

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.

Bethel College Mennonite Church
May 5, 2024
Sixth Sunday of Easter

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: Robin Gingerich, of MMN has served as an administrator and teacher at LCC International University in Lithuania since 2001. She requests prayer for wisdom, patience and kindness among faculty, staff and students, as they complete the school year. Pray also for an end to the war in neighboring Ukraine.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Give thanks for youth ministers, sponsors and mentors in WDC congregations, and pray for them as they accompany young people in the journey of faith.

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



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

May 5, 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music *At the River* (Aaron Copeland)
Riley King, bass; Will Wiebe-Friesen, piano

Land Acknowledgement, Welcome & Prayer Nathan Koontz

*Hymn *Be Thou My Vision* VT 549

Kin-dom Report Heather Zerger, Pastoral Search Committee Chair

Children's Conversation Joanna Harader

Anthem *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* (Mark Patterson)
Chancel Choir; Riley King, director; Will Wiebe-Friesen, accompanist

Scripture Reading *John 15:9-17* Dale Schrag

Sermon *The More Things Change . . .* Joanna Harader

*Hymn *O God in Heaven* VT 720

Prayers of God's People

*Hymn *Heart With Loving Heart United* VT 813

*Benediction

Choral Benediction *Peace I Leave With You* (Amy Beach) Chancel Choir

Postlude *Prelude in Classic Style* (G. Young) 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.

Thank you, Riley King! A heartfelt THANK YOU to Riley King for his two years as BCMC Chancel Choir Director. Riley and Malinda are moving to Virginia this summer. Riley, best wishes to you in the next chapter of your life. Come to the Gathering Place after the worship service to wish Riley and Malinda well and have a piece of cake!

Land Acknowledgement words by Mark Charles and VT #878
*As we do on the first Sunday of each month,
we acknowledge that we worship
on the land of the Kanza, Osage, and Wichita.
We thank them for their care and respect for this land
and acknowledge the injustice of their forced removal.
We ask the Spirit to heal our histories
and find new paths of right relationships with them
and all of creation.*

GOING BEYOND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

--**The KAW Nation Intertribal Powwow on June 21-22** as part of Council Grove Washunga Days 2024 will be held at Allegawaho Park, outside Council Grove on the site of Kaw homelands and includes the return of the sacred Red Rock to the Kaw people from Lawrence.

--**Join the Annual Gathering of the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery June 28-30, 2024**, in St. Paul, Minnesota and the Repair Network Training on July 1. The three-day gathering includes: June 28--Makoce Iki-kcupi field trip to Zani Otunwe. June 29-30-- Annual gathering in person or on Zoom. July 1--Decolonization and Organizing for Systems Change (in-person only). Click on the link in BCMC's Saturday's email to RSVP for this Decolonization event.

Roger Neufeld Smith will be driving back to Newton Sunday afternoon (5/5). He will be back in Newton on Wednesday, May 22 Roger checks his email and phone regularly. Feel free to contact him via email, text or phone (785-220-1968.)

Bethel College Announcements

- **TODAY (Sun., May 5) – Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum with Stan Senner of the National Audubon Society**, 3 p.m., Kauffman Museum auditorium. Senner will speak on “Birds and Birding Connect Kansas to the World.”
- **TODAY (Sun., May 5) – Woven and Open Road joint concert, 4 p.m., Bethel College Mennonite Church (NOTE TIME CHANGE)**
- **Fri., May 10 – Artist reception for Senior Art Exhibit II**, Morgan Marsh, 7-9 p.m., Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. Mon.-Fri., Sun. 2-4 p.m.
- **Bethel College commencement weekend is Sat.-Sun., May 11-12.**
Events: Nurse Pinning Ceremony, 2 p.m., May 11, Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center; **Baccalaureate, 10 a.m., and Commencement, 4 p.m., May 12, both in Memorial Hall.**

Janet Harder Stucky has returned to Mercy Ships, a surgical ship currently docked in Toamasina, Madagascar. Janet has joined the medical team as a clinical dietitian collaborating with the medical staff to treat local surgical patients. In this role she is responsible for the overall nutrition management of the patients in preparation for surgery, during hospitalization, and as outpatients during their healing process. Her assignment continues through mid August 2024.

Hesston College Announcements

- **May 10 and 11 - Student Recitals and Theatre Showcase** Hesston College's performing arts programs will be on display. Sophomore students involved in choral activities will perform recitals at 2 and 4 p.m., Fri., May 10, as well as 2:30 p.m. on Sat., May 11. The annual theatre showcase will be performed Sat. at 1 p.m.
- **May 10, 7 p.m.- International Chorale Farewell Concert**, Hesston Mennonite Church. Hesston College Chorale presents a concert titled “Veni, Sancte Spiritus.” The chorale will travel to Europe tour from May 14 to June 4, performing at churches in the Netherlands, Germany and Switzerland.
- **May 11 - 114th Commencement Ceremony, Sat., May 11, 4 p.m.** This year's commencement speaker is Dr. Rebecca Hernandez.

