

KALEIDOSCOPE

BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

January — February 2020 14:1



Pastor's
Corner
with
Nathan
Koontz

The Thread of Visitation

One theme woven into Randy Krehbiel's Celebration of Life service on December 14 at Kidron Bethel was the concept of the thread. Beginning with William Stafford's poem, *The Way It Is*, the service wove together different threads to give a feel for the quilt of Randy's life. Acceptance, hard work, peace, love of nature, family, and music were a few of the threads.

His memorial service caused me to look back on the threads of my life. One thread has always pulled me towards one-on-one conversations. Even as a child delivering the *Newton Kansan* to North Newton residents, I would stop to visit people. Margaret Gawthrop would tell me all about her family and all her stuff as I sat in her cluttered living room or helped her do yardwork outside. She had broken her back at some point and would randomly start walking backward when she wanted to go forward. I remember too an old man by the name of Phares who lived in

Wheatland Homes. I would stop by and listen to him and sometimes just sit in silence. He always seemed to be alone. As I look back on these early connections and conversations, I see that they greatly enriched my life.

Perhaps you also have felt the pull of one-on-one conversation. Perhaps you too have people that have worked their way into your life as you visit with them on a regular basis. Maybe they are family members, friends, neighbors, church or work colleagues. Maybe they are seemingly random people that first are only connected to you by a thin thread. Whatever the case, these connections are extremely important throughout life for well-being.

Unfortunately, connections often grow weaker as we age. Family members may move away or get too busy, friends may die, mobility or hearing loss may become an issue. The list could go on and on. As a pastor tending to the connections that we have here at BCMC, I want to make sure that all people from our congregation have the opportunity to stay connected by receiving regular visits. I am very

thankful for the many informal visits that happen among those in this congregation and the support that people are able to receive from family and friends. But for those who run the risk of becoming isolated in their home environment, I want to ensure that we have a visitation safety net.

If you have felt the pull of the thread to connect with those who are at risk of becoming disconnected, I would love to be able to pair you with someone who could use a visit. Visits are not intended to solve someone's problems or rescue them when hardships hit, but to simply be present with them on a monthly basis to reconnect. Likewise, if you or someone you know could benefit from this type of visit, I would love to help make arrangements. I look forward to hearing from you with names of those from our congregation who could benefit from visits and from those of you who feel pulled to go out and visit. Thank you for being a part of the thread of visitation.

Living Stones II Update

Changes are coming to BCMC! Living Stones I transformed many spaces on the main level of Bethel College Mennonite Church. The Gathering Space, a spacious

and accessible child care and nursery space, and new restrooms have served in many ways to advance the mission of BCMC. Upon completion of Living Stones I, other pressing projects needed our collective attention. The congregation approved a second phase—Living Stones II—to address some of those needs: a ramp walkway leading to the front door, outdoor lighting, improved foyer lighting, and front door-opener to improve accessibility. All have been accomplished. As part of Living Stones II, the church board was also charged with addressing electric infrastructure and WIFI availability upgrades (which are now underway) and improvements to Fellowship Hall and the kitchen.

Due to multiple staffing changes during the past

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year, the church board postponed moving ahead with those projects until we reached a more settled state. With our excellent staff all now in place, we are ready to proceed with the rest of Living Stones II.

At the December 5, 2019 church board meeting, we approved a proposal from the Facilities Committee for three projects in the basement area of the church. This proposal resulted from much conversation with the Facilities Committee and representatives of the Hospitality Commission, Funeral Committee and Social Committee. Regier Construction, the contractor, has been immersed in much of this conversation as well. Brief details of the proposed projects follow:

Fellowship Hall

- Demo the carpet and asbestos tile
- Install soffits and different ceiling heights
- Install acoustic tile and improve speaker system
- Replace lighting
- Install carpet tile throughout

Kitchen

- Demo existing vinyl flooring
- Replace countertops
- Install new lighting throughout
- Reconfigure counters and island to make workflow more efficient
- Install new convection oven, 8 burner gas stove, and microwave
- Provide a pot filler/drink station

ADA Restroom

- Demo the current robe room and convert to an accessible family restroom with one shower,

toilet, sink, and baby changing station.

