

Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request: Laura Schlabach, who is serving with Mennonite Mission Network, asks for God's wisdom for the decision-makers at JCS International, a consortium of mission agencies in Mongolia. She also requests prayer for those who have been affected by the extreme winter air pollution that has caused respiratory illnesses in Ulaanbaatar, the country's capital, and other cities.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: In this Advent season, give thanks for God's gifts of justice, peace and restoration offered through ministries of WDC congregations.

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 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: Riley King
- Chancel Bells Director: Verlene Garber
- Menno Ringers Director: Suzanne Burch

Bethel College Mennonite Church

December 11, 2022

Third Sunday of Advent



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
Third Sunday of Advent December 11, 2022

Tell what you hear and see

Prelude

Day for Celebration (McKlveen)
The King of Love my Shepherd is (Moklebust)
Thou Shalt Know Him (Raney)
Chancel Bells; Verlene Garber, director

Advent Candle Lighting

Kevin Neufeld

Hymn

O Come, O Come, Immanuel VT 210
Congregation sings verses 1 & 7 during processional and lighting

Candle lighting liturgy

Leader: Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is soon.

People: Tell what you hear and see: even now, like water in the desert, we see God's action all around.

Leader: As we gather strength, we light these candles as signs of hope, love, and joy made visible among us.

People: Bring your restoration to your people, we pray.

Welcome

Ada Schmidt-Tieszen

Call to Worship

Leader: Look, I am sending my messenger, go tell what you have seen!

People: God's awesome wonders fill the earth, the lost are found, the blind receive sight, the deaf hear, the lame walk, the poor are preached to, and those who are dead in spirit receive new life.

Leader: Is this what you were expecting to see?

People: Blessed are they who hope in the Lord! For his yoke is easy, his burdens are light.

All: With Mary we sing magnificat, celebrating love's liberating power!

***Hymn**

With Mary Sing Magnificat VT 208

Children's Conversation

Esther Koontz

Anthem

There Shall a Star from Jacob (Mendelssohn)
Chancel Choir; Riley King, director

Scripture Readings Isaiah 35: 1-10, Psalm 146: 1-10, Matthew 11:2-10
Jonathan, Justin, & Heather Zerger

***Hymn**

There's a Wild Hope in the Wind VT 828

Sermon

The Future of Advent Patricia Shelly

***Hymn**

There's a Wild Hope in the Wind VT 828

Prayers of God's People

***Hymn**

View the Present VT 407

***Benediction**

Patricia Shelly

Postlude

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme (arr. P. Manz)
Will Wiebe-Friesen, organ

* You are invited to stand VT = *Voices Together*
Keyboard—Will Wiebe-Friesen Audio visual—Ben Lichti
Pastor—Nathan Koontz

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.

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.

The Witness Commission has selected The Salvation Army as our Advent project. We are collecting non perishable food items for the pantry and monetary donations. A table will be set up in The Gathering Place for food donations. A recent article in *Newton Now* showed the shelves empty in the food pantry.

For your calendar: There will be two services on Christmas Eve, December 24.

- **4:30 pm The Children's Christmas Eve Service** in the Sanctuary
- **11 pm Lessons and Carols and Candle-Lighting Service** in the Sanctuary
- **There will be a Service of Remembrance** at 4 pm on January 8, 2023 to remember BCMC members and friends who died during 2022.
- **The Church office will be closed between Christmas and New Year's day this year. The Church office and building will be closed on January 2, 2023.**

The Deacons Commission is working on a “Thinking of You” campaign for people who are isolated due to health concerns. For the next few Sundays, we will have a table at the back of the sanctuary with pages for your comments to members of our church whom we haven’t been able to see for a while. Please stop by and write a short greeting or sign your name to let them know we are thinking about them. For those of you who are unable to attend worship but can stop by the church during the week, these letters will be in the library during the week for anyone to write a note before we send them out. Thank you!

