

Bethel College Mennonite Church is an open and affirming congregation centered in the life and teachings of Jesus. Embracing the divine within each person, we warmly welcome any and all into fellowship without regard to race, ethnic background, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, economic status, marital status, or age.

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.

Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request: On this Easter Sunday, join MMN in praying for peace and abundant life in Israel and Palestine, the land where Jesus lived, embodied his teachings, was murdered and rose victorious from the dead.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: May the Lord guide us and provide financial opportunities for the Guatemala learning tour that is in the planning process. We pray for the safety of all future travelers and that their eyes and ears to be opened to their new surroundings. -WDC Church Planting Commission

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 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
- Pastor Roger Neufeld Smith
Cell phone: 785-220-1968; Email: roger@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
- Elizabeth Schmidt, Pastor of Congregational Care
Email: elizabeth@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
- Office/Facilities Manager: Monica Lichti, Cell phone 316-249-9652
Email: office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
- Faith Formation Coordinator: Jill Robb—Email: jill@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
- Youth Coordinator: George Leary—Email: george@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
- Music Coordinators: Barbara Thiesen and Verlene Garber
- Chancel Choir Director: Riley King
- Chancel Bells Director: Verlene Garber

Bethel College Mennonite Church

March 31, 2024

Easter Sunday

Christ Among Us!



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

March 31, 2024

Easter Sunday

Christ Among Us!

Prelude *Crown Him with Many Crowns* (arr. Westenkuehler)
Were You There? (arr. Bish)
I Know That My Redeemer Lives (arr. Wood)
Christ ist erstanden [VT 358] (J.S. Bach)
Will Wiebe-Friesen

Christ Candle Lighting

Call to Worship Esther Kreider Eash

One: When it is still dark, we come seeking Jesus.

Many: The risen Christ is here among us!

One: The stone has been rolled away, walls torn down.

Many: The risen Christ is here among us!

One: The burial cloth removed, his body transformed.

Many: The risen Christ is here among us!

One: Mary Magdalene, Simon Peter, and John see and believe.

All: We find the risen Christ among us who has made all things new!

The tomb is empty, the way of Love has prevailed!

One: Peace be with you!

Many: Peace be with you!

*Hymn *Lift Your Glad Voices* VT 340

Anthem *The Earth Is Risen* (Gwyneth Walker)
Chancel Choir; Riley King, director; Will Wiebe-Friesen, accompanist

Children's Conversation Judy Harder

*Hymn *Now the Green Blade Rises* VT 353

Scripture Reading *John 20:1-18; Acts 10:34-43*
Jim Robb, Mary Jane Waltner

*Hymn *The Risen Christ* VT 345

Meditation *The Gardener* Nathan Koontz

*Hymn *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* VT 346

Prayers of God's People

Prayer of Rejoicing

One: Risen Jesus, you make all things new.

Many: You call us by name to come to you.

One: You come preaching peace and forgiving sins.

Many: You prepare a feast for us and wipe away all tears.

All: You bring life everlasting. We rejoice in your salvation, Lord of all!

*Hymn *Thine Is the Glory* (unison on last verse) VT 355
People with March birthdays come forward for a blessing,
please bring a hymnal

*Birthday Blessing & Benediction

Postlude *In Thee Is Gladness* (arr. Portman) Will Wiebe-Friesen

* You are invited to stand VT—*Voices Together* Audio visual—Ken Lamp

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.

Our Lenten Banners illustrate a progression created around the motif of the crown of thorns. The series is about the contrasts, emotion, and movement of the Lenten season. The artist, Anne Friesen Birky, lives in Denver, Colorado with her family and is the daughter of Duane and Elizabeth Friesen.

Staff Vacations: Elizabeth Schmidt will be on vacation April 2-9. Roger Neufeld Smith will be on vacation Apr. 5-9.

BCMC Offering for March 24: General Fund \$8,080; Caring Fund \$933.50; Flower Fund \$30; Kitchen Fund \$7; Women's Fellowship \$500; Solar Fund \$2,000; Wed Supper \$253.75

The Deacons Commission invites you to donate to the BCMC Caring Fund budget, which has been depleted due to the needs in our community. A fish-bowl will be available for your donation in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you for your continued support. *The Deacons Commission*

