

CREATION CARE SUNDAY
GATHERING



*Living in a way that honors, rather than threatens the planet, is
living out what it means to be made in the image of God.*
- Archbishop Rowan Williams

Lighting Candles

Leader: We light a candle to God the Creator,

All: Who lit the light in the darkness and breathed life into creation.

Leader: We light a candle to Jesus Christ,

All: the light of the world, our hope and our rescue.

Leader: We light a candle to the Holy Spirit

All: who sets our faith on fire and gives us courage to follow the truth.

Leader: The heavens bear witness to your wonder:

All: Our lips shall proclaim your faithfulness.

Prelude

How Great Thou Art (arr. by Rebecca Belliston)

Katie Hoody, piano

WELCOMING and CALL to WORSHIP

Call to Prayer

Florence Schloneger

Jesus Stand Among Us

HWB 25

LITANY

Children and Youth: The children and youth of this congregation offer the gifts of our energy, our joy of life, and our vision for the future.

All: Let us join with all creation and rejoice before the Lord.

Older Members: The elder members of this congregation offer the gifts of our wisdom, our patience, and our lessons learned from the past.

All: Let us join with all creation and rejoice before the Lord.

All Others: Men and women, parents, and other members of this congregation offer gifts of stability, our financial resources, and our hope for the future.

All: Let us join with all creation and rejoice before the Lord.

Leader: Grant us insight for the challenges of this age and give us hearts full of hope and courage for the future. May we seek to leave the world in a state in which all future generations and all creatures are able to flourish—a creation that reflects the grace and love expressed by our risen Lord Jesus Christ.

*Hymn of praise

I sing the mighty power of God

HWB 46

LISTENING

Children's conversation

Kathy Stucky

The Next Week at BCMC: April 28—May 5, 2019

Sunday, April 28, 2019

10:30 am Fellowship in the Gathering Place

10:50 am Faith Formation

- **Infants & Toddlers**—Nursery at back of the sanctuary
- Pre-K through 2nd grade in **B4**; 3–4th grade in **B3**; 5–8th grade in **Room 26**
- **Senior High students**—Room 22
- **Agape**—Fellowship Hall
- **Bible Study**—Rm 14
- **Catacombs**—Rm B5—*Four Denver Mennonite churches' efforts to provide affordable low-income housing*—Jim Banman
- **Fellowship**—Rm B7
- **Fine Arts**—Rm 24
- **Issues & Christianity**—Rm 23— *Cuba* by Allen and Mary Schrag
- **Mosaic**—Rm 20—Sermon reflection and other current topics
- **Open Circle**—Rm 21—Worship reflection and response
- **Seekers**—Rm 28—*What would they say now: Abraham*, Duane Friesen
- **Sojourners**—Chapel—*Koinonia volunteer experience, Clarence Jordan's Cotton Patch Gospel today*—Elizabeth Raid

11:45 am Potluck in the Fellowship Hall—Everyone is welcome!

1:00 pm Congregational Meeting in the sanctuary

4:00 pm Newton Community Children's Choir Concert in the sanctuary

Monday, April 29

2:30 pm BCMC worship DVD—Kidron Bethel Health Care

Tuesday, April 30

12:45 pm BCMC worship DVD—Kidron Bethel Assisted Living

4:00 pm Staff Congregation Relations Committee—Rm 14

Wednesday, May 1

8:00 am Staff meeting—Rm 14 **10 am** Bulletin announcement deadline

6:30 pm Junior Choir—Rm 28

7:00 pm Senior High Youth Group—Rm 22

7:30 pm Chancel Choir—Sanctuary

8:30 pm Chancel Bells—Rm B7

Thursday, May 2

7:00 pm Church Board—Rm 14

Sunday, May 5

9:30 am **You are welcome to worship here in our sanctuary while some of our congregation will be at Camp Mennoscah.** Worship is at 9:30 am. There will be a fishbowl offering for the Mennonite Camping Scholarship Fund.

10:30 am Fellowship in the Gathering Place

10:50 am Faith Formation—Everyone is welcome!

Welcome visitors and friends! May you sense God's presence at BCMC.

Personal hearing devices are at the north sanctuary entrance.

The nursery at the back of the sanctuary is available during worship for families with infants and toddlers.

Take time to stop by the table in the Gathering Place naming the six worst plastic pollution culprits and what we can do about it.

Are you passionate about caring for creation, particularly as our world experiences climate change? If you are interested in helping our congregation engage with these issues, please contact Dawn Yoder Harms.

Pray for those receiving medical care this week: John Hiebert, Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit at Newton Medical Center

The Visual Arts Committee has a table at the back of the sanctuary with photos from recent church retreats and VBS. You are welcome to take photos that are of interest to you and leave a donation for visual arts at BCMC.

