

**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 — Fellowship time 10:30 am—Christian education 10:50 am

**June**

**7 YOUTH SUNDAY — Who is my neighbor?**

Worship and music planned by the Senior High Youth Group and is a result of their recent week of living together in and serving the local Newton community

**Noon** Retirement Celebration for Grace Regier—potluck dinner in Fellowship Hall followed by a program *Bring food for Salvation Army*

**14** Worship with sermon by Ruth R. Harder and music by Book of JEBB

**Living in the Empire” Worship series** starts today and continues June 21, 28 and July 5

**4:00 p.m.** Shirley King Organ Recital in honor of Winifred Ewy with faspas following in Fellowship Hall

**21** Worship with sermon by Ruth R. Harder and music by the Kliewer brothers

**7:00-8:00 p.m.** Christian Peacemaker Team benefit concert at Bubberts (Student Center on Bethel College campus) Hosted by Nathan Toews

**28** Worship with sermon by Ruth R. Harder and music by Brenda Bartel

**Noon** Local Food Potluck sponsored by Creation Care Committee—Fellowship Hall

**4:00 p.m.** Recital by John Banman, clarinet, and Rupert Hohmann, violin, with accompaniment by Eleanor Kaufman—Sanctuary

**July**

**5** Worship with sermon by Fred Obold and music by Matt and Rebecca Schloneger

*Bring food for Salvation Army*

**12** Worship with sermon by Dorothy Nickel-Friesen and music by Marty Warketine

**19** Worship with sermon by Harold Thieszen and music by Margaret Toews

**Noon** Golden Agers Potluck—Fellowship Hall

**26** Worship with sermon by Dale Schrag and music by Elvera Voth and the Schowalter Villa Men’s Group



**NEW STAFF AT BCMC**

Last fall (Oct.-Nov. 2008 issue of Kaleidoscope) we wrote about Margaret Sawatzky’s donation of plants and work in the gardens surrounding BCMC so when I heard that she had joined the BCMC staff as the new custodian my first thought was; what will happen to the gardens? It was a great relief when Margaret informed me that she would continue as a volunteer gardener. Margaret began her BCMC custodial duties on June 1. With the exception of special events, she works Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m. In addition to her usual activities she is an ex officio member of the Facilities Committee and will attend their meetings.

Margaret is looking forward to her new role; she feels the duties and responsibilities will be personally rewarding and she especially likes the short commute. She is already acclimated to carrying around the weighty ring of keys that give her access to all of the church’s nooks and crannies. The best way to get in touch with Margaret is through the church office, either by phone or email. Margaret, we wish you success and joy in your new endeavor.  
~ W. Dale Horst

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

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NEWTON KS

# KALEIDOSCOPE

BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

June—July 2009/3:3



**Who is my neighbor?**

by Joe Kondziola

The traditional concept of “your neighbor,” is the one who lives next-door or across the street from you. The major theme of our youth service week was being a good neighbor. Over the week we thought of the story of the “Three Questions,” by Leo Tolstoy, which helped me to understand how to be a better neighbor. Here’s the gist of the story: One day it occurred to a certain emperor that if he only knew the answers to three questions, he would never stray in any situation. They were: What is the best time to do each thing? Who are the most important people to work with? What is the most important thing to do at all times?

Not pleased with any of the answers from his advisors, he decided to go and seek out the wisdom of a hermit who lived high in the mountains.

When he reached the hermit’s house, he found him digging a garden. “I have come to seek the answer to three questions,” he says. The hermit listens and pats him on the shoulder and continues his work. Taking pity on the

old man’s age, the emperor takes the shovel and begins working. Suddenly, a man ran up to them and passed out. He was bleeding badly. The emperor immediately bandaged the man’s wounds with his own shirt. The next morning he discovered that the man he helped was his sworn enemy who had come to kill him to avenge his brother’s death. The man begged the emperor’s forgiveness and wished to become the emperor’s servant.

