

KALEIDOSCOPE

BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

March—April 2018 12:2



Pastor's Corner with Pastor Dawn Yoder Harms

This past month we have learned that a change is coming for

BCMC: Pastor John Tyson will be moving on to Des Moines, Iowa to serve as pastor at Des Moines Mennonite Church, and we anticipate moving into yet another season of leadership transition.

While many of us prefer more stability and less change, ancient Greek philosopher Heraclitus reminds us: "Change is the only constant in life." The question is not whether or not we will experience change, but how we will respond to it when it happens.

The process of coming to terms with change is called *transition*, and this process always begins with an ending—saying good-bye, grieving what we have lost, celebrating what we have loved. It turns out that acknowledging the ending and our resulting loss is a crucial step in moving toward a new beginning.

After the ending begins a journey through what can feel like "wilderness wandering," a space where, in the words of John O'Donohue, you find that "the path you took to get here has been washed out, [and] the way forward is still

concealed from you." [O'Donohue, J. (2008). *To Bless the Space Between Us*. New York: Doubleday.]

This "wilderness time" can be a disorienting, unsettling time, and it can also be an extremely fruitful time. It is time for us to pause and listen to God, to ourselves, to each other. I hope to write more about this stage of the journey in future Pastor's Corners.

In the meantime, we practice gratitude, giving thanks for what has been and for what will be, and perhaps most importantly, for what is now, in this present moment. And we practice trust: *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

(Philippians 4:6-7).



Baskets for Bethel

The Madness of March at BCMC approaches! It's time to shoot some "Baskets for Bethel"!

This installment of the Education and Service Scholarship Committee (ESSC)

update focuses on the upcoming fundraiser for our students at Bethel College. As a congregation, we have made a commitment to award Bethel students an additional \$1000 per year above the adopted Church budget, and the Spring fundraiser is key to fulfilling our pledge. We currently have eight students enrolled full-time at Bethel, and we anticipate that same number (or possibly more!) for next fall. That gives us a "goal" of raising \$8000.

Supper time March 7 in the BCMC Fellowship Hall is designated as tip-off time for our event, and members of the ESSC are actively recruiting participants for the free-throw shooting portion of the evening. We'll be relying heavily on the children and youth of the congregation, but will be adding a Senior Division this year! Even if you're not "on the court" for the game, "bench" support is critical. BCMC has long led the pep section for Bethel College, and this is our opportunity to "Cheer! Cheer! Cheer! for Bethel!"

We'll also be hearing from some of our current Bethel College students, and we couldn't ask for better "halftime entertainment." Last year, just over 100 baskets were made by our young BC supporters. If our stats hold up, we'd need to score \$80 per basket in order to reach our goal for this year. How much of that can you provide? We are not asking for per-basket pledges, although that might be a way to think about your gift. Instead, we will have designated

"baskets" for contributions at the Wednesday Night Supper on March 7. Checks should be made out to BCMC, with "Bethel College Scholarship Fund" on the memo line. Of course, contributions are welcome at any time, but we hope to see a lot of you on the 7th.

So put on your Bethel gear, bring your pom-poms and checkbooks, and come to the Big Game! We'll be having a good time together in support of our Bethel students, and we need you in the crowd!

~ Carol Flickinger, for the ESSC

Creation Care Committee

At Creation Care Committee meetings we are working to solve the world's biggest problems. This may seem like an exaggeration, but by the end of this article, I'd bet you'll be doing it too.

To a single person, the world's environmental woes seem colossal - carbon emissions, extinctions, habitat destruction, food and water shortages, on and on and on. We become easily overwhelmed, thinking these things are much too widespread and disparate for a single person to have an affect on. But that simply isn't true.

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Bethel College Mennonite Church
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If each of us worked to decrease only our own negative impacts, (carbon footprint, gallons water wasted, pounds food wasted, square footage of habitat destroyed) we could collectively change the fate of the world. The average person has the incredible superpower of choice - will I be part of the big problem or a small part of the solution? I believe this is how we can each live out our creation care values, and eventually deserve this wonderful gift we have been given - a green and blue life sustaining Earth.

