

**Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request:** Marisa Smucker assumed the responsibilities of interim executive director of Mennonite Mission Network in March. Pray for God's wisdom and strength, as she leads the agency.

**Western District Conference Prayer Request:** Pray for members of boards, councils, deacons and other leadership teams in WDC congregations, as they offer vision and care for the church.

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

### May 21, 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**

**May 21, 2023**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

|                          |   |                            |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Prelude                  | <i>Kum Ba Yah</i> (arr. Behnke)<br>Chancel Bells; Verlene Garber, director<br><i>West Quoddy Sunrise</i> (Bernadine Johnson) Abby Koontz          |                            |
| Christ Candle Lighting   |   | Adam Robb                  |
| Welcome and Prayer       |   |                            |
| *Hymn                    | <i>Here in This Place</i>   | VT 10                      |
| Children's Conversation  | Summer BCMC Library Program<br>Presentation of Hymnals to High School Graduates<br>Alice Claassen, Kat Friesen, Simon Koontz, Ian Voth            | Karen Neufeld<br>Jill Robb |
| Anthem                   | <i>Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit</i> (arr. Linker & McFadden)<br>Chancel Bells   |                            |
| Scripture Reading        | John 16:33-17:1-11, Acts 1:6-14<br>Doug Penner, Raylene Hinz-Penner   |                            |
| Sermon                   | <i>Why are you looking toward heaven?</i>   | Nathan Koontz              |
| *Hymn of Response        | <i>Could It Be That God is Singing</i>  | VT 42                      |
| Reception of New Members | Elizabeth Schmidt<br>Calvin Flickinger, Ron Flickinger, Janet Friesen, Lauren Friesen<br>Judy Harder, Keith Harder, Jim Juhnke, Miriam Nofsinger, |                            |
| Prayers of God's People  |   |                            |
| *Hymn                    | <i>Go Now in Peace</i> <sup>^</sup>   | VT 835                     |
| *Benediction             |   |                            |
| Postlude                 | <i>Andante K315</i> (Mozart)  | Lucy Burch                 |

\*You are invited to stand

^Bells and congregation sing in unison through once; congregation sings with bells twice in canon. The south side begins, the north side comes in 2nd, and the bells will do a 3rd entry

VT—*Voices Together*

Keyboard—Verlene Garber

Audio visual—Ken Lamp

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**Offertory at BCMC**

As a way of acknowledging our offertory during our Sunday morning worship, 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.**

**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.**

**Come see a Play, Friday, June 2 at VBS! From 6-7:30 on June 2 at BCMC!**

ALL are invited to a performance of Selah's Song, a play about a young girl in Ukraine who inspires her community with a song of Peace. This play is suitable for all ages and we hope you can join! Presented by *Theatre of the Beat*, a touring company based in Toronto.

**Roger's Whereabouts** - Roger will be back in Newton on Wednesday, May 24. Roger checks his phone messages and texts daily while he is in Topeka, so feel free to contact him via phone or email.

**Congratulations, the April finance numbers are quite favorable.** The church raised \$340 more in April than it spent in April. This comes as a result of extra effort and hard work on your part. Thank you very much and keep the ball rolling. *Finance Committee*

**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.

**The Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale Annual Dinner and Meeting** will be Thursday, May 25, 6:00 pm at First Mennonite Church, McPherson. The cost of the meal is \$20.00. Please RSVP to Barb BJ Reeves at bj.reeves@live.com or call/text 620-543-6863 by May 21. Come celebrate the success of the MCC Sale!

**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](http://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.

**Everence will hold an informative Medicare webinar Tues., May 30, at 6:30 p.m.** Topics will include, when and where to sign up for Medicare, what Medicare does (and doesn't) cover, Medicare Parts A, B, C and D in clear, understandable language plus budgeting for health care costs in retirement. There will also be time for your questions. Information will be presented by staff from the Everence offices in Central Kansas. To register contact Everence at 316-283-3800, 877-467-7294 or [central.kansas@everence.com](mailto:central.kansas@everence.com). Attendance recommended for those approaching retirement or those ready to sign up for Medicare.

