

**Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request:** Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Freddy Barrón and Margrit Kipfer Barrón, as they mentor leaders and support church plants in the Bolivia Mennonite Church. Pray for Freddy as he pastors a congregation and Margrit as she coordinates Christian education for the denomination.

**Western District Conference Prayer Request:** Join the Church Planting Commission in praying for WDC congregations to discover new opportunities for bringing healing and hope in their ministry contexts, according to the vision Jesus proclaimed of God’s kingdom. Likewise, that God would strengthen or create new connections between older congregations and newer congregations and church plants, so that we may learn from one another. – Pastor Caleb Yoder

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](mailto:office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)  
Website: [bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](http://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](mailto:todd@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Nathan Koontz, Day off: Wednesday—  
cell phone: 316-212-4593; Email: [nathan@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:nathan@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- Office/Facilities Manager: Monica Lichti, cell phone 316-249-9652  
Email: [office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto: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 31, 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 31, 2022

Prelude	<i>Great Things He Has Done' Medley</i> (arr. Victor Labenske) <i>For the Beauty of the Earth</i> (arr. Chris Rice)	Meghan Rogers
Christ Candle Lighting		Brad Kohlman
Welcome and Prayer		
*Hymn	<i>Jesus Calls Us</i>	VT 30
Children's Conversation		Kathy Stucky
Worship Music	<i>Antiphonal Celebration</i> (McChesney)	Bell Quartet Verlene Garber, director; Suzanne Burch, Marlene Ewert, Ben Lichti, Brenda Turner
Scripture Reading	Luke 12:13-21	Carolyn Penner
Sermon		Nathan Koontz
*Hymn	<i>Take My Life, and Let It Be</i>	VT 759
Prayers of God's People		
*Hymn	<i>God, Whose Giving</i>	VT 745
Benediction		Nathan Koontz
Postlude	<i>I Surrender All</i> (arr. Victor Labenske)	Meghan Rogers

\* You are invited to stand

VT = *Voices Together*

Audio visual—Ben Lichti

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.

**Mentor-Mentee Event for your calendar:** Event will be Sun., Aug. 14, 4 to 6 pm in the BCMC Fellowship Hall.

**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>

**BCMC July 24 Offering:** General Fund \$2,572; Library Reserve Fund \$10; Living Stones \$5; Women's Fellowship \$50.

**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*

**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.

**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 *Menonite Life*, Bethel College's annual online journal, is now live at [ml.bethelks.edu](http://ml.bethelks.edu), with articles and reviews by Daniel Shank Cruz, Chris Dick, June Mears Driedger, Susan Kennel Harrison, Raylene Hinz-Penner, Gordon Houser, Reinhild 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.

**Kauffman Museum first-Saturday bird walk, Aug. 6, 7 am.** Meet in the museum parking lot at the corner of Main and 27th streets in North Newton. Experienced birders lead a walk of 1-1.5 hours in Chisholm Park and on Sand Creek Trail.

**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](http://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.**

**Everence will hold its Medicare workshop at its office in North Newton Tues., Aug 9 at 6:30 pm.** Topics include, when and where to sign up for Medicare, what Medicare covers, plus an explanation of Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D. The in-person workshop will be held at the Everence office: 3179 N. Main St. Suite 1B, North Newton. Those interested in attending should contact the Everence office at 316-283-3800, 877-467-7294 or [central.kansas@everence.com](mailto:central.kansas@everence.com).

**This Week at BCMC: July 31—August 7, 2022**

**Sunday, July 31—Live stream (YouTube) link for this Sunday is:**  
<https://youtu.be/gQoTnZnOPO0>

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, August 1**

Pastor Todd Schlosser will not be in the church office today.

7 pm Facilities Committee meeting in Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday, August 2**

6-9 pm Event in Fellowship Hall

**Thursday, August 4**

7 pm Church Board Meeting in Room 14

**Sunday, August 7**

9:30 am Worship with sermon by Todd Schlosser

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

### **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.

**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*

**New address for your directories:** Weldon and Florence Schloneger have moved to Kidron Bethel Village. New address is 3004 Ivy Drive, North Newton, KS, 67117. Their cell phones and email addresses remain the same.

**The current BCMC Library theme is “Committee Book Recommendations”.** Our current members, picked a few of our favorites from our wonderful collection and they are now shelved in back of the library desk. Come in, check one (or two or three) out and see if you agree with us. Carol Flickinger, Rose Haurly, Barb Koontz, Sondra Koontz, Kathryn Simmons, Margaret Goering.

**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*

### **BCMC Welcome for New Bethel College Students**

On Sunday August 14th BCMC will welcome the new students at Bethel College to our church. It is a large incoming class, numbering over 150 students from many different places. The gathering will start with our normal worship service to be followed by some refreshments (outdoors as able). While this is a wonderful opportunity for us to show hospitality, we are also aware of the possible COVID implications. While everyone will be required to wear masks, please be aware of the opportunity to view the service on line if you so choose. We also invite all who feel comfortable to join the students for refreshments following the service (whether you view on line or in person) to meet and greet and to offer a warm welcome to Bethel and BCMC

**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