The budget proposal for this work is \$300,000.00. It is anticipated that all of this work would occur in the late spring and summer of 2020 when Community Playschool is not in session. During the next weeks leading up to the January 26, 2020 congregational meeting, we hope to receive drawings and more details which we can share with you. In the meantime, if you have questions, feel free to contact any of several people who have been involved in making these plans. In addition to me, Doug Harms (Chair of the Facilities Committee) and Monica Lichti (BCMC Facilities Manager) are available. Also, Annette Lamp is a great resource. She has generously agreed to represent BCMC in numerous discussions with Regier Construction already. Annette is a terrific asset to us in this process, as she has worked closely with Living Stones I and II projects to date. ~ *John Waltner*
BCMC Church Board Chair and Moderator

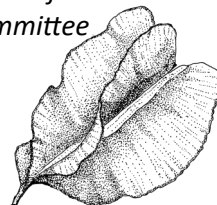
The Peace Garden in Winter

Winter – the vibrant life and colors of the growing season have been replaced with the subtle golds, reds and browns, the textures, and the swaying forms of a prairie garden gone dormant. Often unseen however, life continues in the winter garden. The tattered remnants of last year's Peace Garden still play an important role in bringing life back next year!

The winter Peace Garden provides habitat for pollinators. While bumblebees nest in underground burrows, other native bees overwinter as larvae in the stems of plants. Swallowtail and Sulphur butterflies form chrysalises on dried leaves in fall, where they remain until spring; Eastern Commas and Mourning Cloaks overwinter as butterflies in plant litter; and Checkerspots and Meadow Fritillaries hibernate as caterpillars. The winter Peace Garden provides shelter. Spent plants act as a layer of insulation. They protect the soil and plant roots from wind and cold; they hold moisture; and they provide habitat for hibernating critters from beneficial predatory insects to toads and turtles.

The winter Peace Garden provides food. The textures of a prairie signal the possibilities for seed, attracting migrating, resident, and overwintering birds. Garden remnants offer a safe place for these visitors, giving cover to birds that forage for seeds. Leftover seeds also provide a source for new plants in the garden.

The winter Peace Garden offers peace to the Creation. Even in the short, quiet days of winter, we continue to be reminded of the interconnectedness and wonder of life; and when spring arrives, we will be greeted by, and we shall greet, that abundance of life newly emerging from our Peace Garden. ~ *Lorna Harder for Creation Care Committee*



A primrose seed capsule

Mennonite Central Committee is 100 Years



The water pitcher displayed in the picture was commissioned by Mennonite Central Committee to help tell the story of its 100 year history. I am not sure how large a capacity it is, but to me it is symbolic of the number of people around the world who carry water in a jug, sometimes balanced on the carrier's head, as it is taken where the water can be used to quench the thirst of women, children, and men. It is also symbolic of the Biblical quote from Matthew 25..."I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink". For 100 years, the Mennonite Central Committee has been responding to people around the world who have been thirsty, both literally and figuratively, and MCC has attempted to provide drink...both literally and figuratively, to help provide for the needs of people around the world.

The celebration of one hundred years of relief, development, and peace making will take place in 2020 across the United States and Canada. The Kansas Mennonite Relief

Sale, along with sales across the United States, will be engaged in special projects to help celebrate the history of this organization known to us simply as MCC. Special banners, giving calendars to promote "My Coins Count", special gatherings, blessing bids, and a variety of ways to engage sale goers will be used to help celebrate the 100 years of "helping people to help themselves".

In the aftermath of World War 1, the Russian Revolution and intense drought caused many Mennonites to be stranded and starving in the Ukraine. In July of 1920, representatives from several Mennonite branches came together and formed a short-term central committee, to organize the relief effort that was needed...this decision came about as a result of a Ukraine request to work with one committee, rather than several. This group organized and opened its first food kitchen in 1922. At the height of the distribution of food from MCC kitchens in many Mennonite villages, 25,000 people were fed each day. Over 75,000 people were fed by the efforts of this central committee with an estimate of 9,000 being saved from starvation. These efforts to feed and help people continued until the harvest came in in 1923. Not only Mennonites were saved from starvation but many other peoples as well, including German speaking Catholics, Lutherans, and Jews.

In one of the initial efforts to help people help themselves, Fordson tractor and plow combinations were sent to replace the horses that

had been lost and confiscated as a result of the war. This allowed them to till the soil and plant for a harvest.

