 Worship 9:30 am (During Advent-Preludes begin at 9:00 am) ô Fellowship time 10:30 am ô Christian education 10:50 am

**December**

- 7 **Second Sunday of Advent: *The comforting face of God***  
 9:00 a.m. Prelude: Elbiata Singers, Goessel High School  
 9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by the Junior Choir  
 7:00 p.m. Bethel Collegeô Deutsche Weihnachten (German Christmas) - Sanctuary
- 11 11:00 a.m. Bethel College Messiah Singô Sanctuary
- 14 **Third Sunday of Advent: *The restoring face of God***  
 9:00 a.m. Prelude: Rosewood Winds  
 9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by the Cherub Choir and Chancel Bells  
 12:00 noon Membership Luncheonô Fellowship Hall
- 21 **Fourth Sunday of Advent: *The indwelling face of God***  
 9:00 a.m. Prelude: Carol Sing with organist Eleanor Kaufman  
 9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon ôin songô by Chancel Choir
- 24 **Christmas Eve**  
 7:00 p.m. ***Once upon a night:*** musical program by children and youthô Sanctuary  
 11:00 p.m. **Lesson and Carolsô** Candlelight serviceô Sanctuary
- 28 **First Sunday of Christmas: *The embracing face of God***  
 9:30 a.m. Prelude by Ben Harder and Andy Toews  
 10:00 a.m. Worship with sermon by Ruth R. Harder  
 11:00 a.m. Refreshments in Fellowship Hall. Bring goodies to share; no Sunday school today.

**January**

- 4 **Epiphany: *The Welcoming face of God***  
 9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider  
 Bring food for Salvation Army  
 7:00 p.m. New Year Communion and Memorial Service
- 11 9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Chancel Bells  
 10:30 a.m. Special congregational meeting
- 18 9:30 a.m. Hymnsing with Tom and Lois Harder family and Chancel Choir
- 25 **Mennonite World Fellowship Sunday**  
 9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Ruth R. Harder, music by Youth Bells  
 4:00 p.m. Congregational meeting and faspas sponsored by youth



NONPROFIT  
ORG  
PERMIT 352  
NEWTON KS

**Bethel College Mennonite Church**  
 PO Box 364  
 North Newton, KS 67117

Return service requested

# KALEIDOSCOPE

BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

December 2008—January 2009/2:6



## BUILDING JOY, PATIENCE, FAITH AND MERCY

Have you ever wondered how large hospitals get their start or what it takes to build a 500-bed medical facility? Just ask BCMC member and North Newton resident, Roland Brown. Not only is Roland the founder of a hospital, he is the founder of a hospital (now reaching a 500 bed capacity) located in Hualien, Taiwan.

It all started when Roland and his wife, Sophie, began work with Mennonite Central Committee in 1948. He, along with other missionaries established a medical program, working with aboriginals in the mountain villages of Taiwan, serving these people through mobile health clinics. The clinics gave residents of these villages much needed access to medical care. Years later, after much discussion with the mission board and considerable fund-raising efforts, Roland began building a hospital

in 1953. The hospital opened in 1954 and experienced much growth. When the non-mountain residents found out that the mountain villagers were receiving such good care at the Mennonite Hospital, they started to come as well. And while they turned no one away, the medical team made special financial arrangements for the mountain village residents.

Having completed medical school at the University of Chicago and residency at Detroit, Roland was qualified to perform surgery of all kinds: Cataracts, trauma wounds, head, neck, cancer, thyroid, tuberculosis, chest, lungs, urology and spine. He continued his practice until 1990 and from 1961-1975 he was the CEO of the hospital. After retiring in 1991, the hospital board called him back to be the Administrator, and he ac-

cepted. So not only did he serve as a surgeon, he also helped grow the board and raise funds. Roland said he really enjoyed his practice and in his words, ôI felt the Lord really blessed the hospital.ö Again to quote Roland: ôOur hospital always had the reputation of good care. This gave us a chance to speak in terms of why we were there. We had a chance to talk about the gospel, our Christian witness and care.ö