The hermit said to the emperor, “Your questions have been answered.” “What!?” the emperor asks. The hermit replied, “Yesterday, if you had not given me a hand with digging these beds, you would have been attacked by that man on your way home. Then you would have deeply regretted not staying with me. Therefore the most important time was the time you were digging in the beds, the most important person was myself, and the most important pursuit was to help me.

Later, when the wounded man ran up here, the most important time was the time you spent dressing his wound, for if you had not cared for him he would have died and you would have lost the chance to be reconciled with him. Likewise, he was the most important person, and the most important pursuit was taking care of his wound. Remember that there is only one important time and it is Now. The most important person is always the person you are with. The most important pursuit is making that person happy.”

In the story of the Good Samaritan, found in Luke, we can see these questions answered and played out by the Samaritan’s actions towards the injured man on the road. The Samaritan probably had an important meeting or family at home which was the most important thing before he saw the man. However, his priorities changed when he saw the man lying on the

side of the road. The man was both the most important one, and the right thing to do, was to help the man on the side of the road at that moment in time.

The Samaritan’s act of compassion and love towards the man, as opposed to the other two men of God who had passed him by, is what Christ wants us to emulate in our everyday lives. Every day, God wants us to be like the Samaritan by setting our lives aside and helping others, by becoming self-less, and living in the present moment. God calls us to be neighbors not just to our neighbors in our neighborhoods, but to be neighbors to our neighbors in our greater community. This is an image of the kingdom we are called to become. (Joe gave this reflection during worship on Sun., July 7. He will be a senior at Newton High School next year.)



Senior High Youth Service Week  
June 1 – 7, 2009 See more pictures on page 7

**Bethel College Mennonite Church**  
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OBITUARIES



**Mary Ann (Pankratz) Blosser—November 8, 1917-March 30, 2009**  
Mary Ann (Pankratz) Blosser was born near Goessel, KS on November 8, 1917. She was the youngest of seven children of Anna (Frey) and Gerhard G. Pankratz. The family farmed near Goessel, later in western Kansas then rural Burrton. Mary Ann was baptized upon confession of her faith June 3, 1934 at Burrton Mennonite Church.

Mary Ann attended Bethel College earning a degree in Home Economics with minors in English and history. She taught high school home economics after her graduation.

In the summer of 1945, Mary Ann did volunteer work at Mennonite Central Committee headquarters in Pennsylvania. There she met J. Richard Blosser who was assigned at Akron for Civilian Public Service. Mary Ann and Richard learned to know each other and were married on June 23, 1946 at First Mennonite Church in Newton, KS. Mary Ann was a homemaker for four years and then returned to teaching high school home economics until she and Richard adopted Donald in 1953. Carol was born in 1954 and Debra in 1958.

In 1961 Mary Ann returned to teaching. She taught 24 ½ years in the Kansas school system - home economics at the high school level and English, reading, and spelling for 7th and 8th graders at Goessel. In her retirement, she enjoyed quilting, reading, and volunteer work and was a caregiver for Richard from 1989 to 1998.

Mary Ann was an active member of Bethel College Mennonite Church. She had a strong faith in God which upheld her through times of crisis and times of joy.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her siblings Amanda Schrag, Linda, Eva (Epp) Unruh, Gus, Ted, and Pete Pankratz, and her son Donald Eugene Blosser. Those remaining to cherish her memory are Carol and husband Larry Temple, Deb and husband Lee Penner, daughter-in-law Sarita Blosser, and beloved grandchildren Taryn Temple; Ariel, Jordan, and Christian Penner; and Roy Blosser .



**Keith Nyles Esau —October 31, 1967-May 9, 2009**  
Keith Nyles Esau, a resident of Dallas, TX, age 41, died on May 9, 2009 in Denton County TX. Keith was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada on October 31, 1967. He was adopted by John A. and Bernice A. (Klaassen) Esau in 1969 while the family lived for a year in Winnipeg. The Esaus lived in Minneapolis, Minnesota for several years before moving to North Newton, Kansas in 1971. He was naturalized as a United States citizen on October 29, 1979 and retained dual US and Canadian citizenship.