This temporary committee still exists a hundred years later, acting as a beacon of light and a practical example of Christian generosity and action. It is this desire to carry out the mandate to feed the hungry and give water to the thirsty that has created an organization that responds to needs around the world. We do so not just because we should, but we do so, as a result of the gracious love that God has shown to us.

As I prepared this article, I read books, found information on the internet, talked with folks and learned much about MCC and the people who have made up the Mennonite Central Committee. I fully intended to share some stories for there are thousands of stories...but I found that I could not digest enough information to be able to fully tell the stories...and which ones would I tell? So I went back to the pitcher... what was the thirst that called people to leave their homes and travel around the country and around the world...to serve in the name of Christ....to help people, to care for people, to provide for children and adults and to help people learn to help themselves. And so I settled on these three stories.

For some it was alternative service during WW2 with the Civilian Public Service Program that worked to provide irrigation systems, did conservation work, planted trees, fought forest fires and worked in state hospitals helping the mentally ill. One of the benefits that came out of these experiences

was an understanding of different parts of the world and different problems that people faced. Leadership for future MCC programs came out of these experiences. One of the most obvious for people here in Newton was the creation of Prairie View, helping to lead a reform movement improving the treatment of those who are mentally ill.

For others it was a response to the need to help provide horses, cattle, mules, chickens and other fowl and animals around the world, so that children could have milk and eggs, so that people could raise their own food using the draft animals to pull their plows. These young volunteers, needed to take care of the animals on boats going across oceans, came to be known as the sea going cowboys.

It was the courage of a young Mennonite woman from Goshen who responded to the call to go to France in 1941 to work in a Children's Home set up to deal with refugees from the Spanish Civil War. Lois Gunden Clemens spoke French, was blessed with ingenuity and common sense, and instilled with courage. This young woman, sent by MCC to work with the European organization, "Mennonite Aid for Children", was asked to help hide and take care of Jewish children. She did so with courage and kindness. She was eventually arrested by the Nazis and sent to a prisoner of war camp in Germany. She was re-

leased and sent home in 1945 having saved all the Jewish Children in her care. Since 1920 MCC has been involved in over 50 countries sharing God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ by responding to basic human needs and working for peace and justice. Mennonite Central Committee still responds when there is need and in the world today, with climate change, population growth, turmoil, and many refugees...water is one of the most important things we should concentrate on...water is life. A special gift of \$1000 will help MCCers and local people from around the world to dig 10 wells.

In this Centennial year KMRS is providing an opportunity for people to give to MCC prior to the sale. If 1000 people would give \$1000 we would provide a million dollars for relief, development, and education. Imagine what MCC could do with a million dollars. Imagine how you might contribute. The opportunity is coming soon.

~ Jim Robb

The Great Winter Warm Up

Do you want to be involved in something BIG – RECORD BREAKING BIG? On January 18, 2020 as a kick off of Mennonite Central Committee's 100th year of providing relief to people in need around the world, churches and community groups across the country are attempting to tie and collect 6,500 handmade comforters. This would break the world record of the most blankets sent from any charity in 24 hrs.

In the US and Canada at least 40 groups are planning to tie comforters and in MCC Central States, 15 different locations are hosting comforter tying events. If you want to join this effort the local locations and times are as follows:

- January 11: Whitestone Mennonite, 9 am-4 pm
- January 18:
 - ✓ Tabor Mennonite Church (Newton) 9 am-4 pm
 - ✓ Hesston Mennonite Church (Hesston) 9 am-4 pm
 - ✓ Pine Village Wellness Center (Moundridge) 9 am-3 pm
 - ✓ Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church (Wichita) 9 am-3 pm
 - ✓ Kingman Mennonite Church (Kingman) 9 am-5 pm

You can do this - one does not need to be a skilled quilter! Beginners are welcome, women and men, youth and seniors and everyone in between.

For families forced to leave their homes because of disaster or conflict, a handmade comforter provides not only warmth but also a tangible message that their needs are not forgotten. From April 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019 MCC shipped a total of 53,198 comforters to the following countries: Bosnia, Canada, Haiti, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Malawi, DPRK/North Korea, Serbia, Syria, Ukraine, U.S. with the largest numbers going to Bosnia, Jordan and the Ukraine.

