

KALEIDOSCOPE

BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

October-November 2009/3:5



BCMC CELEBRATES RUTH R. HARDER'S ORDINATION



Calvin Kimbrough (banjo) leads music together with Jesse Graber (fiddle) and Kate Becker (bass).



Ruth R. Harder and her husband Jesse Graber (on right) with friends Calvin and Nelia Kimbrough (on left) who came to celebrate Ruth's ordination Sunday, September 27. The Kimbroughs are United Methodist pastors and resident volunteers at the Open Door Community in Atlanta, GA, where they coordinate worship, art and music. They are co-founders of Patchwork Central in Evansville, IN, where Ruth and Jesse came to know them as friends and ministry mentors.



Nelia Kimbrough tells stories from the Open Door community, a residential community which "seeks to dismantle racism, sexism and heterosexism, abolish the death penalty, and proclaim the Beloved Community through loving relationships with some of the most neglected and outcast of God's children: the homeless and our sisters and brothers in prison." (www.opendoorcommunity.org)



Western District conference Minister Dorothy Nickel Friesen leads in the ordination prayer for Ruth, while members of the congregation gather to lay hands on her.

Ruth offers a response following the ordination, wearing a stole given by Patricia Shelly, one of several mentors, colleagues and friends who offered words of blessing for Ruth. On the communion table is a wood carving, "Meditation," sculpted by John Gaeddert and given as a gift to Ruth from the congregation.



Photos by Vada Snider

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BCMC Kaleidoscope

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HAPPY 12TH BIRTHDAY DANIEL WAGONER!



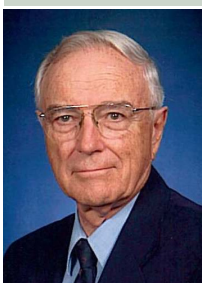
The first thing you notice about Daniel Wagoner is his height. At 5' 9 1/2" tall, Daniel stands a full head above the next tallest sixth grader. The next thing you notice, as you speak to him, are his big brown eyes. The cast on his wrist comes from running stairs at his school. "I jumped off the steps in a stair lap and I tried to stop myself and my hand just landed wrong," he said, explaining how he broke his tibia.

Daniel was born in Wichita, October 7, 1997, moved to Newton before preschool started, and turns 12 this month. He loves basketball, rap songs like "Successful" by Young Dre—his current favorite, and hanging out with friends after school, "shooting some hoops, getting something to drink like Cherry Kool-Aid at my house." In school, math is his favorite subject. Why? "I'm good at it," he says confidently. He says he finds algebra to be kind of easy right now. In the future, Daniel wants a career as a basketball player, of course, but he is also considering becoming a lawyer or a doctor. His favorite part of church? "Sunday School when we talk about other cultures."

But this Santa Fe sixth-grader lives for basketball, a sport he discovered in third grade. He loves everything about it, he says: practices, games, travel. His favorite player is LeBron James ("because he's good with the ball") so it's no surprise that the Cleveland Cavaliers are his favorite team. Currently he stars on his Mid America Youth Basketball club team but he's looking forward to proving himself on his school team as a 7th grader. I'm betting his team is hoping his wrist heals fast. ~ LuAnn Zook



HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY FLOYD BARTEL!



Floyd was born Nov. 25, 1929, to Henry H. and Linda (Penner) Bartel, and grew up in their rural Hillsboro home as the oldest of four brothers. Since childhood, Floyd's life experiences have pushed him toward spiritual growth and leadership. At age 12 he grieved his mother's death, and when Floyd was 18 a younger brother Alfred died in a drowning accident.

