

Prayer Requests

Mennonite Mission Network: Tom and Disa Rutschman, serving with Mennonite Mission Network, have shared Jesus as the Light of the World through many long winters on the Arctic Circle in Sweden. Pray that this year they may again create sparks of life through teaching in schools and the leadership they provide at Jokkmokk Free Church.
Western District Conference: Pray for WDC pastors and chaplains as they lead worship and offer pastoral care during the holiday season.
This congregation: Give thanks for the children and youth among us, and pray for wisdom to learn from them as we walk alongside them.

To request prayer or a visit, or if a family member is hospitalized, please contact the church office or a pastor so that visits and prayer support can be offered. Names of people receiving medical care are printed in the BCMC bulletin only by permission of the patient or a guardian/family-member. This is part of the caring network at BCMC, which includes support among members of Sunday school classes and small groups, as well as the Prayer Network, Visitation Team, and Caring Fund sponsored by Deacon Commission.

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.

Bethel College Mennonite Church, 2600 College Avenue, Box 364,
North Newton, KS 67117 Phone: 316-283-3667 Fax: 316-283-2079
Email: office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
Web site: bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Church office hours: 9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. on Mon–Fri; 1:30 –5:00 p.m. on Mon – Thur
Church office is closed on Friday afternoons
Building is locked on weekdays at 5 p.m. unless evening activities are scheduled
Saturdays—building is locked at noon; Sundays—building is locked at 2 p.m.
Notary public service is available in the church office

Pastor: Dawn Yoder Harms, dawn@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org;
Phone: 316-283-3667; cell phone: 316-212-1847; Day off is Friday

Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Susan Wheeler
susan@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org; cell phone: 316-706-0887;
Day off is Monday

Associate Pastor for Faith Formation: John Tyson,
john@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org; Phone: 316-283-3667; Day off is Monday

Administrative Assistant: Monica Lichti, office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
Custodian: Michael Crawford, 316-727-9840; day off is Tuesday

Music Coordinator: Barbara Thiesen **Chancel Bell Choir Director:** Vada Snider
Menno Ringers Director: Suzy Burch **Chancel Choir Director:** William Eash
Junior Choir Director: Monica Schmidt **Cherub Choir Director:** William Eash

Dec. 11 at BCMC: Attendance 294. General Fund \$5,110.50; Living Stones \$1,270; Gen Fund 2017 \$25; Caring Fund \$75; Library Reserve Fund \$50; Homeless Shelter \$225; Flower Fund \$32.

The Holy Way

Walking in the way



of God's heart

Fourth Sunday in Advent
Bethel College Mennonite Church
December 18, 2016

Bethel College Mennonite Church
December 18, 2016
9:00 a.m. Prelude 9:30 a.m. Worship

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

GATHERING

Prelude *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven came* arr. Manz
Sleepers, Wake! arr. Powell
Wachet auf! Ruft uns die stimme Bach
Verlene Garber, organ
I waited for the Lord Mendelssohn
Ron Garber & Virginia Mininger
O come all ye faithful Wade/arr. Eithun
Menno Ringers; Suzanne Burch, director
Laudamus te Vivaldi
Ron Garber & Virginia Mininger
Carol of the bells arr. McChesney
Menno Ringers

Introit *In the bleak midwinter* Holst/Rosetti/arr. Shields
Junior Choir; Monica Schmidt, director

Call to worship, prayer Patty Shelly, worship leader

Lighting the Advent Candle *Come, light of the world* STS 3
led by Junior Choir
Congregation (please join in when indicated)
Candlelighters, Emma and Mike Claassen

Excerpts from Psalm 80

L: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth!

P: **Restore us, O God;**
Let your face shine, that we may be saved.

L: Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one whom you made strong for yourself.

P: **Restore us, O God;**
Let your face shine, that we may be saved.

L: We will never turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call upon your name.

P: **Restore us, O God;**
Let your face shine, that we may be saved.

*Hymn *O come, O come, Immanuel* HWB 172
a cappella Ron Garber, leader

(children come forward during hymn)

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Children's conversation John Tyson
Scripture readings Matthew 1:18-25 Caleb Koontz
Worship music *Huddle close* Beebe Junior Choir
Sermon *Love, Hope and Dreams of Solidarity* John Tyson

RESPONDING IN FAITH

*Hymn *Fling wide the door, unbar the gate!* HWB 186

Prayer of God's people

Offering

During the offering, please sign and pass the friendship register in your pew. When all have signed, return it to the first person.

Offertory *Breath of heaven (Mary's song)* Grant
Monica Schmidt

People with December birthdays are invited to come forward during the offertory to receive a blessing. Please bring hymnals.

*Dedication hymn *My soul proclaims with wonder* HWB 181

*Dedication prayer

SENDING

*Sending *Oh, how shall I receive thee* HWB 182

Benediction

Postlude *Cold December flies away* Wood
Please remain seated during the benediction and postlude

*All who are able are invited to stand

HWB = Hymnal: A Worship Book STS= Sing the Story
STJ= Sing the Journey (at the end of the bench)

We offer sympathy to Ada and Wes Schmidt-Tieszen, Alison Schmidt-Tieszen and Tina (Schmidt-Tieszen), Daniel and Adaline Graber on the death of Ada's father, Art Schmidt, Dec. 14 at Kidron Bethel.