Hanging in Roland's study is a poster detailing the hospital's growth. Each addition or expansion has a new name. For instance, the first building is called *Building of Joy*. In 1978, the new building was called *Building of Patience* and in 1980, the new addition was called *Building of Faith*. The most recent addition, called

Inside This Issue	
Building joy contd.	2
With Our Members	2
80th Birthday-Lawrence Yoder	2
12th Birthday-Austin Prouty	3
80th Birthday-Lonabelle Yoder	3
80th Birthday-Gladys Niles	4
80th Birthday-Evelyn Lehman	4
<i>The Vision</i>	5
James Yoder's Novel	5
Casa Betania	5
Youth Hymn Sing	6
Parade of Lights	6
Playschool Chili Cookoff	7
Pastor's Corner	7
Church Calendar	8



Roland and Sophie

*Building of Mercy* was dedicated in 2000. Roland and Sophie were present for the groundbreaking of that building.

*Continued next page*

**Bethel College Mennonite Church**  
 2600 College Ave., P.O. Box 364, North Newton, KS 67117 ~ 316-283-3667  
[office.bcmc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:office.bcmc@sbcglobal.net) ~ web: [bcmc.ks.us.mennonite.net](http://bcmc.ks.us.mennonite.net)

Editorial committee: Karen Penner, Dale Horst



### **Building Joy, Patience, Faith and Mercy continued**

The Mennonite Christian Hospital has, in Roland's words, "an island-wide reputation." And again, Roland tries to give credit where credit is due. In his words, "I give credit to the Lord because many mission hospitals don't have the funding. Due to its good reputation, modern-day equipment, local and foreign contributions and donations, and good economic times, this hospital continues to grow." Currently, the hospital is looking to hire a new superintendent. This is an item of prayer for Roland. And while the hospital is no longer supported by an official mission board, the vision and contributions of missionaries, like Roland and Sophie, continues, as evidenced by the following vision statement: "Over the past half-century, with the rising and setting of the sun, and the ebb and flow of the tide, the staff of MCH, past and present, have striven wholeheartedly to raise the standard of healthcare. Medical care has been merged with evangelism in pursuit of the people's health and dignity through holistic healing." ~ *Quote taken from the hospital's website: [http://www.mch.org.tw/top\\_1/english.htm](http://www.mch.org.tw/top_1/english.htm) ~ Article by Ruth R. Harder*

### **WITH OUR MEMBERS**

#### **Births**

*Naomi Claire Koontz*, Dec. 8 to Matt and Jenni Koontz, Park City, KS

#### **Child Dedication**

*Brandon Douglas Butcher*, son of Montrell and Elyse Butcher, Lewisville, Texas, dedicated at BCMC, November 30, 2008

#### **Membership Changes**

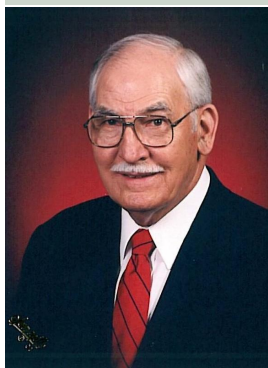
*Elaine Goering* changed from full member to wider fellowship membership