Bethel College Announcements

- **Weds., April 3 – Bethel College Community for Justice and Peace** (a student group) will host a peace vigil to mourn the deaths in Gaza and Israel since Oct. 7, 2023, and to call for peace, 7 p.m., in front of the Ad Building. All are welcome.
- **All interested singers are invited to participate in Bethel College’s annual Masterworks** concert on April 28, featuring Benjamin Britten’s *Rejoice in the Lamb* and Ralph Vaughan Williams’ *Dona Nobis Pacem*. Sign up online at <https://forms.gle/Auu4FaYBcaLwKDuF6> so that your contact information is available for digital rehearsal materials, etc., or come to the first rehearsal Tues., April 2, 6 p.m., Choir Room in Luyken Fine Arts Center. Rehearsals are Tuesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23 & Fri., Apr. 26, 6-8 p.m., & Sat., April 27, 3-6 p.m.
- **Fri., April 5 – Senior recital by Bethel College student Eli Regier**, saxophone, 7 p.m., Administration Building chapel
- **Sat., April 6 – Kauffman Museum bird walk**, 7 a.m. start time in the museum parking lot at the corner of Main and 27th streets (2801 N. Main St., North Newton 67117). Experienced birders lead a walk of 1-1.5 hours in Chisholm Park and on Sand Creek Trail
- **Sat., April 6 – Senior recital by Bethel College student Angelika Donaldson**, voice, 4 p.m., Bethel College Mennonite Church Sanctuary
- **Sun., April 7 – KIPCOR Film Series presents *Estamos Unidos***, 2 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium. The film by Alvaro M. Morales follows a migrant caravan’s journey from Honduras to Mexico City in 2019. A talkback follows the screening; a freewill offering will be taken to support KIPCOR and the film series.
- **You’re invited to a virtual estate planning webinar**, hosted by Bethel College Advancement and led by experts from Everence and Adrian & Pankratz LLC of Newton. ■Thurs., April 11, 6-7 p.m. – Dennis LeFevre, Everence; Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84488722318> ■Thurs., April 18, 6-7 p.m. – Cindy Wiens & Randy Pankratz, Adrian & Pankratz; Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82173808179> These webinars are free, with no pre-registration required – just show up using the appropriate Zoom link. Questions? Contact George Leary, Director of Development, 316-284-5226 or gleary@bethelks.edu
- **Sun., April 14 – Bethel College Heritage Roll of Honor Memorial Service**, 2 p.m., Administration Building chapel or online at <https://youtube.com/live/iZJ0fdOHc8M?feature=share> Reception following in the Mantz Library lounge.
- **Sun., April 14 – Junior recital by Bethel College student Peter Buller**, piano and oboe, 7 p.m., Administration Building chapel
- **Now in the Regier Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center** – annual Student Art Exhibit, featuring the work of 41 students (artist books, ceramics, drawing, graphic design, painting and print-making) through Fri., April 19. Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m.

This Week at BCMC: March 31—April 7, 2024

Sunday, March 31, 2024

9:45 a.m. Prelude—10 a.m. Worship —No Sunday School Today—Happy Easter!

YouTube Link for this Sunday:

<https://youtube.com/live/qemk2qYw9gk?feature=share>

Monday, April 1, 2024

10 a.m. Library Committee meeting in Room 14

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

4 p.m. Abuse Prevention & Response Committee meeting in Room 14

6:30 p.m. Gifts Discernment Committee meeting in Room 14

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the sanctuary

Thursday, April 4, 2024

10:30 a.m. Staff meeting

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

7 p.m. Church Board meeting in Room 14

Sunday, April 7, 2024

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Nathan Koontz; music by Chancel Choir

10:45 a.m. Faith Formation

The Easter Lillies this Easter morning were shared by the following people:

Given by

In honor/memory of

John & Jan Albertson.....	Herman & Clara Siemens; William and Evelyn Albertson
Marlene Faul, Sharon, Mary & Families	James O.Faul
Carol Flickinger & Roger Juhnke.....	Ray & Cornelia Juhnke
.....	Virgil & Anna Grace Flickinger
Keith & Judy Harder	Tim Harder
Barb & Dick Koontz	In honor ofElmer “Bob” Delk
	In memory ofElbert & Ruth Koontz,
	In memory ofAldene Delk
Jennifer & Matt Koontz & family.....	Imogene Scott
Sondra Koontz	Philip Koontz
John & Rachel Pannabecker	Our Parents
Marles Preheim & Family	Norma Preheim
Lonny & Mary Regier.....	Ron Roupp
Louise Thieszen	Carl Thieszen
Lenore Waltner & Family	James Waltner

A small potting shed will be open to visitors immediately following worship. Come to the chapel and say hello to our friends - gardeners, plants, and seeds!

