

Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request: Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Bekah York, as she begins six weeks of North American ministry this month. Pray for inspiration, as she speaks in churches, encouraging others to join what God is doing in Colombia, as well as for rest and renewal, as she reconnects with family and friends.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Pray for sponsors, mentors, teachers and pastors who minister with youth in 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
- Pastor Roger Neufeld Smith
Cell phone: 785-220-1968; Email: roger@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
- Elizabeth Schmidt, Congregational Care Coordinator
Email: elizabeth@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
- Jill Robb, Faith Formation Coordinator
Email: jill@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
- George Leary, Youth Coordinator
Email: george@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
- Office/Facilities Manager: Monica Lichti, Cell phone 316-249-9652
Email: 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

April 23, 2023

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

CREATION CARE SUNDAY



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

April 23, 2023

Third Sunday of Easter

The Restoration of Creation

Prelude	<i>Kol Nidrei</i> (Bruch)	Caleb Garber, cello Lisa Schmidt, accompanist
Christ Candle Lighting		Elizabeth Schmidt
Welcome and Prayer		
*Hymn	<i>All Things Bright and Beautiful</i>	VT 177
Children's Conversation		Kathy Stucky
Anthem	<i>All Creatures, Worship God Most High</i> verses 1-4, 7	VT 81
	Chancel Choir, Riley King, director; Karen Schlabaugh, accompanist Congregation join in unison on verse 7	
Scripture Reading	Genesis 1:24-31; Romans 8:18-24a; Colossians 1:15-20	Jane Goering
Reflections	Elizabeth Schmidt, Dwight Platt, Lorna Harder, Ani Koontz	
*Hymn of Response	<i>The Garden Needs Our Tending Now</i>	VT 788
Prayers of God's People		
*Hymn	<i>There's a Wild Hope in the Wind</i>	VT 828
*Benediction		
Postlude	<i>Postlude on Fredericktown</i> (Robert J. Powell)	Karen Schlabaugh

* You are invited to stand

VT = *Voices Together*

Keyboard- Karen Schlabaugh

Audio visual— Ken Lamp

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.

Offertory at BCMC

As a way of acknowledging our offertory during our Sunday morning worship, starting this second Sunday of Easter, the ushers will bring up the offertory trays to the communion table during the Hymn of Response. Then, as we have already been doing, the worship leader will give thanks for the offering during the Prayers of God's People. The offering trays are located in the back of the sanctuary on the tables near the ushers. You are invited to place your offering into the tray as you enter the sanctuary. If you happen to forget, offering trays will also be present at the end of the service in the same location. Thank you for your monetary contributions and all the many other ways that you contribute to the life and ministries of BCMC.

BCMC Offering for April 16, 2023: General Fund \$6,075.33; Columbarium Fund \$1,000; Caring Fund \$750; Living Stones \$58.33; Kitchen Fund \$23; Tamen Miller Memorial \$1,000.

With 25% of the year gone, we have raised about 20% of the church's budget. Our deficit for the year is about \$18,000; March deficit was about \$1700, so we are moving in the right direction. Our challenge for April is to break even or to have a surplus. Thank you for your effort! —*Finance Committee*

Congregational Meeting

The next congregational meeting will take place on Sunday, May 7, at 10:45 during the Sunday School hour. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary and made available live on YouTube only while the meeting is in progress; it will not be recorded. Votes from remote viewers can be texted to a number available in the May 7 bulletin and announced at the beginning of the meeting. Agenda items will include approval of new commission, committee, and board members; updates from the Search Committee and Credence Report Task Group; and reports from several task groups and staff. Report booklets will be available soon.

Newton Et Cetera Shop's board of directors will host a farewell reception for general manager Sara Dick on Sat., Apr. 29, 2-4 p.m. at the shop (619 North Main, Newton). You're invited to stop by to celebrate seven years of Sara's leadership and wish her well!

The Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus (KMMC) performs today, Sun., Apr. 23, 7 p.m. at Memorial Hall, Bethel College, North Newton. The KMMC is a large, all-volunteer male choir. In recent seasons membership has topped 300. Their motto is "we sing that others may live." Offerings taken at KMMC concerts are donated to the Mennonite Central Committee.

All Western District Conference women are invited to join a virtual event sponsored by Western District Women in Mission Tues., Apr. 25.

