

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

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# KALEIDOSCOPE

BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

June — July 2011/5:3



## JUNE — JULY 2011 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Worship 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

**In a year-long worship and sermon series** on practices that shape our faith and congregational life, worship during June and July will give attention to “the practice of service.”

### June 2011

- 5** Service begins at 10:00 a.m. today — **Vacation Bible School Sunday**—Service by VBS participants Followed by hamburger fry in the church playground sponsored by the Senior High Youth Group
- 12** **Pentecost**—Sermon by Ruth R. Harder; commissioning for church officers; Summer Sunday school begins
- 19** Reflections on Service Adventure in Albuquerque, New Mexico by Ben Kreider
- 26** Sermon by John Powell, Mennonite Mission Network  
**3:30 p.m.** Organ recital by Eleanor Wismer Kaufman and friends

### July 2011

- 3** Sermon by Duane Goossen; Adult Sunday school forum with the Long Range Planning Team
- 10** Community Service Focus; Adult Sunday school forum with the Long Range Planning Team
- 17** Sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; Adult Sunday school forum— Reports from Mennonite Church USA convention in Pittsburgh, PA
- 24** Sermon by Lois Barrett; Adult Sunday school forum with the Long Range Planning Team
- July 29 and 30** — Western District Conference meetings at Bethel College and Bethel College Mennonite Church
- 31** Sermon by Sara Wenger Shenk; Adult Sunday school forum — Reports from Western District Conference Assembly

## MUSIC ON THE WATER

Since fifth grade, Andy Toews has been playing an instrument. Starting out with the euphonium for three years, in seventh grade he began with the trombone. Instrumental music was no stranger to Andy with his parents both being accomplished instrumentalists (father Francis playing trombone, and his mother Margaret as a flute player).

Andy grew up in North Newton, attended Newton schools, and graduated from Bethel College in 2009 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in music, with a minor in math. While there he played in the jazz group, wind ensemble and chamber orchestra.

After graduating, the following fall he entered Indiana University at Bloomington in their graduate program. During this time a representative of the Celebrity cruise line was on campus looking for instrumentalists to entertain on their trips. Andy was chosen as one, and this led to a five month stint on the cruise vessel.



Andy (on the left) with other musicians from the cruise

He played with six others in an instrumental backup group for other entertainers booked for different nights on the trip. They rehearsed in the afternoons and played later in the evening. The group was made up of two Russians, one Ukrainian, one person from Belarus, two Americans and one from Australia.

On this cruise ship which left from Baltimore, there were 2,000 passengers and 850 crew members with 60 nationalities among them. The guests were mostly Americans. Andy had two options for food at various times, one eating with the crew in a special cafeteria for them, or waiting until the guests were done with their meal and eating from their spread.

The experience was a positive one for Andy, with perhaps the most impressive part being exposed to the variety of people involved, and just in general being on the cruise itself.

By the time you read this Andy will have had another time with a cruise in April and May. Next fall he will return to Indiana University to continue his graduate work, his goal being a Master of Music in Trombone.

Good luck Andy in your graduate work, and thanks for sharing with us your experience. ~ Lois Goertzen



Celebrity Cruise Lines — The cruise ship Mercury



## SOME YOUTH HAPPENINGS AT BCMC

Nat Dick, Josef Voth and Mark Kreider celebrate their final catechism session. They were baptized at BCMC May 29.



The annual Vacation Bible School was May 31 through June 3. BCMC again collaborated with New Creation Fellowship and held a joint service on Sunday, June 5 at Bethel College Church. “Taste and See: God is Good” was the theme from the Mennonite Publishing Network curriculum. We’ll have pictures from Bible School in the next issue of *Kaleidoscope*.

