

Bethel College Mennonite Church  
December 29, 2019 — Worship 9:30 am



Bethel College Mennonite Church  
December 29, 2019—Christmas Sunday

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.

**GATHERING**

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

- Prelude *Prelude Op. 32, No. 11 in B major (Rachmaninoff)*  
*Prelude Op. 23, No. 4 in D major (Rachmaninoff)*  
*Prelude and Fugue in E-flat major, WTC Book I (Bach)*  
Mark Kreider, piano
- Call to worship, prayer Dawn Yoder Harms
- \*Hymns *O, come all ye faithful* **HWB 212**  
*Angels we have heard on high* **HWB 197**  
(children come forward during the second hymn for children's conversation)
- Children's conversation "And the darkness cannot put it out" Sandra Zerger
- Worship music *For He That Is Mighty (Bach)*  
Andrew Thiesen, trombone; Mark Kreider, piano

**LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD**

- Prayer of Illumination (unison)  
*In the beginning was the Word. And the Word was with God, and the Word was God. For the Word of God written, for the Word of God proclaimed, for the Word of God made flesh, Alpha and Omega, we give you thanks. May that everlasting Word be written on our hearts this day. Amen.*
- Scripture Reading *Matthew 2:13-23* Ron Sawatzky
- Lectio Divina Reflections Renee Reimer  
With Dawn Yoder Harms, Vern Preheim, Dorothy Nickel Friesen, Jill Robb

## The Next Week at BCMC: December 29, 2019—January 5, 2020

### Sunday, December 29, 2019—Christmas Sunday

**10:30 am** Fellowship time in the Gathering Place with Christmas Goodies

**No Faith Formation hour today**

### Monday, December 30

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

### Tuesday, December 31

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

### Wednesday, January 1, 2020—Happy New Year!

Church office will be closed and church building locked

### Thursday, January 2, 2020

**7:00 pm** Church Board—Rm 14

### Friday, January 3

**11:00 am** Memorial service for Harry Neufeld—Sanctuary

### Sunday, January 5—Epiphany

**9:30 am** Worship with sermon by Dawn Yoder Harms

**10:30 am** Fellowship in the Gathering Place

**10:50 am** Faith Formation—Everybody is welcome!

**4:00 pm** Service of remembrance for BCMC members and friends who died  
In 2019

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**Staff:** Pastor Nathan Koontz is out of the office through Dec. 29. Mike Crawford is on vacation through Dec. 29. Pastor Renee Reimer will be out of the office January 2--5, 2020. December 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.

**Mission Quilters will not meet** to quilt on Monday, December 30.

**We offer sympathy** to the family of Anne Neufeld Rupp. Anne died December 23 at Kidron Bethel Village.

**January 5, 2020, at 4 pm, there will be** a Service of Remembrance in the Sanctuary for BCMC members and friends who died in 2019. All are welcome to come and light a candle in remembrance.

**The memorial service for Harry Neufeld** will be Friday, Jan. 3, 2020, 11 am, here at BCMC.

**The memorial service for Ralph Lehman** will be Saturday, January 11, 11 am at BCMC.

**Thanks for visiting the Climate Change Challenge table** in the Gathering Space! Look for ideas about adding some green to your New Year's Resolutions!

**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 Valetta Seymour at 620-217-7536 or [seymour2314@gmail.com](mailto:seymour2314@gmail.com) if interested.

**The Neuf 9K and 2 mile run returns to the campus of Bethel College** on Jan. 11, 2020 to honor the memory of Russ Neufeld, a former Mennonite Church USA and Hesston College employee. The race will start at 10 am outside of Mojo's Coffee Shop on the campus of Bethel College, North Newton. The Neuf will raise funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and the Russ Neufeld memorial scholarship at Hesston College. Register and read other details about the race at [www.runtheneuf.neuf.ca](http://www.runtheneuf.neuf.ca).

### **Newton Et Cetera Shop thanks you for your generous support in 2019!**

We invited you to SHOP, DONATE and VOLUNTEER, and YOU DID! With the help of 260 volunteers, we've sold over 500,000 items this year! If you'd like to join our volunteers, please attend an upcoming **new volunteer orientation** on Thurs., Jan. 9, 6-7 pm or Tues., Feb. 11, 6-7 pm. We're currently seeking volunteers to help with costumes, greeting cards, holiday items and clerking. Blessings for the new year to you from Newton Et Cetera Shop board of directors, volunteers and employees!