— *Deacon Commission*

Registration is beginning for the 2023 season of Kansas Mennonite Men’s Chorus (KMMC). Those who sang last year will find a registration form in your church mail box. We are working to recover after the pandemic. Numbers were significantly down last year. Please consider joining this year. Please contact Joe Peters for registration forms. We sing that others may live.

BCMC Offering for December 4: General \$17,725; Gen Fund 2023 \$10,025; Living Stones \$365; Flower Fund \$170; Kitchen Fund \$28.

Raylene Hinz-Penner's book *East of Liberal* released December 1.

"Through elements of memoir, history, and philosophy of land use, a lover of her Mennonite farm childhood looks critically at farming's impact on the land, comparing settler values of land ownership to those of first people who see themselves as owned by the sacred homeland." *East of Liberal* is published by Cascadia Publishing House. It is available through Amazon and hopefully will be available at local retailers soon.

The McPherson Community Brass Choir under the direction of Jerry Toews and the Goessel High School Elbiata Singers under the direction of Braden Unruh will be in concert today, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. at the Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church, 1304 K-15 Hwy (1 mile north of Goessel on K-15).

Mennonite Central Committee Christmas Giving! Give gifts of comfort and joy and help meet the basic needs of our global neighbors this Christmas. Choose from unique gifts such as goats, bees, backpacks and more. Give at mcc.org/delight, call 888.563.4676 or visit the MCC Central States office in North Newton, KS at 121 E. 30th Street. With each gift you can get a card and insert explaining the project. These gifts (from \$10-\$4,000) make wonderful hostess/teacher gifts, stocking stuffers and are ideal for those on your Christmas list that are hard to shop for!

This Week at BCMC: December 11—December 18, 2022

9:15 am Prelude by Chancel Bells

9:30 am Sermon by Patty Shelly

10:15 am Coffee/Tea/Water/Fellowship in the Gathering Place

10:30 am Faith Formation—Intergenerational class of pre-school through high school meets in Fellowship Hall — Adult Classes: Agape Class (Nursery); 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)

YouTube link for today’s service: https://youtu.be/zi_2zGcvyMs

Mon., Dec. 12

7 pm Funeral Committee meets in Fellowship Hall

Tues, Dec. 13

9 am Women’s Fellowship Executive Board meeting in Room 14

9-11 am Community Playschool Christmas Celebration

Wed., Dec. 14

9-11 am Community Playschool—Christmas Celebration

7:30 pm Chancel Choir practice in the sanctuary

Thurs., Dec. 15

4 pm Hospitality Commission meeting in Room 14

Sun., Dec. 18—Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:15 am Prelude by Addison Zerger, Lincoln Kohlman, Lucy Burch, Lily Schloneger

9:30 am Sermon by Nathan Koontz; music by the Chancel Choir

10:15 am Coffee/Tea/Water/Fellowship in the Gathering Place

10:30 am Faith Formation

Women's Fellowship Executive Board meets Tue., Dec. 13, 9 a.m. in Room 14.

"Restoration is Near!" is the theme of the Advent at Home 2022 worship guide which can be found at the Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) website: <https://mennoniteusa.org/adventathome>. Using the theme developed for *Leader* magazine, the guide offers weekly and daily Scriptures from the lectionary texts, worship rituals, prayers, activities, and background information to help individuals and households of all ages prepare for Advent through Epiphany. **If you prefer printed copies of the worship guide, these are located on the ledge between the mailboxes in the Gathering Place.**

The worship services on Dec. 25, 2022 and Jan. 1, 2023 will begin at 10 a.m. There will be no Sunday school on these two Sundays. The congregation is encouraged to bring snacks/Christmas goodies on both Sundays to share and enjoy after the services. —Hospitality Commission

We offer sympathy to Eldine Harder on the death of her husband Paul Harder, Dec. 9 at Via Christi-St. Francis, Wichita. Please remember Eldine and the family in your prayers. Plans for a memorial service are pending.

The Library Theme for the month of December is Advent and or Christmas.

Adult books are displayed behind the Library desk and Everybody/Junior books are displayed on the cart in the Children's Library.