*Hugo and Mary Ann Boschmann* were received as members, Dec. 14, 2008

*Ron and Verlene Garber* were received as members, Dec. 14, 2008

*Magna Starkey* was received as a member, Dec. 14, 2008

### **HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY LAWRENCE YODER!**



**Lawrence Yoder** was born December 1, 1928, in Newton, KS. He was the third child born to Eli T. Yoder and Ida May (Plank) Yoder. Lawrence has lived in Harvey County his entire life (living near the towns of Hesston, Walton and Newton). Lawrence, a child of the great depression, remembers getting one pair of shoes a year, which he wore to school, church and chore on the farm. He also remembers walking two miles to and from school. On the occasion of dust or snow storms, his dad came to school with a team and wagon which handled better in ice and wind better than did their Model T. Lawrence was baptized at age 12 at Hesston College Mennonite Church by pastor Milo Kaufman. Nine years later, at the age 21, Lawrence married Elda Florence Schmidt, who was then a member of Hebron Mennonite Church in Buhler, KS. In 1951, one year after they married, they joined Bethel College Mennonite Church. Lawrence has been a salesman throughout his life, selling furniture and life insurance. He has also raised four children (Duane Allen, Douglas Lee, Samuel Kim and Karen Sue). Lawrence, at 6 feet and 4 inches, has given height and athletic ability to his children and grandchildren. Two of Lawrence's boys played basketball and all four of his grandkids play basketball. This means that in December, his Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays will be spent in gyms across south central Kansas. When he isn't watching basketball (or other sports), Lawrence and Elda are busy traveling. They have now traveled to all 50 states, as well as most of the provinces of Canada. They have also been to Europe three times. One of his favorite travel destinations is Florida, due primarily to the warmer climate. Lawrence and Elda currently live near Newton in a machine shed. Yes, that's right! They live in a machine shed on their daughter Karen Lehman's farm. (The shed was originally designed to be living quarters for the hired farm hand.) They enjoy living in the country and being within one eighth of a mile from their daughter and her family. Lawrence also enjoys his friends and small groups, especially the group that meets at Charlie's Restaurant following church on Sundays. Lawrence has been active in this congregation teaching Sunday school, ushering, serving as a trustee and church board member. On the occasion of his 80th birthday, Lawrence said he feels blessed. He feels especially grateful for his family, his wonderful wife, Elda, and his heritage. ~ *Ruth R. Harder*

### **PLAYSCHOOL CHILI BEST IN COOKOFF**

The Community Playschool entry in the Chili CookOff on Saturday October 18 was judged the best of the "open class" chili of the event.

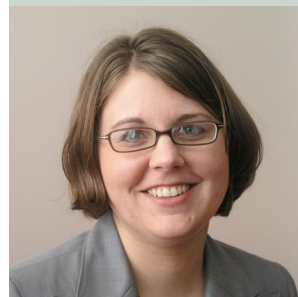
The event is a project of Harvey County United Way as a fund raiser, funds that do help support the Playschool with an annual grant. Community Playschool is an outreach project of BCMC.

Members of the Playschool staff and board of directors worked in the booth which was set up on 5th Street along with the booths and exhibits of the other participating organizations. Each entry was to have a theme; Playschool had Christmas in October (as seen in the photo).

The chili for the cook off was done by Ted Mueller, using Berneil's long-time family favorite recipe (with a few alterations for public and judges' taste satisfaction). ~ *Ted Mueller, chairperson, Community Playschool Board*



### **PASTOR'S CORNER — RUTH R. HARDER**



#### **Heads up!**

It's once again basketball season, which means I'm going through my seasonal basketball cheer and sadness. Though I still enjoy watching and playing basketball, I can't "see the floor" anymore. I used to keep my head up, always surveying the courts for possible passes and shots. These days I can barely dribble, run and pass, even with my head down.

Looking up is not something that comes naturally for most of us. On walks, instead of gazing at the stars like my husband often does, I tend to look down at the concrete. Looking down is often the much safer, more practical option. However, imagine what we'd see if we made looking up a daily habit, a daily spiritual discipline. Imagine what we're missing when we don't look up!

Advent is a time in the church year when we're encouraged to look up, when we're called to turn toward Emmanuel, God-with-us, who comes toward us. And we can't do that readily if we're busy looking down, preoccupied with the many balls (expectations, routines, demands) we're juggling.

To keep our heads up or to "see the court" takes practice and discipline. With this in mind, we, as pastors, are practicing spiritual heads up by memorizing the lectionary readings for each Sunday of Advent. We want the words of Scripture to live in us through each week of Advent, so much so that the scripture readings become part of our daily prayers and meditation, so much so that we can read scripture while also looking into the faces of this congregation. Similarly, I'm encouraging the youth to engage in scripture and prayer memory work. Every Wednesday night, we try and end our session with a benediction, one that the youth have worked to memorize. It's one way in which we practice looking up and blessing each other. Perhaps you, too, will find some poem, prayer or scripture verse to memorize. Or perhaps, you, too, will find some way to intentionally look up at the brilliantly lit winter sky. Perhaps you, too, will join in praying for lifted heads, hands and hearts during this Advent season.



