

Bethel College Mennonite Church
December 22, 2019 — Prelude 9:00 am; Worship 9:30



Bethel College Mennonite Church
December 22, 2019—Advent 4

Our faith in a God of love leads us, by the power of the Spirit,
to follow Jesus in doing justice, loving mercy,
and walking humbly with God.

**PREPARING FOR PEACE
GATHERING**

*The prelude invites us into a time of silence
as we open ourselves to God's presence among us.*

Prelude	Miles Brubacher, piano Naomi Koontz, piano Maisie Brubacher, piano Emma Gering and Maisie Brubacher, violin duet Lucy Burch, flute Adah Hodge and Lily Schloneger, violin duet Alahna Wheat, voice Caleb Koontz and Abby Koontz, piano duet <i>Beautiful Star of Bethlehem</i> (Boyce/Pace) Junior and Senior High Youth
Introit	<i>Come, Light of the world</i> [STS 3] Cherub & Junior Choirs <i>O come, O come, Immanuel</i> [HWB 172] Verse 1: Mara Oswald Verse 3: Lily Schloneger & Anne Marie Koontz Verse 5: Emma Gering, Maisie, Brubacher, Lucy Burch
Call to worship, prayer	Anne Marie Koontz
*Hymn	<i>Oh, how joyfully</i> HWB 209 LaVera Schrag, piano
	(children come forward during the hymn for children's conversation)
Children's conversation	Renee Reimer, Adah Hodge, Payne Claassen Naomi Koontz, Lily Schloneger

The Next Week at BCMC: December 22-29, 2019

Sunday, December 22, 2019—Advent 4

10:30 am Fellowship time in the Gathering Place

10:50 am Faith Formation—Elective: Hymn Sing in the Sanctuary

- **2 & 3 year olds**—Room B6
- **K through 4th grade** in Room B3; **5–8th grade** in Room 26
- **Senior High students**—Room 22
- **Agape**—Rm B8
- **Bible Study**—Rm 14—Book study: *Fire by Night*
- **Catacombs**—Rm B5—Will join the hymn sing in the Sanctuary
- **Fellowship**—Room B7
- **Fine Arts**—Room 24
- **Issues & Christianity**—Room 23
- **Mosaic**—Room 20—Sermon reflection and other current topics
- **Open Circle**—Room 21—Worship reflection and response
- **Seekers**—Room 28—Will join the hymn sing in the Sanctuary
- **Sojourners**—Chapel—Will join the hymn sing in the Sanctuary

Monday, December 23

1-5 pm Mission Quilters (all quilters welcome!)—Rm B5

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

Tuesday, December 24

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

7:00 pm Intergenerational Christmas Enactment—Sanctuary

11:00 pm Lessons and Carols—Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 25—Merry Christmas!

Church office will be closed and church building locked

Thursday, December 26—Office will be closed and building locked

Sunday, December 29—Christmas Sunday

9:30 am Worship with lectio divina reflections on Matt. 2:13-23

10:30 am Fellowship in the Gathering Place—Bring Goodies to Share!

Staff: Pastor Nathan Koontz will be out of the office from Dec. 25 through Dec. 29. Mike Crawford will be on vacation from Dec. 23 through 29. The church office and church building will be closed on Dec. 25 and 26. December 27, 30, and 31, the office will be open in the mornings, closed in the afternoons. The office and church building will be closed on January 1, 2020.

Thanks for visiting the Climate Change Challenge table in the Gathering Space! Look for ideas this month about celebrating a “Green Christmas!”

December 15 at BCMC: Attendance 205. General Fund \$17,308.73; Living Stones \$1,195; MCC Sale \$1,000; Gen Fund 2020 \$1,000; *The Mennonite* \$37; Caring Fund \$100; Coffee \$6; Catherine Wiens Memorial \$130.

Christmas Eve at BCMC

7:00 pm Intergenerational Christmas Enactment

This family friendly worship service will bring to life the Christmas Story by putting on an unrehearsed all-church Christmas pageant. All attenders will be invited to participate in the telling of the story by taking on roles within the story (stable animals, sheep & shepherds, angels, magi, or townspeople). Bring your own costume or pick one up when you arrive for the service. Clear instructions will be available upon arrival! Readers will be pre-picked before the service. Come tell the story of Christ being born through word, song, and action.

11:00 pm Lessons and Carols Candlelight service of Lessons and Carols with music by Chancel Choir and congregational singing.

The BCMC Witness Commission invites you to join in this year’s Advent Project benefiting the newly formed Bethel College food pantry. A donation box and list of items needed is under the balcony. This project will run from Dec. 1 through Dec. 29. Also under the balcony there are Harvest of Love envelopes if you would like to donate to the Salvation Army’s Harvest of Love -Dollar Days. Thanks for your support.