Through these articles we will provide the congregation with new ways to incorporate environmentally conscious behavior into our everyday lives. Each article will focus on different topics. This article will focus on how to save water.

Consider this: all the water currently on earth is all we will ever have. More of it isn't going to be delivered to us from deep space; water has been recycling itself since it first formed on earth. The water molecules we drink may have once touched the lips of Shakespeare, ancient Egyptians, or dinosaurs! All earth's water systems are connected, and all living beings share this finite, life-giving liquid. Thinking this way helps me understand the importance of water conservation. So when I commit to conserving water, I am not just consuming less, I am proactively saving it for someone else. I can't change the world's water consumption, but I can change mine. I do this everyday in small, simple actions.

1. Take shorter showers by putting on a song and trying to finish before it ends.

2. Capture and reuse non-waste water - from rinsing your dishes or running water to heat it up - to water plants or flush toilets.

3. Do less laundry by re-wearing clothes that aren't dirty.

4. Water your lawn less, and if you must, irrigate only when cool and calm to decrease evaporation.

5. Find and fix leaks - seemingly small household drips can add up to thousands of gallons wasted water per year.

By only implementing a few of these practices, you could conserve many gallons of water per day, which in turn saves the energy necessary to extract, sanitize, and pump that water to your tap. When these actions become habits, not only are you acting compassionately towards your earth and the other people you share it with, but your children, friends and neighbors may decide to follow your example. For innovative ways to decrease your water waste, visit:

www.drawdown.org

~ *Kaitlin Schmidt*

Creation Care Committee

With Nature Sing

On Sunday, February 11, the worship service included a celebration of the installation in The Gathering Place of a mosaic by Lora Jost entitled "With Nature Sing". This mosaic, commissioned by the BCMC Art Committee, is part of the ongoing installation of art at BCMC which has included recently acquired pieces by John Gaeddert, Conrad Snider and Robert Regier. The spectacular collection of images in "With Nature Sing, according to Lora's Artist Statement, was generated in response to the hymn "All Creatures of Our God and King.

The Mosaic Process By Lora Jost

Making mosaics is a complicated process with moments of magic. Fitting the tiles in place is like putting together a puzzle, except that I create the puzzle

pieces as I go along. Although one can buy tiles for mosaic-making or use all manner of things like paper, macaroni, seeds or rocks, I chip my own tiles from secondhand ceramic plates and other dishes that I find in a range of colors and patterns at thrift stores. I have accumulated many dishes over the years, with occasional gifts from friends and acquaintances who sometimes leave their broken dishes on my front porch. Because I work with dishes that need to be continually broken and shaped, my tile nipper is always close at hand. But before I cut and shape the tiles with my nipper, I use it to break the dishes first with a good solid whack, dividing each into smaller pieces that I can more easily work with. I look for broken pieces that are the right shape and size to fill spaces, and I also cut and clip them to fit more exactly. By the end of a project my work table and floor are covered with tiny discarded bits from this process.

Before the tiling begins, I develop an idea and then make a plan. I play around with images and ideas by drawing in my sketchbook, often little pictures that would only make sense to me, and then I change and expand on these. When I have played around enough and have settled on a concept, I make larger drawings of the key elements at scale, sometimes using reference pictures from my own photos or ones I find in books or on the internet. The last step in the design process is to map the images and key color choices onto a plywood work surface, also called a backer board, with simple outlined shapes in black marker.

I enjoy the creative process more if I leave some design decisions and color choices to resolve in the making process. I have twenty dishpans in my studio filled with dishes in various stages of brokenness, sorted by color, accompanied

by smaller containers of smaller pieces that are also sorted to choose from. I try to create mosaics where the imagery can be read through distinct color-shape areas, and yet I bring color-variation into these areas too, for added interest. Sometimes I sneak other objects into my mosaics to surprise the viewer, among them fossils, rocks, shells, or specialty tiles. My mosaics have become more sophisticated over the years, and yet I continue to learn more and more through the process of making them.