Speaking of the cart, all the puzzles are currently located on the west wall of the library. So, come on in and check them out.

And, we've received a large donation of books recently. Look for new books added to our collection in the next couple of weeks and displayed on the west wall. **Happy Holiday Reading!**

Roots of Justice Anti-Racism training is being held January 13-15, 2023 at the Newton Rec Center. If you would like to help support this event by bringing snacks, or helping with snack setup and cleanup, please sign up at the following link:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1EYyJPrblgCitrIp7Rg_8Zwsb0162YPU1NyDrePqdbg/edit?usp=sharing

If you want to help but don't want to use the link, call Margaret Toews at 316-258-8900, or email at mctoews1@gmail.com

Bethel College Announcements

- **Sun., Dec. 11– 37th annual Lighting of the Green, 8 p.m.** on Bethel College campus
- **Last week to view the annual Senior Art Exhibit in the Regier Gallery** in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College, featuring the work of Capri Bisom. Exhibit closes Thurs., Dec. 15. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays.
- **Now at Kauffman Museum: “Reeds and Wool: Patterned Screens of Central Asia,”** revived from 20 years ago in memory of the late John Sommer, who collected the screens, made by nomadic Kyrgyz women, and organized the original exhibit. Regular Kauffman Museum hours are Tues.-Fri., 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Sat.-Sun., 1:30-4:30 p.m. The museum is closed Mondays and major holidays, so it will be closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day. There is a small admission charge for non-members. The Museum Store is open during exhibit hours and is Harvey County's only source for Ten Thousand Villages fair-trade gifts, as well as a selection of books, puzzles, cards and many local gift and craft items. See kauffmanmuseum.org or the Kauffman Museum Facebook page.

Poinsettias at BCMC



Donor

In memory of

- | | |
|--|---|
| Mary Ann Boschmann | Marilyn Krehbiel |
| Dennis & Kathy Campbell | Orlando & Barbara Friesen |
| William & Esther Kreider Eash | Our Parents & Grandparents |
| Dianne Epp | Anthony R. Epp |
| John & Bernice Esau | Keith Esau |
| Marlene V. Faul, Sharon, Mary & Families | James O. Faul |
| Carol Flickinger & Roger Juhnke | Our Parents— |
| | Ray and Cornelia Juhnke & Virgil & Anna Grace Flickinger |
| Gary Franz & Elizabeth Raid..... | Mary Franz & Lou Gomez |
| Richard Friesen & Dorothy Nickel Friesen..... | |
| | Arthur & Viola Friesen & John & Edna Nickel |
| Crystal & Joel Gaeddert..... | Mary Enz |
| Willis Harder..... | Dorothy L. Harder & Kurt A. Harder |
| David & Rose Haury..... | Ben Haury |
| Joyce Holck..... | Marvin Holck |
| Dick & Barb Koontz..... | Elbert & Ruth Koontz; Phil Koontz; |
| | Aldene Delk; and in Honor of Elmer “Bob” Delk, 100 years old! |
| Sondra Koontz | Philip Koontz |
| David Kreider & Heidi Regier Kreider | |
| Ken, Annette, Katherine, Elizabeth Lamp | |
| | In Honor Of Evelyn Quiring |
| John & Rachel Pannabecker | Our Parents |
| Doug Penner & Raylene Hinz-Penner | Our Parents |
| | Ike and Sally Penner; Bob Hinz and In Honor of Willye Hinz |
| Boots & Merrill Raber..... | Chet Raber |
| | Lee Schlabach |
| Jim & Beaty Robb | |
| | Orlo & Helen Goering; Stewart & Marge Robb |
| John & Elsie Sheriff..... | Kent Sheriff |
| Aldine, David, Charlotte, Mary, Rachid, Philip & Liz | |
| | Keith Sprunger |
| Marvin Thieszen | Shirley Thieszen |
| Margaret Toews | Meribeth & Henry Claassen |
| Lenore Waltner & Family..... | James Waltner |

Anonymous Donation in Honor of Pastor Nathan