

**Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request:** Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Iglesia Cristiana Menonita del Perú (Mennonite Christian Church of Peru), as they witness about the Prince of Peace during a time of national unrest.

**Western District Conference Prayer Request:** Pray for the retreat in San Antonio that the Church Planting Commission and conference minister Sandra Montes Martinez are planning. The event is called “Being the Church: Meeting our neighbors where they are,” and we pray that it bears fruit in encouraging emerging Anabaptist congregations in ministry that joins God in God’s work. -WDC Church Planting Commission

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 Nathan Koontz, Day off: Wednesday  
Cell phone: 316-212-4593; Email: [nathan@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:nathan@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- Pastor Roger Neufeld Smith  
Cell phone: 785-220-1968; Email: [roger@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:roger@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- Elizabeth Schmidt, Congregational Care Coordinator  
Email: [elizabeth@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:elizabeth@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- Jill Robb, Faith Formation Coordinator  
Email: [jill@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:jill@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- George Leary, Youth Coordinator  
Email: [george@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:george@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- Office/Facilities Manager: Monica Lichti, Cell phone 316-249-9652  
Email: [office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- 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 February 26, 2023



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**

**February 26, 2023**

**Lent 1: Shaped By Testing**

Prelude *Take the World, But Give Me Jesus* (arr. Labenske)  
*Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!* (arr. Rice)  
*Come, All Christians, Be Committed* (arr. Hayes)  
Meghann Rogers, piano

Christ Candle Lighting

Call to Worship

Leader: Sing together! Celebrate God!

**People: God protects us from our trouble.**

Leader: God forgives us and covers our sin.

**People: God surrounds us with songs of deliverance.**

**All: Therefore, let all God's people pray with thanksgiving and worship God.**

Welcome and Prayer Adam Robb

\*Hymn *The Glory of These Forty Days* VT 305

Children's Conversation Esther Koontz

Anthem Menno Ringers

Scripture Reading Genesis 2:7,15-17 Nathan Koontz  
Matthew 4:1-11 Carol Peters

Sermon Roger Neufeld Smith

\*Hymn *Word and Sign* VT 483

Communion

\*Hymn *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* VT 610

Prayers of God's People

\*Hymn *Christ Be in Your Senses* VT 721

People with February birthdays come forward  
for a blessing, please bring a hymnal and a bulletin

\* You are invited to stand VT = *Voices Together*

\*Birthday Blessing & Benediction Roger Neufeld Smith

Leader: Many are the woes of the wicked,

**People: but the Lord's unfailing love surrounds those who trust in God.**

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous.

**People: Sing, all you who have been forgiven!**

**All: The Lord's unfailing love surrounds those who trust in God.**

Postlude *This is My Father's World* (arr. Rice) Meghann Rogers

Audio visual—Francis Toews

Pastors—Nathan Koontz and Roger Neufeld Smith

**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.**

**We are very happy to welcome Michelle Armster** to preach next Sunday, March 5, for our second Sunday of Lent. Pastor Armster is the executive director for the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Central States.

**Mark your calendars for Wednesday night suppers beginning March 1, 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Note time change—NOT 6:30— Here are the menus:**

**March 1:** Chili, carrots, cinnamon rolls

**March 8:** Salisbury steak, potatoes, green beans, chocolate chip cookies

**March 15:** Chicken Enchilada casserole, salad, cinnamon dessert

**March 22:** Baked potato bar with all the fixings, dessert

**March 29:** Beef vegetable curry with rice, ice cream

**April 5:** Ham loaf, macaroni and cheese, peas, lemon dessert

\*\*There may be changes due to supply or the cooks' possible time constraints.

**Please bring your own table service.**

**Sign up for the March 1 supper on the bulletin board or by emailing [office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)**

**BCMC Care Connections - we are starting some new ways of care connections at BCMC!** Please let Elizabeth know if you are interested in any of the following ways of showing care for BCMC'ers: in-person visits, phone call visits, email connections, post-mail cards/letters, making care packages, delivering care packages. Yes, you may reply as an individual, or a couple, or a household, or a family, or any/all of the above! Additional ideas are also welcome.

Email your interest and ideas to: [elizabeth@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:elizabeth@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)

## Mennonite Central Committee Announcements

•**MCC Central States Annual Meeting, Saturday, March 4, 1-3 p.m.** you are invited to hear from MCC SALT alum Jason Schmidt and current IVEP participant Naomi Kwanza share about their MCC experiences. Naomi, from Tanzania is working at Jason's Grazing Plains Farm in rural Kansas acquiring skills for making cheese and other dairy products to use back in her home country. Catch up with MCC Central States staff, find out about work happening across the region, check out the MCC building progress and enjoy some Grazing Plains cheese! Please RSVP to [tinaschrag@mcc.org](mailto:tinaschrag@mcc.org) if you plan to attend. Thanks!

