

Prayer Requests

Mennonite Mission Network: Mennonite Mission Network's Missional Discipleship Initiative uses small groups to encourage spiritual growth in congregations. Because of its relational nature, transformation spreads to the entire church. Pray for Marvin Lorenzana, the coordinator, and all who open themselves to the Holy Spirit's work through this ministry.

Western District Conference: Pray for all who will travel to WDC Annual Assembly in Arlington, TX, next weekend, and for all who are planning and leading assembly activities.

This congregation: Pray for BCMC's Western District Conference delegates attending the WDC Annual Assembly Aug 4-6 in Dallas, as WDC celebrates 125 years.

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; 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 Monday

Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Susan Wheeler

susan@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org; cell phone: 316-706-0887;

Day off is Friday

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: Debbie Dennis **Cherub Choir Director:** Jill Siebert

July 23 at BCMC: Attendance 192. General Fund \$2,986.49; Living Stones \$265; Sr Hi Youth \$713.55; Transfer-Funeral \$794.60; Charlotte Rutschman Memorial \$430; **July 26:** Service Scholarship \$2,016.



Bethel College Mennonite Church

July 30, 2017

**Bethel College Mennonite Church
July 30, 2017; 9:30 a.m. Worship**

**THE SUMMER OF SMALL THINGS:
Sustaining Creation**

GATHERING

Prelude *Rock of ages, cleft for me* Roberts
O God, thou faithful God Peeters
Verlene Garber, organist

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to worship, prayer Duane Friesen, worship leader

*Hymn of praise *All creatures of our God and King* **HWB 48**
verses 1-4, 7
(children come forward during hymn)

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Children's conversation

Scripture reading Excerpts from Psalm 104 George Leary
Job 12:7-10

Hymn of praise *God of the earth, the sky, the sea* **HWB 53**

Sermon *Sustaining Creation* Dawn Yoder Harms

RESPONDING IN FAITH

Affirming our commitments

*Hymn *O healing river* **HWB 372**

Blessing for Jon Voth Service Adventure
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Prayer of God's people

Offering

Offertory *Simple gifts* Held
People with July birthdays are invited to come forward during
the offertory to receive a blessing. Please bring hymnals

*Dedication hymn *We plow the fields and scatter* **HWB 96**

*Dedication prayer

SENDING

*Sending hymn *You shall go out with joy* **HWB 427**

*Benediction

*Benediction response

*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 light the Christ candle to welcome God's presence among us. Sent out from worship, we carry the light of Christ with us into the world.

Jon Voth will be participating in the Service Adventure program in Albuquerque, New Mexico. During his 10 month term, Jon will engage with various service agencies in the city and also hopes to work at a local art museum. Please wish Jon well as he departs for ABQ this week!

The Sunday school hour today is a faith forum on sustaining creation.

In 2016, the Mennonite Worship and Song Committee began developing a new collection designed to succeed *Hymnal: A Worship Book (1992)*, and supplements *Sing the Journey (2005)*, and *Sing the Story (2007)*.

In anticipation of purchasing the new hymnal in the future, the Worship Commission and Church Board have established the Hymnal Fund and have already received several memorial gifts.

Staff announcements: Pastors Dawn Yoder Harms and John Tyson will be attending the Western District Conference Annual Assembly in Arlington, TX, August 4-6.

BCMC delegates attending the WDC Annual Assembly are: Marlene Faul, Dorothy Nickel Friesen, Richard Friesen, Lou Gomez, Elizabeth Raid, Lee Suderman, Dawn Yoder Harms, John Tyson, Norma Johnson, Vern Preheim (delegate chair). Delegates will be sharing about their experiences during the Sunday School hour on Aug 13.

July 30: Sustaining Creation / Dawn Yoder Harms / SS Elective: What is Creation Care?

REFLECT and DO: See list of ideas provided by BCMC's Creation Care Committee!

Kauffman Museum bird walk, with birders Gregg Friesen and Rod Wedel, Sat., Aug. 5, 7 am. Meet in the museum parking lot for a walk of 1 to 1.5 hours.

Save the date: nationally syndicated columnist and author **Leonard Pitts Jr.** will speak at **Bethel College**, Tues., Sept. 12, 7 pm in Krehbiel Auditorium, as part of KIPCOR's 30th-anniversary celebration.