Commissioned by the congregation of Medford United Methodist Church, Medford, New Jersey,
in honor of Carol A. Reilly, celebrating forty years of music ministry

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Choirs: *I sing the mighty power of God! I sing the mighty power of God! I sing the mighty power, I sing the mighty power of God! I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise; that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies. I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day; the moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey. I sing the goodness of the Lord that filled the earth with food; God formed the creatures with a word and then pronounced them good. Lord, how thy wonders are displayed where e'er I turn my eyes; if I survey the ground I tread or gaze upon the skies! There's not a plant or flower below but makes thy glories known; and clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from thy throne; while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care, and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.*

All:

Let ev - 'ry voice now join as one and let the
song be raised. All heav'n a - bove, all earth be - low, re -
joice and sing God's praise. Let tim - brel, flute, and
trum - pet sound, let bells ring out this day. For -
ev - er let our mu - sic live to glo - ri - fy God's name!

Choirs: *We sing the mighty power of God!*

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, *alt.*, and written in 1748 (PD).

Text: “Let Every Voice . . .” Mark Patterson, and copyright © 2010 with this publication.

Tune: *ELLACOMBE, Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Württembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle*, 1784; *alt.* 1868 (PD).

Music: In an arrangement by Mark Patterson and copyright © 2010 with this publication.

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Joanna Harader to Candidate at BCMC May 3-5, 2024

Joanna is currently the pastor at Peace Mennonite Church in Lawrence, Kansas where she's served as its pastor since June 2006 – just shy of 18 years. She is a gifted preacher, teacher, and advocate for the marginalized, and skilled at making Scripture relevant to our lives today. Those who know her well describe Joanna as authentic, compassionate, and patient. She is well-grounded in Anabaptist beliefs and is an active and accomplished writer. Generating worship materials that echo Scripture in a contemporary setting gives her joy.

Joanna grew up in the American Baptist tradition, the child of two pastors. She was drawn to the Mennonite faith while in graduate school, when she and her husband became members of Peace Mennonite. It was her experience at this congregation, along with teaching Bible and theology classes at Ottawa University (Ottawa, KS), that drew her to Mennonites and to being a pastor. Joanna holds a BA in creative writing from Emory & Henry College (now Emory & Henry University at Emory, VA), a Master of Theological Studies from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary (now Palmer Theological Seminary at St. David's, PA), a Master in English Literature from the University of Kansas at Lawrence, KS, and a Master of Divinity from Central Baptist Theological Seminary at Shawnee, KS.

Joanna and her husband, Ryan Ellett, have served as foster parents and currently have three young adult children and one 3-year-old granddaughter. James and Jasmine, along with granddaughter Camilla, live and work in Lawrence. Grace is in her second year of college, currently studying abroad in Chile. Ryan, who holds a Ph.D. from the University of Kansas in curriculum and development, works with the Lawrence school system and plans to remain in his current position for the immediate future, which means Joanna and Ryan plan to maintain two households. If BCMC calls Joanna, she will be full-time with BCMC.

Joanna joyfully relates to college students and at the request of some students from KU formed a Bible study group on campus. She enjoys playing board games and has a soft spot for her cat and her dog, Toni, who would move with her to Newton. Joanna allows you to be yourself without being judged and without fear that your problems, personality, or questions will overwhelm her. She is grounded in prayer and has chosen the Mennonite expression of faith.

Living With Loss Support Group

Living with Loss support group will be offered May through June 11. The support group is open to all who have experienced the death of a loved one, divorce, unemployment or any other life experience that has created grief. Living with Loss support group is co-facilitated by Elizabeth Schmidt, Pastor for Congregational Care at Bethel College Mennonite Church, and Dr. Gary Blaine. Dr. Blaine is a retired chaplain and certified in grief counseling and grief group facilitation, as well as palliative care and hospice care. The meetings will last six weeks, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at Bethel College Mennonite Church. The support group is open to anyone and requires a minimum of six participants for the group to form. The cost is \$10.00 per week. The group will gather for six weeks. The group will be closed to new participants after the second session. To register, please call Pastor Schmidt at (316) 283-3667 or Dr. Blaine at (316) 239-5474.

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!

Save the Date! Western District Conference Annual Assembly, August 2-4, First Mennonite Church, Beatrice, NE. Assembly is the primary resourcing and fellowship event of the year. Many workshops, onsite and virtual. Faith formation and Family Festival for all ages. Worshipping God together. Join us!

Bluestem Communities will host a summer Junior Volunteer program at both Kidron Bethel Village (North Newton) and Schowalter Villa (Hesston) for youth ages 12 to 17. The program runs from June 3 through July 26. Applications must be submitted by May 10. To apply or for more information, contact Haley Hamm at 316-836-4821

Future Events at BCMC:

- **This is Candidating Sunday for our pastoral candidate, Joanna Harader.**

See the insert for a biography of Joanna Harader, and a schedule of candidating weekend events. We encourage all to participate in the opportunities to get to know Joanna and her husband, Ryan Ellett.

