

Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request: Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Odesa Theological Seminary in Ukraine. Pray that courses on trauma healing will equip church leaders to respond with compassion and skill to the millions of people who have lost loved ones and homes due to Russia's invasion.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Please pray for those who participated at our "Being the Church: Meeting Our Neighbors Where They Are" conference in Dallas on April 21-22. May their time together encourage them to prayerfully try new things, plant new churches, and take new steps of faith as we invite our neighbors to follow Jesus alongside us. -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.

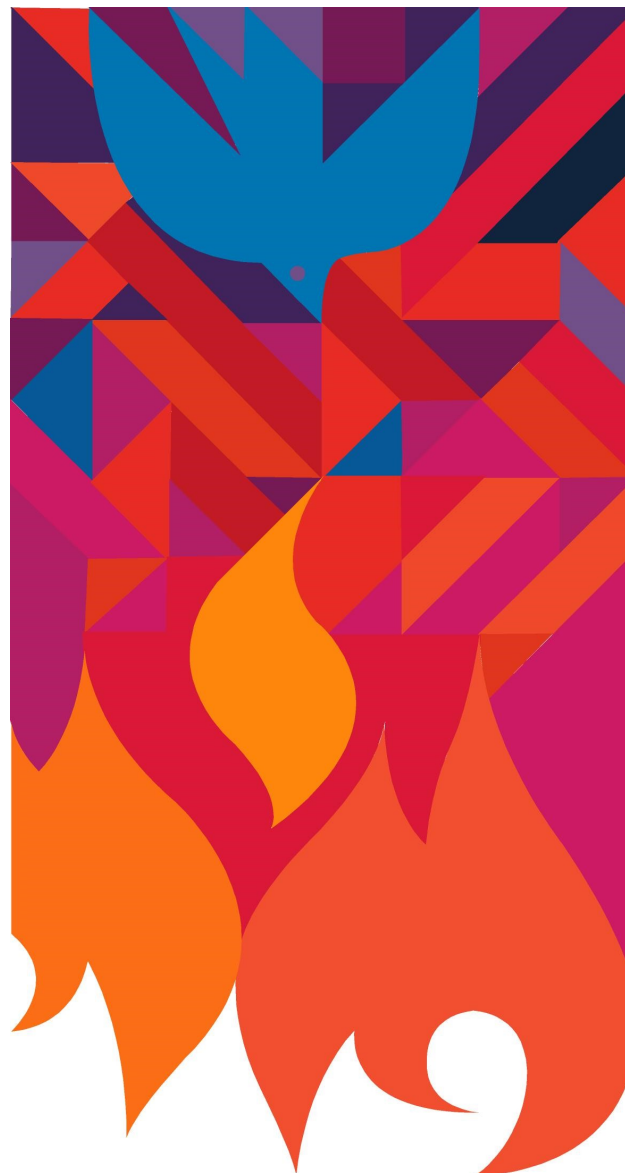
Bethel College Mennonite Church welcomes into fellowship and membership all persons who confess faith in Jesus Christ, without regard to their race, ethnic background, gender, age, sexual orientation, education, ability, and other factors which give rise to discrimination and marginalization.

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
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

May 28, 2023—Pentecost 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

Pentecost Sunday

May 28, 2023

Prelude Hymn Preludes by J. Harold Moyer
 Be Thou My Vision
 Beach Spring Karen Schlabaugh

Christ Candle Lighting

Welcome and Prayer Dorothy Nickel Friesen

*Hymn *Holy Spirit, Come with Power* VT 57

Children's Conversation Esther Kreider Eash

Kin-dom Report Community Playschool Jeanette Leary, Cliff Dick

Scripture Reading Acts 2:1-4,14,22-24,36-47
 Lucy Burch and Emma Gering

Sermon *Pentecost, Communion and Peace*
 Roger Neufeld Smith

*Hymn *Let the Hungry Come to Me* VT 459

Communion Roger Neufeld Smith and Elizabeth Schmidt

Preparation for Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pledge of Love VT 937

(congregational response **"By the grace of God, I will"**)

Words of Institution

Receiving the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Blessing

Prayers of God's People

*Hymn *We Are People of God's Peace* VT 797
 People with May birthdays come forward for a blessing,
 please bring a hymnal

Benediction

Postlude *Toccata in E Minor* (Johann Pachelbel) Karen Schlabaugh

You are invited to stand
VT—*Voices Together*
Keyboard—Karen Schlabaugh
Audio visual— John Thiesen

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.