During his younger years at Bethel College Mennonite Church Keith enjoyed singing in the Junior Choir. Keith was baptized upon his confession of faith on May 27, 1984 and was a member of the Bethel College Mennonite Church of North Newton.

While in high school Keith ran with the cross country team. He graduated from Newton High School in 1986. He graduated from Bethel College in 1990 with a degree in business. Following his college graduation he served two years with Mennonite Voluntary Service in Dallas, Texas, working as a Grants Writer and Data Systems Monitor for Aids Services of Dallas (ASD). After serving as a volunteer he was employed by ASD and worked there for nearly 20 years. Concerning his years with ASD, a colleague Bernie Keasler wrote: “Keith was a good man with a strong heart and in his own way he impacted the lives of hundreds of people - men, women and children - while employed at ASD. Keith was one of those quiet behind-the-scene persons. Along with the daily computer stuff, he created several databases that have become an important part of the ongoing business model of ASD.”

His family mourns his death, yet cherishes the 40 years of relationship they shared with Keith. Keith is survived by his parents, John and Bernice Esau of North Newton, his brother David Esau and his wife Jill of Ann Arbor, Michigan, and his sister Sheryl Esau of Wichita, Kansas. Also surviving are an aunt, Mary Klaassen, and three cousins, Crystal Klaassen, Darryl Klaassen, and Melanie (Stan) Bergen.

WITH OUR MEMBERS

**Births**  
**Adam Clark Oswald** to Libby Schrag and Clark Oswald, April 23, Newton

**Membership Changes**  
**Patricia Alba**, Gainesville, Florida requested to terminate her membership

**Membership Changes continued**  
**Sandee Buller**, Kansas City, changed to wider fellowship  
**Russell and Kelly McCleary**, Plymouth, MN changed to wider fellowship

**Anniversaries**  
**Robert and Lorene Goering** —July 31, 1949—60 years

**Greetings to Casa Betania delivered by Heidi Regier Kreider continued**  
We - BCMC, Casa Betania, and all the other congregations represented here today - are like birds of the air nesting in the branches of God’s kingdom, under its shade. Today we give thanks not only for congregations, but for the growth of God’s kingdom. We pray that God will continue to use Casa Betania to do the work of God’s kingdom, to continue the work of Jesus: Doing justice and making peace, healing the hurts of the world, and announcing the good news of the reign of God. We are happy to have the privilege of working together with you, of “nesting” together in the branches of the reign of God. ~ Heidi Regier Kreider



Friend, Susan Fowler, from Evansville, Indiana made stories come alive



This year for service week, the BCMC youth stayed in Newton and served in the local community

Pictures from Senior High Youth Service Week — June 1-7, 2009 Youth helped at the Kids Summer Food & Activity Program, Sunset School in Newton, KS



PASTOR’S CORNER — FRED OBOLD, INTERIM PASTOR

Families with connections in the congregation have opportunities to reminisce around tables following funeral or memorial services. They sit at tables and review recent happenings. Conversations sometimes include events at which the deceased family member was present or participated. As a bereavement facilitator with a nearby hospice, I have learned the importance of both *grieving* and *mourning*. Although related, the terms are not synonymous. To grieve is to experience a deep mental anguish over a loss such as that of a loved one. Grief is an internal response. To mourn, on the other hand, is to give expression to the loss. A leading grief counselor states, “Mourning is grief gone public.” The differentiation between grieving and mourning is more than semantics. An understanding of the difference can facilitate adaptation and adjustment to the loss of a loved one. In our society survivors grieve much but mourn little. Survivors frequently experience a very narrow window of time during which their loss can be expressed (mourned) with a degree of acceptance from others. Survivors often perceive the expression of loss as evidence of weakness or not being in control of emotions. Sometimes survivors fear that family as well as friends may think less of them *unless* they display a buoyant appearance or project a cheerful voice. The “stiff upper lip” and a quick, fleeting smile are appearances survivors expect of themselves following a significant loss in life. When the expression of loss (mourning) is not present, grief is often prolonged. Adapting and adjusting to the loss of a loved one is a challenge for all. When attempts are made to circumvent our feelings from ourselves and others, our well-being is compromised. John Donne (1573-1631) wrote, “He who has no time to mourn, has no time to mend.”

