

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: The deadline to apply for MMN’s two-week Youth Venture programs is April 15. Pray that young people who would like to spend two weeks this summer making friends in Benin, for ages 15-22, or South Korea, for ages 18-22, and people of all ages who are interested in learning more about injustice in the United States, will find a way to participate.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: During this Easter season, give thanks for the living presence of Christ embodied by WDC congregations within their local communities.

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 April 7, 2024



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

April 7, 2024

Second Sunday of Easter

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music *My Song is Love Unknown*, arr. Leavitt
Peter Buller, English horn; Will Wiebe-Friesen, organ

Land Acknowledgement & Call To Worship VT 852
Lauren Friesen

*Hymn *Spirit, Working in Creation* VT 50

Children's Conversation Esther Kreider Eash

Anthem *Ave verum Corpus* (William Byrd)
Chancel Choir, Riley King, director; Will Wiebe-Friesen, accompanist

Scripture Reading *Acts 4:32-35, John 20:19-31* Timothy Schrag

*Hymn *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* VT 737

Sermon *Believing as Entrusting* Nathan Koontz

*Hymn *I Know That My Redeemer Lives* (verses 1,3,5,6) VT 347

Prayers of God's People

*Hymn *Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing* VT 359

*Benediction

Postlude *Let There Be Peace on Earth* (arr. Wiebe-Friesen)

* You are invited to stand

VT—*Voices Together*

Audio visual—Ben Lichti

[Welcome and thank you to Peter Buller. Peter is a student at Bethel College and will perform a junior recital on piano and oboe in the Administration Building chapel on April 14 at 7 p.m.]

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 was so sorry to miss the BCMC Easter celebrations due to a bout with COVID. He was able to be in the BCMC office this week with a mask. He returned to Topeka after the Church Board meeting on Thur. , April 4. On Friday Cynthia and he will be traveling to Ohio to visit family and (hopefully) experience the solar eclipse. He will return to Newton next Wednesday, April 10 and preach in worship on Sunday, April 14 . Roger checks his email and phone regularly. Feel free to contact him via email, text or phone (785-220-1968.)

GOING BEYOND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

• **BCMC was invited by the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery** to join with other churches who will be joining an amicus brief (friend of the court) to the Supreme Court of the United States in support of Apache Stronghold. John Kliewer is spearheading the BCMC effort to sign on. Apache Stronghold has 90 days to appeal the ruling of the 9th Circuit Court who found against their case (6-5) to protect Oak Flat from Resolution Copper on March 1. Dr. Wendsler Nosie reacted to the ruling: "Oak Flat is like Mount Sinai to us--our most sacred site where we connect with our Creator, our faith, our families, and our land. The ruling targets the spiritual lifeblood of my people, but it will not stop our struggle to save Oak Flat." Congregations, organizations, and denominations are being asked to sign onto an amicus brief before July 1. Other ways to support Apache Stronghold: 1. PRAY 2. Contact your representatives using the SOFA toolkit 3. Sign/share the 'I Support the Sacred' petition 4. In April the Repair Coalition will be learning about amicus briefs for Apache Stronghold's appeal to the Supreme Court and praying for the protection of sacred land in the Prayer and Action Hour: Friday, April 26th, 4-5 p.m. All are invited to join. To register for the Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8121212121?pwd=blm_aid=104486#/registration (This is in an all-church email where you can just click on the link.)

• **BCWA Task Group will host a 4-session reading/discussion** of *So We and Our Children May Live* by Sarah Augustine and Sheri Hostetler in the upcoming months before Sarah Augustine visits our area during Fall Festival at Bethel College. Watch for time and place. Anyone interested in reading and thinking together is invited.

Bethel College Announcements

- **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. Rehearsals are in the Choir Room in Luyken Fine Arts Center, and are Tuesdays, April 9, 16, 23 & Fri., Apr. 26, 6-8 p.m., & Sat., April 27, 3-6 p.m.
- **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
- **Weds., April 17 – Bethel College Orchestra**, directed by Kris Hilding, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center
- **Sat., April 20 – Senior recital by Bethel College student Phillip Balzer**, piano, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center
- **Sun., April 21 – Senior recital by Bethel College student Josie Epp**, piano, 4 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center
- **Sun., April 21 – Sunday-Evening-at-the-Museum** with Dr. Kim Perez, Fort Hays State University, 7 p.m., Kauffman Museum auditorium. Perez's topic is the role and impact of pioneering women in ornithology, particularly in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Perez will also speak in convocation at Bethel College Mon., April 22, 11 a.m., in Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center.
- **Now in the Regier Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College** – 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: April 7-14, 2024

Sunday, April 7, 2024

9:30 a.m. Worship Service; 10:45 a.m. Faith Formation

YouTube Link for this Sunday:

