

**Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request:** Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for a couple who has spent decades ministering in the Middle East, where they are part of a media team that works at “transforming lives with unstoppable hope.” Pray for them and the 16 full-time animators; multiple trainers, who help people share the good news with their neighbors; and a social media team of three Arabic women, who address issues like human trafficking and child brides.

**Western District Conference Prayer Request:** We are called as Jesus’s followers to share our experience as God’s people and the transformative work of the gospel of Jesus in our lives. We pray for church plants and congregations exploring partnerships to do missions together in Western District Conference.

—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.**

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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) Notary public service is available in the church office  
Church office hours: 9 a.m.–12 p.m. Mon–Fri; 1 p.m. –5 p.m. Mon—Thur

**Church office is closed Friday afternoons**

Building is locked weekdays at 5 p.m. unless evening activities are scheduled

**Saturdays—building is locked**

Sundays—building is locked at 2 p.m. unless afternoon/evening activities are scheduled

- 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

September 24, 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.

## Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

Audio visual— John Thiesen

Most of us are aware of the dangers that plastic bags are doing to our environment. So, let's take a challenge to address that issue. Beginning Oct. 1 we are encouraging everyone to participate in collecting clean plastic bags for recycling. These bags can be delivered to BCMC and placed in a receptacle in the south entrance. Our goal is to collect 1,000 pounds in one year with a reward of a composite bench made from plastic.

## Camp Mennoscah Announcements

### • **Camp Mennoscah 75th Anniversary Kick-Off Event**

The Camp Mennoscah 75th Anniversary Kick-Off event is **today, September 24** at Camp! The day will be filled with Fun Family Activities; Camp Corporation Annual Meeting; Spike Ball Tournament; Storytelling; Music and, for the first time ever - The Camp Mennoscah Talent/No Talent Show. An evening of live entertainment on the banks of the Ninnescah. Enter your talent or your “talent,” wow the audience, and win prizes. All ages welcome. Or....Bring your cash or checkbook to “vote” for your favorite acts. The act that generates the most money wins. All money collected will be considered a donation to Camp Mennoscah’s M&M Project.

Be sure to let us know if you plan to attend and if you have an act to enter - remember, all ages and talent levels welcome. Check Camp Mennoscah’s website at [www.campmennoscah.org](http://www.campmennoscah.org) or Camp’s Facebook page for more information. **Sun., Sept. 24 at Camp Mennoscah, 1-5 p.m.**

**4 p.m.** Music and **5 p.m.** Dinner - Burgers, Brats, Hot Dogs on the grill

**6 p.m.** is the Annual Meeting and **7 p.m.** Talent/No Talent Show

• **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!

**Footsteps of Paul in Greece + 3-Night Cruise May 27 – June 6, 2024.** Led by Pastor Weldon Martens, Grace Hill Mennonite Church; Whitewater, KS. This is a 11-Day Tour & Cruise to Athens, Thessalonica, Philippi, Corinth, Crete, Patmos, Ephesus, Mykonos & Santorini. Cost: \$3,219 + flights. Registration: Due by January 18, 2024. Contact Pastor Weldon Martens at: [weldon.martens@gmail.com](mailto:weldon.martens@gmail.com) / 402-202-9276. Complete tour information & registration at [www.tourwithweldon.com](http://www.tourwithweldon.com)

**Everence® will hold an informative Social Security and retirement income workshop Thurs., Sept. 28, 6:30 p.m.** Topics will include, Social Security strategies, including when to begin taking benefits, risks that can impact your retirement savings plus strategies to help your income last throughout retirement. The in-person workshop will be at the Everence office: 3179 N. Main St. Suite 1B, North Newton. 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](mailto:central.kansas@everence.com).

## This Week at BCMC: September 24—October 1, 2023

### Sun., September 24, 2023

9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Solar Panel Project Task Group—Sunday school elective—Fellowship Hall YouTube Link for this Sunday:

<https://youtube.com/live/rg7psBQgKPQ?feature=share>

**The church nursery** is staffed during worship and Sunday School 10:45 am Faith Formation—Intergenerational class meets in Fellowship Hall; 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., September 25, 2023

10 a.m. Library Committee meeting in the Library and Room 14

### Tues., September 26, 2023

11 .m. Staff meeting

6:30 p.m. Pastor Search Committee meeting in Room 14

### Wed., September 27, 2023

7 p.m. Youth Group meeting

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary Chancel area

### Thurs., September 28, 2023

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

7 p.m. Deacon Commission meeting in Room 14

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

### Fri., September 29, 2023

10 a.m.-noon and 1:30 to 4 p.m. Shirley King practices organ in the Sanctuary

### Sat., September 30, 2023

11 a.m. Memorial Service for Patricia Shelly in the Sanctuary

### Sun., October 1, 2023—World Communion Sunday

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Nathan Koontz; communion will be served; music by the Chancel Choir

**The Solar Panel Project task group** invites input from the congregation about this possible initiative for BCMC. **Today, Sept. 24, in Fellowship Hall, during the Sunday School hour** will be an opportunity to visit together. Task Group members: Dwight Krehbiel, Lorna Harder, Hugo Boschmann, Margaret Toews

