

Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request: Alisha and Josh Garber, serving with Mennonite Mission Network, are currently based in Phoenix, Arizona, where they are engaged in North American ministry. Pray for a time of spiritual and physical renewal, as the Garbers visit family, friends and supporting congregations. Pray for them, also, as they discern what God is calling them to next.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Pray for the WDC Annual Assembly next weekend at Camp Copass near Denton, TX, that in this gathering God will encourage and strengthen WDC congregations through the assembly theme, “United in Purpose, Together in Love.”

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 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
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: Todd Schlosser—cell phone: 620-960-1718
Email: todd@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
- Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Nathan Koontz, Day off: Wednesday—
cell phone: 316-212-4593; Email: nathan@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
- Office/Facilities Manager: Monica Lichti, cell phone 316-249-9652
Email: office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
- Custodian: Michael Crawford—day off Tuesday
- Music Coordinators: Barbara Thiesen and Verlene Garber
- Chancel Choir Director: William Eash Menno Singers Director: Virginia Mininger
- Chancel Bells Director: Verlene Garber Menno Ringers Director: Suzanne Burch

Bethel College Mennonite Church



July 24, 2022

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.

BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH
July 24, 2022

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|-------------------------|--|------------------|
| Prelude | Sandwell (Dale Wood) <i>The Gift to Be Simple</i> (Dale Wood) | Karen Schlabaugh |
| Christ Candle Lighting | | Dale Schrag |
| Welcome and Prayer | | Dale Schrag |
| *Hymn | <i>God of Grace and God of Glory</i> | VT 716 |
| Children's Conversation | | Barb Koontz |
| Scripture Reading | Luke 11:1-13 | Darlene Dick |
| Sermon | <i>Faithful persistence</i> | Todd Schlosser |
| *Hymn | <i>My Life Flows On</i> | VT 605 |
| Prayers of God's People | | Dale Schrag |
| *Hymn | <i>All Praise to Thee, My God</i> | VT 505 |
| Benediction | | Todd Schlosser |
| Postlude | <i>They'll Know We Are Christians</i> (Wilbur Held) | Karen Schlabaugh |

* You are invited to stand

VT = *Voices Together*

Audio visual—Ken Lamp

Pastors— Nathan Koontz, Todd Schlosser

We light the Christ candle to welcome God's presence among us. Sent out from worship, we carry the light of Christ with us into the world.

Welcome visitors and friends! May you sense God's presence at BCMC. The nursery at the back of the sanctuary is available during worship for families with infants and toddlers.

Faith Formation would like for everyone to fill out a short survey regarding interest in attending an intergenerational Sunday School class this coming school year with our children and youth. We are looking for adults who are interested in joining the class for one month out of the year. Please take a look at the survey and see if any of the areas of opportunity to help will interest you. <https://forms.gle/v5q4uWeY4XE8w6vX7>

New Task Group:

The Church Board has approved the formation of a task group to lead the church in finding ways for our congregation to move beyond land acknowledgement to tangible actions seeking justice for the harms which Indigenous peoples have suffered and continue to suffer today. We will discuss joining the Repair Network of Mennonite congregations for education, solidarity and reparative action alongside Indigenous peoples. The first action of the BCMC task group will be to help support MCC's "Loss of Turtle Island" experience for members of our congregation. If you would like to join the task group, contact Nathan Koontz or Ada Schmidt-Tieszen. Raylene Hinz-Penner will convene the task group.

Bethel College Connections:

We continue our outreach to Bethel College, our sister institution. The Church Board has chosen to again invite new students to attend our service on August 14 as part of their orientation. We will welcome 100 or more students from many parts of the country and world. Masks will be required for all on that day. Look for announcements about a possible coffee reception for students after the service. **Fall Fest Sunday will again be held in our church building on October 9**

Welcome to Riley King who will begin this fall as our Chancel Choir

Director! Singers from high school age on up are invited to join the choir when rehearsals begin this fall.

The 2022 issue of *Mennonite Life*, Bethel College's annual online journal, is now live at ml.bethelks.edu, with articles and reviews by Daniel Shank Cruz, Chris Dick, June Mears Driedger, Susan Kennel Harrison, Raylene Hinz-Penner, Gordon Houser, Reinhold K. Janzen, Gayle Gerber Koontz, Steve Nolt, Rachel Pan-nabecker, Karen Reimer, Ben Woodward-Breckbill and Melanie Zuercher.