Jenny Gehman, spiritual director, retreat speaker, and writer, will present "Holy Host: the Hospitality of God." Join in person or virtually. In-person gathering will be at First Mennonite Church, Newton, beginning with a salad potluck at 6 p.m., followed by Jenny joining virtually from Pennsylvania at 6:45 p.m. There is no cost to this event, but *please register by April 23 by emailing westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com* so you can receive a Zoom link if joining virtually. Please email your RSVP if attending in person and bring a salad to share. More information, contact Wendy Schrag at 316-841-5245.

Youth ages 12 to 17 are invited to be a Junior Volunteer at Kidron Bethel Village in North Newton or Schowalter Villa in Hesston June 1 through July 28. Junior Volunteers help facilitate activities with residents in health care and/or assisted living, including playing games, reading, going on walks and more. An application is required and must be submitted by May 10. Spaces are limited. Proof of complete COVID-19 vaccination series required. For application, contact 620-327-4821 or shelleyl@bluestemks.org.

Mennonite Church USA is seeking Menno Snapshots blogs on the topic, "I choose to be Mennonite because..." Bloggers are encouraged to reflect on how they came to Anabaptism, what attracted them to our Mennonite theology and practices, and how this has impacted their lives. This is an ideal opportunity for the recently baptized and/or those who may have joined from other faith traditions. Suggested word count is 500-900 words. Youth are also encouraged to participate (no word count requirements). Read the blog guidelines and submit your blog here by May 22: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/blog-guidelines/>

Newton Et Cetera Shop's 2023 Local Giving Grant applications are due Mon., May 1. Information and a link for the application can be found at newtonetceterashop.com/local-giving-fund/.

This Week at BCMC: April 23—30, 2023

Today is Creation Care Sunday. Copies of our **Creation Care Covenant**, with suggestions for creation care practices, are available on the table in the Gathering Place. Thank you to Dwight Platt, Lorna Harder, and Ani Koontz for sharing their reflections during the worship service today.

Sun, Apr. 23, 2023—Third Sunday of Easter

9:30 am Worship YouTube Link for this Sunday is: <https://youtube.com/live/Sebiui99CFc?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) Topic for Sunday: "Mennonite Contribution to the Dutch Golden Age, Part II" by Lauren Friesen**; Fellowship (B7); Fine Arts (Rm 22); Issues and Christianity (Rm 23); Open Circle (Room 21) Seekers (Rm 28)
3:30—5:30 p.m. Faith Exploration Class in Room 28

Mon., Apr. 24, 2023

10 am Staff meeting in Room 14

Wed., Apr. 26, 2023

7 pm Senior High Youth Group

7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Thurs., Apr. 27, 2023

4 pm Hospitality Commission meeting in Room 14

5-7:30 pm Community Playschool Book Night in Fellowship Hall/Classrooms

6:30 pm Chancel Bell rehearsal in Room B7

7 pm Deacon Commission meeting in Room 14

Sun., Apr. 30, 2023—Camp MennoScah Retreat

There will be no worship service at BCMC this Sunday

BCMC will be hosting the community Vacation Bible School this year, held May 30-June 2 with a joint worship service on the Bethel College Lawn at 10 a.m., June 4. A QR code and link for Registration will be available starting April 30. We are looking for volunteers! If you feel called to volunteer for the week please fill out the bulletin insert and put it in either Jill Robb or Mary Ellen Hodge's box, or send either of us an email. Youth older than 5th grade who would like to volunteer will be paired with an adult. We would love to plug you in!

Pastor Roger Neufeld Smith will be driving back to Topeka next Mon. afternoon (4/24). He will be back in North Newton on Thurs., May 4. Roger checks his phones messages and texts frequently when he is in Topeka, so feel free to contact him via phone or email.

Progress with Pastoral Search

At its April 6 meeting, the BCMC Board approved the Congregational Information Form completed by the Search Committee and the job description for the new pastoral position. The Search Committee has sent these two documents to Western District Conference for official announcement and advertisement of our open pastoral position. Both Search Committee and Board appreciated the congregational input from the congregational priorities survey. Thanks to all who participated in this process; we ask for the congregation's ongoing support. The job description is for a full-time Co-Pastor. Primary areas of emphasis will be worship, facilitating the teamwork of pastors and staff, work with board and commissions/committees, and participating with other pastors and staff in the caregiving team. Within the context of a flexible pastoral and staff team, additional emphases may be added dependent upon the gifts and interests of the candidate. **There will be a chance for discussion and questions in the sanctuary today, during the Sunday School hour.** Questions may also be asked during the congregational meeting on May 7.

