

Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request: Pray for Christy Harrison and Peter Sensenig, and their three children, as they complete their North American Ministry this week and go back to Chad on Friday. Pray for safe travels and a joyful reunion with friends, as they return to teaching at Shalom Evangelical Theological Seminary (Peter), working in maternal and child health (Christy) and school (the children). The family serves jointly with Eastern Mennonite Missions and Mennonite Mission Network.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Pray for WDC children, youth and their families, teachers and mentors as a new school year begins, and give thanks for the WDC Resource Library that offers faith formation resources for all ages!

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

August 20, 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

August 20, 2023

Prelude	<i>Von Gott will ich nicht lassen</i> (J.C. Bach) <i>Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele</i> (Johann Gottfried Walther) <i>Nun bitten wir</i> (Dietrich Buxtehude) <i>Ein' feste Burg ist unser Gott</i> (Walther)	Karen Schlabaugh
Christ Candle Lighting		
Welcome and Prayer		Ada Schmidt-Tieszen
*Hymn	<i>Praise With Joy the World's Creator</i>	VT 428
Kin-dom Report		Mary Ellen Hodge
Children's Conversation		Kevin Neufeld
*Hymn	<i>O Praise the Gracious Power</i>	VT 87
Congregation sing verses 1-2,6-7; Octet sing verses 3-5; All sing refrain		
Scripture Reading	Psalm 67; Matthew 15:10-28	Mike Ingenthron
Message	<i>Holding On and Letting Go</i>	Nathan Koontz
*Hymn of Response	<i>Together</i>	VT 389
Octet verse 1, Congregation only verse 2, Octet verse 3, All verse 4		
Prayers of God's People		
*Hymn	<i>Sing a New World Into Being</i>	VT 809
*Benediction		
Postlude	<i>Allegro</i> (J.S. Bach)	Karen Schlabaugh

* You are invited to stand
VT—*Voices Together*
Audio visual— Francis Toews

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.

Roger's Whereabouts : Roger plans to be back in the BCMC office on Wed., Aug. 23. Email roger@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org or text or call (785-220-1968.)

BCMC Offering for August 6, 2023: General Fund \$10,956.33; Caring Fund \$250; Library Reserve Fund \$5; VBS Fund \$701.88; Living Stones \$8.33; Kitchen Fund \$6; Women's Fellowship \$50; Esther Thieszen Memorial \$400; Metta Lieb Memorial \$200.

We had hoped to make it "4 in a row" but ;unfortunately July was a down month. Our receipts were \$4000 below expenses for the month and are currently about \$12000 below expenses "year to date. As we go into the later parts of the year, we need to make the church budget a priority in our thoughts and prayers. We all know the challenges and we certainly have the ability to accomplish the goal. As usual, thank you so much for your efforts. —*Finance Committee*

A Celebration of Life/Memorial service for Frances Siemens will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 9, at Bethel College Mennonite Church. Frances Eleanor (Schultz) Siemens died July 25, 2023 at Kidron Bethel Village. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Bethel College.

We will be welcoming new members to Bethel College Mennonite Church this fall. If you are interested in becoming a member, or transferring membership, or learning more about membership at BCMC, please contact Elizabeth Schmidt, Congregational Care Coordinator. She will be happy to visit with you!

Marles Preheim, former BCMC choir director and Bethel College choral professor, is turning 90 on August 25! His family suggests that a card shower would be most welcome! He is currently living at 3056 Ivy Ct., Apt. 21, North Newton, KS 67117 and has a new email address: mcp@united.net

The registration form and brochure for the Western District Women in Mission Women's & Girls Retreat Sept. 9-10 at Camp Mennoscah is available to download, print and send in at <https://www.westerndistrictwomeninmission.org/> events. We hope you can join us! This year's theme is Women Talking, Listening, and Creating, with our scripture theme being 2 Peter 1:12-21. We'll be diving into some fun activities around storytelling, listening, story-catching, and story-keeping in a variety of formats. Registration is due by September 5. Questions, email westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com. See bulletin board for forms.

Historian and pastor John Sharp will be at the Newton Public Library, at noon Sept. 8 in the Bessmer Room, for a special discussion of *The White Mosque: A Memoir*. This is part of the library's regular Nonfiction Book Club series, but anyone is welcome to attend. Sharp is a recently-retired historian who taught at Hesston College, and a former director of the Mennonite Church USA Historical Committee and Archives. In 2016, he led a tour group, which included the author Sofia Samatar, that followed in the footsteps of 19th-century Mennonites who traveled from Russia into Central Asia, where their charismatic leader predicted Christ would return. Samatar was fascinated not only by the hardships of the Mennonites' journey, but by its aftermath: the establishment of a small Christian village in a Muslim region that is now part of Uzbekistan – named Ak Metchet, or “The White Mosque”, after the whitewashed church the Mennonites built there. The White Mosque is the memoir Samatar wrote following her tour experience. It is a historical tapestry of border-crossing travelers, students, wanderers, martyrs and invaders, as well as a record of the strange shifts, encounters and accidents that combine to create an identity. Sharp will share his deep knowledge of this “Mennonite Great Trek to Central Asia,” answer questions and help facilitate discussion of the book. Copies of *The White Mosque* are available for borrowing at Newton Public Library. Ask at the public service desk or call 316-283-2890.

LABOR DAY WORK & PLAY RETREAT at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp - If you, your family or a group of friends want to enjoy the holiday weekend at RMMC, there are 16 spaces available to register. The weekend is offered as a day of work and play (Sat. or Sun.) with a Monday morning sendoff after breakfast. This year (September 1-4, 2023), we'll be serving (foodservice & HK) along with additional work projects in preparing our facilities/grounds for the coming winter.