Bethel College Mennonite Church  
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 Newsletter Team: Karen Penner, Lois Goertzen, Tony Epp,  
 Monica Lichti

### Inside This Issue

Birthdays stories	2	Women’s Fellowship	
Art and Artists at BCMC	3	Banquet	6
Menno Ringers	3	An Invitation	7
With our members	4	Pastor’s Corner	7
Obituaries	5	Worship Schedule	8
Report from LRPT	5		

## HAPPY 12TH BIRTHDAY WILL LEVAN!



People often express appreciation for our BCMC Junior Choir and all the talented young singers we have at BCMC. And it is common for people to ask something like, “Who is that really energetic looking boy that looks like he’s having so much fun?” “I bet that’s Will you’re thinking of,” I say. Will LeVan was born July 2, 1999, in Oklahoma City. This makes Will a proud Oklahoma Sooner football fan, or as Will puts it, “Sooner born, Sooner bred and when I die I’m a Sooner dead.” Will likes to root for other schools as well, including Kansas University, Bethel College (where Will’s grandfather, John Sheriff, served as interim president) and Hesston College (where Will’s parents, Karen Sheriff and David LeVan, both work). Will’s family, including a younger sister, Brett, moved to Newton about three years ago. Again, in Will’s words, “Oklahoma City has a lot of traffic, and Newton has, well, Newton has none, so I guess that’s good.” He’s glad that he can ride his bike to Santa Fe Middle School when the weather is nice. Will is an avid reader, a student of piano and guitar and an athlete. Currently, his favorite sports to play are basketball, baseball and soccer, and two of his favorite authors include John Feinstein and Mike Lupica, both sportswriters. When I asked Will if he collects anything he said, without hesitation, “I collect jokes and puns.” He then proceeded to tell me a few jokes such as, “I used to be indecisive, but now I’m not so sure.” Will also collects sport tickets from sporting events he has attended and baseballs and other types of balls he’s come across. Will’s favorite subject in school is math and he often finds himself thinking about various ways to find mathematical solutions. Will enjoys singing in the BCMC Junior Choir and at-

tending Venture Club activities. His favorite Venture Club activity this year was going to Studio Q and sewing his very own pillowcase. This summer, Will looks forward to swimming and going to a family-owned cabin in CO. Will has hiked many mountains in Colorado, including two 14,000 footers (Pikes Peak and Horn Peak). He has been to Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp several times. One of Will’s favorite things to eat is his dad’s homemade calzones. Will, much to my dismay, also enjoys preparing and eating frog legs at Camp Mennoscah. We’re glad you are a part of our congregation, Will. We hope you will keep singing and we hope you’ll keep rooting not only for the big schools, but for our smaller, Mennonite schools as well! Keep reading, keep singing with joy and energy, and know that God loves you, even if you love to eat frog legs. Happy 12<sup>th</sup> birthday, Will. ~ Ruth R. Harder

## HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY KENNETH DECKERT!



Kenneth Deckert was born July 29, 1931, to Alvin and Annie Deckert in Glendive, Montana. He grew up along with younger siblings Alison and Marion (also currently members of BCMC), doing his share of chores on the small family farm near Richey, Montana. The family attended Bethlehem Mennonite Church in rural Bloomfield, where he was baptized at age 13. He graduated from Richey High School in 1949, and attended Bethel College, graduating in 1953 with a natural science major. He went to teach for two years at his alma mater in Richey, and for a year at Freeman Academy in South Dakota. He then returned to studying, this time at Iowa State University, receiving a master’s degree in mathematics in 1958 and a PhD in Mathematical Analysis in 1963. In between these degrees, he also taught math and physics for two years at Bethel College. Kenneth then moved out west, to work for IBM in San Jose, CA, where he worked in a development lab as a consultant to engineers. Travels during Kenneth’s life have included a 1959 bike trip to Europe with American Youth Hostels, and a professional trip to England in 1972.

In 1992, after 29 years with IBM, Kenneth retired and moved to Kidron Bethel Village, glad to again be near his mother following his father’s death (his parents had retired from farming and moved to North Newton earlier). He also enjoys regular contact with Alison and Marion and their families. Kenneth joined BCMC which he had attended as a college student (when BCMC met in the Administration Building chapel), and has especially enjoyed being part of Catacomb’s Sunday school class, and singing four-part hymns. He has served two terms on the Bethel College board, and attended many Bethel events.