BCMC completed a week of providing volunteers and meals at New Hope Shelter. In order to continue this important work in our community, we always need volunteers to replace those who are no longer available. Please consider helping those in need of shelter and other help. Contact Valletta Seymour at 620-217-7536 or seymour2314@gmail.com if interested.

You may recall that Harry Neufeld died July 24. The memorial service for Harry is scheduled for Friday, Jan. 3, 2020, 11 am, here at BCMC.

You are invited to come to Night in the Barn at Papa's Pumpkin Patch, 372 70th, Newton, Dec. 22, 5-7pm (come/go). Questions: 620-367-2721.

Western District Women in Mission hosts the event "Let's Talk...Women, Money & Faith" Jan. 24 and 25 at Tabor Mennonite Church, Newton, featuring speakers from Everence who will address money and faith topics for women of all ages and stages of life. More information is on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/WesternDistrictWomen/?modal=admin_todo_tour or the WDC web page <https://communicationswdwm.wixsite.com/wdwm>. Registration forms are on church bulletin board.

The family band Five Times Harder will present a Christmas concert 4 pm, Dec. 22 at First Mennonite Church, 102 S. Ash, Hillsboro. No admission fee; free will offering collected for the work of Mennonite Central Committee.

Camp Mennoscah is looking for people for summer staff (lifeguards, office assistants, music and crafts leaders, a naturalist and grounds/maintenance) for 2020. Information available online or contact olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org or 620-297-3290. Apply for a position online at campmennoscah.org under Summer Youth Camps.

Boots, Buckets and Barrows: In partnership with Mennonite Disaster Service, Ted & Co. presents the original play *The Jesus Stories: Faith, Forks & Fettuccine*, in conjunction with an auction of buckets filled with baked goods and home items, along with 'flash auctions' to fund the tools and volunteers MDS needs to help rebuild homes ravaged by natural disaster. All proceeds benefit the work of MDS. Admission is free! Come prepared to bid, Fri., Jan. 31, 7 pm at Hesston Mennonite Church and Sat., Feb. 1, 7 pm at Journey Mennonite Church, South Hutchinson. Sponsored by Kansas MDS Unit, Hesston College Disaster Management Program, and Journey Mennonite South Hutchinson.

2020 is the 100 year anniversary of the Mennonite Central Committee. The Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale would like to celebrate this milestone by gifting MCC ONE MILLION DOLLARS. The Kansas Sale was founded to support the ministry of Relief, Development, and Peace in the name of Christ. This would require 1,000 people to each give \$1,000 to get to one million dollars by April 17, the first day of the 2020 Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale. Send your check made payable to KMRS earmarked "centennial gift" to Tim Miller, Relief Sale Treasurer, 4805 S. Broadacres Rd, Hutchinson, KS 67501. Questions: Contact BCMC liaisons Wes and Ada Schmidt-Tieszen (316) 283-1182, Kathy and Dennis Campbell (316) 283-5151, or Dale and Margo Schrag (316) 283-6031, or KMRS Board Chair Jim Robb (620) 747-0186.

The Great Winter Warm Up is a month away and the attached poster lists all the GWW events taking place in Kansas. Mennonite Central Committee is celebrating their 100th anniversary by attempting to collect 6500 comforters to break the record for most blankets donated to a charity in 24 hours. See the poster on the church bulletin board for the events planned in this area.

Thank you for your generous giving to Mennonite Central Committee in 2019. Your gifts help MCC continue work in 53 countries working on 648 projects and impacting countless people. If you're looking for a last minute Christmas gift keep MCC Christmas giving projects in mind or collect school kit supplies with your family (mcc.org/kits)! Check out mcc.org/christmas for online giving options. Contact our office in North Newton for giving in-person, 316-283-2720.

Prayer Requests

Mennonite Mission Network: MMN requests prayer for peace in Burkina Faso. When armed protest groups ambush symbols of Western opulence and colonialism, like hotels and gold mines, civilians get caught in the crossfire. May the Mennonite Church in Burkina Faso live the way of the Prince of Peace through word and deed.

Western District Conference: As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, give thanks for the many ways WDC congregations embody the presence of Christ through ministries of hospitality, worship, compassion and justice.

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 the 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–12:00 pm Mon–Fri; 1:00–5 pm Mon–Thur

Church office is closed Friday afternoons—Monica Lichti not in office 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

Associate Pastor for Faith Formation: Renee Reimer, Day off: Friday—Phone: 316-283-3667; cell phone: 605-212-0081; Email: renee@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Nathan Koontz, Days off: Monday and Wednesday—Phone: 316-238-3667; cell phone: 316-212-4593

Email: nathan@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

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

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

Music Coordinator: Barbara Thiesen

Menno Ringers Director and Chancel Bells Director: Suzy Burch

Chancel Choir Director: William Eash **Junior and Cherub Choirs Director:** William Eash