

**Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request:** Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for the Youth Venture teams that are spending two weeks in Benin and Indonesia. Pray for the seven participants at each location, their group leaders and their hosts. Pray that this experience will help build the global body of Christ.

**Western District Conference Prayer Request:** Pray for WDC congregations that are supporting refugees and asylum seekers, as they join God's work of justice and care for all people.

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

July 16, 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**  
**July 16, 2023**

Prelude                  *Voluntary on Tallis' Third Tune* (David Lasky)  
                               *Praise to the Lord, The Almighty* (arr. Jason Payne)

Will Wiebe-Friesen

## Christ Candle Lighting

Welcome and Prayer Elizabeth Schmidt

*Hymn	<i>We Are One in the Spirit</i>	VT 387
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Children's Conversation Nadine Peters and Carol Peters

Kin-dom Report—MCUSA Delegate Assembly—BCMC Delegates  
Steve Stucky, Jeanette Stucky, Tim Hodge, Mary Ellen Hodge

*Hymn	<i>My Love Colors Outside the Lines</i>	VT 582
	Suzy Burch and Lucy Burch	

Scripture Reading Matthew 25:34-40; Hebrews 13:1-3; Isaiah 43:18-9a  
Lotti Boschmann and Erich Boschmann

Message      *Our Extended Family*      Al and Nadine Peters

*Hymn of Response	<i>Amazing Grace</i>	VT 163
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## Prayers of God's People

*Hymn	<i>In the Bulb There is a Flower</i>	VT 670
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\*Benediction

Postlude	<i>Psalm XIX</i> (Marcello)	Will Wiebe-Friesen
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\* You are invited to stand  
VT—*Voices Together*  
Keyboard- Will Wiebe-Friesen  
Audio visual— John Thiesen

**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.**

**BCMC Prayer Network:** The Prayer Network is an email-based prayer network comprised of Deacon Commission members and BCMC congregants. Participants make a one-year commitment to this prayer ministry which is coordinated by Pastors and the Office and Facilities Manager. Pastors respond to prayer requests and determine when and how these requests are distributed. Specific prayer requests are shared only with the permission of the person(s) involved. If you would like to join the BCMC prayer network, please email your interest to [office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org). Thanks to all who serve BCMC in the Prayer Network.

**Care Connections Opportunity:** Volunteers are needed to provide transportation for BCMCers to medical appointments, including appointments in Wichita. If you're available and can provide loving care for one another in this way at this time, please call Elizabeth at the church office, or send an email to [elizabeth@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:elizabeth@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org). "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:35 ESV)

**Roger's Whereabouts :** Roger is out of town for vacation through July 18. He will be checking text messages and email occasionally during this time. Roger will be back in the BCMC office on Wednesday, July 19.

**You did it again! June was a great month with a positive balance of about \$3000.** That's three in a row! Congratulations! If this trend continues we will wind up with a fantastic year. *Finance Committee*

**Prairie View, Inc. is hosting FREE MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING.** Learn how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders on July 26, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Prairie View Auditorium 1901 E. First St., Newton. See the church bulletin board for more details.

## Greetings from Faith Formation!

Faith Formation is asking that ALL who are interested in being a part of building intergenerational relationships within the church fill out the survey listed below. If you are a parent of a youth who will attend the Intergenerational Sunday school class or who will be a part of Jr High Club or Senior High Youth Group, you may fill out the Release Form for the 2023-24 school year. Intergenerational Sunday school will follow this format from week to week. Teachers may decide to switch up the weeks to fit their needs.

Week 1: Introduction of the Bible story. Activity related to the Bible story.

Week 2: Reader's Theatre or continuation of the Bible story.

Week 3: Craft or games

Week 4: Interview an adult who has joined us for the month (ask the week prior to interview)

The weekly schedule will follow the format below:

### Following the service until 10:45 am

Arrival and snack (groups will be mixed ages at each table)

Questions of the day to discuss at table groups

Opening prayer and announcements

10:45 am - 11:15 am Bible Story/Activity

11:15 am - 11:30 am Clean up, Journal, or other activity with the teachers

Closing prayer and dismissal

**Mark your calendar for the Sunday School Orientation/Safe Sanctuaries**

**Date: August 20 from 12:00-1:00 pm. We will have a pizza lunch.**

**Intergenerational Survey:** <https://forms.gle/upn5yizoKEUvqumZ7>

**Youth Release Form:** <https://forms.gle/AfyQ7fV5RXHUJZqp7>

**Thank you and have a wonderful summer!**

*Faith Formation Sunday School team*

*Jill Robb, Kathy Stucky, Rebecca Tschetter, Deb Gering, Mary Ellen Hodge*

**(This is easier to do on-line from the BCMC Church emails which come out on Wednesdays and Saturdays; there just click on the links.)**



You can use this QR code to access the Faith Formation Survey referenced in the previous Faith Formation announcement.

## This Week at BCMC: July 16-23, 2023

### Sun., July 16, 2023

9:30 a.m. Worship with reflections by Al and Nadine Peters on their work with Prison Fellowship, a prison ministries in Nebraska, and a report on the MCUSA Delegate Assembly from BCMC delegates Steve Stucky, Jeanette Stucky, Tim Hodge, Mary Ellen Hodge

YouTube Link for this Sunday is:

**<https://youtube.com/live/9NqMj78pBcQ?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; Fellowship (B7); Fine Arts (Rm 22); Issues and Christianity (Rm 23); Open Circle (Room 21) Seekers (Rm 28)

### Wed., July 19, 2023

6 p.m. Indigenous Task Group meeting in Room 14

### Sun., July 23, 2023

9:30 a.m. **Our worship will be getting more acquainted with *Voices Together*.** If you have a favorite in VT that you would like to sing, please, contact Monica Lichti in the church office with your request. NOTE: Requests may not all be used because of time limits.