Again and again recipients of these blankets express their appreciation. A mother in central Iraq who received an MCC comforter wrote, “I can finally sleep warmly. For

two winters, my son and I were sleeping together with one old blanket. We were so cold. But now we can have nice dreams.”

~ Dianne Epp

Hospitality at BCMC for 2020



It's that time of year again! **Guess Who's Coming to**

Dinner is scheduled for Feb. 23, 2020. This has been described as one of the best events that the Hospitality Commission supports. Consider participating as either a Host or a Guest. As a Host you will provide not only the space (you determine the number of guests you are comfortable having), but the main dish, drink and maybe the bread. As a Guest, you will be assigned either a side dish or dessert and depending on the size of your group, the bread. At noon on Feb. 23, everyone finds out who they're sharing a meal with. It's a wonderful way to get to know people in our congregation in a different setting. Sign up will be February 2 and 9. Chase the winter blues away with this enjoyable occasion.

You might also add to your calendar the Spring Wednesday Night Suppers. Suppers will begin Wed., February 29 and will be on every Wednesday through April 1.

Happy 12th Birthday Payne Claassen!



Payne Claassen, born April 2, 2007, is a 7th grader at Chisholm Middle School. Payne's parents, Mike and Stahli Claassen, would describe Payne as outgoing, determined, and friends to all. Payne also has two sisters in the senior high youth group: Emma and Alice Claassen.

At BCMC, you can find Payne singing with the junior high choir, participating in junior high club on Wednesday evenings, and attending Sunday School. You may have observed Payne's love for music at BCMC. He sings from the heart and embodies music during congregational singing and special music.

Some of Payne's interests outside of church include playing outside with his dogs, Hollie and Luly. Payne also spends some of his time working in the background as he goes around fixing and filling in the holes made by his dog Hollie. A special interest Payne has is learning a lot of knowledge about dinosaurs. He knows many facts he is willing to share with others!

A perfect Saturday for Payne includes beginning the day with French toast sticks, running around the block (beating dad in this race around the block), and watching football, the Spanish channel, or NCIS: Los Angeles. One of Payne's favorite places to visit is the County Fair held in August of each year. In 2019, Payne took the Reserve Grand Champion (2nd place!) for 4-H. His picture is from that competition. Keep an eye out around BCMC for Payne and his friendly attitude and love for music!

~ Renee Reimer

Happy 80th Birthday Carolyn Penner! January 12



According to Carolyn she was a “town girl” having been born and grown up in McPherson, KS. One of her cherished early memories is of weekends spent with her grandparents who lived across town. She would pack up her suitcase and tell her parents that she did not want them to pick her up till Sunday afternoon. She credits her Grandmother with being a major influence in her life.

Carolyn proceeded through elementary and secondary school in McPherson and then attended McPherson College where she majored in English with a minor in History. When she was a senior and looking for a student teaching placement her older brother, who was teaching at Windom, KS, suggested that she come to Windom. She followed that suggestion and “voila” during her planning period whom should she meet but another young teacher by the name of Don Penner! A friendship began and after Carolyn graduated that spring they were married and returned to Windom for four years. Carolyn worked as a part time librarian during her pregnancy with their first child, Doug, and before leaving Windom for Holyrood, a second son, David, was born. After two years at Holyrood, they moved to Hillsboro where daughter, Deb, joined her older brothers. Busy years of raising three children plus a foster son who became part of their family for a year (and with whom they remain in contact) followed. When their daughter started high school Carolyn began a number of years teaching 9th grade English and later, following some graduate work in library science, she took on the position of elementary librarian.

It is not surprising to learn that reading is one of Carolyn’s favorite pastimes. If you are looking for a good suggestion she highly recommends “Tattoos on the Heart” which can be found in the church library. Volunteering in the library at Northridge Elementary keeps her in contact with that field. She and Don also

help with tasks at her daughter’s school library in Augusta.

Wherever Carolyn and Don have lived they have been very involved with a church, Methodist churches during the Windom and Holyrood years, and then at First Mennonite Church in Hillsboro. Leaving FMC after 49 years was a loss but they are now glad to be members of BCMC. Carolyn is serving on the visitation team and appreciates the rich stories she hears during her visits.