Life Enrichment returns to Bethel College with the start of the fall 2022 semester – but It will be on a different day. Life Enrichment resumes Thursday, Aug. 25, and will be on Thursdays thereafter. Place and time remain the same: Krebhiel Auditorium, 9:30 am. See <https://www.bethelks.edu/academics/convocation-lectures/life-enrichment> for more information.

Colorado peaches are back! Place your order for fresh Colorado peaches, \$27 for 10 lb. box and \$38 for 18 lb. box by calling Mennonite Central Committee at 316-283-2720 or emailing patsydirksen@mcc.org. Peaches must be ordered and paid for by July 25. The peaches are offered as a fundraiser for the Colorado MCC Relief Sale, **please make payment by check to Beth-El Mennonite Church with “peaches” in the memo line.** Generous volunteers Jerry and Leann Toews will bring the peaches from Colorado to MCC in North Newton for you to pick-up around August 22.

Bluestem U, a lifelong learning program for individuals age 55 and better, is enrolling now for its first semester that will begin in September. The fall 2022 semester will feature three courses hosted by Hesston College and Schowalter Villa – “Prairie Landscaping 101” taught by Brad Guhr, “Happy Habits from Positive Psychology” taught by Kevin Wilder, and “Buggies, Bonnets and Boundaries: A Study of Amish Faith, Life and Culture” taught by John Sharp. Each course is \$50. For more information and registration, go to bluestemu.org or call 316-836-4846. Bluestem U is a partnership between Bluestem Communities, Bethel College and Hesston College.

Fall Book Study on Healing Haunted Histories - Sept. 8-Dec. 1, 2022 - Elaine Enns, co-author of *Healing Haunted Histories: A Settler Discipleship of Decolonization*, will be leading an online, intensive book study this fall for the Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery Coalition. Two-hour sessions will be every other Thursday, 6-8 pm Central Time, on Sept 8 and 22, Oct 6 and 20, Nov 3 and 17, and Dec 1. This book encourages personal and collective work toward decolonization. It asks those of us who are settlers, immigrants and displaced peoples to do our own pre-work of integrating our ancestral stories, so we can see more clearly and show up in solidarity with Indigenous peoples. **See the Western District Conference website for more information.**

This Week at BCMC: July 24—31, 2022

Sunday, July 24—Live stream (YouTube) link for this Sunday is:

<https://youtu.be/huGKrwojS3s>

10:15 am Fellowship Time with coffee and water served in the Gathering Place

10:30 am Faith Formation—Visitors welcome!

Adult Classes (If meeting): Agape Class (Rm B8) Bible Study (Rm 14); Catacombs (Rm B5); Fellowship (B7); Fine Arts (Rm 22); Issues and Christianity (Rm 23); Mosaic (Rm 20); Open Circle (Room 21); Seekers (Rm 28); Sojourners (Chapel)

Monday, July 25

10 am Library Committee meeting in the library

Sunday, July 31

9:30 am Worship with sermon by Nathan Koontz

10:15 am Fellowship Time with coffee and water served in the Gathering Place

10:30 am Faith Formation—Visitors welcome!

Update from the Church Board:

BCMC is in a time of transition, an “in-between” time of waiting and working in the boundary between what was and what will be. These times are rich with possibility for new understanding of our past and current status and for re-envisioning and planning our future. The following are updates on Church Board work during these transitional times:

Credence and Company Consultants:

BCMC has contracted with Credence to help us assess congregational strengths and challenges and review our current leadership structures as we consider the future with new pastors. A congregational survey has been completed. The consultants are currently in the process of interviewing 35 individual members of the congregation, gathering additional information from outside sources, and analyzing survey results. A preliminary report for congregational feedback will be shared with the congregation on a Sunday morning sometime in September or October. The final report will be completed before Advent. The reference group of David Linscheid, Lois Preheim, Megan Kohlman, Ada Schmidt-Tieszen, and Todd Schlosser has been offering feedback to the consultants. Thank you for taking on this important work!

Letter to Mennonite Church USA:

The Inclusion Task Group presented and the Board approved a letter of encouragement and appreciation to MCUSA for the passage of the Resolution for Repentance and Transformation. Individuals may sign the letter in addition to the Church Board's signature.