Judy Friesen would like to invite church members to come share her space in the country with a potluck, Sunday, June 11, starting at 6 p.m. Sloppy joes, drink and table service provided. Space to roam and visit as well as eat. 2101 W Dutch Ave. North on Hwy 15 to Hesston Road (Dutch Av), and 3/4 mile west.

Roger's Whereabouts : Roger will be in Newton until tomorrow, May 29. He will be driving back to Topeka Monday night, but will return to Newton Thursday morning, June 1.

BCMC Offering for May 21, 2023: General Fund \$4,890; Community Play School \$500; Living Stones \$415; Mennonite Camp Scholarship \$100; Women's Fellowship \$240; Esther Thieszen Memorial \$1,080.

Thank you to Janet Friesen for the art display in the Gathering Place. These are monotype prints made by painting an image with printing ink onto an acrylic plate, then transferring the image by placing a piece of paper over the acrylic plate and running it through the printing press.

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. Attendance recommended for those approaching retirement or those ready to sign up for Medicare.

Are you looking for a meaningful volunteer opportunity? New Hope Shelter would happily welcome you. BCMC needs to send 2 volunteers every evening for a week every 9 weeks, and you would be asked if you could serve one of those evenings. But a commitment every 9 weeks is not required. There is a volunteer training June 15 at 7:30. Please contact Valetta Seymour if you are interested or have questions: seymour2314@gmail.com or 620-217-7536. There will be refresher volunteer training on June 22 at 7:30 for those who want to brush up on their volunteer knowledge.

Current donation needs for New Hope:

Lunch meat, sliced cheese, Miracle Whip, salad dressings, milk, pancake syrup, peanut butter and jelly. Paper towels, napkins, toilet paper, saran wrap, sandwich bags, masking tape.

BCMC Pride Month Activities

June is Pride month for LGBTQIA persons and our church plans to celebrate and raise awareness for those who identify as LGBTQIA in the following ways.

-Pride banners will be hung outside our church building during the month of June. Thanks to Oscar Gonzalez, Graphic Design Coordinator at Bethel College, for his design!

-Nathan Koontz of BCMC will represent the local Supportive Communities Network (SCN) during worship at Faith Mennonite as they celebrate joining SCN. SCN is part of the Brethren Mennonite Council for LGBT Interests. Local SCN congregations include BCMC, Shalom, New Creation, and Lorraine Avenue.

-In early June, the Bethel College Mennonite Church Inclusion Task Group will be sending a letter to the Mennonite Central Committee encouraging them to eliminate their discriminatory policies towards LGBTQIA persons. If you would like to learn more about MCC's lifestyle policy (HR 152) and our letter, please contact Karen Ediger, John Kliwer, Nathan Koontz, or Karen Penner of the Inclusion Task Group.

-The congregation is invited to join in various Wichita Pride activities throughout the month of June. Go to the wichitapride.org website for more details. Of special note is the Pride Parade on June 25. The route will begin at the Old Courthouse and end at Century II.