So what happens at the tables after the service? Hopefully, table talk includes conversations about the deceased and new challenges within the family. Friends do well to consider ways to listen to family members as they tell and retell their past experiences with the one who has died. It is in the retelling the story that healing comes. “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” asked Jesus of those on the Road to Emmaus. Was he encouraging them to mourn – to share their loss using words?

Do friends and members of BCMC have invitations to mourn their losses within the context of the church ---a forum in which they feel comfortable sharing memories, losses, and tears? How do we encourage survivors to mourn not only the days surrounding the death and burial but also during the following weeks and months? Friends who are genuinely concerned often need to provide other settings for survivors to share beyond the table. As BCMC changes, there may be a surprising number of individuals who have little opportunity to share in a meaningful manner. Survivors sensing few or no genuine connections may know a debilitating loneliness – even in a gathering.

“Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.”  
Jesus



HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY CARL THIESZEN!



Carl Thieszen was born in Henderson (NB) to Daniel and Marie Thieszen. He has three brothers, Harold and Marvin in North Newton and Aldon, Holdrege (NE) and two sisters, Rosella Schwartz and Edna Galle, Marion (SD) and Lawrence (KS) respectively. Carl and his wife Louise have three children; Robert and wife JoAn, Newton; Carol and husband Eddie Culp, Denver; and Sharon in Kenosia, WI; and three grandchildren, Maura Thieszen, Jordan and Carter Culp.

Carl’s family farmed and engaged in the land leveling business in Nebraska. Their family was the first of two families to begin irrigation in the Henderson community. His early school experience was in rural School District 73 East. After attending a one-room school for eight years, Carl graduated from the Henderson High School. He then attended Freeman Junior College for one year before serving in Mennonite Central Committee voluntary service for 27 months at the Wiltwyck School for Boys in Esopus (NY). At this agency he worked with delinquent boys between the ages of eight and twelve. The Mennonite Central Committee had a long history with this facility which did not use physical force--discipline.

Carl graduated from Bethel College in 1957 and taught elementary and secondary students in Walton. It was during this time that he met Louise on a double date arranged by Carl’s friend. Louise, a student at Bethel College, and Carl were married in 1962 in Leamington, Ontario. After teaching a few years in Walton, Carl and Louise relocated in Ransom (KS). Carl attended Fort Hays State University and completed a certificate in school administration in 1962. During their 16 years in Ransom, Carl served as a teacher, coach, principal, and superintendent for the eight years. He then became superintendent of the Little River Unified School District. After retiring from that position in 1991, Carl served an additional two years as superintendent in Goessel.

Carl pondered for several moments when asked about a meaningful experience as an educator. He then reflected on the occasion of a special needs youngster whose class was preparing a parent program. Because of limited mobility a child was unable to have an active part in the presentation. With a lowered voice and a teary eye, Carl commented that with no prodding of teacher or administration, the students in the child’s class arranged for a meaningful inclusion of the child in the evening performance. Students quietly practiced a concept so essential to daily life.

Carl’s interests include yard work, gardening, and biking. He has biked across Kansas eight times. He also enjoys serving as a docent at the Kauffman Museum. His enthusiasm in special displays and historical events captivate the attention and excitement of both young and old. ~ Fred Obold

CASA BETANIA CELEBRATES ONE YEAR OF MINISTRY & FELLOWSHIP

On Sunday May 17, members of **Iglesia Menonita Casa Betania** and friends from supporting churches in Newton gathered at Shalom Mennonite Church for a first-year anniversary celebration. Pastor Jaime Cazares and a small worship band from Casa Betania led the congregation in spirited singing and a group of children from the new congregation sang a praise anthem. Rev. Gilberto Flores, Western District Conference associate conference minister for Texas, preached the anniversary sermon on a parable from Luke 14, focusing on the kingdom of God as a feast to which all are invited (even though some of us make excuses!).