## **This Week at BCMC: May 21-28, 2023**

### **Sun, May 21, 2023**

**9:30 a.m.** Worship YouTube Link for this Sunday is: <https://youtube.com/live/pOctfyytlwc?feature=share>

The church nursery is staffed during worship and Sunday School

**10:30 a.m.** Faith Formation—High School - Room 24 Adult Classes: Agape Class meets in the nursery; Bible Study (Rm 14); **Catacombs (Rm B5) Topic is “Highlights of the Museum—Oriental Institute” by Lauren Friesen**; Fellowship (B7); Fine Arts (Rm 22); Issues and Christianity (Rm 23); Open Circle (Room 21) Seekers (Rm 28)

### **Mon., May 22, 2023**

10 a.m. Library Committee meeting in Room 14

11 a.m. Staff meeting in Fellowship Hall

5:30 p.m. Faith Formation meeting in Fellowship Hall

### **Wed., May 24, 2023**

7 p.m. Senior High Youth Group

### **Thurs., May 25, 2023**

4 p.m. Hospitality Commission meeting in Room 14

7 p.m. Deacon Commission meeting in Room 14

### **Fri., May 26, 2023**

5 p.m. Wedding Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

### **Sat., May 27, 2023**

3:30 p.m. Wedding of Danielle Wellborn and Silas Minkevitch in the Sanctuary

### **Sun., May 28, 2023—Pentecost Sunday**

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Roger Neufeld Smith; communion will be served; May birthday recognition

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**Children and Youth of BCMC: Read a book. Earn a Book.** This summer, you can earn a book for the New Hope Shelter for each book checked out, read, and returned. Visit the table outside the door to the children's room of the BCMC church library for more information. The challenge is to fill a whole shelf of books for homeless children and youth.

**BCMC Offering for May 7, 2023:** General Fund \$7,163.33; *Rejoice* \$34.11; Church Retreat \$1,000; Mennonite Camp Scholarship \$181; Esther Thiesen Memorial \$100.

**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!

### **Rejoice Devotional Subscriptions**

For those of you who are currently subscribed to the Rejoice Devotional Magazine, the last issue for this year (June-July-August) is in your mailboxes here at church. To renew for the coming year (or if you wish to join as a new subscriber) please drop a check in the offering plate for \$34.11 (in the memo line put "Rejoice" subscription), or mail your check to the church at PO Box 364, North Newton, KS, 67117, or bring to the church office by May 31.

**2023 Western District Conference (WDC) Annual Assembly**, "Holy (Wholly) Listening," August 11-13, 2023, Tabor Mennonite Church, Newton, KS. Listening to God and many voices. Why go? It's a great chance to join others for creative resourcing, worship, great music and food, and participating in the work of the church. Watch for more information coming soon!

**Faith Formation resources for you** - The WDC Resource Commission has paid for a subscription for the Vibrant Faith 2023 Masterclass Season Pass of faith formation webinars! Vibrant Faith seeks to transform the way churches envision and design faith formation for all ages and generations in the 21st century. For more details about the webinars, go to: <https://vibrantfaith.org/masterclasses/>. To access these resources at no cost to you, email Michelle at [wdc@mennowdc.org](mailto:wdc@mennowdc.org).

**Register today for MennoCon23**, MC USA's leading faith formation event July 3-6, the Youth & Young Adult Climate Summit on July 7, and the Delegate Assembly July 7-8.  
<https://convention.mennoniteusa.org/registration/>

**TODAY (Sun., May 21) – Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum program with Dr. Mary Dusenberry from the University of Kansas**, "Of Wool & Silk: Textile Explorations in Central Asia," 3 p.m., Kauffman Museum auditorium. In conjunction with the current special exhibit "Reeds & Wool: Patterned Screens of Central Asia," which closes May 28.

**Sat., June 3 – The public is invited to Walk Sand Creek Trail Day, part of National Trails Day®.** Water will be available for people and leashed dogs at the trailhead at Memorial Grove on the Bethel College campus, dawn to dusk (6 a.m.-8 p.m.), courtesy of the Sand Creek Trail Committee, with members there to answer any questions about the trail.

**Staff position opening:** Western District Conference seeks a half-time Business Manager beginning July 10, at WDC's North Newton, KS, office (some remote work possible). Responsibilities include financial management, bookkeeping, reporting and payroll. Qualifications include organizational, computer and communication skills, bookkeeping or accounting experience, and willingness to support WDC's mission and priorities. For position description and application form visit: <https://mennowdc.org/wdc-staff-position-opening/>. Interested applicants please submit application form and letter of interest to the Conference Minister at [heidirk@mennowdc.org](mailto:heidirk@mennowdc.org).

**The Newton Et Cetera Shop is taking applications for our full-time Retail Manager position.** Job descriptions and applications can be picked up at the shop, 619 Main Street, Newton KS, 67114; phone 316-283-9461.

**Register now for the Restorative Kansas conference happening June 8-9 at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, KS.** The conference theme is Growing Restorative Communities: Cultivating Change by Tending our Roots. Hear Keynote Speaker Chief Justice Emeritus Robert Yazzie of Navajo Nation and participate in breakout sessions on indigenous peacemaking; RJ in schools; youth-led efforts; community-based efforts; law enforcement and judicial efforts; and circle process. Enjoy a commissioned street opera entitled "The Return" and lots more. MCC Central States is a sponsor for the 2023 conference. Please join us, find more information and register at [www.restorativekansas.org](http://www.restorativekansas.org).