This Week at BCMC: May 21-28, 2023

Sun, May 28, 2023—Pentecost Sunday

9:30 a.m. Worship YouTube Link for this Sunday is:

<https://youtube.com/live/EwmlcD5jOJk?feature=share>

The church nursery is staffed during worship and Sunday School

10:45 a.m. Faith Formation—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)

Mon., May 29, 2023—Memorial Day—Church Office will be closed

Tue., May 30, 2023—Vacation Bible School at BCMC

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. VBS in various classrooms and Fellowship Hall at BCMC

Wed., May 31, 2023

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. VBS in various classrooms and Fellowship Hall at BCMC

6 p.m. Indigenous Justice Task Group meets in Room 14

7 p.m. Senior High Youth Group

Thurs., June 1, 2023

10 a.m. Staff meeting in Room 14

4 p.m. Staff Congregational Relations Committee meeting in Room 14

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. VBS in various classrooms and Fellowship Hall at BCMC

7 p.m. Church Board meeting in Room 14

Fri., June 2, 2023

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. VBS in various classrooms and Fellowship Hall at BCMC

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

Sun., June 4, 2023—Vacation Bible School Sunday—Worship Service on the Bethel College Lawn All participating churches will come together for a joint VBS worship service. The children will showcase the songs they learned during VBS and take part in enjoyable activities. The service will be live streamed on the First Mennonite Church channel starting at 10 a.m. A potluck will follow the service. Please bring chairs, table service, and a food item to share. Drinks will be provided. Join in a gathering of love, faith, and community, creating cherished memories together. The First Mennonite live-stream can be viewed at firstmennonitenewton.org, at the First Mennonite YouTube channel, [YouTube.com/@firstmennonitechurchnewton7575](https://www.youtube.com/@firstmennonitechurchnewton7575), or at the First Mennonite Newton Facebook page. The stream starts 20 minutes before the service.

Pastor Nathan Koontz will be on vacation May 26-31.

Monica Lichti will be on vacation June 5-9. The church office will be open in the mornings of that week and closed in the afternoons.

Community Playschool, Inc. has recently completed our 56th school year!

Twenty-two children of the Newton community participated in the program this year at a minimal cost to their families, thanks to five area sponsoring churches. We again want to thank BCMC for being one of those supporting churches through monetary donations, the use of the facilities, secretarial and custodial services and a welcoming attitude toward our program. It is nice to have a home here! We also are grateful for the matching grant that we received from this church through the Everence Sharing Fund. I want to acknowledge the service of Cliff Dick as BCMC's representative on our board, also serving as treasurer. Barb Voran, Stahli Claassen, Vernabelle Stayrook, and Cynthia Linscheid, served respectively as teacher, helper, and substitutes this year. These volunteers help make it possible for us to continue to provide an affordable preschool experience to families who need it most. A big thanks to Monica Lichti for her extra duties related to our being housed here at BCMC! An organization such as ours relies heavily on volunteer workers to keep our costs to a minimum. As many of our volunteers have retired from our program and as we look ahead to the next school year, we know that we need more volunteer helpers to be able to provide the attentive relationships and safe environment that we have always sought to maintain for our children and families. As members of a sponsoring church, we hope that you might consider whether you could help us out and become a one or two day a week helper for the coming school year. These volunteer positions have not only helped the children we serve but have also proved to be a rewarding experience for many of our adult helpers. Please give your church representative or us a call if you would like to have more information about our program and the opportunities that we have for you! We solicit your prayers and continued support for the future of our organization. With gratitude, *Co- Directors, Kasey Newell (316 772-3350) and Jeanette Leary (316 217-2548)*

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.

The Library Theme for June and July are Library Committee suggestions for Everybody/Junior books for the summer reading contest. As has already been noted, this contest is for any student who checks out a book from our library, reads it independently, reads it with someone or someone reads it to a student, and then returns it. We are excited to see how many books will be purchased for New Hope Shelter. —*The Library Committee*

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.

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.

TODAY (Sun., May 28) – Last day to visit the special exhibition at Kauffman Museum , “Reeds & Wool: Patterned Screens of Central Asia.” Hours are 1:30-4:30 p.m., with a small admission charge for non-museum members.

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 trail-head 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 and its history. This is the 25th anniversary of Sand Creek Trail as an organized and maintained trail.

Sat., June 3 – Kauffman Museum bird walk, 7 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).

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.

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.