Floyd's family attended Johannestal Mennonite Church, where he was baptized at age 13, promising to follow Jesus "one hundred percent!" His pastor observed his leadership gifts, urging him to consider church ministry. Floyd attended a year at the Mennonite Bible Academy on the Bethel College campus, and then two years of college, gaining his teaching certificate at age 18. He married Pearl Schroeder, a nurse, and they served at Cuauhtémoc, Mexico, with Mennonite Central Committee, where Floyd taught for a year. After returning to Bethel to finish his degree, he attended Mennonite Biblical Seminary and served as associate pastor at the Woodlawn Mennonite Church in Chicago. Floyd next accepted a call to Topeka, KS as church planter for Southern Hills Mennonite Church. Challenges in that assignment and a term of Clinical Pastoral Education were life-changing for Floyd, gaining new understanding of God's unconditional love and grace. Floyd next served as pastor of Bethel Church in Lancaster, PA, and then with the Commission on Home Missions (General Conference Mennonite Church) where he created mission and goal-setting materials for congregations. Following that Floyd was pastor at First Mennonite Church, Newton; associate conference minister for Western District Conference; and director of the Great Plains Seminary Education program. Floyd and Pearl had four children—Kathy, Nathan, Matt and Becky, and one grandson, Henry. In recent years, Floyd has enjoyed more time for gardening and reading, and has served at BCMC as a Sunday school teacher, and on Outreach Commission, Board of Deacons, Staff Supervisory Committee, and Creation Care Committee.

In 1994 Floyd lost his wife, Pearl, to cancer. New joy came in 1995 with his marriage to Justina Neufeld, and he now considers himself "a man twice blessed." May God's rich blessings be upon Floyd as he celebrates 80 years of life and ministry, summarized well in favorite verses from 2 Corinthians 5:18-19: *All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.*

~ Heidi Regier Kreider

HAPPY 12TH BIRTHDAY ELIZABETH TRAN!



Elizabeth Tran, who will celebrate her 12th birthday on November 27, seems wiser than her soon-to-be twelve years. Certainly she is good at multiplication. She likes math because there is only one answer. And she likes middle school better than elementary because you get to move from class to class. Yet all this seriousness is not without a quick smile, as Elizabeth quickly answers that "seeing my friends" is the best part about coming to church. Her favorite food? Her mother's home-made spring rolls, made with carrots, cabbage, and pork.

Continued next page

Elizabeth Tran 12th Birthday continued

Elizabeth's wisdom may come from enjoying the cerebral activities: she loves to draw with pencil on notebook paper, she is learning to speak Vietnamese from her mother during the summers, and she's been devotedly playing the piano for a year, though she admits, "We [her little sister and she] don't like to practice but our dad makes us." Reading, too, is an interest. Her favorite book is *The Name of This Book is A Secret*, a fantasy mystery novel by Pseudonymous Bosch, in which the narrator spends most of the time trying not to tell the secret of the book while two kids try to figure out a suspicious death.



We know how travel makes you grow wiser in other ways, and Elizabeth is a seasoned traveler. In her lifetime she has visited relatives in Oklahoma, Missouri, Las Vegas, and Chicago. Currently her grandmother is sick and at her grandmother's request, Elizabeth and her family are embarking on a trip to visit her in Vietnam. This time she travels with her 4-year old sister, Laura, her mother Kim, who is first generation Vietnamese, and her father Chhay, who is native to Cambodia. This is the second time Elizabeth has been to see her grandmother in Vietnam: the first trip she was only five and she remembers swimming in the ocean. When you see her on her way to Junior Choir practice or leaving BCMC Junior High Club on Wednesday nights, be sure and ask her about it. ~ LuAnn Zook

FAITH FORMATION INTERN — NAOMI GRABER



College is a time of discovery and discernment, neither of which is truly possible without a community. I am thrilled for this opportunity that BCMC has given me both to discover about who I am and who the church is while discerning my gifts to be of use in the BCMC community.

My name is Naomi Graber, and I'll be working as the Faith Formation Intern at BCMC this school year. I am a sophomore at Bethel College, majoring in Psychology, and Bible and Religion. I'm not sure what my future plans are, but I am interested in serving the church, so am excited about this opportunity to learn more about what that means. Hopefully in serving BCMC I can learn about and how to work with the structures and challenges of a church.

As the Faith Formation Intern my focus will be on Christian education. I hope to learn how to plan and lead Sunday school classes for children, youth and adults. At this point I am enjoying the groups I've met with, and am feeling more and more connected with the congregation. Beyond duties and responsibilities, I hope to become a real part of the BCMC community, connected through many different activities and relationships.