For small wall mosaics like the ones in this exhibition, I work directly on plywood. I scrape and mar the plywood surface first with a screwdriver, and then seal the surface with watered-down Weldbond glue, the same glue that I use to affix the tiles. (For largescale projects on walls or buildings, one would use different materials such as concrete backer board and mortar.)

The final stage is grouting. After I glue all of the tiles into place and the glue has dried, I vacuum the surface to sweep up bits of dust and debris before I begin to apply the grout, a cement-based material used to fill the cracks between the pieces. I use grey or tan grout which contrasts well with a range of colors, but colored pigments are available to mix into the grout, too. It is hard to judge what a mosaic will look like once grouted, so I usually go into the grouting process with some trepidation - how will it turn out? That said, grouting always brings a sense of unity to the work that is often pleasantly surprising. The grout is like magic that helps transform a pile of broken dishes into a pleasing cohesion. The grout must be removed from the face-surface of the tiles before it dries. Cleaning the tiles is a tactile process because my use of dishes creates an uneven sur-

face, different from mosaics made from uniform commercial tiles. I use my hands and a rubber spatula to remove the bulk of the excess grout from the tiles before I begin wiping away the grout with a damp sponge and rags. The final stages of cleaning remind me of dental work. In fact, I use old dental tools that a friend gave to me to clean the smallest and shallowest pieces that I can't wipe by hand. Finally, I buff the tiles with Windex, and then the piece is complete.

It is an honor for me to share my creative process and my work with you.

More pictures of the mosaics appear on pages 4 and 6

Happy 80th Birthday Nancy Hilty!



If there was no music playing when Nancy Hilty was born April 23, 1938, it was certainly found

within the family. She was the fifth child born to Norman and Laura Wismer in Eastern Pennsylvania. Her mother was musical, guiding the children to learn to sing and play piano. Duet playing was a favorite of Nancy's, playing often with her mother and sisters. She and her sister Eleanor Kaufman enjoyed doing this, often stopping to giggle at their mistakes. When Nancy was six, she had scarlet fever and was quarantined in her room. A piano was there to keep her company, so she went through the hymnal, finding all the

songs in key of C and then proceeded to figure out the notes.

The Wismer family lived on a farm. Nancy's father had regular routes in Philadelphia where he sold produce from his garden, chickens, butter, eggs, and more to his customers on these routes. Sometimes Nancy accompanied him, helping to fill the orders. Occasionally she was treated to an ice cream cone.

The family attended Deep Run Mennonite Church. Nancy was baptized by Herb Fretz and recalls the text from the sermon that Sunday based on the Hebrews passage, "Let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith."

Nancy pursued her love of music in college, graduating from Bluffton College with a music major. *When in our music God is glorified*, number 44 in the Mennonite hymnal, *Hymnal A Worship*

Book, illustrates Nancy's love of music and her faith. "When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride, it is as though the whole creation cried alleluia."

She played the organ for Lima Baptist Church with the choir under the direction of Russell Lantz, the head of Bluffton music department. She has had many kinds of work experience, Voluntary Service at Fergus Falls State Mental Hospital, Minnesota, Institute of Logopedics, Wichita, Kansas, Gulfport Mississippi, secretary to Vernon Sprunger, Congo Inland Missions, and Oaklawn Psychiatric Center in medical records. Through all this she played the organ in many places and for different denominations. In 1965 Nancy accompanied Dubois' *Seven Last Words* being sung by Hively Ave-

nue Mennonite Church. A tornado went through the area the Sunday it was given. Three years later, they planned to do it again on Easter Sunday, but during the rehearsals Otto Klassen's wife was killed. The performance was done as a requiem for Helen Bohn Klassen, with the blessing of her family. "How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound, as worship moved us to a more profound alleluia."

Nancy met Peter Hilty during the wedding of his niece Loretta to Dan Baumgartner. Nancy and Peter were married in 1969. Peter was a professor of English at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. They lived there for 40 years. For 21 years, Nancy was the organist at a United Methodist Church and since there was no Mennonite Church in the area, they became associate members. On her 50th birthday, Nancy



Lora Jost and pictures of the process of making mosaics. These pictures are on the west wall of the Gathering Place.