During retirement Kenneth has felt fortunate to be able to practice stewardship and put to good use the financial resources that he has been able to save over the years, as an active contributor for many development campaigns and Mennonite institutions. We appreciate his involvement and support of BCMC. Happy 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, Kenneth, and blessings for the years ahead! ~ Heidi Regier Kreider

## AN INVITATION!



Alison Schmidt-Tieszen has accepted a one-year assignment with the SALT (Service and Learning Together) program of Mennonite Central Committee, beginning in August 2011. She will be working in Lusaka, Zambia, with Peace Clubs that promote peacemaking and conflict resolution in schools and communities. **All are invited to an African meal on Wed., June 8, 6 p.m. in the BCMC Fellowship Hall. The meal is by donation, as a fundraiser to support Alison’s service with SALT/MCC.**

### 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ORGAN RECITALS

A series of organ recitals will commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the installation of the Moeller organ at BCMC. All recitals will begin at 3:30 p.m. A freewill offering will be received at each recital to cover recital expenses, and to ensure the future of the Bethel College Mennonite Church pipe organ. A reception will follow.

**June 26 Eleanor Wismer Kaufman** will perform Durufle’s *Prelude and Fugue on the Name of Alain* and accompany Diane Fast, Chris Kliewer, Ben Lichti, Matt and Rebecca Schloneger, Vada Snider and the BCMC Chancel Choir in a variety of compositions.

**August 7 Christopher Shaw** will perform solo organ works by J.S. Bach, Couperin, Bruhns, Alain, and Vierne. He will include *A Sweet for Mother Goose*, a piece for narrator and organ by George Akerley.

**October 16 Shirley Sprunger King** will feature the works of Bach, Mendessohn, and Preston, and hymn singing filled with organ introductions, interludes and harmonizations.

**January 22, 2012 Christopher Shaw** will lead a Hymn Festival featuring the Bethel College Mennonite Church Chancel Choir and Chancel Bells and instrumentalists.

## PASTOR’S CORNER— HEIDI REGIER KREIDER



I joined 45 others from Western District Conference (WDC) for a church planting consultation in Oklahoma City, May 27-28. Before attending I admit I thought, “Well, BCMC already supports Iglesia Menonita Casa Betania; we aren’t ready to take on another church plant right now, so this consultation is not for us.” I was reminded that the conversion and renewal of established congregations is just as important as financial support. Sociologist Conrad Kanagy, one of our speakers, noted that established churches in Mennonite Church USA are in decline. The traditional (Anglo and rural) church is aging and shrinking, depending on biological reproduction to perpetuate the church. The growing edge of the church, among other racial/ethnic groups in urban centers, is fueled more by new believers joining the church. So, part of the consultation

centered on tensions and potential partnerships between rural and urban churches. Kanagy also explored challenges to church planting rooted in the established church: The apathy of affluence; low morale from membership decline; clergy professionalization that lets church members “off the hook” for ministry; bureaucracy that stifles creative ministry and focuses on maintenance, not mission; formal education and critical thinking that minimize scripture’s authority and the role of the Holy Spirit... It made me wonder whether we might consider our long-range planning as a “church planting” project, right here at BCMC?

Another common misconception is that “church planting” refers primarily to non-Anglo racial/ethnic congregations. Of course, as I said, that is the growing edge; but it’s not the whole picture – or full potential – of church planting. For example, at the consultation was an Anglo couple from East Texas who’d met Mennonites while taking their RV to Indiana for repairs, and discovered the missing piece in their faith! Since then they’ve been avidly searching for connections with Mennonites (the closest Mennonite church is 2 ½ hours away). They are especially hungry to learn more about discipleship and restorative justice, and are asking “Is God calling us to be involved in planting an Anabaptist congregation?” They skipped a regular gathering of their motorcycle ministry to come to the church planting consultation! What church plant might emerge from those seeds? I was also excited to hear a proposal for “Neo-Anabaptist” church planting led by post-modern young adults in the WDC. Such a church might meet in repurposed space, not ‘churchy’ settings; offer diverse worship incorporating art, film, poetry, dance, drama, music; use creative Biblical messages to connect following Jesus to daily life; nurture a community not built around “The Mennonite Game;” move beyond categories of “traditional” and “contemporary” music; create pathways for college students to connect, worship, lead and grow; provide space for sojourners to doubt, dream and discuss; claim the best of both evangelicalism and social action; innovate new approaches to baptism, membership and leadership. The proposal ended, “Ultimately the legacy and future of the Church is dependent on mission ... As God’s people step out in mission new life is breathed into the sent and the sending. May such a movement of God’s Spirit in WDC awaken us all to this Kingdom call.”