I am the first in my family to come to Bethel, and I am loving my experience. A large part of my love for Bethel is the feeling of community, which I also find in the BCMC congregation. The dedication of BCMC to the Bethel community is inspiring, especially in a time of anxiety for both the college and church. I have heard the congregation express interest in forming relationships with college students and have heard college students express an interest in forming similar relationships. Hopefully during this year as part of both college community and church congregation, I can work to help these relationships happen. The new Agape House (formerly called the Campus Ministries House or Richert House) was a great gift from the church to the broader Bethel community and the Sunday youth gathering there will hopefully begin such relationships.

~ Naomi Graber

WITH OUR MEMBERS

Births

Addison Susanne Zerger born to Jonathan and Heather (Esau) Zerger, September 4, 2009

Arri Michael Janzen born to Emma (Lewis) and Jeff Janzen September 15, 2009

Weddings

Tina Schmidt-Tieszen married Daniel Graber, October 17, 2009 at BCMC

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William and Margaret Friesen
November 30, 1944

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Marvin and Gladys Esau
November 6, 1949

OBITUARIES



Melvin L. Bartel—March 12, 1930—August 13, 2009

Melvin L. Bartel, 79, died at Kidron Bethel Healthcare in North Newton, KS. He was born to Albert C. and Rosina (Gaeddert) Bartel in Hillsboro, KS. They preceded him in death. Melvin was a Bethel College campus kid graduating from Newton High School in 1952. He ran the movie projector in high school. He enjoyed playing volleyball coached by his teacher, John Ravenscroft. Melvin's father was a builder at Bethel College and he enjoyed helping with the building of the Bethel College Library and Goering Hall. He worked at Mennonite Press for 20 years, had lawn mowing customers, and was assistant custodian for Bethel College Mennonite Church for 13 years.

He was a lifetime member of Bethel College Mennonite Church. He ran the public address system for 42 years. Venture to say he witnessed more weddings and funerals than anyone else in the church. He changed the clocks for many years. He also helped with installing the organ. He also was a member of the Harvey County Historical Society. He ran the clock for basketball games at the Newton Activity Center and tournaments for Western District Conference. He was well versed in railroads, cars, and ocean liners.

Other survivors include: two sisters, Ruth Ann Giggy of Panhandle, Texas, and Thelma May Bartel of North Newton; a brother Lewis Clark Bartel (Darlene) of Albuquerque, New Mexico; nieces Cynthia Reneau (Willie) of Tomball, Texas; Jill Elizabeth Bartel of Albuquerque, New Mexico; nephews Hugh Kenneth Giggy (Terry), Edmond, Oklahoma; David Clark Bartel (Becky), Houston, Texas; grandnephews, Todd Christopher Giggy, Patrick Lynn Giggy, and Kenneth Windell Reneau. Inurnment was at the Bethel College Mennonite Church Columbarium.



Martha Linda (Jantzen) Voth—June 26, 1905—September 8, 2009

Martha Linda was born to Herman and Agnes (Unruh) Jantzen in McPherson County. Her parents made their home in several places over the years. From the Unruh home, their first move was to Stanton County in western Kansas where they lived as pioneers. Following the death of Agnes' mother, the Jantzen family returned to McPherson County to live in her home. They stayed there two years after which they moved to Inola, OK. When things became very tense for the Mennonites because of World War I, the family returned to Kansas.

Martha finished her grade school education at Burrton in 1920. She completed preparatory school at Hoffnungsau in 1922. She attended high school one year before her parents had to move again. They ended up in Newton. The Herald Book Publishing Company hired her in 1924. She worked for them 30 years until her retirement. It was there that she met Herbert Voth, and they were married August 30, 1931 in Bethel College Mennonite Church.

She took catechism under Rev. P. R. Voth and was baptized in 1923. She and Herb were faithful members of Bethel College Mennonite Church. She was a member of the kitchen committee, the funeral committee, taught Sunday School and participated in the Women's Society.

Herb preceded her in death, June 4, 1977. Martha then worked at the Bethel Hospital Gift Shop. In 1986, she sold the old house at 427 South Poplar. Following that, she moved into Kidron Inc. where she resided for 21 years. In 2007 she moved to Kidron assisted living where she made many friends, most of whom preceded her in death. She was active in the Kidron auxiliary. When participating in the Senior Olympics, she won medals in the spelling bee.