The Mennoscah Retreat is quickly approaching - and we have very few people signed up so far! To help us with food - and making sure we have enough accommodation space - please take a few moments to let us know you're coming! You can use this link: <https://forms.gle/ccavLqvMS1Ft2WBVA> to indicate you are able to attend. We'd really like to know by Mon., April 24 so we can most accurately plan for food supplies for our three tasty meals!

The Library Theme till the end of May is Women's History. The Committee has pulled a few of the books available from our collection and is displaying them in back of the library desk or against the south wall in the children's section. Come check us out and be on the look out for a reading contest arriving in May!!

A Newton Et Cetera Shop Volunteer Event will be Tues., May 2, 6:30 p.m. at Shalom Mennonite Church, 800 E. 1st St., Newton. Current and former volunteers and anyone interested in becoming a volunteer at the shop are invited. Come to learn more about our mission and opportunities to get involved. 30% of Mennonite Central Committee's annual budget comes from thrift shops across the United States. Hope to see you there!

Peace Connections is hosting **Bridges out of Poverty**, a free training to be a volunteer for Circle of Hope. The training is a three part workshop on May 5 (2-4 p.m.); June 2 (2-4 p.m.) and July 7 (2-4 p.m.) To RSVP for the workshop or for more information visit www.peaceconnections.org or call 316-284-0000. Harvey County Circle of Hope is a relationship-based initiative that seeks to improve the financial health and well-being of the community and our residents. Circle of Hope connects community volunteers with families ready and willing to begin their journey towards financial stability.

Life Enrichment for April 27—Krehbiel Auditorium

9:30 a.m. "Crisis Communication Strategies Emerging from the #ChurchToo Movement" Christine Crouse-Dick, Ph.D., Bethel College professor of communication arts

10:35 a.m. "Don't Let Your Buffalo Run Loose: Stories from Harvey County," Kristine Schmucker, archivist/curator, and Catherine Graves, director, Harvey County Historical Museum and Archives, Newton

11:30 a.m. "Bethel College Steel Drum Ensemble," Brad Shores, director

Bethel College Announcements:

- **Sun., Apr. 23 – Junior recital by Bethel College student Josie Epp, piano, 4 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium**
- **Weds., Apr. 26 – Bethel College Wind Ensemble concert, directed by Joel Boettger, 7 p.m.,** Featuring works by Maslanka, Curiale, Holst, Chance, Ticheli and Sheldon. *Krehbiel Auditorium*
- **Thurs., Apr. 27 – Annual URICA Symposium at Bethel College,** with student posters and presentations beginning at 12:30 p.m. in various campus locations. See <https://www.bethelks.edu/academics/convocation-lectures/urica-symposium> for a complete schedule.
- **Thurs., Apr. 27 – Reception for the annual Student Art Exhibit, featuring the work of Bethel College students** in a variety of media, 6-8 p.m., Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center. Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m. Exhibit remains through Fri., May 5.
- **Sat., Apr. 29 – Friends of Kauffman Museum Sale (vintage and antique items and artwork),** 9 a.m.-1 p.m., outside the front entrance and in the museum auditorium (2801 N. Main St., North Newton 67117). All proceeds benefit the museum. For a partial list of items, see <https://kauffmanmuseum.org/event/friends-of-the-museum-vintage-antique-art-sale/>
- **Sun., Apr. 30 – Masterworks concert at Bethel College, 4 p.m. (NOTE TIME CHANGE),** featuring mass choir, orchestra and soloists, performing Mozart Krönungsmesse ("Coronation Mass") and Beethoven Fantasia, Op. 80 ("Choral Fantasy"); Memorial Hall
- **Mon., May 1 – Bethel College Steel Drum Band concert,** directed by Brad Shores, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium
- **Tues., May 2 – Bethel College Voice Studio recital,** Soyoun Chun, instructor, 7 p.m., Administration Building chapel
- **Weds., May 3 – Jazz on the Green at Bethel College,** 7 p.m. (Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center in case of rain)
- **Sun., May 7 – Woven and Open Road** joint concert at BCMC, 7 p.m.