## WEDDING DRESSES THROUGH THE DECADES (1880-2010)



The highlight of the Women's Fellowship year was the Women and Girls Banquet and program on April 19 of "Wedding Dresses through the Decades (1880-2010)." The dinner, featuring Roasted Pork Loin, was prepared by Chef Ben Lichti and served by Mennonite Men. Brenda Turner prepared the wedding cake. Decorations included wedding dresses on display, and many wedding photos of our members in Fellowship Hall. Wedding photographer was Vada Snider.

A delightful program in the sanctuary began with the Prelude by Eleanor Kaufman, organist. Marlene Faul, Vice-President, welcomed everyone, with Alice Suderman giving devotions. Wedding dresses through the decades were modeled or on display, with the oldest being a dress from the 1880s decade, and the newest being Jill Robb's dress from 2008. Marlene and Alice described the styles of wedding dresses through the decades and introduced the models, including 33 dresses either on display or modeled by the owners or models.

The flower girls dropping flower petals down the aisle included Emma and Alice Claassen, Abigail and Naomi Koontz, Anne Marie Koontz, Lucy Burch and Regan Morris. Many women from Women's Fellowship modeled their own wedding dresses, along with models Susan Brock, Sarah Turner and Aneka Voth. Our pastors or former pastors modeling or carrying their wedding dresses included Heidi Regier Kreider, Ruth Harder, Susan Wheeler and Norma Johnson. Evelyn Lehman modeled her dress from the 1940s. ~ Karen Penner



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## ART AND ARTISTS AT BCMC

Maggie Goering, BCMC's third college intern, focused her internships in the area of visual arts. Maggie spent the year designing bulletin covers, posters and bulletin boards, teaching youth sessions on the topic of art and serving on the Bethel College Relations Task Force. On May 1 Maggie joined a group of artists from this congregation to visit about art within the context of congregation. This group is pictured above and includes (from left to right) Bob Regier, Joel Gaeddert, Vada Snider, Conrad Snider (and Conrad's chicken!), John Gaeddert and Jesse Graber. Thank you, Maggie for serving the church in this capacity. ~ Ruth R. Harder



## MENNO RINGERS — RING THEM BELLS!



**Front row (left to right):** Jonathan Baloo, Zoe Siemens, Jason Wong, Katherine Lamp, Will LeVan  
**Middle row (left to right):** Elizabeth Tran, Sarah Turner, Laura Tran, Serena Wong  
**Back row (left to right):** Angus Siemens, Daniel Wagoner, Robert Loeffler, Gus Williams, Austin Prouty  
*Not pictured: Emily Kondziola*

The Menno Ringers consist of young people in Junior High, from fifth through eighth grades. They are an ambitious group of BCMC kids who squeeze time between their academic studies, sports activities, and leisure to be *Menno Bell Ringers*, led by their able director, Vada Snider, who once was a *Menno Bell Ringer* herself. Here are a few comments from our Menno Ringers about playing in the Menno Ringer Bell Choir:

- You have to hold and *ring* the bell just right.
- It's easier than playing an instrument by yourself – you only have to ring a few notes.
- Everyone has to ring the bell they are playing at just the right time, so it sounds like one instrument.

It's sort of like *team sports*, everyone working together.