Representatives from the four Newton churches who are supporting congregations for Casa Betania brought greetings in the service. Heidi Regier Kreider represented BCMC and delivered our greetings in Spanish! You can see the English translation of her remarks at the end of this article. After the service, Casa Betania folks hosted the group in their own feast—a fund-raising meal with proceeds used to extend the ministries of the new congregation.

As one of the supporting congregations, BCMC has made a \$7,000 commitment this year to support this new church plant. While half of this amount is included in the church budget, the remaining \$3500 will need to be raised through above-budget gifts. During July, the offerings of the combined adult Sunday school classes will be designated for Casa Betania. The Witness Commission invites your contributions to this significant ministry in our community. ~ Patty Shelly, chair, Witness Commission

Greetings delivered to the Iglesia Menonita Casa Betania delivered by Heidi Regier Kreider in Spanish

As pastor of Bethel College Mennonite Church I bring greetings from our congregation to you on the occasion of this anniversary. Congratulations to Casa Betania Mennonite Church! Thanks be to God! Actually, I feel like a part of both congregations on this occasion. Currently, I am in the midst of a sabbatical, and during this time I am attending worship at Casa Betania. So, at the moment I am affiliated with both congregations. But I believe this is appropriate for today, for we are gathered here today because we all belong to each other. We are gathered here because we have all been invited to enter the Kingdom of God. Jesus said that the Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest seed planted in the ground. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds of the air can nest in its shade.

Continued next page

COMMUNITY PLAYSCHOOL 2008-2009

Fellowship Hall of BCMC was crowded Friday night, May 15th, as children, parents and teachers celebrated the last day of Community Playschool with a program and refreshments. The program included short presentations by all the classes and then everyone enjoyed a slide show of the year’s events.



This final program was the culmination of a busy school year. Just these last two weeks were filled with lots of exciting activities including making and delivering May Baskets to the church office, the visit of pygmy goats brought by Chuck and Cindy Regier, and making hand-cranked ice cream the last day of school!

If it takes a village to raise a child, it certainly takes lots of individuals and groups to make an organization like Community Playschool possible. It takes the volunteer teachers who have put in countless hours this year, the substitutes who are ready to come when called at the last minute, the board members who meet together and oversee operations, the BCMC church staff who support us in so many ways, the sponsoring churches and United Way whose financial contributions sustain us, the Women’s Groups who donate money or products to help us with supplies, and so many more. We offer to all of you a big THANK YOU! ~ Jeanette Leary and Bonnie Krehbiel,



PIPINGS

NOTE

ORGAN

COMMITTEE

At the April Congregational Meeting, the organ committee gave a presentation alerting the congregation about the development of an Organ Fund by the Church Board. The Music Committee appointed an organ committee last fall to evaluate the condition of the organ and to explore and research options that best benefit the future of the organ, reusing as much of the current pipe work as possible, ensuring the existing organ’s use for another 50 years. Committee members are Connie Esau, Don Fast, Eleanor Kaufman, Christopher Shaw, Harold Thieszen, Ruth Unruh, and organ consultant Roseanne Penner Kaufman.

As our organ approaches 50 years of service, installed in 1961, there have been increasing indications of normal wear. Basic leather parts of the wind chests are deteriorating. Electro-magnetic switching systems in the console are wearing out and will need to be replaced within the next one to three years. We have already experienced some of these repairs on an individual basis within the past several years and it is becoming expensive to repair each time it occurs. But at some point in the near future, the whole system will need to be addressed. The current needs and mechanical necessities of the organ give us the opportunity to revisit the work done by the original organ committee and the acoustical changes made in the sanctuary several years ago. In order to meet the anticipated expenses incurred for consultation, and refurbishing of the organ, the Church Board has authorized the creation of an Organ Fund. Contributions to this fund will be accepted beginning now and will continue to be received until sufficient funds have been contributed to begin and then complete the project. Memorial funds, wills, major and smaller contributions are your opportunity to be partners in creating the Organ Fund. Numbers for the various proposals range widely, but it is not out of the question to be thinking in terms of several hundred thousand dollars rather than tens of thousands. That is why it is imperative to do adequate research and obtain the most accurate and definitive proposal possible. To assist in the preservation of heritage and stewardship of this musical instrument, the committee has engaged the work of Burton Tidwell of Marion, KS.