Assistant Treasurer Transitions:

Over the last months there have been several transitions in the volunteer role of assistant treasurer, an important position appointed by the Board. It is with deep gratitude that we recognize and thank Nancy Hilty and Lois Goertzen for their competence, dedication, and long service in this role. The Church Board was pleased to approve Mary Ann Boschman and Bonnie Epp as our new assistant treasurers and recognize and thank Richard Friesen for his ongoing work as a volunteer assistant treasurer who manages software that tracks congregational giving, produces quarterly contribution reports, helps analyze giving patterns, and trains new assistant treasurers. Thanks to all these invaluable volunteers!

Reopening Task Group—Release and Thanks! The church board voted to release the Reopening Task Group from their duties. We owe a huge thank you to the group for steering our congregation through the last several years with consistency and wisdom! We recognize that Covid is not gone, but at this time Covid management will become decentralized with commissions and committees managing Covid precautions and decisions for events and activities in their charge. Individuals are expected to take whatever precautions each deems appropriate. The church will continue to livestream services for those who choose to view services from home. Masks will be available for in-person worship and events.

Adam, Jill, Al, Nadine, Jake, and Gabby would like to invite the BCMC congregation to the Robb house (193 20th Ave., Moundridge - two miles west of the blinking light, then turn south) on Sunday, July 24 at 6 PM for a wiener roast and social time! We'll provide the hotdogs and fixins, along with chips and beverages, and hope that you can join us in fellowship. If you come, and would like to bring a side or dessert, please feel free to - but nothing is required! We will also have a few chairs, but would ask that if you have your own, that you bring those. And, if you'll be able to join us, please let us know (email Adam and Jill at adamandjillrobb@gmail.com or catch us in church) by Thursday, July 21 so that we can plan accordingly to make sure there are enough supplies! We look forward to hopefully seeing you for some fellowship in the Moundridge countryside! The weather will be hot on Sunday, so both indoor and outdoor seating spaces will be available for guests!

BCMC July 17 Offering: General Fund \$9,212; Plant Fund \$120; Living Stones \$1,088.33; Kitchen Fund (Coffee) \$14.

BCMC Budget Update: For June 2022, income was \$35,070 and expenses were \$39,637. For the year-to-date, income is \$211,450 and expenses are \$254,017. - *The Finance Committee*

The Abuse Prevention and Response Committee will take the months of July and part of August to read the book, #Church Too. On Sunday August 21 will be spent sharing reactions to the book, and on August 28 guiding questions will be used to help us discuss how we as a congregation can use the information from the book to help us create a healthy culture around sexuality at BCMC that supports survivors, our children/youth and ourselves. The book can be purchased through Amazon, requested through Faith and Life bookstore, or your favorite local independent bookstore of your choice. If demand is high we will pivot and figure out a way to have copies available in the church office for purchase. - Jill Robb, APRC chair

Camp Mennoscah Sing on Sat., Aug. 6, 2:30 pm at Hope Mennonite Church in Wichita! Everyone is invited to come and sing camp songs (both "traditional" ones from across the years and newer Praise & Worship ones). The final details are yet to be determined, but there will be soda pop--generic or otherwise! Put it on your calendar and come be part of the fun!

Work & Play Day on August 20! Camp Mennoscah has projects to complete and plenty to do after a busy, fun summer. You are invited to be part of this camping ministry through fellowship and service! Projects for all ages and weather are available. Let us know you're coming so we can be prepared for you! Bring your lunch and a water bottle. The day will start at 8:30 at the maintenance shed. Contact Olivia at 620-297-3290 or olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org to sign up.

The Library theme for June and July is Caldecott and John Newbery Award Winners. We have many of these award winning books that would be of interest to both adults and children. **We are also continuing to accept and sell puzzles.** Not only are they on the cart, but also below the new book section on the west wall. Just leave a suggested donation of \$5 in the envelope and enjoy. We have a long list of books that we would like to add to our collection and this is a great way to support our efforts.

The Library Committee has processed almost 20 new books, 10 of them purchased and donated by The Abuse Prevention and Response Committee. The APRC books can be found on the Pastor's Corner shelf which is now located on the west wall with the other recent purchases. Another new purchase is "The Land Is Not Empty" by Sarah Augustine which was recommended by the Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery group. Please stop by and see what we have to offer and continue to browse and donate from our puzzle collection.—*The Library Committee*