Thank you, Menno Ringers for the music you provided for our Sunday services this past year. It's great to see a full choir of 15 students playing together, as we all worship together. ~ Photo by Vada Snider; article by Karen Penner

## WITH OUR MEMBERS

### Births

Miles Benjamin King born March 23, 2011 to Ethan and Amy King

### Address Changes (Update your September 2010 Church Directory)

- **Floyd Bartel and Justina Neufeld**—3063 Ivy Court, North Newton, KS, 67117
- **Michael Boschmann** — 3830 N. Leavitt St., Chicago, IL 60618-3808
- **Melanie Cook** — 9813 W. Westlakes Ct., Wichita, KS, 67205-5255
- **Sheryl Esau** — e-mail is sherylesau@gmail.com and phone number is 316-990-4103
- **Douglas Gaeddert** — 25128 County Road 20, Elkhart, IN, 46517-3215
- **Jake Goering**— 3001 Ivy Drive, Apt. 303, North Newton, KS, 67117
- **Russ and Barb Graber** — 808 Arboretum Dr., Hesston, KS, 67062
- **Marvin and Joyce Holck** — 249 Lake Vista Circle, Hesston, KS, 67062; phone—620-327-3030; e-mail—holck.mj@gmail.com
- **Norma Johnson and Vern Preheim**—2914 Ivy Drive, North Newton, KS, 67117
- **Berta Miller**—new e-mail—millergirl1921@gmail.com
- **Rosemary Moyer**—3001 Ivy Drive, Apt.409, North Newton, KS, 67117

- **Rebecca Mueller**— 400 W. Saint Elmo rd., Apt. 2012, Austin, TX, 78745
- **Lidia Pagán**—Prairie Commons Apts., 5121 Congressional Circle, Apt. A-201, Lawrence, KS, 66049
- **Leona Sawatzky**—3054 Ivy Court, North Newton, KS, 67117; phone—316-284-2900, ext. 528
- **Myron and Mildred Voran**—new e-mail—mmvoran1@att.net

### Congratulations, Martha Graber

Martha Graber gave more than 20 years of service reading *The Mennonite* on tape. In January she ended this faithful monthly commitment. You have set an example of volunteering for a useful cause, and deserve a round of applause..

(A complete article entitled “A Long Life of Witness and Service” was in the February 1 issue of *The Mennonite*.)

### Habegger to Receive AMBS Award

David Habegger was awarded the Associate Mennonite Biblical Seminary Alumni Ministry and Service Award for 2011. Quoting the announcement by AMBS “After reviewing the nominations, the Alumni Association Executive Committee believed that he best represented the combination of outstanding and faithful ministry that we seek to honor with this award.” A monetary gift certificate to be used toward expenses of attending an AMBS continuing education event also accompanied this honor. This was announced publicly at the AMBS commencement on May 20.

David will be accepting this award at the Western District Conference later this summer. Congratulations, David for being honored in this way.

## ANNIVERSARIES



60 years

Mary and John Gaeddert — June 1, 1951



50 years

Elsie and Horton Flaming —  
June 2, 1961



50 years

Mary Jo and Thomas Lehman —  
June 18, 1961

## OBITUARIES

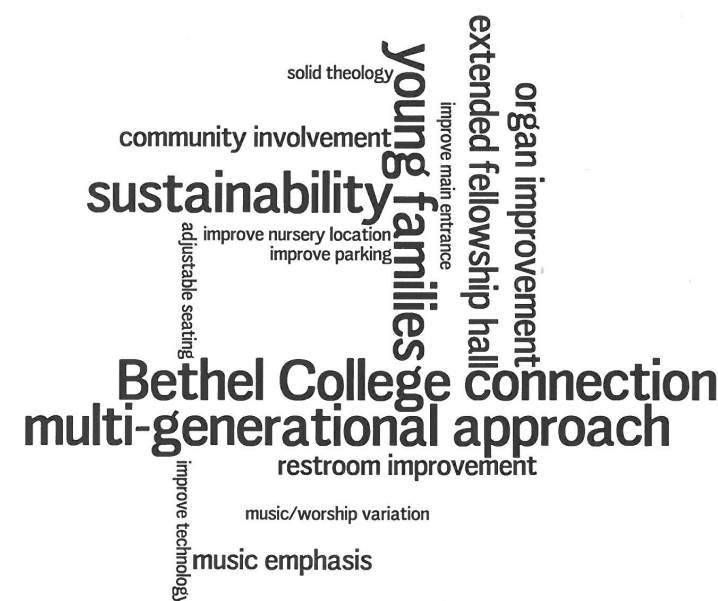
### Gertrude M. Dyck Schmidt—February 16, 1920-April 28, 2011