**Pastor Nathan Koontz will be on vacation July 12-21, 2023.**

**BCMC Offering for July 9, 2023:** General Fund \$11,104.37; Living Stones \$200; Kitchen Fund \$11.

**We offer sympathy to Lotti and Harald and Erich Boschmann** and their extended family on the death of Lotti's youngest sister Marlene Zenau. Marlene died in Germany on July 7, 2023.

### **“Growing Up in Gaza—Bringing Peace and Justice to Israel-Palestine”**

will be presented by Tareq Abuhlima, Sun., Aug. 6, 10:45-11:45 a.m. at BCMC. The purpose of this event is to create a safe space for education and dialogue about the Israel-Palestine conflict. Tareq, a graduate student with Bluffton University, will share his experiences growing up in Gaza, working for the Youth Vision Society, and his “Gaza Twinning” relationship with Manhattan Mennonite Church. The presentation and following dialogue will also address antisemitism and other issues that surround this intractable conflict.

**MCC School Kits**—Lincoln and Lawrence Kohlman have joined the MCC School Kit Challenge! Their goal is to pack and donate 100 school kits by the end of August. We estimate that they will need about \$850 (plus 100 bags) to meet this goal, although we will use the money we raise to make as many kits as we can! We hope that we can do more with the money when school supplies go on sale. **How can you help?** To donate, see Lincoln or Lawrence. To make bags for the school kits we want to pack, use the MCC website for directions and let us know how many you plan to make. We will plan to *host a time to pack school kits. Let us know if you want to be invited!*

**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 been noted, this contest is for anybody who checks out a book from our library, reads it independently, reads it with someone or someone reads it to a child, and then returns it. We are excited to see how many books will be purchased for New Hope Shelter. —*The Library Committee*

**The Women's & Girls Retreat will be Sept. 9 & 10 at Camp Menno'scah** sponsored by Western District Women in Mission. Retreat theme is "Women Talking, Listening and Creating." Come for a time of friendship, fellowship, and story-telling with Tammy Duvanel Unruh, Wendy Funk Schrag and others. Registration information and more details will be on the Western District Conference website, in the church bulletin, on the church bulletin board. Follow the Western District Women in Mission on Facebook.

**The 2023 issue of the Bethel College journal Mennonite Life is now live at [ml.bethelks.edu](http://ml.bethelks.edu)** and includes a poem by Cheryl Denise and prose poems by Abigail Carl-Klassen; a sermon by Sheri Hostetler; Brad Gregory's Menno Simons Lectures from 2022; articles by Johnny Wideman and Nathan Garber; and reviews by Ben Woodward-Breckbill, Hannah Neufeld, Willmar Harder, Brad Born, Josue Coy Dick, Daniel Shank Cruz, Rachel Waltner Goossen, Joe Smucker, Kimberly Schmidt and Melanie Springer Mock.

**Join us for the Western District Conference (WDC) Annual Assembly! It's for everybody on August 11-13, 2023 at Tabor Mennonite Church, Newton.** We'll worship, work, eat great local food, enjoy local music, connect with new and old friends, experience faith formation for all ages, and have many choices of great workshops. We hope you'll agree Annual Assembly is a great place to learn about and grow in faith in Christ, care for the broader church, and worship our God of love and justice with God's people in Western District Conference! **BCMC needs delegates for the WDC Assembly. Delegates can also attend virtually. BCMC would be eligible to send 15 delegates to the Assembly. If you would like to be a delegate contact the BCMC office.**

WDC Annual Assembly Delegate Session – Agenda for delegates will include an introduction to the conference-wide Listening Process, report on the Anti-Racism Audit, recognition of the closing of Trinity Mennonite Church and the introduction of two new church plants, update on conference facilities and finances, approval of the 2024 budget, highlights from the work of WDC commissions, election of new board, commission and committee leaders, and more! Delegate materials will be posted here as they are available: <https://mennowdc.org/2023-assembly-delegate-information/> --- Register at <https://mennowdc.org/2023-wdc-assembly-registration/> to join others from around the conference in our work together. Visit: <https://mennowdc.org/2023-wdc-annual-assembly/> for more info on this summer's Assembly!

**Instead of a traditional Summer Story Hour, the WDC Conference Resource Library** will be hosting Story Days with a self-guided, come-and-go approach with activities for ages 3-8 and their caregiver(s) July 20 & Aug. 3 from 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Read alouds by library staff/volunteers on the hour from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. The WDC Resource Library is located at 2517 N Main in North Newton.

**Newton Community Theatre and Bethel College Academy of Performing Arts (BCAPA) will present *The Sound of Music*** musical July 21-23. Join us for this beloved musical and support your community members, including Caleb Garber and Lucy Burch in the orchestra pit, Riley King is the music director, and Renee Reimer is one of the actors. Fri., July 21 at 7:30 p.m.; Sat., July 22 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Sun., July 23 at 2 p.m. Tickets are on sale now at <https://newton-community-theatre.square.site/> You can also purchase tickets at the door or reserve in advance at the Newton Rec Center (starting July 1). All ticket sales are final. No refunds or exchanges.