We offer sympathy to Eldine and Paul Harder and their extended family on the death of Eldine's brother, LeRoy Franz. LeRoy died Apr. 21 at Bethesda Home, Goessel. The memorial service was Apr.25 at the Bethesda Home Chapel.

The Newton Community Children's Choir invites you to their Spring Concert, today, 4 pm, at Bethel College Mennonite Church. The choir is led by Jill Siebert and BCMC children members of the choir are Lucy Burch, Lily Schloneger, Mabel Wall, and Cecilia Williams.

May 12 at 10:50 am in the sanctuary, our Junior Choir will share songs they have learned this year. All ages are invited to come and enjoy the music together during our Faith Formation hour!

Thank you to everyone who purchased a lily for Easter! They made the sanctuary look festive and added to the spirit of the morning.

~ Carol Buller, Worship Decoration Chair

What do smelly camels, a big fish, and detectives have in common?! They're all part of this year's Vacation Bible School, May 28-31 from 8:45-11:45 am at BCMC! We will be "Detectives of Divinity," looking for God in the world as we read Bible stories of God's work! **Parents & grandparents** are invited to register their children in the back of the sanctuary today or check by the mailboxes for registration forms (there is no cost to attend this year). **Volunteers** are invited to sign up in the back of the sanctuary today - **to help or to donate items** needed for snacks, crafts, and other activities! See Mary Hodge or Megan Kohlman with any questions!

Summer Sunday school is being offered the four Sundays of June that follow June 2, our VBS Sunday. This is for Kg through 8th grade and Deb Gering will be leading. More details coming.

VBS for 2019 is coming Tues., May 28 through Fri. morning, May 31. A Sunday morning celebration of the week will be June 2. Details coming soon.

Attention Mennoscah Retreat folks! We have a slight schedule change for Saturday: first, there is a service opportunity (spreading mulch around the whale) early Saturday afternoon (around 2), and Saturday supper (cookout) will now be from 5 to 6 pm. The hayrack ride will also move ahead (likely around 6:15) - so we can play Family Feud!!! So - please plan accordingly! If you have questions, please contact Adam Robb.

Is there a graduation in your family's near future? If so, please contact the church office so we can share this news with the congregation and celebrate with you!

Bethel College announcements:

- **Bethel College Steel Drum Band concert**, May 2, 7 pm, featuring special guest Jim "JT" Taylor, Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center
- **Kauffman Museum First-Saturday Bird Walk**, May 4, 6:30 am. Meet in the museum parking lot, corner of Main and 27th streets, North Newton.
- **Bethel College Masterworks concert, Faure's Requiem**, May 5, 3 pm, Memorial Hall
- **Jazz on the Green at Bethel College**, May 8, 8 pm (Krehbiel Auditorium if rain)
- **Woven (women) and Open Road (men) joint a cappella concert**, May 12, 7 pm, Memorial Hall at Bethel College

Camp Mennoscah Announcements—Contact Info: 620-297-3290 or office@campmennoscah.org; www.campmennoscah.org

- **Camp needs nurses** for the weeks of June 9-15, June 23-29, and **kitchen staff** for June 23-29. There are a few single openings for kitchen staff on some weeks. Nurses can receive a stipend or a camper discount. Kitchen staff can receive a camper discount up to full fees. Free tee shirts for all nurses and kitchen staffers.
- **With small numbers for the September Work & Play Camp** these past few years, Camp is trying something new. The service project camp will be four Saturdays during the year--Apr. 27, May 25, Sept. 14, and one in October and will be from 8:30 am-2:30 pm, leaving four hours at the end of the day to enjoy camp or head home. Service projects are available for many skills and abilities. A simple lunch will be provided. These weekends are for all ages; under 18 need to be accompanied by an adult. Please let them know you are coming so they can add you to the meal count.
- **Summer Youth Camps still have openings.** The summer theme is *Peace Works: Empowering Peacemakers*.

If you are interested in being a delegate to the Western District Annual Assembly held on the Bethel College campus, July 26-27, contact Francis Toews, Gifts Discernment Committee chair for more details. BCMC is eligible to send 18 delegates to this assembly. Registration fee for delegates will be paid by BCMC. It would be nice to have full representation at this assembly.

The Warkentin House Association Annual Meeting and Spring Fundraiser will be at the Warkentin House Apr. 28, 3 pm. Following a brief business meeting, September River, featuring Doug and Jude Krehbiel, will perform. Refreshments served. No reservations required, donations accepted. All are welcome.

You are invited to attend the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale Annual Meeting May 23, 6 pm, at First Mennonite Church, McPherson. Cost for the meal is \$15/person and you will pay at the door. Please RSVP to Barb Reeves at bj.reeves@live.com or 620-543-6863. RSVP deadline is May 19.