**December 22 at BCMC:** Attendance 300. General Fund \$11,716.01; Gen Fund 2020 \$1,100; Living Stones \$1,160; Coffee \$18; Ralph Lehman Mem. \$20; Women's Fellowship \$486.

### **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 a poster on the church bulletin board lists all the GWW events taking place in Kansas. Mennonite Central Committee is celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary by attempting to collect 6500 comforters to break the record for most blankets donated to a charity in 24 hours.

**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.

**Mennonite Central Committee Learning Tours for 2020:** Travel to Haiti March 21-28, 2020 to learn about root causes of Haiti's reality and see MCC projects in person. Join MCC Bolivia in celebrating 60 years with two learning tours, May 2-9 will focus on Eastern Bolivia and Oct. 10-17 will focus on Western Bolivia. Travel to Nicaragua, July 20-30, to celebrate the centennial of MCC, focusing on past and present MCC work in Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Contact [jordanpenner@mcc.org](mailto:jordanpenner@mcc.org) and check [mcc.org/events](https://mcc.org/events) for more details.

**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](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.

**Everence will host the workshop, *Make Medicare an easy step***, at 3179 N. Main St., North Newton, Jan. 7, 6:30 pm, and 524 E. 30th Ave., Hutchinson, Jan. 9, 6:30 pm. Learn about Medicare plans and what they cover; plans that supplement Medicare; and enrollment details and deadlines. The workshop is free, but space is limited! Reserve your spot by contacting Michelle Ramer at 316-283-3800 or [michelle.ramer@everence.com](mailto:michelle.ramer@everence.com).

**Save the date: Feb. 21-23, 2020 Hesston College Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship (AVDS) Series conference:** Living More With More, Redefining the Good Life. Go to <https://www.hesston.edu/events/avds/> for more information.

**Kauffman Museum is open through the holidays (closed Mondays and New Year's Day): weekdays, 9:30 am-4:30 pm, Sat.-Sun., 1:30-4:30 pm.** Visit the current special exhibit "K is for Kansas: exploring Kansas from A to Z." See [www.bethelks.edu/kauffman/](http://www.bethelks.edu/kauffman/) or the Kauffman Museum Facebook page for information.

**Centering Prayer will not meet Mon., Dec. 30, but resumes Jan. 6.** Centering Prayer meets most Mondays from noon-1 pm in Agape Center in Richert House on the Bethel College campus. All are welcome, with no previous experience with Centering Prayer required. For more information, contact Nathan Koontz, [2nathankoontz@gmail.com](mailto:2nathankoontz@gmail.com), or Melanie Zuercher, [mzuercher@bethelks.edu](mailto:mzuercher@bethelks.edu).

**Kauffman Museum First-Saturday Bird Walk.** Sat., Jan. 4, 8:15 am in the museum parking lot, corner of Main and 27th streets, North Newton – experienced birders will lead a walk of 1 to 1.5 hours.

## RESPONDING IN FAITH

\*Hymn of Response      *What child is this*      **HWB 215**

Prayer of God's people      Dawn Yoder Harms

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

*Those with December birthdays please come forward for a blessing (bring hymnals)*

Offertory      *Endure! Endure!* (Bach)

\*Dedication hymn      *Gloria*      **HWB 204**

\*Dedication prayer

## SENDING

\*Sending hymn      *Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming*      **HWB 211**

\*Benediction

Postlude      *Prelude in G major, WTC Book* (Bach)      Mark Kreider

\*All who are able are invited to stand  
**HWB = Hymnal: A Worship Book** (in rack)  
**STS= Sing the Story** (in rack)    **STJ=Sing the Journey** (at end of bench)

**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.

**Join BCMC pastors on December 31, 2019 from 9 am to 11 am** at Mojo's Coffee Bar for coffee and conversation. Pastors will be spending the morning at a reserved table and welcome BCMC folks to come and go as they please (we only have one table to share with all of us so please come *and go*). Stop by and say hello or bring a story of what brought you joy in 2019!

## Prayer Requests

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Praise God that the government in Mongolia has renewed JCS International's registration for another two years. JCS is the consortium of mission agencies through which MMN ministers in this country. Pray for God's light to brighten people's lives in this season of extreme cold and short days.

**Western District Conference:** Pray for God's joy and vision for WDC congregations, leaders, and staff as the New Year begins.

**This congregation:** As we celebrate the birth of Christ and enter into this New Year, pray that we might be attentive to the new life God is birthing among us.

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.***

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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