The Newton First Mennonite Church, 429 E. 1st St., and area community members will present selections from **Handel's Messiah** today, 7 p.m. An offering will be taken for the Harvey County Homeless Shelter and to cover expenses. All are invited.

Please be aware that we cannot use ice melt on the new concrete ramp for two years. We will use sand when icy to aid in traction but be prepared to use alternate entrances if the weather is icy.

The Tabor Mennonite Church Youth Fellowship will share their annual living nativity, *Night in the Barn*, Dec. 18 from 6-8 p.m. in the barn of Maynard Knepp and Carol Duerksen. Admission is free; donations accepted. Directions: From Goessel: 3 miles north on Hwy 15, 4 miles east on 150th, ¾ north on Falcon. (Follow these directions and not GPS) For more information, call 620-386-0709.

Harvest of Love Campaign is Nov. 1-Dec. 31. Write checks to Harvest of Love, 208 W. 6th, Newton, KS, 67114. Bring food to BCMC and place on the bench in the south entrance.

A revised version of the Israel-Palestine resolution first brought to delegates at the Mennonite Church USA assembly in 2015 is now available for review. Visit www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/seeking-peace-israel-palestine to view the document and provide feedback by Dec. 20.

BCMC supports the Harvey County Homeless Shelter (recently re-named the New Hope Shelter) through help with volunteer staffing, meals, and money given through the Witness Commission budget. The Shelter is launching an attempt to raise \$300,000 for 2017, and is asking supporting churches to keep them in mind with their end of year contributions. Some of this money would be used to hire a family to live on the Shelter grounds and would serve to staff the facility overnight, making the need for us to recruit overnight volunteers unnecessary. Please consider helping New Hope Shelter in planning your charitable contributions. Checks can be made out to BCMC with New Hope Shelter on the Memo line.

Registration for the 2017 season for Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus has begun. If you sang in the chorus last year you will find a registration form in your church mailbox. Complete it and return to Joe Peter's mailbox. If you have not sung in the chorus before and have some interest, contact Joe or complete a registration form found on the poster on the bulletin board. The blessings of participating are many. "We sing that others may live" supporting MCC. ~ Joe Peters, KMMC contact

Mark Kreider will present "Colorado Photography", Dec. 27, 7 p.m., at Newton Public Library, 720 N. Oak. The program features photos taken by Mark from trails all over Colorado. Free and open to all.

Bethel College is offering many of its classes for community audit, for \$50 per credit hour (compared to the normal audit rate of \$85 per hour) OR, if you're age 62 and older, a flat rate of \$30. For more information, go to www.bethelks.edu/audit, where there are links for interterm 2017 course schedule (enrollment deadline Jan. 4) and spring 2017 course schedule (enrollment deadline Feb 13).

December 18, 2016—Fourth Sunday in Advent

10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time in the Gathering Place; coffee, tea, water available

10:50 a.m. Faith Formation—Visitors welcome!

- Infants & Toddlers—Nursery at back of the sanctuary
- Age 2 through K in B4; 1-3rd grade in B3; 4-5th grade in B8
- Junior High students (6-8th grade) – Room 26
- Senior High students—Room 22—*The Story*
- Agape— Fellowship Hall
- Bible Study—Lectionary Texts for Advent
- Catacombs—Rm B-5— Christmas Carol Sing led by Florine Eitzen followed by a social hour
- Fellowship—Rm B7
- Fine Arts—Rm 24— Book study, *Biblical Literalism: A Gentile Heresy*, J. Spong
- Issues & Christianity—Rm 23— *Great Figures of the New Testament*, dvd
- Mosaic—Rm 20— Sermon reflection and other current topics
- Open Circle—Rm 28—Sermon reflection and response
- Seekers—Rm 21— "A Review and Progress Update on Claremont Lincoln University", Jim Mininger
- Sojourners—Chapel—Gathering to celebrate Christmas

Monday, December 19

2:30 p.m. BCMC worship DVD—Kidron Bethel Health Care

Tuesday, December 20

1:00 p.m. BCMC worship DVD—Kidron Bethel Assisted Living

7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship Christmas Program—Sanctuary followed by refreshments in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, December 21

8:00 a.m. Staff Worship Planning—Mojo's Coffee Shop, Bethel College campus

10:00 a.m. Bulletin announcement deadline

6:30 p.m. Cherub Choir (Rm 24) and Junior Choir (Rm 28)

7:00 p.m. Senior High Youth

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir—Sanctuary **8:30 p.m.** Chancel Bells—Rm B7

Saturday, December 24—Christmas Eve

7:00 p.m. *Peace Before Us*—Worship led by children and youth—Sanctuary

11:00 p.m. Candlelight service of Lessons and Carols with anthems by the Chancel Choir, Chancel Bells and congregational singing—Sanctuary

Sunday, December 25—Merry Christmas!