The Organ Committee members invite your comments, questions and concerns about these plans for the future of the organ. It is our desire to care for this treasure in the best way possible, and preserve it for its role as a foundation of the music ministry of our church for years to come. Future articles in the *Kaleidoscope* will highlight the history of the organ and our future plans as we near a formal proposal to the congregation. ~ Christopher Shaw

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL—CATCH THE SPIRIT!

*Catch the Spirit! Join God’s Work in the World* was the theme for this year’s Vacation Bible School held in conjunction with New Creation Fellowship at BCMC May 26-29. A group of 42 teachers and helpers planned and implemented action filled activities to help the children experience how the Holy Spirit’s presence might be felt in their lives. We had a great turnout with 54 children attending from BCMC, New Creation Fellowship and others from the community. The joint service with New Creation on May 31 followed by a hamburger fry picnic lunch on the playground allowed for lots of good conversation and fellowship with new friends! It truly takes a community to provide this kind of faith formation experience for our children!

~ Jeanette Leary, Education Coordinator  
BCMC Kaleidoscope





CHANGES IN THE BCMC LIBRARY

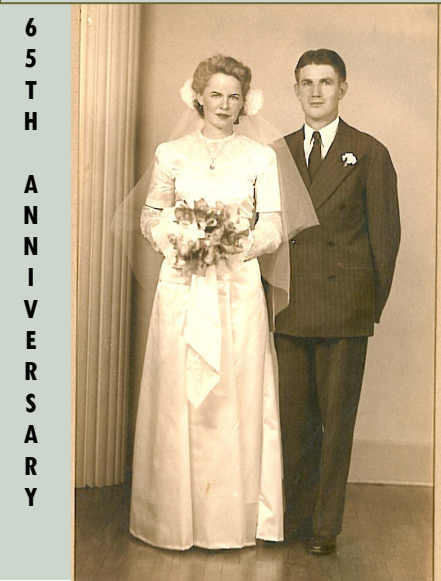
Changes have been happening in our BCMC church library. Upon entering the library you will see the new display area on the left that Ron and Carol Peters designed and put together. And don't forget to look at the display cases that Norma Johnson always fills with something interesting. You will also see that the card catalogue has been moved to the south room and a computer is sitting in its place.

The project to computerize our library system began several years ago when some of our long-serving, trained librarians were no longer able to serve on the Library Committee. Those of us left to do the work began looking for a more modern and less time-consuming method of managing the book collection and getting our books ready to put on the shelf. We began looking at library computer program options and found one that fit our needs. Margaret Toews and Dwight Krehbiel have been our computer consultants throughout this process.

Since January, 2008, all new additions have been processed using the computer system. In addition, Helen Pauls, Carol Peters and Bonnie Krehbiel have spent this last year adding the remainder of the approximately 4000 books into the computer data base. Now when you search for a book in the library, that search will happen on the computer. Although the card catalogue is still available in the south room, it has not been updated since January, 2008.

Come into the library and try out the computer to search for a book! (It's a process similar to searching for books in the Newton Public Library or the Western District Resource Center). We welcome readers of all ages to use the library. We have an excellent collection of books just waiting to be read! ~ Bonnie Krehbiel, Library Committee