## YOUTH HYMN SING



On Sunday, Nov. 23, over 50 youth and adult sponsors gathered in the BCMC Sanctuary for a youth hymn sing led by Dr. Bill Eash, choral director at Bethel College. Ruth R. Harder and BCMC youth helped to coordinate the event, which included a dessert reception. Jason and Renae Peters, Bethel alum and Hesston residents, Max Wedel, BC senior, and Jesse Graber provided accompaniment.

The youth and adult sponsors gathered in a circle in the front of the Sanctuary and sang over 20 hymns, ending with the familiar doxology, *Praise God from whom all blessing flow*. Dr. Eash helped the youth think about what they were singing and why they sing. He also encouraged them get to know each other by having them sing next to different people through the evening. ~ Ruth R. Harder



There was a good crowd out downtown. I think it was worthwhile for us to let our light shine. The banner was great! Thanks to the Youth Group for putting it together.

~ Patty Shelly, Witness Commission



P  
A  
R  
A  
D  
E  
  
O  
F  
  
L  
I  
G  
H  
T  
S

Seventeen people from Bethel College Mennonite Church gathered to walk in the Newton Parade of Lights at 7 p.m. on December 4.

## HAPPY 12TH BIRTHDAY AUSTIN PROUTY!



Austin was born December 10, 1996, at Newton Medical Center, the youngest of seventeen cousins in an extended family that is very special to him. He and his parents, Hank and Elaine Prouty, live on a farm west of Newton along with a dog (Champ), cat (Chubby) and two goats (Vera and Clara). Austin attended Sunset Elementary School, and is currently in 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Santa Fe Middle School where he particularly enjoys math and computer. At BCMC his involvements have been many: One song from Cherub Choir still rings in his head, fitting for a guy who lives on the farm: *"I cannot come to the banquet, don't trouble me now; I have married a wife, I have bought me a cow; I have fields and commitments that cost a pretty sum. Pray, hold me excused. I cannot come!"*

Austin has gone on to participate in Junior Choir, Menno Ringers, Venture Club, and Junior High Club, offer the opening prayer in worship, and help his dad usher. He enjoyed the recent BCMC children/youth show-and-tell evening where he displayed his golf clubs. Along with playing golf, Austin enjoys working on the computer with power-point, digital photography and video editing. He joined the Newton Community Children's Choir this year, and has already learned to drive the combine and tractor on the farm. He also likes to work in the kitchen, especially if it means making no-bake chocolate cookies or cutting peppernuts! Austin has good memories of visits to Arizona, Philadelphia and New York, and summer trips to Colorado. He'd like to be a software engineer when he grows up. A favorite Bible verse of Austin's is Psalm 118:24, *"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it,"* a reminder to be thankful for each day. We give thanks for your special day, Austin. Happy 12<sup>th</sup> birthday! ~ Heidi Regier Kreider

## HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY LONABELLE YODER!



Lonabelle Christina (Jantzi) Yoder was born in Alden, NY, Jan. 1, 1929. She was the third child born to Michael and Alma (Zehr) Jantzi. Alden, 20 miles from Buffalo, was known for its sulfur springs. In the summertime, Lonabelle remembers people traveling a great distance in order to take advantage of the sulfur baths healing potential. Some of these people stayed with Lonabelle's family in the large house they were renting. She played with many Jewish and Italian children with differing customs and religious perspectives than those of her family. Growing up in Alden, she and her family attended the Alden Mennonite Church.