Future Events at BCMC:

- **April 13, 11 a.m., memorial service for Don Kaufman** followed by lunch in Fellowship Hall.
- **April 27-28 BCMC Church Retreat at Camp Mennoscah** **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** It's nearly time for the annual BCMC retreat (no Halstead First Mennonite this year) at Camp Mennoscah! The retreat is April 27 & 28, and will again feature all kinds of fun activities. Come for Saturday, Sunday, or both! There will be meals and all sorts of fun activities, including Sunday morning worship (there will be no live-stream), at 10 a.m. The registration form and schedule has been emailed. We look forward to seeing you again on the sandy soil of the Ninnescah! If you can't register on-line, call or email the church office.

The BCMC Witness Commission encourages you to attend a peace vigil this Wed., April 3, 7 p.m., in front of the Bethel College Ad Building, to mourn the deaths in Gaza and Israel since Oct. 7, 2023 and to call for peace. This event is hosted by the Bethel College Community for Justice and Peace (a student group) All are welcome.

Roger will be back in Newton Mon., Apr. 1 and will remain until the Church Board meeting April 4. Roger checks his email and phone regularly. Feel free to contact him via email, text or phone (785-220-1968.)

Please join Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus at one or both of our concerts this year: The first is April 7 at Bethel College 4 p.m. The second is April 21 at Tabor College 4 p.m. This year we are including the Newton Children's Community Choir, the Flannelbacks and the Menno Brass.

The annual meeting of the Community Playschool Corporation will be held Tues, April 9, 7:15 p.m. at the Bethel College Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall. Interested members of the congregations supporting Community Playschool are invited to attend. Entrance to the building will be at the south side of the church and make your way to the lower level of the church by stairs or elevator.

Volunteer at New Hope Shelter: BCMC is one of 24 local congregations providing regular volunteer support to New Hope Shelter in Newton. New Hope serves homeless men, women, and children from Harvey, Butler, Marion, and McPherson counties. About five times a year, BCMC and Faith Mennonite partner to cover one week of evening shifts. We provide a meal for 25-30 people and two volunteers who stay through the evening to support an evening staff person. We can always use more help to meet this commitment, and participation can be regular or occasional. Our next shift will be May 1-7. If you're interested or would like more details, email Cynthia Linscheid at cdlin319@gmail.com. Thank you to all who have volunteered for New Hope, either recently or in the past!

Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale (KMRS)--April 12 & 13, 2024--is one way to support the world-wide relief, development, and peace efforts of Mennonite Central Committee.

- **Volunteers needed!** The volunteer page at <https://kansas.mccsale.org/> lists opportunities for next Saturday April 6 (make Bohne Beroggi in Moundridge or Verenike in Hillsboro) or for April 12-13 to serve or sell food, fry verenike, help with auctions, and so much more. If you have trouble signing up online, ask for help from one of the BCMC liaisons.
- **PIES & ZWIEBACK!** Because it's Easter, there is no table of bags & tins today. Next Sunday, the sign-ups will return to the back of the sanctuary after church. We currently need 5 more pies and 17 dozen more zwieback. FYI -- The request for zwieback is more this year because it's back on the Feeding the Multitudes menu. If you want to sign up before next Sunday, contact Esther Eash.
- **The My Coins Count jug in the Gathering Place is VERY HEAVY!** Check out the sign by the jug to learn how heavy it is. We have ONE MORE SUNDAY (April 7) to add coins and bills so more people can have better access to clean water.
- **Auction Items!** BCMC members and friends have donated many items to be sold at one of 4 different KMRS auctions. You can see pictures and descriptions of some of these offerings on the KMRS website under "Auction Item Listings" ... and look at the lovely offerings in the quilt gallery.
- **More Information:** The KMRS posterboard & table in the Gathering Place, the KMRS website <https://kansas.mccsale.org/> or ask a BCMC liaison: Steve & Elaine Schurr, William & Esther Kreider Eash, and Brad & Diane Born.

Mennonite Central Committee invites you to take the challenge: A month of climate actions for peace! Sign up to get your free calendar with a different climate action you can take each day in April. From learning to praying to advocating, this month of activities will help you take action to address climate change. Join the challenge as an individual, family, church or small group. Sign up today for A Month of Climate Actions for Peace at mcc.org/month-climate-action-peace!

Chancel Choir Director Position at BCMC: BCMC is looking for a Chancel Choir Director to begin in August 2024. This is a part-time position, August 15-May 15. As part of the team of musicians on the church staff, the director is responsible for music selection, rehearsals, and performances of the Chancel Choir. The choir sings approximately two times per month during September—May and participates in a Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols service and Easter Sunday service. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings from 7:30-8:30. Inquiries should be addressed to Barbara Thiesen, BCMC Music Coordinator at thiesen-jba@gmail.com Application forms are available from Monica Lichti, BCMC Office/Facilities Manager at office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org or 316-283-3667.