Moving to Kidron Bethel Village in 2016 has had the advantage of being a gathering point for family when they come to attend Bethel functions where a grandson, Adam, is now a student and another grandson, Nate, a recent Bethel graduate, is working in the Admissions Office. Those gatherings are doubtless graced with baked goods as baking is also one of Carolyn’s joys.

After retiring from teaching, Carolyn and Don have enjoyed traveling on bus trips across the US and a number of European trips where their son, Doug and his wife and family, who live in France, were their able tour guides/hosts.

Though Carolyn characterizes her life as “maybe not exciting, but very good” it is clear that she has touched many students over the years and her warm and open demeanor is a gift to all she encounters. We wish for her many more “good years”.

~ Dianne Epp

Happy 80th Birthday Frank Nachtigal! February 9



Frank Nachtigal loves sports, particularly basketball and tennis. Growing up in Buhler, he learned to play tennis in 7th grade from some high school players. He played both varsity tennis and basketball in high school. A highlight was playing doubles tennis and competing in a state high school tournament. Frank credits his minister, Harold Thieszen, and his high school coaches, Buck Balzer and Bud Moeckel, as big influences in his high school life.

During summers as a teenager Frank worked on a harvest crew, traveling from Texas to Montana to earn money for college. He enrolled in Bethel College in 1959, continuing to play basketball and tennis. Frank remembers how special it was to play #1 doubles tennis at Bethel with his brother Chet. Frank graduated from Bethel in 1962 with degrees in Physical Education and Industrial Arts.

Frank and his wife, Helen (Goering) from Pretty Prairie, met at Bethel. After Bethel graduation they moved to Topeka where Frank's 1-W work assignment was with the Menninger Foundation. Ten years of coaching and teaching followed, first in small rural schools and then at Campus High School in Wichita.

In an effort to increase their family income they purchased a walk-up Dairy Queen in Clay Center in 1973. They remodeled it to a full service Dairy Queen and, together, Frank and Helen owned and managed it until 1989 when they sold it and moved to North Newton. Frank quips he became the “chair-man” at Bethel when he was hired as Events Manager in 1992. Although he partially retired in 2005 he continued working ten more years until 2015, because he enjoyed working at Bethel.

During the summers when Bethel was not in session, Frank and Helen worked at various volunteer opportunities: at the YMCA of the Rockies near Estes Park, at Camp Mennoscah, at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp and with Mennonite Mission Network at Shippshewana, Indiana at Menno-Hof. Currently Frank volunteers at the Et Cetera store, Kauffman Museum, and as a driver for Kidron residents.

Frank has biked in the Bike Across Kansas several times; once twelve Goering family members rode together! He still bikes as much as is physically possible. He also enjoys listening to country western music, playing golf, watching sports, and traveling on Kidron and Kauffman Museum bus

trips. Frank and Helen's two sons are both Bethel graduates. Their oldest son is Associate Athletic Director at Kansas University; the youngest son is a school administrator in the Maize school district. Currently, one of their two granddaughters is a Bethel student.

We wish Frank many more years of enjoyment!

~ Pat Friesen



A more current picture of Frank

Happy 80th Birthday Elizabeth Ann (Voth) Friesen! February 14



Two girls in their Dad's arms, reeling across the living room floor, dancing to John Philip Sousa marches-- Elizabeth's earliest memories. Her family's little home was across

the lane from her grandparents Lizzie and Preacher C. H. Voth's huge farmhouse. That's where the action was - visiting missionaries telling stories of India or Africa; C. H.'s library with books and a pen with real ink; Grandma's stretched-out quilts for make believe tents; news on the radio; fresh-baked prune cookies; and plenty of strawberries.

Her Sperling ancestors had homesteaded in the late 1800's in the Hoffnungsau Church community between Inman and Buhler; first in a dugout, then sod house and finally their large farmhouse. The farmstead was a perfect place to wander: baby animals to feed, the pasture to explore, swimming in the draw after a big rain, and walking barefoot in the dust of the buffalo wallow. She now knows that the land once belonged to indigenous people who loved it as much as she did!

In the early 50's her family moved into the big farmhouse. By then they were six: parents Elmer and Linda Annie Ediger Voth, brothers Stanley and Eugene, sister Rosalie and . . . Elizabeth Ann. Her sister, Rose, died in 1984 from breast cancer and Liz still feels that great loss.