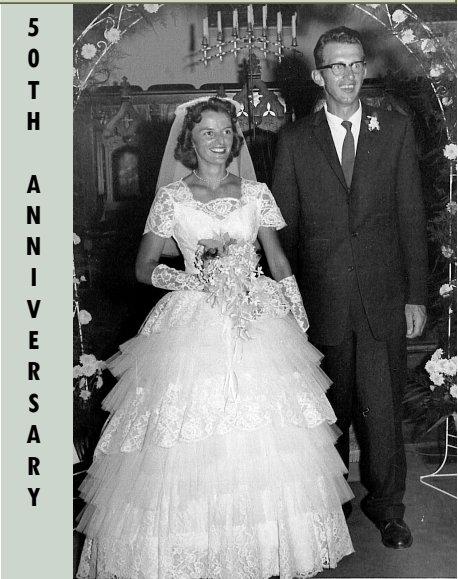
JUNE-JULY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



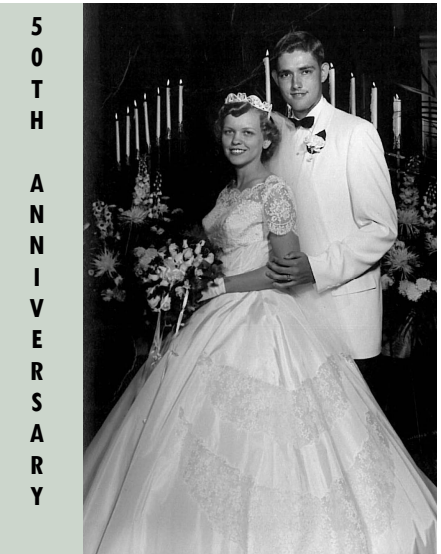
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July 16, 1944



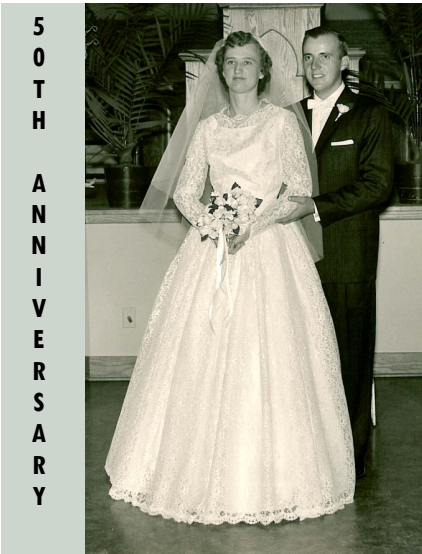
Ralph and Evelyn Lehman  
June 30, 1949



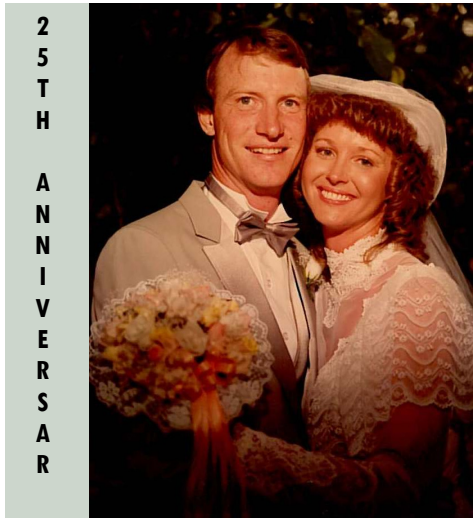
Harry and Donna Neufeld  
June 13, 1959



Keith and Aldine Sprunger  
June 13, 1959



John and Bernice Esau  
July 24, 1959



Tom and Gayle Jackson  
June 2, 1984

HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY CLYDE PROUTY!



Clyde Henry Prouty Jr. was born June 16, 1929 in Newton, KS., the youngest of five children born to Clyde Sr. and Maggie (Billau) Prouty. His parents were both 42 years old when he was born. Clyde's father died when Clyde was 8 years old, and his next youngest sibling was 12 years older than Clyde, so he essentially grew up as an only child. While growing up, Clyde attended the St. Luke's United Presbyterian Church. He has lived in Harvey County all of his life, on two different farms west of Newton. He attended the Prouty District 42 School through the 8th grade, which was a half mile from his home on Ridge Road and has fond memories of ice skating down the Middle Emma Creek to go to school in the wintertime.