### For Your Calendars:

- **The memorial service for Patty Shelly will be Saturday, September 30** at 11 a.m. at BCMC. The service will be live-streamed. The link is: [https://youtube.com/live/IXO\\_1OnzWQs?feature=share](https://youtube.com/live/IXO_1OnzWQs?feature=share)
- **The BCMC Congregation is invited to a Baby Sprinkle** for Adam and Jill Robb, **October 1, 2-4 p.m.**, BCMC Fellowship Hall. Registry is: [www.target.com/gift-registry/gift/surpriserobb](http://www.target.com/gift-registry/gift/surpriserobb) Kathy Stucky (316-772-2479) & Elaine Prouty (316-772-2572)

**Bethel College Women's Association welcomes donations of baked goods for Market-in-the-Round and pies for Pie-by-the-Slice at Fall Festival.** Bring homemade fruit pies, poppyseed roll, zwieback, cinnamon rolls, or other treats to room 140 in Luyken Fine Arts Center from 2-5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 13 or 7-9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 14. Questions? Email [bcwa@bethelks.edu](mailto:bcwa@bethelks.edu). All proceeds will benefit Bethel College.

**Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale QUILTER'S CORNER FALL SALE** - October 13-14, 2023, Friday 9-5 and Saturday 9-3, at MCC, 121 E. 30th Street, North Newton. There will be lots of great quilt-related items available for purchase with all the proceeds going to the work of Mennonite Central Committee. Questions? Contact Rose at 316-288-0079 or Ann at 919-604-3282

**Life Enrichment, Bethel College Krehbiel Auditorium, September 27:**  
**9:30 a.m.** "Drawing Poetry and Writing Pictures: An Artistic Collaboration." Duane Johnson, Topeka, and Lila Bartel, Topeka  
**10:50 a.m.** "Expanding Social-Emotional Competence and Compassion through Social Work," Jennifer Chappell Deckert, Ph.D., chair, Bethel College Department of Social Work, and associate professor of social work

**Call for volunteers** – The Bethel College Alumni Association is looking for volunteers to help with Taste of Newton and Fall Festival. Shifts are 1.5-2 hours long and need to be filled on Thursday, Oct. 12, 5-9 p.m., and Saturday, Oct. 14, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Contact Brad Schmidt at 316-285-5252 or [bschmidt@bethelks.edu](mailto:bschmidt@bethelks.edu), or use the following online forms: verenike booth, Taste of Newton: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E44AF22A1FDCF8-verenike3>; burger booth, Fall Fest: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E44AF22A1FDCF8-burger1>; verenike booth, Fall Fest: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E44AF22A1FDCF8-verenike2>

**Open to new participants: Healing & Hope, a confidential group of women supporting each other** after experiencing betrayal trauma (a spouse or partner's use of pornography, affair, or sexual addiction). Bimonthly meetings are held via Zoom and will begin again in mid-October. This group is hosted by First Mennonite Church of Newton and facilitated by Audrey Ratzlaff, M.Div. Contact Audrey at [aaratzlaff@yahoo.com](mailto:aaratzlaff@yahoo.com) or 316-619-4580 for more information.

## **Bethel College Announcements**

- **Tues., Sept. 26** – “Sing My Soul” high school choral festival at Bethel College, Dr. Henry Waters, director, with a short public concert at 1:30 p.m., Memorial Hall
- **Thurs., Sept. 28** – **Bethel College Wind Ensemble**, directed by Chris Miertschin, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium, featuring work by Gustav Holst, Percy Grainger, Jaime Texidor, Grace Baugher (who will be present at the concert) and Leonard Bernstein.
- **Fri., Sept. 29** – “**Bold Color**,” acrylic paintings by Virgil Penner, opens in the Regier Gallery (reception Oct. 13). Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m.
- **Sat., Oct. 7** – “**Wild Words: Poetry & Prairie**,” with Aubrey Streit Krug, 9:30 a.m., Kauffman Museum auditorium. Streit Krug lives in Lindsborg and works at The Land Institute in Salina. Wild Words is a chapbook published by Humanities Kansas; free copies available at the reading.
- **Bethel College's Fall Festival is Oct. 12-15**, with most activities taking place Saturday, Oct. 14, on campus. Features include music, food, class reunions, football, the musical *The Addams Family* and two different organ performances. See <https://www.bethelks.edu/alumni/events/fall-festival> for the complete schedule.
- **Fri., Oct. 13, 7:30 p.m., Sat., Oct. 14, 3:30 p.m., Sun., Oct. 15, 2 p.m.** – Bethel College music and theater present the musical *The Addams Family* during Fall Festival, Krehbiel Auditorium. Ticket purchase required, in Thresher Shop in Schultz Student Center weekdays 8 a.m.-5 p.m., online (<https://bethelks.hometownticketing.com/embed/all?depts=3>) or at the door.
- **Sat., Oct. 14, 2:30 p.m.** – **Bethel College's Organ Recital Series** presents an Alumni Recital, Ad Building chapel, featuring works by J.S. Bach, Brahms, Burkhardt, Buxtehude, Cherwien, Clerambault and Howells. Former Bethel organ instructor Shirley Sprunger King will play a duet with Donna Hetrick. Many of the organists play regularly in local congregations and venues, including Greta Hiebert (Shalom Mennonite Church), Karen Unruh (varied), Chris Shaw (Plymouth Congregational Church, Wichita), Rosi Penner Kaufman (Rainbow Mennonite Church, Kansas City) and Chelsea Vaught (Bethesda Mennonite Church, Henderson, NE).