Survivors are Donna & Jerry Friesen, Elvira & Ed Glenn, Raymond Voth, Evelyn Stabler, 11 grandchildren, 1 step grandchild, 18 great grandchildren, one step great grandchild and 2 great, great grandchildren. She was also preceded in death by her parents; son, Eugene Voth; and brothers, David Jantzen and Walter Jantzen, as well as many in laws and friends.



Ethel Edith (Richert) Schmidt — December 18, 1919—September 10, 2009

Ethel was born in Newton, KS. She grew up on the Bethel College campus where her father, David H. Richert, was a professor and mother, Edith, a homemaker. She had one brother, Roland.

She graduated from Newton High School and Bethel College. The day after graduation, May 28, 1942, she married Roland Schmidt. They lived on a farm in the Pawnee Rock area for 47 years, where five children were born, David, Steven, Donald, Meribeth, and Susan. They all enjoyed working in the Bergthal Mennonite Church. Ethel also did volunteer work at Larned State Hospital as a teacher to help students get their G.E.D. All five of the Schmidt children attended Bethel College.

Ethel and Roland moved to North Newton in 1989. They enjoyed visits with their five families and 11 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren. Multiple Sclerosis restricted Ethel's travel so they enjoyed short trips, took in activities at Kidron Bethel and attended college games, plays, and musicals. In summer they sat outside and watch the sunsets and the changing sky. Ethel and Roland appreciated their Bethel College Church friends.



Marie Helen (Schrag) Wedel— September 25, 1917—October 5, 2009

Marie was born in Moundridge to Jacob D. Schrag and Adina Kaufman Schrag. She was baptized on June 5, 1933, at Hopefield Mennonite Church in Moundridge. She graduated from Moundridge High School. Marie married Waldo W. Wedel on July 22, 1938. He passed away on December 10, 1941. She married Arnold C. Wedel on May 11, 1968. He passed away on September 12, 1999. She was a bank employee for 26 years at Peoples State Bank, McPherson, and Kansas State Bank, Newton. She also worked as a bookkeeper and dental assistant. She was a member of the Bethel College Church. She served as co-chairwoman of the funeral committee for many years there and also was a Sunday School teacher. She also participated in the Bethel College Mennonite Church Mission Quilters.

She is survived by her brothers, John O. Schrag of North Newton, and Milo Schrag of Moundridge; her son and daughter-in-law, Tony and Miriam “Mim” Wedel of McPherson; her step-son and wife, Anthony C. and Marlene Wedel of Olathe; her grandchildren, Kip and Cherie Wedel of Manhattan, Troy Wedel of McPherson, Mike and Lauri Isaacs of Hesston, Andrew and Amy Graylin of Baltimore, Maryland, and Jake and Marci Dancy of Orlando, Florida; and three great-grandchildren, Mason Dancy of Orlando, Florida, and Alex and Aaron Isaacs of Hesston, Kansas.

Marie was laid to rest at Restlawn Gardens Cemetery, Newton, October 8, 2009.



Lucile Jane (Krehbiel) Jackson—June 7, 1916—October 8, 2009

Lucile J. Jackson was the third of four children of Bernard S. and Mary (Vorán) Krehbiel in Moundridge, KS. She graduated from Moundridge High School and later moved to Newton where she worked at Young’s Lunch. It was while she was employed there that she met a young man also new to Newton who was beginning a career with the ATSF Railway. Lucile and Harold L. Jackson were married on September 5, 1942. They raised three children and shared 65 years together. Lucile was a long-time member of Bethel College Mennonite Church, serving on countless committees and in many capacities. She was a Cub Scout den mother as well as a senior high youth sponsor, Sunday School and Bible School teacher. She and Harold enjoyed camping and were past members of the Newton Nomad Camping Club. They also enjoyed square dancing and taught countless couples how to do-si-do while members of the Easy Steppers. She had a special fondness for her Wednesday afternoon sewing circle of dear friends. She was a homemaker whose devotion to family was unprecedented. She lived 93 years and never put herself first. Lucile was an excellent cook as well as an accomplished seamstress and quilter. Each child, grandchild and great-grandchild cherish the gifts they have received over the years. While Harold retired in June of 1980, Lucile continued working until November of 2006 when they moved to Kidron Bethel Village. Lucile was preceded in death by her parents, husband Harold, brothers Orlando Krehbiel and Neal Krehbiel. She is survived by two daughters, Lois (John) Balthrop and Leanne (Richard) Klassen of Newton; a son, Tom (Gayle) Jackson of North Newton; brother Rollins Krehbiel of Hesston; seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Pastor’s Corner—An unexpected ordination gift—Ruth R. Harder

I asked a trusted person in my life what might happen at my ordination service. I wondered if I would feel different after the service or during the laying on of hands. Without skipping a beat he said, “Ruth, expect that something will happen.” I did my best to take these words to heart, and what do you know—something unexpected did happen, an unexpected gift did appear. I discovered this gift at my house after the ordination service. An artistically wrapped box was sitting on our dining room table. My heart skipped a beat when I saw it because I immediately thought of a friend who has a reputation of leaving random gifts for friends in random places. There is hardly ever a card. She drops off the gift and leaves. However, this time she did leave me a note wishing me well on the occasion of my ordination. I knew this was a big deal because days before my ordination, she was living in Alaska. How on earth did she get this delivered, I wondered? I e-mailed her the next morning thanking her for the gift. That’s when I learned that she was actually at my ordination service sitting in the back row of the balcony (having not stepped foot inside a church in a very long time). Years ago, she wrote in a letter that someday I would see her outside the church sitting in a lawn chair and listening in on the music and preaching. And so there are many Sundays when I wonder, will this be the Sunday I’ll look out and see my friend peering in? So you can imagine my surprise when I learned that she had been at BCMC and participated in the ordination service. When I talked with her the next day she said it wasn’t easy for her to be inside the church. Yet, she said that her favorite moment was the laying on of hands. She wrote, “When everyone surrounded you to bless you, it looked like a great cape of protection and support. (I raised my hand out towards you, too...)” It moves me to know that she not only witnessed my ordination, but that she participated in it, adding her own words of encouragement and blessing. She, too, is an important part of the “cape,” whether she ever attends church again or not. And I can only hope and pray that I, in turn, will be a piece of the “cape” of love that surrounds her, as well as many others who, like her, have been hurt, confused or alienated by the church.

OCTOBER — NOVEMBER 2009

Worship and events 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

October

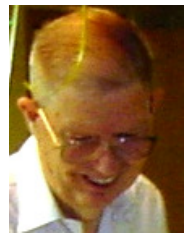
- 2 Bethel College Fall Festival and World Communion Sunday**
Worship with reflections by Bethel College students and faculty and music by the Bethel College Concert Choir
Bring food for Salvation Army
- 11** Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider and music by the Cherub Choir and Chancel Bells
- 18 Stewardship of God's gifts ~ Received, Blessed, Broken, Given**
Today's worship service begins a four-week series on the Fall 2009 stewardship theme
Sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider and music by the Chancel Choir
Noon Mentor/Mentee lunch—Fellowship Hall
- 25** Sermon by Ruth R. Harder and music by the Chancel Choir



November

- 1** Sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider and music by Miranda Crile and Bethany Amstutz
Daylight savings time ends — Set your clocks back one hour
Bring food for Salvation Army
- 8** The Pony Express begins; sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider and music by Youth Bells and the Junior Choir
- 15** Worship with sermon by Ruth R. Harder and music by Cherub Choir and Chancel Choir
Noon Golden Agers Potluck—Fellowship Hall
- 22** Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider and music by Chancel Bells
The Pony Express packets are returned; New members will be received
- 29 First Sunday of Advent—Prelude will begin at 9:00 a.m.**
Worship with reflections by Dale Horst; Communion will be served
Music by Chancel Choir

For over 30 years a silent presence has graced the halls of BCMC during the Sunday school hour. Quietly opening doors and peering around corners, Don Isaac diligently and faithfully carried out a task for the members of each class as he collected their offerings and delivered them to the appointed destination. This was a job with very little “thanks” or recognition other than the occasional smile or “Hi, Mr. Don” from the children. He never raised a critical eyebrow when, on a rare Sunday, a class would forget to pass the envelope and he would be turned away with empty hands. His willingness to perform this job week after week and year after year is a reflection of Don's commitment to BCMC and his attitude of helping out wherever help is needed. With the passage of time, Don has felt that it is time to give up this weekly duty. We want to extend a heartfelt “**thank you**” to **Don** for these many years of service to our church. ~ *Jeanette Leary*



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