<https://youtube.com/live/RiCMJqHthP8?feature=share>

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

9 a.m. Women's Fellowship Executive Board meeting in Room 14

6:30 p.m. Community Playschool Board meeting in Fellowship Hall

7:15 p.m. Community Playschool Corporation meeting in Fellowship Hall

7:30 p.m. Finance Committee meeting in Room 14

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Thursday, April 11, 2024

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

Friday, April 13, 2024

11 a.m. Memorial for Don Kaufman in the Sanctuary followed by lunch in FH

Sunday, April 14, 2024

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Roger Neufeld Smith; music by Chancel Bells

10:45 a.m. Faith Formation

***Ave verum Corpus* (William Byrd) translation**

Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary,

Who has truly suffered, was sacrificed on the cross for mortals,

Whose side was pierced, whence flowed water and blood:

Be for us a foretaste (of heaven) during our final examining.

O Jesu sweet, O Jesu pure, O Jesu, Son of Mary, have mercy upon me. Amen.

Save the Date: All women and girls are invited to the Women's Fellowship Tea, Tues., April 16, 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Program: "And A Little Taste of Theatre" with Judy Harder.

BCMC Offering for March 31: General Fund \$2,569; Wed. Supper \$495.10; MCC Sale \$50; Caring Fund \$1,010; Library Reserve Fund \$5; Solar Fund \$7,000; Nancy Hilty Mem. \$100.

Creation Care: Thank you for your support in reaching our 1,000 pound goal of collecting plastic bags for recycling. Our last day of collection will be April 12 however Bill Eash has graciously accepted the responsibility of continuing this project. The composite bench has arrived! Suggestions for placement of the bench would be welcome. *Vern and Jane Goering*

A great big THANKS to Vern and Jane Goering for all of their work in taking care of those 1,000 pounds of plastic bags! They faithfully collected, photographed, and weighed all 1,000 pounds and took them to the collection center.

Future Events at BCMC:

- **April 13, 11 a.m., memorial service for Don Kaufman** followed by lunch in Fellowship Hall.
- **Trip Report on a Visit to New BCMC Member Max Ediger on April 21:** Max Ediger joined the BCMC fellowship in the last year to become our most distant member, currently living in Cambodia. Max has spent his life in service in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Thailand, much of it with MCC. Recently, his childhood friend, Dennis Loepp and wife Dori of Turpin, OK, traveled to visit Max and tour with him in Vietnam and Cambodia. They will give an informal report on Max's work, family and their travels together at BCMC Fellowship Hall on Sun. Apr.21, at 3 p.m. Max's cousins and friends in the area will join interested persons in our congregation to hear this report. You are welcome!
- **April 27-28 BCMC Church Retreat at Camp Mennoscah!** It's nearly time for the annual BCMC retreat (no Halstead First Mennonite this year) at Camp Mennoscah! The retreat will feature meals and all kinds of fun activities. Come for Saturday, Sunday, or both! Sunday morning worship (there will be no live-stream) begins 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.
- **May 19, congregational meeting** in the sanctuary during the Sunday school hour

We offer sympathy to JoAnn Funk. JoAnn's oldest sister, Virginia Kaufman, age 100, died March 20, 2024 at The Cedars, McPherson, KS. The funeral was April 5, at Eden Mennonite Church, Moundridge.

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 is next weekend! Come on Friday evening or Saturday to volunteer, eat great food, walk in the 5K, bid on an auction item, add a knot to an MCC comforter, or meet a friend. Everything you spend will go to the world-wide relief, development, and peace efforts of Mennonite Central Committee.

- **PIES & ZWIEBACK** -- We currently need 5 more pies and 17 dozen more zwieback. Please come -- to the back of the sanctuary immediately after worship today to sign up and get tins and bags.
- **Plants & Baked Goods Deliver** -- Did you sign up to make pies or other baked items? Do you have plants or other garden items ready to share? Please bring your baked goods and plants to BCMC on Friday or by 7:30 Saturday morning for transport to the sale. Baked goods go to the BCMC kitchen and plants to the south entry. Make sure everything is labeled!
- **Volunteers STILL needed!** The volunteer page at <https://kansas.mccsale.org/> lists many wonderful opportunities to serve or sell food, help with auctions, and so much more. If you have trouble signing up online, ask for help from one of the BCMC liaisons.
- **Auction Items!** BCMC members and friends have donated many items to be sold at one of 4 different KMRS auctions. Go to "Auction Item Listings" and "Quilt Gallery" to see some of the wonderful donations.
- **The My Coins Count jug in the Gathering Place is IMPRESSIVELY HEAVY.** Today is the last Sunday to add coins and bills -- and checks to KMRS. Thank you to everyone who has added coins to provide better access to clean water!
- **More Information:** Check out the KMRS website <https://kansas.mccsale.org/> or ask a BCMC liaison: Steve & Elaine Schurr, William & Esther Kreider Eash, and Brad & Diane Born.

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.

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.