Later, her parents moved to a farm near Adams, NY, near Lake Ontario. Here, she attended the Lowville Mennonite Church, 50 miles to the north. It was in Lowville that Lonabelle met other present day BCMC members: Marie Snider, Ralph Lehman and Dolores Wedel. Lonabelle was baptized in 1946 at Lowville by pastor Chris Nafziger. Later, The Woodville Mennonite Church was organized, near Adams, where, Lonabelle and her family were members. Following high school and after a short stint of working for a medical doctor in Adams, NY, Lonabelle went to college in Goshen, IN, graduating from Goshen College in 1955 with a B.S. in Education (she spent one year of high school and one year of college at Eastern Mennonite College in Virginia). It was at Goshen that she met her soon-to-be husband, James Donald Yoder, whom she married in 1954 in Adams, NY. After several years of teaching in Indiana and then Missouri, Lonabelle branched out into the area of library science, completing a Masters degree from Central Missouri State University and becoming the librarian of a media center in a large high school near Kansas City. At this time, Lonabelle was also raising two children, Michael Lynn and Angela Maria. Angela, born with cystic fibrosis, died at the age of eight. Michael (Mike) currently lives in Lawrence, KS. Upon moving to Newton, in 1992, Lonabelle and Jim transferred their membership to BCMC from Rainbow Mennonite Church in Kansas City. Since moving to this area, Lonabelle worked for several years at Faith and Life Bookstore. Later she volunteered at the Hesston Resource Center, the Et Cetera shop for several years, where she continues, the library committee at BCMC, and sews bags for Mennonite Central Committee relief and school kits. She and Jim have traveled around the world, including trips to Vienna, Switzerland, Germany, Italy, Alsace-Lorraine, and Alaska. (In case you are wondering, she never met Sarah Palin.) One of Lonabelle's favorite hymns is *In the bulb there is a flower*. She also cherishes the hymns *Lift every voice* and *My Jesus I love thee*. Psalm 23, 1 Peter 5:7 and Romans 8:28 continue to comfort and inspire her living. Lonabelle, your gifts are many. May your years to come be full of travel, books, singing, sewing and good health! ~ Ruth R. Harder



## HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY GLADYS NILES!



Gladys (Schmidt) Niles has been a member at BCMC for over 65 years (she was baptized in 1943) but was a part of the church community from her birth on Jan. 15, 1929, at Bethel Deaconess Hospital. Her parents, Menno E. and Esther (Unruh) Schmidt lived in Newton where her father worked at Kansas State Bank and then at Regier Loan & Abstract. Their household included Gladys's younger sister, and her grandfather Unruh who lived with them from the time Gladys was two years old. She attended McKinley Elementary School and Newton Junior High School. She remembers bicycling up to North Newton for choir at BCMC. She was also involved in the Minnie Beths at church, a girls club for which she later served as a sponsor.

Gladys graduated from Newton High School and also from Bethel College where she majored in English and minored in speech. She met her husband Clarence Niles at Bethel, and they are proud that their grandson is now the fifth generation in the family to attend! Following their marriage, Gladys and Clarence moved to Moscow, KS, where Gladys taught English and was in charge of the library, and they lived in the teacherage provided by the district. The next teaching position was in Hugoton, before they moved back to Newton. There Gladys raised their two daughters, and served as Newton High School librarian from 1969 until her retirement in 1989.

Gladys has been active as a volunteer at the BCMC library, Warkentin House, EtCetera Shop (where she processes books, of course!), Kauffman Museum, Bethel Deaconess Hospital and then Newton Medical Center gift shop where she coordinates the schedules for 50 volunteers, orders merchandise, etc. Gladys has enjoyed travels with Clarence to England/Scotland, Scandinavia, Mennonite heritage sights in Europe, Australia and New Zealand, Mexico and all 50 states of the U.S. She values the verse "love thy neighbor as thyself," and remembers the note in her mother's Bible: "God has no hands but ours." On her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, we wish her many more years of loving "handwork!" ~ Heidi Regier Kreider

## HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY EVELYN LEHMAN!



One of Evelyn (Goering) Lehman's favorite hymns, "My life flows on in endless song," describes well the rich story of her life. She was born Jan. 17, 1929, and grew up near Elyria, KS, as the youngest of nine children of Adina and Chris B. Goering. (Several siblings - Erwin, Jacob, Eldon and Luella - have also been BCMC members.) When Evelyn was eight, her family moved to a farm near Walton, and she attended Walton Elementary School. After one year at Newton High School, Evelyn graduated from Mennonite Bible Academy in North Newton, a setting that offered more support for her pacifist beliefs during wartime. In 1949 she graduated from Bethel with a music and education major, and married fellow student Ralph Lehman. After a year in voluntary service at Topeka State Hospital, they moved to Washington, KS where Evelyn taught elementary and high school music. She remembers it as a great year, even though she became pregnant in fall and had