August 2023 Volunteer Orientation at Et Cetera Shop

Are you looking at giving back to the community, to the region, or the world? Then volunteering at Newton Et Cetera Shop is where you need to be! August 24, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Enter through the back door.

This Week at BCMC: August 20—27, 2023

Sun., August 20, 2023

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Pastor Nathan Koontz

YouTube Link: <https://youtube.com/live/bQ5WBCgc7UI?feature=share>

10:45 a.m. You are welcome to join the Indigenous Justice Task Group in Fellowship Hall

AUGUST 20/AUGUST 27 Repair Network Discussions:

The BCMC Task Group for Indigenous Justice, in its continuing work on dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery as a call for the Christian Church, invites the congregation to two post-worship discussions in the Fellowship Hall on August 20 and August 27. We will discuss the Repair Network, a coalition of 30 churches across the U.S. that supports church communities in education, solidarity and reparative action alongside Indigenous Peoples. We will share the seven steps recommended by the Repair Network to join and how BCMC has been working on those the past couple of years. We will also talk about what it would mean for BCMC to become a part of the Coalition. Please join our discussions with your ideas, comments, and questions.

Mon., August 21, 2023

10 a.m. Staff meeting in Room 14

Tue., August 22, 2023

7 p.m. Creation Care Committee meeting in Room 14

Wed., August 23, 2023

7 p.m. Youth Group meeting

Thurs., August 24, 2023

6:30 p.m. Chancel Bell rehearsal in Room B7

7:30 p.m. Hospitality Commission meeting in Fellowship Hall

7 p.m. Deacon Commission meeting in Room 14

Sun., August 27, 2023

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Pastor Roger Neufeld Smith; August birthday recognition

10:45 a.m. The Indigenous Justice Task Group in Fellowship Hall

Chancel Choir: BCMC's Voluntary adult Chancel Choir will begin our 2023-24 season with the first practice on August 30. The choir will meet in the sanctuary at 7:30 pm. If you like to sing and like to sing with others, come and help to "Make a Joyful" noise.

Chancel Bell Choir: The BCMC Bell Choir will begin practicing on August 24. We meet at 6:30 p.m. in Room B7. If your music abilities include reading music and know how to count, you are invited.

You'll want to mark your calendars for the BCMC/Bethel College Ice Cream Social set for September 17, 6:30 p.m. on the BCMC front lawn. Come to enjoy ice cream with Bethel students and faculty. The Bethel College Relations Team (Darlene Dick, Ron Flickinger, Tim Hodge, Matt Koontz) ask that you bring a dessert or toppings to go with the ice cream.

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.

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 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 is time to renew the BCMC group subscription to Anabaptist World, a monthly magazine featuring voices from across the Anabaptist-Mennonite world. If you sign up with the congregation's plan, you receive this publication at the discounted rate of \$39. If interested in joining the group plan, contact Monica Lichti in the church office by **as soon as possible**. New subscribers can also receive a one-year subscription for the discounted rate of \$39. To subscribe email office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org. Bring in or mail your \$39.00 to the office or place it in the offering plate Sunday. Mark your checks with "Anabaptist World" in the memo line. If you are currently receiving Anabaptist World through the BCMC group subscription plan it will expire Nov. 25, 2023. Anabaptist World would like us to renew the subscription now so that you receive the magazine without interruption.

For your calendars on September 17: A mentor/mentee event in Fellowship Hall with pizza and games from 2 to 4 p.m.

Bethel College Announcements

- **Fri., Aug. 25 – "Drinking from a New Well," ceramics by Tom and Pam Voth, opens in the Regier Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College** (reception Sept. 21). Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m.
- **SAVE THE DATES: Sun., Sept. 10,** Dr. Caleb Stephens presents his film Eat, Protest, Lift, and a convocation lecture Mon., Sept. 11, at Bethel College

Save the Date! The 2024 Western District Conference Annual Assembly will be held on August 2-4, 2024 at First Mennonite Church, Beatrice, NE. We hope to see you there and thanks to all who came out or attended virtually this past weekend!

Camp Mennoscah Announcements

- **Save the date! Camp Mennoscah will host a kick off event to celebrate our 75th Anniversary on September 23!** There will be a day of fun activities down by the river, so mark your calendars now! Watch Camp Mennoscah's website - www.campmennoscah.org - for more details as the date approaches!
- **M&M Project Update: Over the Halfway Point!**

Thank you all so much! The money continues to come in for Camp Mennoscah's M&M Project! Thanks to all of these faithful supporters for giving to this effort! As of this writing, Camp Mennoscah has received more than \$56,000 toward our goal! That means we are over halfway to the \$100,000 our donor is offering to match! Now is the time to join the effort. If you haven't taken any action yet, we are sure you will want to be in on this opportunity to continue our Mission at Camp - to be a place where all can renew themselves, their relationships, and their connection with God through Jesus Christ.

Hope Mennonite in Wichita is holding an event on August 27 and the proceeds will go to Camp Mennoscah. Details can be found on their website: www.hopemennonite.org.

- **Registration for the Fall Scrapbook and Crafts Retreats is open.** The retreats are scheduled for Nov. 3-5 and Nov. 10-12. All retreat activities will happen at the Main Camp facilities with cropping and crafts in the dining hall and lodging in the bunkhouses. You are welcome to bring a camper/RV and use a gas generator (no hookups available). The Retreat Center will be undergoing HVAC renovations. Single rooms are not available. Contact us at 620-297-3290 with questions or issues. We'll see you in the fall!