Everence is moving to new offices in North Newton with a new address of 3179 N. Main Street, just north of the Mennonite Central Committee offices. Finishing touches are now being made and Everence will be in their new building starting Aug. 21, 2017. Feel free to stop by anytime! Phone numbers remain the same: (316) 283-3800; (877) 467-7294. Everence will be maintaining a satellite office at Schowalter Villa, 200 W. Cedar, Hesston, in addition to the Hutchinson office.

Mennonite Central Committee continues to receive requests for comforters from overseas partners. Partners in North Korea have requested 3,000 comforters, Iraq has requested 7,350, Ukraine has requested 7,000, Jordan has requested 5,000. The Comforter Blitz committee needs help tying comforters for this project. There will be a "Mini-blitz" Sept. 29 and 30 at the North Newton MCC Central States Center. However, if you have time now, we have several tops stretched in frames ready to be tied. Call Kate Mast first (the workroom supervisor 283-2720) to make sure the room is available for tying. *For more information, call Carol Peters, Kansas Friends of MCC*

If you are excited to buy Mennonite Central Committee school kit supplies when all the back-to-school supplies show up in stores, consider helping refugee families in Jordan and Ukraine meet their basic hygiene needs with an MCC relief kit instead. Our partners in the Middle East and Ukraine are asking for more relief kits. Our goal is to ship 83,000 relief kits by March 2018. Visit mcc.org/mrc/kits for full kit information and from there click through to our Amazon Wish List for easier shopping and shipping. Bring or ship kit items to MCC Central States 121 E. 30th St. North Newton, KS 67117. Contact katemast@mcc.org, 316-283-2720 with questions or to schedule a kit packing event at your church.

Registration is open for the Womens/Girls Retreat (3rd grade and up) at Camp Mennoscah Sept. 8-10, with the theme "Together: Rooted and Reaching" with Barb Krehbiel Gehring, featured speaker. Schedules and registration forms are available to print at: <http://mennowdc.org/calendar/> or on the bulletin board. We will celebrate 100 years of Mennonite Women organizations through stories and a hymn sing Friday evening. There will be no separate girls programming this year; girls should register for Saturday morning and afternoon activities and seminars.

Sunday, July 30

10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time in the Gathering Place; ice water available

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

The Sunday school hour today is a faith forum on sustaining creation. Sunday school for children and youth is on hiatus until August 20.

- Agape—Fellowship Hall
- Bible Study—Rm 14—Does not meet during the summer months
- Catacombs—Rm B5—Does not meet during the summer months
- Fellowship—Rm B7
- Fine Arts—Rm 24
- Issues & Christianity—Rm 23— *Great Figures of the New Testament*, dvd
- Mosaic—Rm 20—Sermon reflection and other current topics
- Open Circle—Rm 21—Worship reflection and response
- Seekers—Rm 28—Will attend the elective
- Sojourners—Chapel—Does not meet during the summer months

Monday, July 31

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

Tuesday, August 1

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

Wednesday, August 2

10:00 a.m. Bulletin announcement deadline

4:00 p.m. Staff Congregation Relations Committee—Rm B7

Thursday, August 3

7:00 p.m. Church Board—Rm 14

Sunday, August 6

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Susan Wheeler

10:30 a.m. Fellowship in the Gathering Place **10:50 a.m.** Faith Formation

As part of the Bethel College orientation, all new students will be attending our church service on August 20. We are expecting around 140 guests! As a welcome to our community, the Hospitality Commission is hosting a new student brunch during the Sunday School hour. **We need your help!** Please consider donating either a 9 x 13 egg casserole, a 9 x 13 coffee cake, 12 muffins or ready to serve fruit for 10 people. A signup sheet is in back of the sanctuary on July 30, August 6, and August 13. Thanks! ~ *The Hospitality Commission*

Sunday School for children and youth is back in session on August 20. Orientation sessions for Sunday School teachers and helpers will take place in Fellowship Hall on August 9 at 7:15 pm and on August 13 at 11:00 am. A parents orientation to all upcoming programs for children and youth will take place in Fellowship Hall on August 27 at 11:00 am. We look forward to an exciting new year for children and youth at BCMC!

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).

New Hope Shelter receives \$1200 in the 2017 BCMC benevolence budget. New Hope has increased overnight staffing and is looking for additional financial support. The Witness Commission will be considering this request as part of the 2018 budgeting process. In the meantime, individual contributions can be sent to New Hope Shelter, PO Box 978, Newton KS 67114.