Staff Congregation Relations Committee invites anyone interested in BCMC's new, part-time Finance and Organization Manager position (replacing Treasurer) to check job description on church bulletin board, get a copy from the church office and/or visit with SCRC chair Dave Linscheid. Applicants will be interviewed. Anticipated starting date is July 1.

Everence will hold retirement planning workshops including when to begin taking Social Security benefits, risks that can impact your savings, and strategies to help your income last throughout retirement, at the North Newton Everence office, 3179 N. Main, May 6, 6:30 pm. Register with Michelle Ramer at 316-283-3800; 877-467-7294 or michelle.ramer@everence.com.

The Kansas Senate needs our encouragement to allow access to health care for 150,000 Kansans. Medicaid Expansion now rests in the hands of the Kansas Senate. Not only would this help provide medical care for these Kansans but it would also increase access to care for mental health and substance abuse treatment. Copies of a recent op-ed written by the Executive Director for the Association of Community Mental Health Centers for Kansas, Kyle Kessler, outlining the importance of Medicaid Expansion on mental health in Kansas are available in the Gathering Place. The Witness Commission urges BCMC members to write our Kansas legislators, encouraging the passage of Medicaid Expansion for mental health and include a copy of the op-ed and/or write letters to the editor of the *Newton Now* and the *Newton Kansan* showing support for expansion with an emphasis on mental health. A majority of Kansans favor Medicaid Expansion and Governor Kelly has indicated she will sign an approved bill. Please consider contacting our legislators and advocate for the House bill to come to the Senate floor for debate and a vote. Contact information is available in the Gathering Place.

Worship music *This is my Father's world* (arr. Eithun)
Menno Ringers; Suzanne Burch, director

Meditation *"Introducing climate change and the purposes of God"*
Jonah Schloneger, Duane Friesen, Lorna Harder, LuAnn Zook,
Karin Kaufman Wall, Doug Harms, Jonah Hodge

RESPONDING IN FAITH

Prayer of Sorrow

RESPONSE: We have forgotten who we are.

Hymn *Oh, Lord have mercy* **STJ 47**
verses 1-3

Prayer of Healing

RESPONSE: We join with the earth and each other.

**ALL: We join together as many and diverse expressions
of one loving mystery: for the healing of the earth
and the renewal of all life.**

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

Prayer of God's people

Offering

Offertory *Andante (Suite in G Major) (Fiocco)*
*Those with April birthdays please come forward for a blessing
(bring hymnals)*

*Dedication hymn *From the hands* **HWB 97**
(1 time in unison then 2 times in canon)

*Dedication prayer

*Sending hymn *Move in our midst* **HWB 418**

*Benediction

*Benediction response

*Postlude *Vivace (Sonatina no. 4) (by Krebs)*

*All who are able are invited to stand

Prayer Requests

Mennonite Mission Network: Matthew and Toni Krabill are preparing for ministry through MMN where they will work with Janie and Neal Blough at the Paris Mennonite Center. Pray for the Krabills as they raise support for a life of faithful discipleship in France.

Western District Conference: Pray for church planters in WDC as they listen for God's leading and nurture new believers.

This congregation: Pray for those who will be enjoying creation at Camp Menoscah at the BCMC church retreat next Sunday.

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 Ave., Box 364, North Newton, KS 67117

Phone: 316-283-3667—Fax: 316-283-2079

Email: office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Website: bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Church office hours: 9 am–12:30 pm Mon–Fri; 1:30–5 pm Mon–Thur

Church office is closed Friday afternoons

Building is locked weekdays at 5 pm unless evening activities are scheduled

Saturdays—building is locked; Sundays—building is locked at 2 pm

Notary public service is available in the church office

Pastor: Dawn Yoder Harms, Day off : Monday—Phone: 316-283-3667

cell phone: 316-212-1847; Email: dawn@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Bridge Associate Pastor for Faith Formation: Susan Jantzen—Day off: Friday

Phone: 316-283-3667; cell phone: 620-877-7923;

Email: sjantzen@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Susan Wheeler; Day off Friday

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

Office/Facilities Manager: Monica Lichti, office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Custodian: Michael Crawford, 316-727-9840; day off Tuesday

Music Coordinator: Barbara Thiesen **Chancel Bells Director:** Vada Snider

Menno Ringers Director: Suzy Burch **Chancel Choir Director:** William Eash

Junior Choir Director: William Eash **Cherub Choir Director:** Addie Regier

April 21 at BCMC Attendance 398. General Fund \$5,468; Living Stones \$560; Women's Fellowship \$1,413; Sr Hi Youth \$95; Caring Fund \$200; Adult Choir \$528; Flower Fund \$14; Bethel College Scholarship Fund \$250; Coffee \$33; Maundy Thurs. Fishbowl \$28

HWB = Hymnal: A Worship Book (in rack)

STS= Sing the Story (in rack) **STJ**=Sing the Journey (at end of bench)