Clyde's first farm crop was at the age of 14, when his uncle rented him three acres, which he planted to popcorn. During the war, popcorn was scarce, and a movie theater owner from Wichita learned that Clyde had a field of popcorn and came and bought it all! His success at farming was so great by then, he decided to continue farming as a career. He went on to attend Newton High School where he graduated in 1947. After high school, Clyde fully took over the family farm.

In 1953, Clyde was drafted into the army where he served two years. After returning from Germany and the army, Clyde attended Bethel College for a time, and returned to farming along with working at the Santa Fe rail mill for several years. Clyde married Elvera (Vera) Abrahams on March 9, 1958. Together, Clyde and Vera have raised five children: Bill Prouty of New Hampton, IA; twins Cindy Ratts of Hutchinson and Terry Wiebe of rural Whitewater; Joan Minkevitch of Newton; and Clyde Henry III (Hank) Prouty of Newton. Clyde and Vera are also the proud grandparents of eight grandsons and three granddaughters. Family is a very important part of Clyde's life and he enjoys watching his grandchildren's sports and school events. While his children were growing up, Clyde remembers taking the family to Marion Lake boating and fishing. Other fond memories were of driving their converted school bus to the mountains in Colorado. His favorite vacation spot continues to be Colorado.

Always a farmer at heart, Clyde enjoys going to farm auctions and sales to find some "good deals", and to chat with area farmers. Currently, Clyde continues to help his son Hank farm outside of Newton. After marrying Vera, they alternated attending both their home churches (St. Luke's Presbyterian Church and Goessel Mennonite Church). They settled on attending Bethel College Mennonite Church, joining in 1964. Clyde has enjoyed serving on a variety of commissions in the church and particularly serving as an usher. Clyde's favorite scripture is John 3:16, which reminds him of God's great love for us. There are many of us that have great love for you grandpa (Clyde). So here's to many more golden harvests, spending time with grandchildren, and farm auctions. Happy Birthday Clyde! ~ Austin Prouty

HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY DEAN KOPPES!



Dean Koppes was born to Daniel and Melinda (Wilke) Koppes on July 6, 1929 in Newton. Clinton, his only sibling resides in North Newton. He was baptized on June 13, 1943 by Rev. Lester Hostetler and is the third generation to be a member of BCMC. Dean and Linda were married on October 11, 1969 at the home of Linda's parents. Their twin sons, Roger and Kerry, live in Fort Worth (TX) and Fort Collins (CO). Although Dean has resided on the same acreage all of his life, there have been many changes in "the home place" – including the home he and Linda built in 1973.

Dean attended Cooper Elementary School and Newton Junior High School before attending Bethel Academy for three years. He attended Newton High School for his senior year graduating in 1947. Initially Dean farmed on the land surrounding his home. He was then employed by the Dairy Herd Improvement Association in Newton where he was a milk tester and driver. In 1953 Dean recalls helping to pour cement for our present church building. In the mid-fifties he began working at the Newton Ice Plant where he packed ice into boxcars containing produce. In 1959 he began employment with the Newton Gas Service Company and served clients in Newton, Hutchinson, and Wichita. He performed a variety of tasks including reading meters, inspecting homes and businesses for gas leaks, and repairing gas leaks. Dean retired as a working foreman in 1991.

Reflecting on his eight decades, Dean spoke of his mother and father who died at the ages of 102 and 97 respectively. From his early years at Bethel College Mennonite Church he recalls worshiping in the Administration Building of Bethel College where he was part of the Cradle Roll department. With the exception of only one person, everyone in that Cradle Roll Class is living.

Dean began bowling 45 years ago and continues to enjoy this sport despite his limited vision. Earlier he recalled participating in three or four bowling tournaments a year. Dean has been a member of the Kansas Sate Bowling Association Hall of Fame and served on the board of directors for the last 23 years. This past year Dean bowled at least four times a week. We wish Dean and Linda many years together as they watch the community change from their address at 502 West 24<sup>th</sup> Street. ~ Fred Obold