BCMC youthful men, their sons and friends are invited to the 15th annual campout at Walnut Grove Campground, Harvey County Park West, Fri. eve. to Sat. mid-morning, Aug. 25-26. Arrive Fri. 6:30 pm or after. Stay only for the evening, if you wish, or overnight, too. Bring your own meat plus a side dish and drink to share for supper around 7:30 pm, Fri., items for recreation, camping gear. If staying overnight, bring breakfast food to share. For more info contact Dave Linscheid, 316-727-6967, dave.linscheid@gmail.com.

The planning survey related to the BCMC Columbarium and Garden of Memory and Hope has been compiled. Thanks for responding. One hundred one surveys were completed with many representing more than one individual. Thirty-two already have other plans. Thirty-one have already purchased niches in the columbarium with one who prefers to shift to the Garden. Seventeen plan to purchase 33 columbarium niches in the future and 11 plan to purchase 20 agreements to scatter in the Garden. Survey results are available at bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org/survey. In addition to evaluating additional projects, the Living Stones II Task Force is also planning next steps related to the expansion of the Columbarium and construction of the Garden of Memory and Hope. How will the Garden (and all landscaping) be maintained? Is the large Columbarium expansion on the north of the church possible with a self-funded model? Are there alternatives to the columbarium that are aesthetically and theologically pleasing and financially feasible? The Task Force hopes to bring a recommendation to the church board in time for additional discussion at the September 24 congregational meeting.

Prayer Network is an email (or phone) ministry of the Deacon Commission to provide prayer support when requested. To be added to the list, contact: office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch or call Monica at 316-283-3667. You will be given an orientation sheet regarding confidentiality and process. Thank you to the people who already are on the prayer network.

Everence College Scholarships of \$750 each were awarded to Nat Dick and Mark Kreider, both senior students at Goshen College, Goshen, IN. Everence believes that when we help members pay for college, they are honoring students who are committed to achieving their academic goals and sharing their faith values with the wider world.
~ *Marlene V. Faul, BCMC Everence Advocate*

The Parkinson's Support Group at Kidron Bethel will meet in Menno Hall Aug. 1, 2 pm for small group sharing. All are welcome.

The African Children's Choir will perform with the Wichita Community Children's Choir at Chapel Hill United Methodist Church (1550 N Chapel Hill Drive, Wichita) Sun., July 30, 7 pm. Tickets will be \$10 at the door and proceeds will help support the Music for Life Institute's international relief and development programs.

Camp Mennoscah announcements:

- **Camp Mennoscah contact info:** campmennoscah.org or [620-297-3290](tel:620-297-3290)
- **Young Adult Weekend** is August 4-6.
- **Mental Health Spiritual Retreat** is Sept. 3-4 for people affected by mental issues. There will be sessions on the theme of Branching Out. Register online or call. Scholarships are available.

The Western District Conference Annual Assembly is August 4-6 in Arlington, TX. Nearly 140 persons have registered to attend. Anyone may attend the worship services (Friday evening and Sunday morning), as well as the Mini-Festival on Saturday evening at Luz del Evangelio (Dallas), without registration or payment. For complete information, go to: <http://mennowdc.org/annual-assembly/#2017annualAssembly>. **The WDC Office and the Conference Resource Library** will be closed on Friday through Monday, August 4-7, for Annual Assembly weekend in Arlington, TX.

The 2017 issue of *Mennonite Life*, Bethel College's annual online journal, is now live at ml.bethelks.edu. This special issue is almost completely devoted to a consideration of "500 years of Anabaptism," with an essay by Ben Goossen, "Why 500 Years?: A Critique of Anabaptism's Upcoming Anniversary Celebration," and 13 responses from Anabaptists in the United States and Canada, as well as Colombia and South Korea.

A memorial service for Pastor Darrell Fast will be held at BCMC on Sat., Aug. 12 at 10 am. Darrell Fast died June 11 at Leamington Mennonite Home, Leamington, Ontario. He was pastor at Bethel College Mennonite Church from 1986-1999.

Worship – In worship, we will celebrate God’s grace and glory in creation and will declare that God calls us to participate in the redemption of the world by cherishing, protecting and restoring creation.

Learning and Teaching – We will seek opportunities for ourselves and our children to learn more about the wonders of creation, the threats posed by human beings to the survival of creation and the possibilities of our participating in God’s redemption and justice.

Lifestyle – Our individual and congregation’s lifestyles will respect and cherish creation. We will form habits of consuming, conserving and sharing that serve to protect and restore the environment. In particular, we will reuse and recycle as many materials as we can and seek ways of limiting our consumption of limited resources and minimizing our pollution of the environment.