The *All Creatures of our God and King* Mosaics are on the south wall of the Gathering Place.

The sun and moon illustrate the *burning sun with golden beam* and *thou silver moon with softer gleam*.

The cardinal and honey bee represent all creatures lifting their voices in song.

The tree mosaic represents *Thou rushing wind that art so strong*

And the mosaic of the human face in profile visualizes sensory response to the beauty of the sound of birds and appreciation for mother earth.

gave an organ recital. She also worked with the Boy Scouts of America for 15 years, was in the hospital auxiliary, and delivered Meals on Wheels. Nancy and Peter had one son, Daniel, who became a United Methodist minister. He is now serving First UMC in Jefferson City, Missouri. Daniel and Kristen have two children, Elijah and Maggie.

Nancy moved to Kidron in 2009 following Peter's death a year earlier. She felt as though she had come home despite never having lived here. She truly appreciates all the music at BCMC and has occasionally substituted on the organ and played for the Cherub Choir. She enjoys being in the bell choir, adult choir, and has found a new niche by being an assistant treasurer.

Thank you Nancy, for sharing your gifts in so many places. May you have a joyful and musical birthday. "Let ev'ry instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise! And may God give us faith to sing always alleluia!"
~ Donna Friesen

Congratulations Austin Prouty!

Two current graphic design students, our own Austin Prouty and another student, Jordan Hill, were recognized during half time of Saturday's men's basketball game for the sponsor board signage they designed for Thresher Gym. This project was completed over interterm in Beyond Studio and was a collaborative effort that involved the Office of Advancement, Athletics, Maintenance, multiple student athletes and Rand Graphics.

Many of you who perhaps attended the game were able to show your support on senior night and also see a project that students have been working on! ~ Lois Goertzen

Congratulations Caleb and Abby Koontz!



Caleb, Abby and friend, Lucy

Caleb and Abby Koontz, along with friend Lucy Epp Buller, won first place in the district competition for Kansas History Day with their project entitled "Conflict within the Conflict: Mennonite Conscientious Objectors in Central Kansas during World War I," which was submitted as a website. Caleb, Abby, and Lucy were assisted by several members of the BCMC and Bethel College community in the process of developing their project. They specifically enjoyed how their research on the individual stories of CO's connected to familiar people and places. Their website is currently being updated as they prepare for the state competition in Topeka on April 21!

~ John Tyson



Austin and Jordan Hill's sponsor board design

Announcing the Resignation of Pastor John Tyson



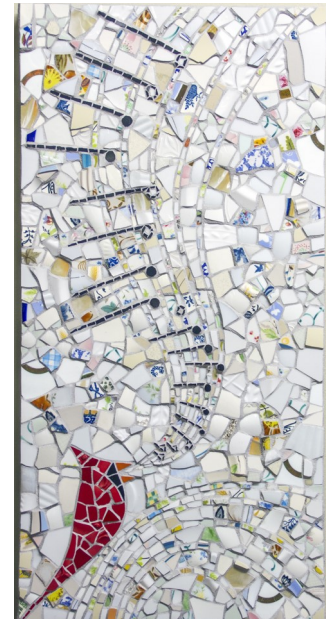
Pastor John Tyson has formally accepted the position of Pastor at Des Moines Mennonite Church in Des Moines,

Iowa. He will conclude his responsibilities as Associate Pastor for Faith Formation at BCMC on June 3, 2018.



Honey Bee Mosaic

Mosaics are in color on line on the Bethel College Mennonite Church website, under the tab "Resources"



Cardinal mosaic



**Congratulations to Barbara (Balzer)
and Jim Soth
On their 60th Wedding Anniversary!
March 11**

Obituary



**Bertha Fern
Regier Gerber—
March 3, 1923—
February 17, 2018**

Bertha Fern Gerber, age 94, of Henderson, Nebraska, died Feb. 17, 2018 at

Henderson. She was born March 3, 1923 in Newton, Kansas to John U. and Minnie (Voth) Regier. Bertha was a secretary for the Wichita Public Schools in Wichita, Kansas. North Newton, Kansas. She sang in the church choir, taught Sunday school and was a Girl Scout Leader. She loved swimming, music, camping, cooking and tending to her flower garden.

