

**Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request:** Participants from three Mennonite Mission Network Service Adventure units are in Newton for five days of fellowship, during which they will share the importance of service with potential participants. A similar event will be held in two weeks in Elkhart, Indiana. Pray that current and future participants will grow in their commitment to active faith through these events.

**Western District Conference Prayer Request:** Pray for the four WDC Commissions as they work to resource congregations, equip ministers and congregational leaders, nurture emerging congregations, and encourage generous giving and stewardship to support WDC's mission.

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.**

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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

### March 5, 2023

### Lent 2: Shaped by New Birth



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

March 5, 2023

Lent 2: Shaped by New Birth

Prelude *Give me Jesus* (arr. Lau)  
*My Lord, What a Morning* (arr. Lau)  
Will Wiebe-Friesen, organ

Christ Candle Lighting Dale Schrag  
Land Acknowledgment Michelle Armster

\*Hymn *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* VT 737

Call to Worship  
Leader: Lift your eyes to the hills—where does your help come from?  
**People: Our help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.**  
**All: Let us worship our God, who watches over us now and always.**

Welcome and Prayer Dale Schrag

\*Hymn *O Holy Spirit, Root of Life* VT 376

Children's Conversation Esther Eash

Anthem *Come, Ye Disconsolate* (Terre Johnson)  
Chancel Choir ; Riley King, director

Scripture Reading Genesis 12:1-4a; John 3:1-17 Aaron Tschetter, Ani Koontz

Sermon Michelle Armster

\*Hymn *How Many Times We Start Again* VT 553

Prayers of God's People Dale Schrag

\*Hymn *There's a Wild Hope in the Wind* VT 828

\*Benediction Michelle Armster

Leader: The Lord watch over you  
**People: the Lord bless you and make you a blessing;**  
Leader: the sun will not harm you by day,  
**People: nor the moon by night.**  
**All: The Lord will bring you to life and carry you safely home.**

Postlude—I am thine, O Lord (arr. McDonald)—Will Wiebe-Friesen, piano

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

**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 this Sunday.** Pastor Armster is the executive director for the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Central States.

**Audio visual today** was run by Ken Lamp

Roger will be in Topeka most of this week. But he checks his cell phone and church email daily for important messages from BCMC folks. Roger will return to Newton this Friday, March 10, and remain in Newton until Tuesday, March 14.

**Wednesday night suppers , 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Menus:**

**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

**Please bring your own table service. Not doing so adds significant effort for the cleanup crew.**

**Sign up for the March 8 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)

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

## **Mennonite Central Committee Announcements**

•**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".

**BCMC Offering for February 26, 2023:** General Fund \$8,174; Sr Hi Youth \$100; Jr Hi Fund \$70; Living Stones \$1,220; Kitchen Fund \$31; Women's Fellowship \$514; Vel Teichroew Memorial \$100.

**We are grateful to Tim Schrag who will serve as the new gardener and sexton for the Peace Garden at BCMC.** Tim offers his gifts of gardening and landscape management experience, previously at Kidron Bethel Village and currently at Hesston College.

The Peace Garden is a witness to the beauty and wonder of God's creation, designed to invite joyful delight, worship, and quiet meditation. The garden incorporates native flowers, grasses, and shrubs to attract birds and pollinators. It is a laboratory for Christian faith formation, a natural outdoor space to be used for education about our local ecosystems. The Peace Garden provides two alternatives for handling ashes when cremation is chosen, a columbarium with niches for ashes, and garden spaces where ashes can be scattered and raked into the soil, modeling ecological cycling of death and rebirth of all life on earth ("from dust to dust"). Engraved plaques on the niches of the columbarium and engraved pavers on a walkway honor the memory of loved ones and the "cloud of witnesses" that surround the living body of Christ.

### **New Addresses for BCMC Members—moves to Kidron Bethel Village**

- Al and Sue Penner —42 Lakewood Circle, North Newton
- Emerson and LaWanda Wiens—3001 Ivy Drive, Apt. 206, North Newton

## **This Week at BCMC: March 5-12, 2023**

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

**9:30 am** Worship with sermon by Michelle Armster

**YouTube Link for this Sunday is: <https://youtube.com/live/ZPHqPqVvZxM?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]

**4 pm Newton Chorale concert in the Sanctuary—"A Choral Jubilee" sung in memory of Philip Koontz**

### **Wed., Mar. 8, 2023**

**6:00 pm** Wednesday night meal in Fellowship Hall-Menu is:

**Salisbury steak, potatoes, green beans, chocolate chip cookies. Please bring your own table service.**

**7 pm** Youth Group meets

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

### **Thurs., Mar. 9, 2023**

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

**7 pm** Finance Committee meeting in Room 14

### **Sun, Mar. 12, 2023—Lent 3: Shaped through thirst**

**9:30 am** Worship with sermon by Nathan Koontz; music by Chancel Bells

**Today, 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.

**There will be a Mentor-Mentee event, today, March 5 from 2-3:30 at the Goerz House. We will be putting together care packages to be mailed to our current college students.**

**"Guess Who's Coming to Dinner? Thanks to the 74 participants in this February 26 event with 10 households hosting.** It was fun getting to know congregants on a more personal level complete with a wonderful meal. — *Hospitality Commission, Marlene V.Faul, chair*

**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 fasma 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](mailto:office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org). (Committee members are Dennis and Kathy Campbell, Tom Jackson, Kathryn Simmons, Dave Linscheid, and Doris Whillock.) 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](mailto: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](mailto:office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org). Bill will then set up a time for training.

**Everence is looking for a full-time Receptionist/Administrative Assistant to support the sales efforts of the office by providing clerical, administrative support and sales assistance to the Kansas team.** Qualified candidates will have exceptional client service capabilities, ability to handle multiple tasks, and experience or aptitude to learn PC-based software programs. For more information about the responsibilities and qualifications of this position and/or to apply, please visit our website, [www.everence.com/careers](http://www.everence.com/careers).

#### **Bethel College Announcements:**

- **Bethel College is on spring break March 6-10. Most offices and services are open but some may be on reduced hours.** The Regier Gallery is closed (new exhibit opens March 17).
- **Sun., March 12 – Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum program, 3 p.m., Kauffman Museum. Nationally recognized local artist Phil Epp will present "Images of Art and Design in Central Asia,"** a program related to the museum's current special exhibit, "Reeds & Wool: Patterned Screens of Central Asia."
- **SAVE THE DATE: March 24-26, spring musical at Bethel College: tick, tick ... BOOM! by Jonathan Larson**

**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.

**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.**

**Camp Mennoscah Youth Volunteer Weekend is March 24-25!** Youth in Grades 6-12 are invited to come to this retreat focused on worship and service. The retreat begins on Friday at 7 pm with registration followed by snacks, games, and campfire. Rachel and Isaac, the Senior High program directors, will lead activities. Register in the Summer Youth Camp section by adding a person or session, if you have already registered for camp.

**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.