Community, National and Global Involvement – In our community, the nation and the world, our congregation will witness to and participate in God’s redemption of creation by supporting public efforts and policies which support vulnerable people and protect and restore God’s creation. We seek to cooperate with other faith communities and secular institutions toward this goal.



CREATION CARE PRACTICES

The following 10 practices are suggestive; not like Moses’ Ten Commandments! Whether young or elderly, physically active or sedentary, living in your own home or retirement community, employed or retired, establishing a home or downsizing, owning or renting, pick out one or two new practices that you can do and that stretch you to expand your care of creation.

1. **Foster a prayerful attitude** of awe, wonder, respect, humility, and gratitude for creation. Slow down. Live in the moment to include all our senses (touch, sight, sound, taste, smell) in savoring God’s creation.
2. **Take meditative walks or bike rides to broaden the awareness of our neighbors:** soil, water, birds, pollinators, snakes and spiders, atmosphere, oceans, Kidron, Sand Creek, the Mississippi watershed, the prairie, Bluestem, milkweed, Burr Oak, tomatoes, kale, lightning and thunder, wind and rain.
3. **Contribute to a thinking community, in our congregation and the larger public, learning from science, scripture, and the mind of Christ,** to discern the delicate balance between healthy intervention to provide for human food, shelter, and protection, and harmful practices that damage the larger ecosystem.
4. **Consider habitat for pollinators, the soil ecosystem and other creatures who share our neighborhood when managing our yards. Stretch our minds to ponder (whether? how?) a nonviolent, “pacifist” ethic applies to the creation.** Though we do swat flies and mosquitoes, develop vaccines to prevent malaria, God is present in and connected to all life. Every insect and animal is valued not only for its usefulness to us. All are part of a vast, complex system to which we humans belong as fellow creatures.

5. **Imagine the world as God’s home, our household. Our home has three basic rules:**

- A. Take only our share.
- B. Clean up after ourselves.
- C. Keep the house in order for future occupants.

6. **Decrease our carbon footprint while enhancing our quality of life:** meditate, pray, read the Bible, walk, run, write poetry, play tag, hang clothes on a line, listen to the birds, sing, weed a garden, soak up the sun, tell a joke, eat less meat, whistle a tune, play hide and seek, solve a puzzle.

7. **Substitute muscle energy for fossil fuel energy where practical:** walk, bike, dig, hoe, hammer, quilt, pull, open a can with an old fashioned opener.

8. **Downsize responsibly.** Give away what we no longer need to Etcetera and other thrift stores, charitable organizations who serve the poor and needy, Book Reviews, the Reuse It Center in McPherson (call Hugo Boschmann who will pick it up for us). Hazardous waste (paint, chemicals, and pesticides) that are not bagged with regular trash can be taken to a separate location at the Harvey County Landfill.

9. **Recycle and Compost.** Try garbage minimal days so that the waste that cannot be composted or recycled fits in the palm of our hand. Vegetable wastes, egg shells, coffee grounds can be composted and not flushed down the garbage disposal. Reusable bags for groceries and other items will keep plastic bags from cluttering the landscape.

10. **Purchase products and equipment that are produced locally, whenever practical, and that will last and/or are repairable rather than throw-aways.** Support the local farmer’s market.

Bethel College Mennonite Church Creation Care Covenant

God created the earth and all that is in it and declared it good. God’s creation is marked by wondrous complexity, interdependence and beauty. Human beings are called by God to the task of stewardship—taking care of the earth respectfully for its own sake and so that present and future generations may live on it and enjoy its fruits. The gifts of creation and the responsibility of stewardship were given to all of humanity, so that all might have enough and no one would have more than is needed and God’s justice would prevail.

In our pride and brokenness, all of humankind is in sin and separated from God. The earth has not been well cared for. The water and air and land are polluted with poisons which hurt people and all creation. Many species of animals and plants are endangered by the behavior of human beings and the rate of extinction of species has dramatically increased, eroding the diversity of life on earth.

We have not shared the fruits of creation justly. Some people live in luxury, taking more than they need, while others are desperately poor, especially people of color.

God, through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, heals and reconciles humanity and all of creation to God. We are able to become new creations – the new comes and the old passes away.

God calls the church to participate in the redemption of individuals, all of humanity and creation. Ministries of environmental stewardship and environmental justice are significant in the mission of the church. Therefore we, the Bethel College Mennonite Church, affirm the importance of healing and defending creation to our mission. We promise to continue to be engaged in this ministry in the following ways: