

Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request: Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Matthew and Toni Krabill's ministry at the Paris (France) Mennonite Center. Pray for them as they work with others to launch a master's degree program in conflict transformation that will be housed at Abidjan University of the Christian Missionary Alliance in Ivory Coast.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Pray for the WDC Gifts Discernment Committee as they seek nominees for elected roles in WDC, and give thanks for those who are called to leadership in our conference.

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 9, 2023



MENNO
CON23

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 9, 2023

MennoCon Youth Sharing

Prelude	<i>As the Wind Song</i> (VT 373) - (Setting, Michael Burkhardt)	Karen Unruh Maisie Brubacher and Emma Gering
Christ Candle Lighting		
Welcome and Prayer		Nathan Koontz
*Hymn	<i>Holy Spirit, Come with Power</i>	VT 57
Children's Conversation		Adah Hodge and Abram Wall
*Hymn	<i>Over My Head</i>	VT 594
Scripture Reading	Isaiah 43:19-21; II Corinthians 5:17	Lucy Burch
Reflections from MennoCon23	Adah Hodge, Ani Koontz, Mara Oswald	
*Hymn of Response	<i>New Earth, Heavens New</i>	VT 377
Prayers of God's People		
*Hymn	<i>There's a Wild Hope in the Wind</i>	VT 828
*Benediction		
Postlude	<i>Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah</i> (Setting, Anne Krentz Organ)	Karen Unruh

* You are invited to stand
VT = *Voices Together*
Keyboard—Karen Unruh
Audio visual— Ben Lichti

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. 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. "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 : On Thursday (7/6) Roger will attend Menno-Con23 in Kansas City, then represent BCMC at the MC USA Delegate Sessions on Friday and Saturday. Roger will then be on vacation in Missouri until July 19, when he will be back in the BCMC office. Roger will be checking his email and text messages occasionally during this time.



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

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.)

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 director, and Renee Reimer is one of the actors. Friday, July 21 at 7:30p.m.; Saturday, July 22 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 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.

This Week at BCMC: July 9-16, 2023

Sun., July 9, 2023

9:30 a.m. Worship with Senior High Youth Group reflections on MennoCon23 (Mennonite Church USA Convention in Kansas City) YouTube Link for this Sunday is:

<https://youtube.com/live/eF2TltBTi8A?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)

Tue., July 11, 2023

12 p.m. Mid Kansas Investment Club meets in Fellowship Hall

Thurs., July 13, 2023

7 p.m. Kansas Relief Sale Board of Directors meets in Fellowship Hall

7 p.m. Finance Committee meets in Room 14

Sun., July 16, 2023

9:30 a.m. Worship with reflections by Al and Nadine Peters on their work with prison ministries in Nebraska

Sunday, July 23, 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 2, 2023: General Fund \$2,785; Caring Fund \$500; Library Reserve Fund \$40; Living Stones \$125; Kitchen Fund \$6; Women's Fellowship \$50; Metta Lieb Memorial \$125.

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

New Book: Lois Barrett and Dorothy Nickel Friesen has co-edited PRO-CLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS: MENNONITE WOMEN'S VOICES 1972 - 2006, published by the Institute of Mennonite Studies/AMBS. The book launch at MennoCon23 on July 6 and at Western District Conference Assembly on August 12 will introduce 13 authors including BCMC writers John Esau and Raylene Hinz Penner in addition to Dorothy. Faith and Life Bookstore plans a book-signing later in summer. A book for checkout is now in the BCMC Library and WDC Resource Library. If you would like to purchase a book, contact Dorothy (dorothyf@cox.net); cost is \$29.

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!*

The Search Committee has been meeting monthly to continue the process of searching for BCMC's next pastor. There continue to be many congregations within the conference that are experiencing transitions. We ask for your continued prayers for the committee and the congregation, as God prepares the heart of the right candidate for BCMC. The committee remains open to accepting names of possible candidates as well.

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*

Join us for the Western District Conference 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 to find 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!

Swiss Volhynian Celebration of 150 years since ancestors came to USA in 1874—150 Years since our ancestors came to the USA. 1874-2024. Let's celebrate all year. To remember the old days with agriculture come see a "Plowing with Horses" event July 15. Glen Goering, Darrell Schrag, Nathan Graber, and the Ag Committee have invited horse and plow owners to demonstrate Sat., July 15, at a 22-acre field west of the Moundridge Museum, 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Concessions will be available from Gospel Mennonite and a tent for shade. Bring a lawn chair. The Museum will also be open. There will be "Planting Turkey Red Wheat" in October and possibly more events in 2023 with the main celebration on August 22-25, 2024 at Eden Mennonite Church in rural Moundridge.