•**Put your faith in action by volunteering with SWAP this summer! MCC's SWAP (Sharing With Appalachian People)** home repair program provides short-term service and learning opportunities for churches, school and university groups, families, other groups and individuals. Now is the time to make your summer plans and sign up! More information and registration at [swap.mcc.org](http://swap.mcc.org) or (606) 634-4418.

•**SAVE THE DATE! Come join the fun at 15th annual MCC Comforter Blitz on March 6, 7 and 8** on the Journey Yoder Campus, one mile north of Yoder, KS. Times are Monday and Tuesday 9-5 and Wednesday 9-4. No sewing skills are required, we will teach you. Lunch is available by donation each day, or you may bring your own sack lunch. Bring snacks to share during the workday. This event is hosted by Kansas Friends of MCC to make comforters for relief to be sent to refugees or places after natural disasters. Please contact the MCC Central States office with questions at #316-283-2720, or check the Comforter Blitz Facebook Page, "Kansas MCC Comforter Blitz".

**On Tuesday, February 28 at 7 p.m., the Dyck Arboretum of the Plains Winter Lecture Series will focus on "McPherson Valley Wetlands: Past, Present and Future"** with Jason Black, Public Land Manager with the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. Historically there were thousands of acres of wetlands in the McPherson Valley Wetlands complex which were of extreme importance to migratory birds, even supplying railroad car loads of waterfowl to Kansas City restaurants. Over time, these wetlands were gradually drained off the landscape. Hear the full story of this unique wetland ecosystem and the plans for its restoration from a Public Land Manager perspective. The lecture will be in the Prairie Pavilion at the Dyck Arboretum at 177 West Hickory in Hesston. Admission is \$5 and can be paid at the door or ahead of time at [dyckarboretum.square.site/classes](http://dyckarboretum.square.site/classes).

**BCMC Offering for February 19, 2023:** General Fund \$16,741.66; Caring Fund \$350; Library Reserve Fund \$10; Jr Hi Fund \$50; Living Stones \$556.66; Kitchen Fund \$10; Women's Fellowship \$50; Vel Teichroew Memorial \$15.

## This Week at BCMC: February 26-March 5, 2023

### Sun., Feb. 26, 2023—Lent 1: Shaped by Testing

**9:30 am** Worship Service YouTube Link for this Sunday is:

<https://youtube.com/live/RgMDucVWjrg?feature=share>

**The church nursery** is staffed during worship and Sunday School

**10:30 am** Faith Formation—Intergenerational class meets in Fellowship Hall; High School - Room 24

Adult Classes: Agape Class meets in the nursery; Bible Study (Rm 14); Catacombs (Rm B5); Fellowship (B7); Fine Arts (Rm 22); Issues and Christianity (Rm 23); Open Circle (Room 21)

Seekers (Rm 28) [They will be doing a "Ecclesiastes study" presented by Weldon Schloneger]

### Mon., Feb. 27, 2023

**7 pm** Newton Chorale rehearsal in the sanctuary

### Tues., Feb. 28, 2023

**12 noon** Mid-Kansas Investment Club meeting in Fellowship Hall

### Wed., Mar. 1, 2023

**6:00 pm** **First Wednesday night meal in Fellowship Hall-Menu is: Chili, carrots, cinnamon rolls**

**7 pm** Youth Group meets

**7:30 pm** Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

### Thurs., Mar. 2, 2023

**6:30 pm** Chancel Bell rehearsal in Room B7

**7 pm** Newton Chorale rehearsal in the Sanctuary

**7 pm** Church Board meeting in Room 14

### Sun., Mar. 5, 2023—Lent 2: Shaped by New Birth

**9:30 am** Worship with sermon by Michelle Armster; music by Chancel Choir

---

**"Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" has arrived at last! You will receive your host's name in your mailbox today. Enjoy your dinner at 12 p.m.!**

**Roger's Whereabouts** - Roger returned to Newton Fri., Feb. 24. He will remain in Newton until the Church Board meeting on Thursday evening, March 2.

**Sunday, March 5 at 4:00 p.m., the Newton Chorale will present their 2023 concert "A Choral Jubilee" sung in memory of Philip Koontz.** The hour-long concert will be at Bethel College Mennonite Church. There is no admission charge; a free-will donation will be taken. The concert will include a chamber orchestra and soloist Dr. Matthew Schloneger in addition to the Chorale. Renae Schmidt Peters will direct. Karen Unruh is the pianist and organist for the group.