Graduating from Buhler High School in 1958, following a number of years of piano, vocal, and oboe lessons, she started Bethel College as a music major. Mozart operas and Bach chorales became favorites; she was part of both Dr. Suderman's college chorale and Dr. Jost's college choir. Her vocational goals broadened and she graduated from Bethel College in 1962 with a degree in Teacher Education. She

credits her favorite teacher Beatrice Rosenthal Buller, a German, Jewish woman who, with her husband Harold after WWII, taught her in country school.

Elizabeth and Duane were married the summer after college graduation. She completed a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education and Development in 1971 at WSU, and later earned an endorsement in diagnostic reading. She taught in Indiana, Massachusetts, and Minnesota. In Newton, with Janeal Krehbiel, she started Plum Street PreSchool where they trained Bethel and Hesston College early childhood majors. For 24+ years she was a 2nd and 3rd grade classroom teacher and a literacy specialist. Field trips to Sand Prairie to study the prairie ecosystem were a highlight, as was writing curriculum in science and language arts. Her greatest joy was having children with special needs mainstreamed into her classroom: all children learning to value each other, to work and live together as a classroom family.

Her immediate family includes her husband Duane; their daughters, Anne and husband Brett Birky, their children Katherine Rose and Elizabeth Jane; and Sara and husband Brad Guhr, their children Henry Jacob and Benjamin John. Their family loves camping and hiking in National Parks. Two years ago it was Glacier National Park, last year Crested Butte, Colorado (wild flower season), and next year Victoria Island

and Butchart Gardens in British Columbia.

Some special life experiences have been: voluntary service in Oklahoma and Kansas City; travels to Uzbekistan, Turkey, Greece, Israel/Palestine, and Europe; living in big cities around the world (Boston, Toronto, Chicago, Berlin, Jerusalem, and Oxford); participating in ecumenical institutes in Jerusalem and Minnesota; hosting students and college guests, including Dorothy Day, Phillip Berrigan, Elias Chacour, and Elise Boulding; and fund-raising for a week-long author visit by Patricia Polacco to area schools.

Now residing at 3029 Ivy Court on the Kidron campus, Elizabeth, as a master gardener, enjoys their back yard prairie and herb gardens and the Sand Creek Community Garden. Bird watching and writing family stories are new activities while she and Duane continue to be host parents to Bethel College students. She has served in many ways at BCMC including organizing Hope Shelter meals and being part of the church constitution revision in the 90's.

May you continue to enjoy living in the midst of nature, friends, and beauty.

~ Pat Friesen



Obituaries



Claude T. "Ted" Wynn—September 9, 1935—November 20, 2019

Claude Theodore (Ted) Wynn was born in Newark, NJ, the only child of Claude Lester Wynn and Marie Bertha Seymour Wynn. His youth was spent in Brooklyn, NY, later in Oklahoma with his paternal grandparents, and Valley Center, KS. He graduated from Valley Center High School in 1953, and then enlisted in the Army National Guard. He and Darlene Joan Galle Wynn were married Nov. 20, 1955; they had three children. Ted earned a BS of Business Administration and MS from the University of Wichita in 1963. He attended Harvard University for class work then completed

his dissertation at the University of Kansas for a PhD of Philosophy in 1975. The family lived in Ogden, Utah in 1971 where he taught at Weber State College (WSC) and was department chair and Dean of the School of Business. In 1976 his family moved to Wiesbaden, Germany and then to Athens, Greece where he taught college students at the local air force bases. The family also lived in Council Bluffs, IA. Later Ted and Darlene moved back to Newton, KS. Ted is survived by his wife, Darlene, his three children: Tony Wynn, Lori (Roger) Lewis and Stacy (Scott) Shelton, five grandchildren: Seth (Renada) Barnes, Sean Wynn, Emma (Louis) Simmons, Jessica (TJ) Kleinbeck, and Lindsey Westbrook and eight great grandchildren.