10:00 a.m. Prelude by Verlène Garber, organist; worship with singing of carols and stories

Monday, December 26—Office will be closed; building locked; Church office will be open 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Dec. 27-30; closed in the afternoons

Variety Christmas program for families, Tues., Dec. 20, 7 p.m. in the sanctuary featuring Lily Schloneger, Brent and Maggie Dungan, a Barbership Quartet, and more. Refreshments in Fellowship Hall. Men, women, and children - all invited. An offering will be taken. (Sponsored by Women's Fellowship.)

Welcome visitors and friends! May you sense God's presence at BCMC. Personal hearing devices are at the north sanctuary entrance. The nursery at rear of sanctuary is available during worship for families with infants and toddlers. Following Children's conversation, children receive activity bags to use during worship (return to baskets at the entrance as you leave).

Poinsettias in church are donated by:	In memory/honor of:
Carl & Rosalind Andreas	In honor of... Our grandchildren
Wade & Joan Brubacher Family	Harold & Elma Goering E.J. & Lucille Brubacher
Dennis & Kathy Campbell.....	Barbara & Orlando Friesen; Willard Campbell
William & Esther Kreider Eash.....	Elon & Lorene Eash; Robert Kreider
	In honor of... Lois Kreider
Dianne Epp & Family	Anthony R. Epp
John & Bernice Esau	Keith Esau
Marlene Ewert, Cliff Dick, Nat Dick	Mary & Henry Dick Linda & Jacob Ewert
Marlene V. Faul, Sharon, Mary & Families..	James O. Faul
Richard & Dorothy Nickel Friesen.....	John W. Nickel Arthur & Viola Friesen
JoAnn Funk & Family.....	Francis Funk, Jonas & Bertha Krehbiel, Arnold & Edna Funk
Larry & Margaret Goering.....	Eldon C. Goering
	In honor of... Bonnie Goering
Lou Gomez, Jr. & Elizabeth Raid.....	Pauline Krehbiel Raid, Howard Raid, Lou Gomez, Sr., Gilbert Gomez
Martha & Marilyn Graber	Eldon W. Graber
Dorothy & Willis Harder	Kurt Harder
Paul & Eldine Harder	Rev. Henry N. & Hilda Harder, John & Sara Franz, Rev. Delton & Marian Franz
Paul & Shirley Harms.....	Arnold & Edna Funk and G.F. & Susie Harms
Don & Marilyn Harrold	Janna Kay Harrold
David & Rose Haury	Ben Haury
Mary Ann Jost & Family	Walter Jost
Matt and Jennifer Koontz.....	Imogene Scott
Bonnie & Dwight Krehbiel &	
Jeanette & George Leary.....	Don Isaac
Howard Lohrentz.....	Evelyn Lohrentz
Emmy Midkiff	Frank Midkiff



Poinsettias in church are donated by:	In memory/honor of
Berneil Rupp Mueller & Ted Mueller	Linda Balzer Rupp & Weldon Jesse Rupp Adam Theodore Mueller, Helen Hiebert Mueller
Greg Nye & Elizabeth Schmidt	Arnold C. Nye
Merrill & Boots Raber	Stella Carrizosa
Bob & Vernetta Regier	Zachary Regier, grandson
Aleta Rempel.....	Theodore Wendell Rempel
Jim & Beaty Robb.....	Orlo & Helen Goering, Stewart & Marge Robb
Ron & LaVonne Sawatzky.....	Henry & Edna Goossen
Valetta & Miner Seymour	Ruth, Lester, Dean & Lonnie Goering, Anne & Miner Seymour, Emily Berend
Frances & Richard Siemens	In honor of Our 5 grandchildren
Kathryn Simmons	Esko Loewen
Peggy Souder & Nathan Dick.....	Norman & Arvilla Souder
	In honor of... Nicholas & Harriet Dick
Marvin Thieszen	Shirley Thieszen
Doug & Beth Unruh.....	Allen & Esther Unruh & Ken Unruh Don Epp, Sr. (Beatrice, NE)
Lenore Waltner & Family	James Waltner



Support for refugees in San Antonio: San Antonio Mennonite Church (SAMC), a member congregation of Western District Conference of Mennonite Church USA, requests support and prayers as they help to host hundreds of refugee women and children being released from immigration detention facilities in Texas. Western District Conference is providing financial assistance to SAMC from conference funds, and also encourages congregations and individuals to support SAMC directly. See the SAMC website at <http://www.sanantoniomennonite.org> for more information, and to make online financial contributions for needed supplies and facilities.

Thank you, congregation, for your faithful financial support.

- Giving through the end of November was \$413,247 compared to expenses of \$417,483. December is a big month both for income and expense.
- Contributions received by noon on Dec. 30 will be recorded for 2016.
- Living Stones II contributions are needed to repay internal borrowing of \$77,053. Additional bills are anticipated for current projects yet this year.
- Thank you to those who participated in the Pony Express. This gives the Finance Committee and Church Board a basis for developing the 2017 budget which will be voted on by the congregation on Jan. 29, 2017.

~ Richard Friesen, treasurer