to seek approval from the school board to finish the year as teacher! Evelyn and Ralph lived several other places with their growing family, before moving in 1967 to St. Louis, MO where Ralph became CEO at Edge-wood Children's Center and Evelyn returned to teaching. She taught kindergarten for twenty-one years, mentored student-teachers, and earned her master's degree in early childhood education. She was active in teaching parents about early childhood development and working on racial integration in schools. Evelyn and Ralph retired in 1992 to North Newton, where Evelyn has volunteered at Kaufman Museum, Ten Thousand Villages and EtCetera Shop. At BCMC, Evelyn has been a member of the Fine Arts Sunday school class, Chancel Choir, Deacons and Church Board. She is thankful for her four children and eight grandchildren, and for the wonderful experiences she has had in life. Evelyn is keenly in touch with spiritual realities, and continues to live by the verse her brother Erwin preached on once: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God." Happy 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, Evelyn! ~ Heidi Regier Kreider

### The Vision

Imagine a world without war,  
Imagine a time of peace,  
Retreating from hate and breaking  
The hold of violence, and bidding it cease.

Imagine a world without guns,  
When those wearing uniforms, help  
The hundreds of thousands of hungry and sick,  
All joining to bring them to health.

Imagine a world full of love,  
Redeeming the wayward and lost,  
By giving them work and nurturing faith,  
And willingly paying the cost.

Imagine a prison-less world,  
Where victims can learn to forgive,  
Offenders give thanks for a second chance  
And willingly learn how to live.  
~ Evelyn Lehman

## JAMES YODER'S LATEST HISTORICAL NOVEL



James Yoder

*The Lone Tree* relates the life of Lusanna Becker whose family, and over 600 of her people arrive in Kansas in the winter of 1875. Rejected in Hutchinson, they are shipped in boxcars in bitter cold to Florence, Kansas. Here, stuffed into a warehouse, her people are stricken with smallpox. Over 300 die and are buried in a mass grave in Florence. After the tragic winter, Lusanna and her young husband settle in Lone Tree Township, where she discovers a tree like one she left behind in Polish-Russia. With the comfort of the giant cottonwood, and hope in her heart, Lusanna and her young husband vow to begin life anew on the Kansas prairie.

This is the tenth in Yoder's series of historical novels. His books have won regional awards and international recognition. Five have been named as book club selections. Jim and his wife Lonabelle live in Hesston.

*The Lone Tree* may be purchased on line at [www.yoderbooks.com](http://www.yoderbooks.com); by contacting Jim at (316) 327-4053 or [james@yoderbooks.com](mailto:james@yoderbooks.com); or directly from Infinity Publishing, toll free (877) BUY BOOK. Single copies are \$14.95, plus \$1.05 sales tax and \$4.00 shipping. ~ Dale Horst

## CASA BETANIA (BETHANY HOUSE) MENNONITE CHURCH



Support group for Casa Betania (Bethany House) Mennonite Church in Newton, Kansas

Members of the support group for Casa Betania (Bethany House), a Spanish-speaking Mennonite Church in Newton, gathered for a meeting the day before Pastor Jaime Cazares, was licensed for ministry in the new congregation, on November 9, 2008. This new church plant is supported by Bethel College Mennonite Church, other Newton-area Mennonite churches and Western District Conference. In the picture are: **Front row L to R:** Patricia Shelly (BCMC), Suhelen Cazares and Jaime Cazares (church-planters for Casa Betania), Renee Kanagy (New Creation) and daughter Luca, Cora Voran (First Mennonite); **Second row L to R:** Heidi Regier Kreider (BCMC), Sara Dick (Shalom Mennonite), Robert Neufeld

(Faith Mennonite), Marv Zehr (Shalom Mennonite), Marco Guete (Western District Conference). Not pictured: Clarence Rempel (First Mennonite) and Dorothy Nickel Friesen (Western District), who were also at the meeting. ~ Patty Shelly, chair of the Witness Commission, Bethel College Mennonite Church