

Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request: Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for C. Paul and Hildi Amstutz, who have served in Paraguay since 1985. Pray for them as they invite people into deeper communion with God, through business chaplaincy, teaching and spiritual direction.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: We pray for the newly-certified church plant of Arca de Salvación (Ark of Salvation) in Uspantán, Guatemala. We also pray for the calling of new members in the church planting commission which experiences transition as a number of its members make moves. -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

July 30, 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 30, 2023

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude Two preludes on Early American Folk Hymns:
 Promised Land (arr. Diane Bish)
 Antioch (arr. Dale Wood) Will Wiebe-Friesen

Christ Candle Lighting

Welcome and Prayer Sondra Bandy Koontz

*Hymn *When in Our Music God Is Glorified* VT 83

Children's Conversation Jeanette Leary

Worship Music *Nun ist sie erschienen* (arr. Larry Nickel)
Joan Griffing, violin; Will Wiebe-Friesen, piano

Scripture Reading Genesis 29:15-28; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
Joe Peters

Message *The Kingdom of Process* Nathan Koontz

*Hymn of Response	<i>My Love Colors Outside the Lines</i>	VT 582
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Prayers of God's People

*Hymn *God, Whose Giving* VT 745
People with July birthdays come forward for a blessing,
please bring a hymnal.

*Benediction

Postlude *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* (arr. Janet Linker)
Joan Griffing, violin; Will Wiebe-Friesen, organ

* You are invited to stand VT = *Voices Together*
Audio visual—Francis Toews Keyboard—Will Wiebe-Friesen;
Violin—Joan Griffing

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.

Welcome and thank you to Joan Griffing who brings us the worship music this morning and will accompany on hymns.

We offer sympathy to Richard Siemens, Doug Siemens and LuAnn Zook, their children Angus and Zoe Siemens, Charlotte Siemens and David Sprunger and their children Samuel, Jacob, and Anna, and their extended family, on the death of Frances Siemens July 25 at Kidron Bethel Village, North Newton. Memorial service details are yet to be determined.

We offer sympathy to Mildred and Myron Voran and their family on the death of Mildred's sister, Elva Claassen Unruh on July 25 at Kidron Bethel Village.

Roger's Whereabouts : Pastor Roger will be back in the BCMC office on Wednesday, August 2 and be in Newton until Sunday afternoon, August 6. Then Roger (and Cynthia) will be helping their daughter move from Durham, North Carolina to Los Angeles, CA. So Roger will be "on the road" for a couple of weeks. He will probably NOT have internet access for much of this time. But he will try to check his email and text messages when he can. Email roger@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org or text or call (785-220-1968.) Roger plans to be back in the BCMC office on Wednesday, August 23.

You're invited to the Camp Mennoscah celebration of a summer of faith formation with some of your favorite camp songs. All ages, campers and others--everyone is invited Saturday, August 5, at 2 p.m. at Hope Mennonite Church in Wichita. There will be a freewill offering and iced coffee for purchase. Free pop will be available, but no popcorn this time. Singing will be held inside. Tell all your camp friends and come sing (or listen) your heart out!

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 23-August 6, 2023

Sun., July 30 2023

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Pastor Nathan Koontz; music by Joan Griffing; July birthday recognition

YouTube Link for this Sunday is: <https://youtube.com/live/IdJkXfzk1HI?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)

Mon., July 31, 2023

10 a.m. Staff Meeting in Room 14

Thurs., August 3, 2023

4 p.m. Staff Congregation Relations Committee Meeting in Room 14

7 p.m. Church Board Meeting in Room 14

Sun., August 6, 2023

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Roger Neufeld Smith

“Growing Up in Gaza—Bringing Peace and Justice to Israel-Palestine” will be presented by Tareq Abuhalima, 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.

BCMC Offering for July 23, 2023: General Fund \$3,829; Sr Hi Youth \$200; Columbarium Fund \$2,000; Living Stones \$140; Kitchen Fund \$16.

Senior High Youth Group 23-24. As we begin a new year of youth group activities, our first task is to renovate our meeting space (room 24). Plans include painting the walls, increasing/improving the seating, and adding technology. We need your help. We are searching for good quality two person love seats. If you have a love seat to donate, please contact George at 316-587-6910 or george@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org, or catch me in person. Thank you.

The August/September Library theme is called “What’s For Dinner?” In the doldrums of this extreme heat, come check out one of the library’s books on food: either to find a new dish to prepare or sit back and enjoy a new read in the cool comfort of your own home. We’d love to help you find your next read.

It’s time for the MCC School Kit Challenge! Help us meet our goal of gathering 10,000 school kits in the month of August. By donating items like notebooks and pencils, you can help kids in places like Syria, Ukraine and South Sudan who have been forced to flee their homes or struggle to afford basic school supplies. Join this effort to share a tangible message of God’s love with children around the world. Learn more about this challenge and download a free activity resource at mcc.org/school-kit-challenge.

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 on or before August 27: Summer vacation is almost over, but you can still earn a book for the New Hope Shelter for each BCMC library book you check out, read, and return. And parents, grandparents, and friends of youth, you can help by checking out a book from the children’s collection and reading it too, or with a child. The challenge is to fill a whole shelf of books for homeless children and youth. Visit the table outside the door to the children’s room of the BCMC church library for more information.

The Women's & Girls Retreat will be Sept. 9 & 10 at Camp Mennoscah 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.

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 still could use more 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!

Colorado Peaches are coming! The Palisade peaches on the Western Slope are supposed to be a good crop this year thanks to the moisture during the winter and spring. Please email patsydirksen@mcc.org to place your peach order from **July 24-August 5**. Two sizes are available: **10 lbs. for \$30 and 18 lbs. for \$41**. Checks should be made payable to **Beth-El Mennonite Church with "Peaches" in the memo line** and payment (cash/check only) is due by **August 5** to MCC in North Newton (121 E. 30th St.). Peaches will be available for pickup from the MCC Material Resources Center on **Monday, August 21**. This is a fundraiser for the Rocky Mountain Mennonite Relief Sale held in Rocky Ford, Colorado October 20-21.