Adelheid (Heidi) Anna Louise Friesen Ens—June 14, 1930—November 22, 2019

Heidi was born in Elbing, West Prussia, to Benno and Amalie (Fast) Friesen. She came to the US as a refugee in 1947, and finished high school in Whitewater in 1950. She graduated from Bethel Dea-

coness Nursing School in Newton as a registered nurse and married Roland Ens on September 5, 1954, in Newton, KS. She was a member of the Bethel College Mennonite Church, loved reading, visiting the elderly and taking food to neighbors. Her family includes her sons and their wives, Quentin and Debbie Ens of Potwin, KS and Daniel and Kathy



Ralph Sanford Lehman—November 15, 1922—November 21, 2019

Ralph was born to Samuel and Clara Kennel Lehman in Beaver Falls, NY, the second child of 13. The family were members of the Amish Mennonite church of Croghan, NY. Ralph graduated from high school in Lowville, NY. He went to Goshen College and in his junior year he was drafted and served as a conscientious objector in Civilian Public Service at Dennison, IA, Poughkeepsie, NY, and Grottos, VA. He graduated from Bethel College in 1948. There he met Evelyn Goering. He and Evelyn were married June 30, 1949. They served at Topeka State Hospital and the Menninger Clinic for one year. Ralph graduated from Denver University in 1951 with a Master's Degree in Social Work, psychiatric sequence, and Administration. Sons, Joseph Michael and Ralph Stephen

Ensz of Mt. Hope, KS; grandchildren, Brian (Rebecca) Ens, Alison (Andrew) Sagmoe, Audrey Ens, Todd Ens, Kevin Ens, Collin Ens and Sara Ens; great-grandchildren, Ellie Ens, James Ens and Natalie Sagmoe. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Roland in 2014; a brother, Manfred Friesen and a sister, Irma Igney.

were born in Denver. Ralph worked at General Rose Memorial Hospital, Denver; a psychiatric hospital in Portsmouth, OH; Boy's Village, Smithville, OH, where their daughter Christine was born. He also worked as Clinical Director, Fort Wayne Children's Home; director of Care Services, Summit County Family and Children's Services in Akron, OH, where their daughter Mary was born. He was then CEO at Edgewood Children's Center in Saint Louis, MO where he worked for 21 years. Several siblings and Ralph formed Samara Partners, continuing to make maple syrup in New York. Ralph and Evelyn retired to Newton, KS in 1992. Ralph is survived by his wife of 70 years, Evelyn; sons Michael (Kathleen) Lehman, Stephen (Kathy Childers) Lehman; daughters Christine (Richard Tilles) Lehman, and Mary Lehman Adams; former international exchange student Fernando (Yvette Monroy) Reati; 11 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; three brothers, Lyle, Jim, and Gary Lehman; four sisters, Claramae Klink, Bernice Hostetler, Dolores Wedel, and Jane Lehman.

The 7 pm Christmas Eve program at BCMC was an Intergenerational Christmas Enactment. This family friendly worship service brought to life the Christmas Story by putting on an unrehearsed all-church Christmas pageant. All attendees were invited to participate in the telling of the story by taking on

roles within the story (stable animals, sheep & shepherds, angels, magi, or townspeople). There were costumes for everybody to wear. Here are pictures from that BCMC event taken and shared courtesy of Weldon Schloneger.



Bethel College Mennonite Church
P.O. Box 364
North Newton, KS 67117

Return service requested

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

January 5, 2020—Epiphany

Worship with sermon by Dawn Yoder Harms

4:00 pm Service of Remembrance—This annual service is an occasion to light candles in remembrance of BCMC members and other loved ones who died in 2019. BCMC members, family, friends and community members are all welcome.

January 12, 2020

Worship with sermon by Renee Reimer; music by Chancel Choir

January 19, 2020—Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday

Worship with sermon by Nathan Koontz; music by Chancel Choir

January 26, 2020

Worship with sermon by Dawn Yoder Harms; music by Chancel Bells

12 Noon Youth Group Fundraiser Soup Luncheon in Fellowship Hall

1:00 pm Congregational Meeting in the sanctuary

February 2, 2020—New Mentor Dedication

Worship with sermon by Renee Reimer; music by Chancel Choir

February 9, 2020

Worship with sermon by Dawn Yoder Harms; music by Junior and Cherub Choirs

February 16, 2020

Worship with sermon by Nathan Koontz; music by Chancel Bells

February 23, 2020

Worship with sermon by Renee Reimer; music by Menno Ringers