On May 28, 1945 she was married to Vilas Roy Gerber in the Hoffnungsau Mennonite Church in Inman. Bertha and Vilas attended the Lorraine

Avenue Mennonite Church in Wichita while they lived in Wichita. They joined the Bethel College Mennonite Church in 1988.

She is survived by her daughters, Kathryn (Myron) Siebert of Henderson and Carol (Richard) Curr of Sonoma, California; two grandsons, Jason (Amber) Siebert of Henderson and Joel Siebert of Las Vegas, Nevada.; great-granddaughters include, Delaney and Cassidy Siebert; great-grandson, Kaden Siebert. Also surviving is her sister, Catherine Wiens of Newton, Kansas. She is preceded in death by her parents; husband; granddaughter, Jennifer; two brothers and a sister-in-law. Memorial services were Feb. 24, 2018 at the Metz Chapel in York, Nebraska.

Worship schedule (Check weekly bulletins and church web site, bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org, for updates and details on worship and other events) Sunday worship is at 9:30 a.m., unless otherwise noted. Fellowship Time in the Gathering Place with coffee, water and tea available is at 10:30 a.m. Faith Formation is at 10:50 a.m. Everyone is welcome! Note: Any given Sunday's events may be subject to change

March 4, 2018—3rd Sunday in Lent

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Dawn Yoder Harms; music by Chancel Bells

7:00 pm Newton Chorale Concert—Sanctuary

March 11, 2018—4th Sunday in Lent—Daylight Savings Time begins (Move your clocks ahead one hour)

9:20 a.m. Prelude with Gabriel's Trumpets

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Dawn Yoder Harms; music by Cherub Choir and Gabriel's Trumpets

March 18, 2018—5th Sunday in Lent

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by John Tyson; music by Chancel Choir; Reception of new members

March 25, 2018—Passion/Palm Sunday

9:30 a.m. Worship with readings by Dawn Yoder Harms; music by Chancel Bells

March 29, 2018—Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday and Station of the Cross service in the sanctuary

April 1, 2018—Easter

10:00 a.m. Worship with sermon by John Tyson; music by Chancel Choir, Junior Choir and Cherub Choir

No Sunday school

April 8, 2018

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by John Tyson; music by Chancel Choir

April 15, 2018

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Dawn Yoder Harms; music by Chancel Bells

April 22, 2018

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Dawn Yoder Harms; music by Junior Choir and Cherub Choir

April 29, 2018

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by John Tyson; music by Menno Ringers and Chancel Choir

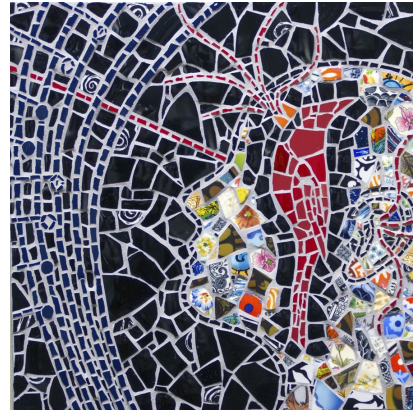
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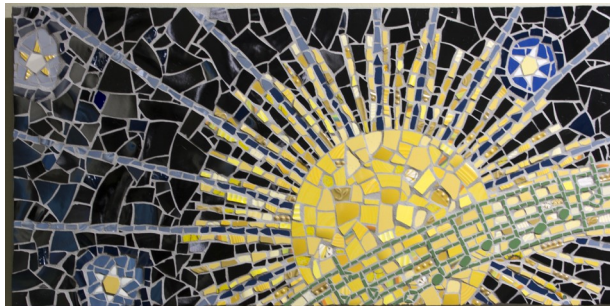
Moon mosaic



Tree mosaic



Profile of face mosaic



Sun mosaic