



Greetings to friends and members of BCMC!
 May the mystery of God's love, peace and joy dwell with you in this Christmas season and throughout the coming year. Thank you for your prayers and support, and for sharing in ministry together with us. –
from the BCMC staff

Greetings from Western District Conference: Praise God for his indescribable salvation gift – Jesus Emmanuel, God saves and God is with us. Merry Christmas from the Western District Conference Staff! Together with you, we celebrate the coming of Jesus, the one who gives us joy, love and hope! We wish you many blessings during this holy season. --
 Clarence, Gilberto, Marlene, Nancy, Phyllis, Sandra, Dwight

Bethel College Mennonite Church welcomes into fellowship and membership all persons who confess faith in Jesus Christ, without regard to their race, ethnic background, gender, age, sexual orientation, education, ability, and other factors which give rise to discrimination and marginalization.

Church office hours: 9:00 a.m. – noon on Mon – Fri; 1:00 –5:00 p.m. on Mon – Thurs.
 Building is locked daily at 5 p.m. unless evening activities are scheduled.

Notary public service is available in the church office.

Phone: 316-283-3667

Fax: 316-283-2079

Email: office.bcmc@sbcglobal.net

Web site: bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Pastor: Heidi Regier Kreider, heidi.bcmc@sbcglobal.net

Home phone 284-0448, day off is Friday

Interim Associate Pastor for Faith Formation: Weldon Martens,

weldon.bcmc@sbcglobal.net; cell phone 402-202-9276 , day off is Friday

Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Susan Wheeler, susanmwheeler@gmail.com

Home phone 620-327-2295, cell phone 316-706-0887; day off is Monday

Administrative Assistant: Monica Lichti, office.bcmc@sbcglobal.net

Custodian: Michael Crawford, 316-727-9840

Music Coordinator: Rebecca Schloneger, 316-772-6084

Organist: Eleanor Kaufman, 283-7421; **Bell Choir Director:** Vada Snider, 283-5231

Chancel Choir Director: William Eash, 284-0920

Junior Choir Director: Renee Reimer, 605-212-0081

Cherub Choir Director: Megan Siebert, 785-580-9634

The lights in the sanctuary windows witness to our hope and prayers for peace. We encourage others to place a light in a window as a reminder to pray for peace.

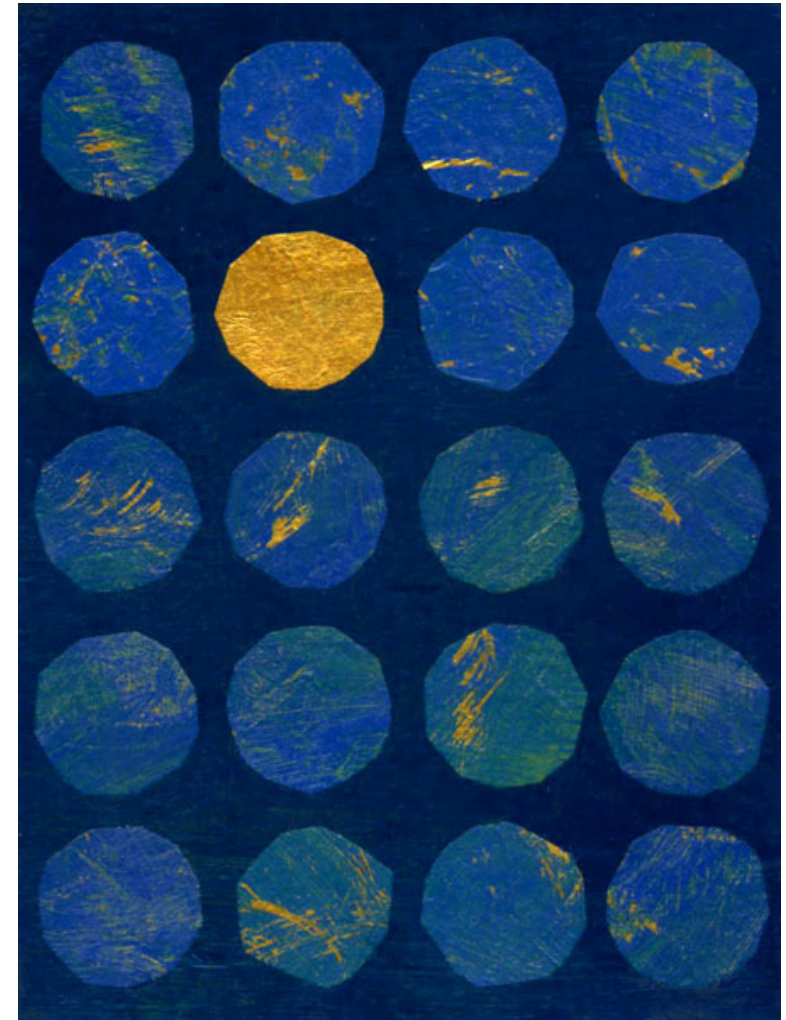
~ *Witness Commission.*

Winter weather watch! In the event of extreme cold, snow or ice, please use caution when coming to and from the church. To check for church closing or canceled services, see the BCMC website at <http://www.bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org>. Information about church closings will also be listed on local radio and TV stations if possible.

Cover image: *Where Advent Begins* © Jan L. Richardson
 Used by permission from the website janrichardson.com

Advent 2013

The mystery of God's dwelling!



December 22, 2013

Bethel College Mennonite Church

Bethel College Mennonite Church

2600 College Avenue, Box 364, North Newton, KS 67117 316-283-3667

Pastors: Heidi Regier Kreider, Susan Wheeler, Weldon Martens

December 22, 2013 Prelude 9:00 a.m., Worship 9:30 a.m.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT *The mystery of God's dwelling...in joy*

INVITING THE MYSTERY

9:00 a.m. Prelude

Conner Mitchell, Drew Friesen, and Rebecca Schloneger, violin

Introit *Little drummer boy* arr. Davis and Onarati
Menno Ringers; Vada Snider, director

Greeting Heidi Regier Kreider

Call to worship

Leader: Look! A child is about to be born!

People: Let us awake to joy!

Leader: He shall be called Emmanuel, "God with us,"

People: and will refuse evil and choose good.

Leader: God gives us a sign:

People: O, the mystery of God's dwelling in joy!

*Hymn *O come, O come, Immanuel* (stanzas 1-3) **HWB 172**
Eleanor Kaufman, pianist

ENGAGING THE MYSTERY

Confession and lighting the Advent candle

Ken & Annette Lamp, Katherine and Elizabeth

Leader: The power of God is held in the weakness of human flesh. Let us pause to consider incarnation: A child is born. Let us confess our skepticism and doubt, the weakness of our mortality, and welcome God's gift. The fourth Advent candle is the candle of joy!

All: In this light we celebrate forgiveness, knowing that God dwells with us in joy.

Hymn *Hope is a candle* (stanzas 1-4) **STS 15**
(children come forward during hymn)

Time with children Carol Flickinger

Old Testament reading Isaiah 7:10-16 Ben Kreider

Anthem *The Linden tree carol* arr. Reginald Jacques
Chancel Choir

Psalm Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 with repeated response:

Leader: Restore us, O God;

All: Let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Anthem *Coventry carol* Chancel Choir

Gospel reading Matthew 1:18-25

Anthems *And there were shepherds* J.S. Bach

Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light
Ron Garber, tenor
from Christmas Oratorio by J.S. Bach
Chancel Choir

Epistle reading Romans 1:1-7

Scripture response:

Leader: For the Word of God that gives us joy,

All: Thanks be to God!

Reflections *What's in a name?* Heidi Regier Kreider

CELEBRATING THE MYSTERY

*Hymn *Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming* **HWB 211**

Prayer of God's People

Offering

To learn more about BCMC or share a prayer request, please fill out a card from the pew rack and place in offering plate.

Offertory *It came upon the midnight clear* Willis, arr. Stevens

*Dedication hymn *Gloria* (sing 3 times) **HWB 204**

Sing unison once, then twice in 3-part canon
(south side, north side, choir)

*Dedication prayer

*Closing hymn *Let all together praise our God* **HWB 213**

*Benediction

Benediction response *Alleluja* Buxtehude

Chancel Choir; Braden Unruh, trumpet

Conner Mitchell, Rebecca Schloneger and Grace Bradfield; violin

Keith Neufeld, viola

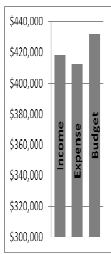
*Postlude *Let all together praise our God* Herman, arr. Bach

*All who are able are invited to stand

HWB = Hymnal: A Worship Book

STS = Sing the Story

Welcome visitors and friends! May you sense God's presence at BCMC. Personal hearing devices are at the north sanctuary entrance. The new nursery at rear of sanctuary is available during worship for families with infants and toddlers. Following Time with Children, children receive activity bags to use during worship (return to baskets at the entrance as you leave). We invite members and visitors to fill out welcome/prayer cards located in pew racks and place them in the offering plates for response by pastoral staff.



At the end of November, annual fund income for the year was \$5,751 more than expenses but \$14,300 less than budget. December is the final month of the fiscal year and additional expenses are anticipated including repair and protective covering for the Trinity windows by the Facilities Committee and final benevolence contributions. Contributions for the year should be received by Sun., Dec. 29. ~ *Richard Friesen, Treasurer*

Holiday events:

- **“Five Times Harder”** performs at Lorraine Ave. Mennonite Church, Wichita, today, Dec. 22, 4 p.m.
- **Reunion Jazz Concert.** Mon., Dec. 23, Mojo's Coffee Shop, Bethel campus, 6-8 p.m. Brett Jackson, saxophone; Ben Harder, trombone; Joel Linscheid, saxophone; Andy Toews, trombone; Nathan Webb, drums; Jacob Webb, bass; Chris Hazelton, piano. Free admission (donations accepted) Enjoy a warm drink, see old friends and listen to some great jazz music.

It's time for men to register for a new season of singing with the Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus. All money received from offerings at KMMC concerts go to Mennonite Central Committee. Registration forms are available on the bulletin board. *“We sing that others might live.”*

Join the Harvest of Love! This annual campaign runs through Dec., sponsored by Newton Ministerial Alliance and Salvation Army to gather non-perishable food and money to assist with needs in Harvey County. Make checks “Harvest of Love” and send to Salvation Army at 208 W. 6th St., Newton, KS 67114. You may also bring food items to BCMC and place them on the first pew under the balcony, at south entrance.

Thank you, Bethel College Mennonite Church! During this season of rejoicing and reflecting on our blessings, we extend heartfelt thanks for the many ways you connect with our campus. Your encouragement and support makes a difference in the lives of others! The gifts and talents you share are an extension of our mission to focus on quality of life and personalized care with Christian compassion. Wishing you hope, love, joy and peace as you celebrate Christmas and the New Year! ~ *Kidron Bethel Village staff and residents*

The Bible in 90 Days will be a BCMC Sunday school class to run Jan. 5 – Apr. 6, hosted by the Bible Study Sunday school class. Other individuals or Sunday school classes are invited to join the Bible Study class in this journey through scripture! Contact the church office if you are interested in participating.

This Week at BCMC: December 22-December 29, 2013

Today

10:30 a.m. Fellowship time with coffee served in Fellowship Hall

10:50 a.m. Christian Education for all ages – Visitors welcome!

Children and youth Sunday school classes:

- 2-3 year olds—Rm B-6; pre-K through 4th grade students—following snacks in Fellowship Hall, meet in Room B-8 for singing and story
- 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students—Rm 26
- Sr Hi Youth—Rm 22

Adult Sunday school classes:

- Agape (Young Adults)—KIPCOR, 2515 College Ave.
- Bible Study—Rm 14—A study of *Ephesians*
- Catacombs—Rm B-5—*Christmas Tea and Carol Singing*, Marles Preheim
- Fine Arts—Rm 24—*Understanding the New Testament* video series
- Issues & Christianity—Rm 23—Discussion of issues and events
- Mosaic—Rm 20
- Open Circle—Rm B-7—Sermon reflection and response
- Seekers—Rm 21—*Reading the Bible again for the first time*, Marcus Borg
- Sojourners—Rm 28—*Christmas Social-Fellowship Hall*

Monday, December 23

2:00 p.m. Memorial Service for Marlin Frey - Sanctuary

3:00 p.m. BCMC worship DVD—Kidron Bethel Health Care

Tuesday, December 24—Christmas Eve

6:30 p.m. Children gather in Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. Children and Youth Christmas Eve program, *Let Us Go To Bethlehem and See* —Sanctuary

11:00 p.m. Service of Lessons and Carols with Chancel Choir, Chancel Bells, carol singing and candle-lighting—Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 25 - Christmas Day - Office and building closed

Thursday, December 26 - Office and building closed

Friday, December 27 - Office and building closed

Saturday, December 28 – Office and building closed

Sunday, December 29 – Sunday after Christmas

9:30 a.m. Prelude: Vocalist Matthew Schloneger and friends

10:00 a.m. Worship with Christmas carol singing

11:00 a.m. Coffee and fellowship in renovated main floor gathering area — bring goodies to share (**no Sunday school**)

If you are interested in learning more about BCMC, or becoming a member of the congregation, an orientation class will be offered in several Sunday-afternoon sessions in Jan. and/or Feb. 2014. To participate, contact Heidi Regier Kreider at heidi.bcmc@sbcglobal.net. or 283-3667. Schedule will be set once participants are confirmed.

BCMC Living Stones update: Renovated main-floor restrooms, foyer and nursery are open for occupancy, and you may explore these new spaces! Look carefully at the mailbox names – your mailbox probably moved! (Coffee will still be served in fellowship hall today; and construction workers will continue to complete some additional items.) By Church Board request, the Hospitality Commission will decide on a new name for the extended gathering area which includes a kitchenette/coffee station, and mailboxes. Your suggestions for a name are invited! Write an idea on the foyer bulletin board, or send it to Barb Koontz, Hospitality Commission chair. The renovated space will be dedicated on Sunday, January 26, the same day as the annual youth-sponsored soup luncheon, and congregational meeting. Mark your calendars now, and stay tuned for more information.

Thank you for contributions made at the Nursery shower! Your contributions of \$2,300 have allowed a significant portion of nursery furnishings to be ordered. \$1,500 is needed in additional contributions to fully outfit the nursery. Make checks to BCMC, designated “Nursery.”

Special events coming up at BCMC:

- **Christmas Eve programs on Tuesday, Dec. 24: 7:00 p.m. - *Let us Go to Bethlehem and See*** led by children and youth, including singing and photos of the children depicting the story of Jesus’ birth. **11:00 p.m. –** This candlelight service of lessons and carols will feature music by Chancel Choir, Chancel Bells, and other instrumentalists, along with congregational carols.
- **BCMC’s annual New Year’s memorial and communion service** will take place Sun., Jan. 5, 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. During this service we will light candles in memory of BCMC members and other friends and loved ones who have died in 2013, and share in the Lord’s Supper together. All are welcome to join in this time of worship, remembrance and hope.

Staff: The BCMC office and building will be closed for several days over Christmas and New Year, to allow vacation time for staff. For pastoral care concerns, please contact the pastor on-call:


- Dec. 22-26 – Heidi Regier Kreider (316-284-0448 or 316-727-4344)
- Dec. 27 – Jan. 5 - Susan Wheeler (620-327-2295 or 316-706-0887)

Office and building schedule during weekdays:

- * Dec. 23-24 – Office and building open
- * Dec. 25-28 – Office and building closed
- * Dec. 30 – Office open 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., closed in afternoon; building open
- * Dec. 31 – Jan. 1 - Office and building closed
- * Jan. 2-3 – Office and building open as usual

December 15 at BCMC: Attendance: 278. General Fund \$6,044.25; Community Play School \$200; Harvest of Love \$25; Plant Fund \$87.50; General Fund 2014 \$2,500; Camp Menno’sch \$1,000; Caring Fund \$200; Living Stones \$6,070; Flower Fund \$15.

Join in a gallery walk with Rachel Epp Buller and John Thiesen at Kauffman Museum on the closing day of the museum’s special exhibit, “Art that Worked: WPA Art in Newton 1935-1943,” Sun., Jan. 5, 3:30 p.m.

Thank you to all who shared poinsettias for the sanctuary. You may pick up your poinsettia(s) after the Christmas Eve services.		
Donated by:		In memory/honor of:
Ethel Abrahams & family		Norman and David Abrahams, husband and son
Carl & Rosalind E. Andreas		Carol Enns Brubacher
Wade & Joan Brubacher Family		Harold & Elma Goering & E. J. & Lucille Brubacher
Jerry & Carol Buller.....		Willard & Selma Unruh
Dianne Epp.....		Family and Friends
John and Bernice Esau.....		Keith Esau
Marlene V. Faul, Sharon, Mary & families		James O. Faul
Friesen Family.....		Orlando Friesen
Joann Funk & Family		Francis Funk, Frederick Funk, Jonas & Bertha Krehbiel; Arnold & Edna Funk
Paul & Eldine Harder.....		Delton & Marian Franz
Paul & Shirley Harms		G.F. & Susie Harms & Arnold & Edna Funk
Don & Marilyn Harrold		Janna Harrold
Dorothy Janzen		Kurt Harder
Walt & Mary Ann Jost.....		Esther Bartel
Dick & Barb Koontz		Elbert & Ruth Koontz and Aldene Delk
David & Heidi Regier Kreider		
Howard & Evelyn Lohrentz		
Evelyn Quiring		Frank Quiring
Merrill & Boots Raber		Stella Carrizosa
Jim & Beaty Robb.....		Orlo & Helen Goering; Stewart & Marge Robb
Ron & LaVonne Sawatzky, Sheri, Alan		
Nick & Markus Lepard		Henry & Edna Goossen
Richard & Frances Siemens		Our 5 Grandchildren
Milly Stucky.....		Keith Stucky
Myron & Mildred Voran & family.....		Kathy J. Voran
Omar & Carolyn Voran		Our parents
Lenore Waltner & family.....		James Waltner