Gertrude M. Schmidt, 91, died April 28, at Kidron Bethel in North Newton. Gertrude was born on Feb. 16, 1920, in Whitewater to Jacob and Marie (Harder) Dyck. They preceded her in death. She married Ernest H. Schmidt on Sept. 26, 1941, in Whitewater. They were married 48 years until his passing in 1989. She was a homemaker and a member of the Bethel College Mennonite Church. She is survived by her son, Mike (Jane) Schmidt of North Newton; daughters, Carol (Vern) Klingenberg of Peabody, Marilyn (Randy) Van Norden of Yuma, Colo., and Norma (Terry) Janzen of Wichita; two brothers, Walter and Herbert Dyck; sister, Esther Schmidt; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. A memorial service was May 14 at Bethel College Mennonite Church. Memorial is for the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), 121 E. 30th St., P.O. Box 235, North Newton, KS 67117.

### Willard H. Waltner—September 10, 1909-May 10, 2011

Willard H. Waltner, of North Newton, died at the age of 101. He was born in Freeman, S.D., to Emil J. Waltner and Mary Goering Waltner. On Aug. 8, 1931, he married Florence Adelia Leigh in Santee, Neb. Willard lived most of his life in the Freeman area, operating a dairy farm and then working as a freelance photo-journalist. He and Florence moved to Kidron Bethel Village in 1994. He graduated from Yankton College in South Dakota, where he was active in the Conservatory of Music. A life-long member of Salem Mennonite Church in Freeman, he taught Sunday school, served as a deacon and directed the Men’s Chorus for more than 25 years. Since moving to Kansas, he attended Bethel College Mennonite Church, where he particularly appreciated the music and the fellowship of his Sunday school class. Survivors include two daughters and their husbands, Winona and Leslie Senner of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and Dianne and Anthony Epp of North Newton; four grandchildren, Christopher Senner, Kerry Ferris and spouse, Randy, Alain Epp Weaver and spouse, Sonia, Rachel Epp Buller and spouse, Tim; and five great-grandchildren, Samuel and Katherine Epp Weaver, and also Daniel, Daisy and Lucy Buller. He was preceded in death by his wife, Florence; an infant son, Emil; his parents, Emil J. and Mary Waltner; and one sister, Elma Waltner.

## REPORT FROM THE LONG RANGE PLANNING TEAM



What do all these words have in common? They represent some of the responses BCMC members gave to the question, “What is one hope or dream that you have for BCMC’s future?” – one of several questions asked on a questionnaire distributed at the April 17 congregational meeting. This is one way the Long Range Planning Team (LRPT) began gathering ideas from the congregation. LRPT members have also been visiting with commissions and committees to hear how they see current facility and programs furthering BCMC’s vision, and what continuing, new or different things God might be calling us to imagine for the future. On June 15, 22, and 29, Wednesday evenings at 7:00-8:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall, the whole congregation is invited to engage in a series of conversations about the same questions. Refreshments will be served! Each session will focus on different areas of ministry represented by our commissions:

- June 15 – Faith Formation and Deacon ministries**
- June 22 – Hospitality and Witness ministries**
- June 29 – Worship ministries and wrap up**

Several of the July Sunday School forums for adults and youth will also relate to Long Range Planning:

- July 3 – Presentation by LRPT: What are we hearing from commissions, committees and congregation?**
- July 10 – Presentation by LRPT: Pipe organ history and background information**
- July 24 – Congregational discussion about the future of the pipe organ**

We hope you can join us for these important discussions as we continue to discern God’s vision for our future! -

Long Range Planning Team (George Leary, chair; Jennifer Koontz, Harold Thieszen, Adam Robb, Sondra Koontz; Heidi Regier Kreider staff/ex-officio)