**Update and request from the Funeral Committee.** Thanks for understanding as we flexed during COVID, doing meals in varied ways, and thanks to those who have already volunteered to bake cookies for meals and receptions. Now, with COVID waning and Breadbasket able to deliver most food items, we can offer either a faspas or sandwich buffet lunch, but may need help at large events. To be an on-call volunteer, please contact the church office: office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org. (Other committee members are Dennis and Kathy Campbell, Tom Jackson, Kathryn Simmons and Dave Linscheid). Thank you.

### **Join the BCMC Creation Care Task Group!**

God calls the church to participate in the redemption of individuals, all of humanity and creation. Therefore ministries of environmental stewardship and environmental justice are important here at BCMC. The Creation Care Task Group has been on hiatus for a few years and is now beginning again. Areas of focus to promote creation care for this task group include worship, education, lifestyle practices, and community, national, and global environmental activities. If you are interested in participating with this group, please contact the church office at office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org. You can also contact Duane Friesen from the Witness Commission if you have questions regarding the work of this group.

**BCMC has an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) for emergency use but needs congregation members to administer it's use,** if and when necessary.

Bill Swartley has offered to do a training session to facilitate this. Anyone who is interested and willing to assist with using the AED, may contact the church office at office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org. Bill will then set up a time for training.

**The January 12, 1888, blizzard will be the focus for Lois Preheim, author and educator, who will be the speaker at the annual meeting of the Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association.** Her book, "Trailing the Schoolchildren's Blizzard" chronicles experiences of families living in ten locations along the storm's route extending from Canada down through the United States. Dr. Preheim has degrees from Freeman Junior College, the University of Nebraska and Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. She is a retired kindergarten-twelve principal having taught pre-school through college age students. Currently she resides in Newton. The annual meeting will be March 12, 2:30 p.m. at the First Mennonite Church of Christian in Moundridge.

**The memorial service for Grace Schroeder** will be Saturday, March 25 at 11 am.

### **Life Enrichment for March 2—Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center, Bethel College**

**9:30 am** "Nutrition: Importance of Eating and Enjoying Real Food in a Convenience Food Culture," Heather McDonough, Andover

**10:35 am** "Serving People in Need of Shelter" Jeff Koller, McPherson

**11:30 am** "Why Kansas?," Rev. Dr. Karen L. Robu, Bethel College assistant professor of communication arts/director of theater

### **Bethel College Announcements**

- **TODAY (Sun., Feb. 26) – Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum program, 3 p.m., Kauffman Museum.** Raylene Hinz-Penner, North Newton, will speak on her recently published memoir, with "East of Liberal: Notes on the Land – Exploring the Myths, Contradictions and Resilience."
- **TODAY (Sun., Feb. 26) – Bethel College Choir Tour Send-off Concert, directed by Dr. Henry Waters, 7 p.m., Memorial Hall** (please note the change in date from some previously printed calendars). The concert has the theme "Can We Sing the Darkness to Light?" and includes performances by the Chamber Singers, Woven and Open Road as well as the Concert Choir.
- **Sat., March 4 – Kauffman Museum bird walk, 8 a.m.** start time in the museum parking lot at the corner of Main and 27th streets (2801 N. Main St., North Newton 67117). Experienced birders lead a walk of 1-1.5 hours in Chisholm Park and on Sand Creek Trail (terrain is mostly wood-chip path and sometimes uneven/sloping).

**New Hope Shelter is in need of the following:** Pinesol, Scotch Tape, Laundry Pods, Dishwasher Pods, Dishwashing Soap, 8 1/2 x 11 copy paper, 55+ gallon trash bags, Coffee, Creamer, Sugar, Bread, Napkins, Mayonnaise, Granola bars, Pudding Cups. **If you can provide some of these supplies, they can be taken to New Hope, 900 West Broadway, Bldg. #7.**

**Come to Men and Boys Retreat, Mar. 31-Apr. 2 , at Camp Mennoscah, a long-standing, guys-only retreat.** Enjoy time fishing, canoeing, worshiping, sitting by the fire, or visiting with friends in fellowship. The official beginning to the weekend is Saturday morning, but many arrive on Friday. There will be a worship service on Sunday morning. Meals can be purchased for Saturday night, Sunday morning and lunch. No pre-registration. Registration and payment will take place upon arrival. More information contact Kevin Neufeld at 316-322-5515.