BCMC Pastor Search Committee

- **Congregational Meeting and New Co-Pastor Vote:**

The next congregational meeting will take place Sun., May 19, 10:45 a.m. during the Sunday School hour. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary and made available live on YouTube only while the meeting is in progress; it will not be recorded. Remote viewers can text their votes to a number available in the May 19 bulletin and announced at the beginning of the meeting. Agenda items will include a vote for acceptance of the Search Committee's and Board's recommendation to approve Joanna Harader as our new full-time co-pastor; approval of new board members and officers; and reports from several committees and commissions. Congregants can access report booklets in May. The youth will host a fundraising luncheon following the meeting.

Thank you, Barbara Thiesen! A huge THANK YOU to Barbara Thiesen for her eight years as BCMC Music Coordinator (the last two as co-coordinator with Verlene Garber). We have appreciated your attention to detail as you gave leadership and scheduling oversight to special music, organists, ensembles, maintenance of instruments, and so much more. Barbara will be leaving this position as of May 31.

Music Co-Coordinator Position at BCMC — BCMC is looking for a Music Co-Coordinator. This is a 12-month part-time position that is shared with Music Co-Coordinator Verlene Garber. This position is responsible for overseeing and scheduling keyboard maintenance, music ensembles, organists, special music, etc. We hope to have the position filled by June 1. Inquiries may be addressed to Esther Kreider Eash, Chair, BCMC Worship Commission at ekeash@gmail.com. Application forms are available from Monica Lichti, BCMC Office/Facilities Manager at 316-283-3667 or office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

The current library theme is Poetry! We want to highlight our new "Mennonite Poetry" corner as well as the many other fine poetry books we have in the library. Those are found behind the check out desk as well as the south wall of the children's/youth room. Keep reading and keep puzzling! *Library Committee*

Schedule for Sunday, May 5, 2024

9:30 a.m. Worship at BCMC, Joanna will preach and provide the Childrens' Conversation

10:45 a.m. Sunday School elective, Joanna will share her faith journey and there will be a Question & Answer time in the Sanctuary*

12:00 p.m. Lunch with Agape class and Youth, Fellowship Hall*

1:30 p.m. Meet and greet with BCMC members at Kidron (Classroom A)*

3:00 p.m. Closing session with Search Committee (Classroom A)*

PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAMETAG

*Ryan Ellett will join these sessions.

The vote to call Joanna to BCMC will take place during the congregational meeting on May 19, 2024.



You're Invited to Vacation Bible School!



Location: Shalom Mennonite Church

Dates: May 28-31

Time: 5:30-7:30pm

Ages: Age 4-Grade 4.

Register a student:

Welcome to VBS! To register a student, please use this QR code or visit

<https://bit.ly/newtonvbskids>



Register as a volunteer:

We need volunteers to make VBS a success! There are many tasks to do before, during, and after VBS. Prayerfully consider how you can support the children of this congregation and the local community. This year's director is Ben Woodward-

Breckbill and can be reached by email at ben@shalomnewton.org. Below are a few of the roles we'd love to have you fill. Use this QR code or visit

<https://bit.ly/newtonvbsvols>



- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small Group "shepherd" | <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare arts and crafts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drama participant | <input type="checkbox"/> Setup |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Music participant | <input type="checkbox"/> Cleanup |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Technology Coordinator | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity/photography |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donate supplies or snacks | <input type="checkbox"/> Help as needed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Decorate | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare snacks | |

The Next Two Weeks at BCMC: May 5—19, 2024

Sunday, May 5, 2024

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

YouTube Link for this Sunday:

<https://youtube.com/live/S2lqTJoFE4Q?feature=share>

4 p.m. Woven and Open Road (a cappella women's and men's ensembles from Bethel College) Concert in the Sanctuary

Monday, May 6, 2024

10 a.m. Solar Panel Sub-committee meeting in Room 14

7 p.m. Facilities Committee meeting in Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

11 a.m. Staff Meeting

Thursday, May 9, 2024

10 a.m. Library Committee meeting in Room 14

Sunday, May 12, 2024—Bethel College Baccalaureate

There will be no worship service in the BCMC Building—Bethel College Baccalaureate begins at 10 a.m. in Memorial Hall—All are invited

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

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

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

Thursday, May 16, 2024

4 p.m. Witness Commission meeting in Room 14

Sunday, May 19, 2024—Pentecost Sunday

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

10:45 a.m. Congregational Meeting in the Sanctuary

11:45 a.m. Fundraiser Lunch served by the Senior High Youth Group

VBS is coming up! Newton Mennonite Vacation Bible School will meet at Shalom Mennonite Church, 5:30-7:30 p.m., May 28-31. On Sunday Morning, June 2, all our congregations will worship together on the Bethel College Green. VBS is open to all students from age 4 to grade 4, and we also need adult, high school, and junior high volunteers! To register students, visit bit.ly/newtonvbskids and to register as a volunteer, please visit bit.ly/newtonvbsvols. Our congregation's contact people for VBS are Jill Robb and Mary Ellen Hodge.

BCMC Offering for April 25 General Fund \$4,802; Plant Fund \$50; Columbarium Fund \$1,000; Caring Fund \$25; Solar Fund \$3,000.