

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

June 30, 2024

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: Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Kate Widmer, as she helps extend the community outreach ministries of La Prairie (The Prairie) Mennonite Church in France, through a café, a bookstore and building relationships in the Muslim neighborhood in which she lives. Pray for renewal of energy and spiritual insight, as she pours herself out in service.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: We are in the middle of the year 2024 and let's pray that the rest of the year, His presence will shine upon us. Let's pray that God will open doors for us and witness the moving of His holy Spirit, whispering to our inner being the desires of God, so that we may arise and move. "Revive your work in the midst of the ages" said Habakkuk. All this we ask as the WDC Church Planting Commission, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

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: Verlene Garber and Will Wiebe-Friesen
- Chancel Choir Director: Joel Garber (starting in August)
- 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.

Colorado Peaches are coming! The Palisade peaches on the Western Slope are looking to be a good crop once again. Peaches will be available to order from **July 1-31**. Orders can be made by contacting the MCC Central States Office at patsydirksen@mcc.org or calling 316-283-2720. Two sizes are available: **9 lbs. for \$30 and 18 lbs. for \$41**. Payment for peaches in the form of cash or checks is **due by August 1** to Mennonite Central Committee. **Checks should be made payable to Beth-El Mennonite Church** with “peaches” in the memo line. Peaches will be available for pickup from the MCC Office, 121 East 30th, North Newton, Mon., Aug. 19 (**tentative date**). This is a fundraiser for the Rocky Mountain Mennonite Relief Sale held in Castle Rock, Colorado, October 18-19.

Mini Blitz at Mennonite Central Committee! Come tie, trim, or bind comforters at the MCC Material Resource Center in North Newton Fri., July 12 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sat., July 13 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Bring a snack to share and a sack lunch/supper. Drinks will be provided. Beginners are welcome!

The MCC Sale Quilter’s Corner is looking for donations of quilts, quilt tops, fabric, books, magazines and vintage linens for our next sale. We hope to have an October sale if we receive enough donations. Donations can be dropped off at the MCC Center in North Newton labeled for Quilter’s Corner or at Stitches Quilt Shop in McPherson. If you have questions, please contact Ann Yoder Smith at 919-604-3282.

Mennonite Central Committee Material Resources Center in North Newton critically low on inventory: An MCC kit cannot be distributed until each item for the kit is assembled, but some supplies in the Material Resources Center are so low that kits cannot be processed for shipping. You can help by filling the following needs: new infant sleepers (6-12 month sizes); hand towels (dark colored); bar soap; bath towels (dark colored, light to medium weight); wide toothed combs (6-8 inches long); laundry soap (such as Fels Naptha or Zote brands); and shampoo (20 oz min). Buy online and ship it to MCC or bring items to MCC in North Newton (121 E. 30th St, North Newton, KS 67117). Questions are always welcome: phone 316-836-5045 or email brociamueller@mcc.org A full list of MCC kit contents can be found at mcc.org/kits.

Commemorating 500 Years of Anabaptism + Swiss Alps Tour. Sites: Lake Geneva, cliffside Murren, Mennonites near Bern, & 500 Year Celebration in Zurich. 9-day tour in late May 2025. Details and registration coming soon. Preview tour at www.tourwithweldon.com Interested? Contact Weldon Martens at weldon.martens@gmail.com / 402-202-9276. Persons registering interest will receive early notification when registration opens.

The Next Week at BCMC: June 30—July 7, 2024

Sunday, June 30, 2024

9:30 a.m. Worship Service—YouTube Link for this Sunday:
<https://youtube.com/live/rUpcB8Ucf9A?feature=share>

Monday, July 1, 2024

Church office will be closed today

Wednesday, July 3, 2024

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

Thursday, July 4, 2024—Church building will be locked and office closed

Sunday, July 7, 2024

9:30 a.m. Worship planned and led by the Senior High Youth Group

Kidron Bethel Village will host its annual Fireworks Extravaganza Thurs., July 4, at 3001 Ivy Dr., North Newton. Arrival may begin at 7:30 p.m., and fireworks will begin at sundown. Admission is free. A fun family event featuring games, giveaways, and food for purchase. All proceeds benefit the Kidron Bethel Village Health Care Benevolent Fund.

Western District Conference Annual Assembly: Assembly registration is now open. Register on-line on the WDC webpage. Join us at the WDC Annual Assembly, August 2-4, 2024 at First Mennonite Church, rural Beatrice, NE. For more information about Assembly, visit the WDC Assembly webpage. Don’t want to drive to Beatrice? Vans will leave from North Newton on August 2 afternoon. When you register, please mark, “Reserve a seat in the van” for \$30 a seat. **If you are interested in being a delegate to the Assembly, contact Jeanette Stucky, Roger Neufeld-Smith or Monica Lichti in the BCMC office.**

WDC is looking for two volunteer van drivers to drive two 15 passenger vans with folks who are interested in a ride from North Newton (Bethel College Football Stadium Parking lot) to First Mennonite Church in rural Beatrice, NE for the 2024 Assembly Aug 2-4. The vans will be leaving at 1:30 p.m. Friday and returning after the morning worship service Sunday. The drivers will also need to take their passengers to the Assembly from the hotels and back to start and end the days and will be asked to shuttle over some folks participating in the Intergenerational Faith Formation Track on Saturday as needed at Summit Street Church, which is in town. If you or someone you know (and trust) from your church would be interested in driving one of these vans, please let WDC know, (316-283-6300).

BCMC Library Announcements:

- **Looking ahead to November, the Library theme for the next few months will be Religion and Politics.** We have pulled a few that might help answer questions about our current political climate. A partial display is behind the library desk.
- **BOOK SALE June 30, July 7 & 14:** The Library Committee has culled books from our collection for several reasons: some to be replaced since they are no longer in good enough shape; some because they no longer fit the needs of our library and some because they were donated books that are already in our collection. Please stop by the table outside of the library and take as many as you are interested in. A donation basket will be available for any size donation that seems appropriate to you. Happy Summer Reading!!

BCMC children and youth summer book promotion:

What's new for children and youth in the BCMC library this summer? What's new is old. Your library committee has sorted through the shelves and uncovered some classics. These books may look drab, but they have been loved by many, many children over many years. They are waiting for you on a special shelf in the children's room. Come check them out. Read them with parents or grandparents who remember reading them. Create new memories. Inside each book you will find a certificate good for one book at "Book Reviews" (Newton's Main Street used book store). Go to "Book Reviews". Pick out a book that has been loved by another kid. Read it. Share it. Create more memories.

Summer Story Days are BACK! Stop by the Western District Conference Resource library, 2517 N. Main in North Newton, KS on **Saturday July 27 from 10 a.m.-7 p.m.** for Read Alouds; self-guided, come-and-go activities; and opportunities to learn and grow together! Activities geared for ages 3-8 and their families, but open to all ages. Take advantage of these Saturday hours to tour the library and check out resources.

Bluestem Communities will host its annual Dementia Forum at 6:30 p.m., on Wednesday, July 17, at Kidron Bethel Village's Kidron Hall, 3001 Ivy Dr., North Newton. The event is free and open to the public. Amy Siple, APRN, will present "Understanding Dementia and Caring for Those Who Have It." The forum is designed to be beneficial for anyone providing care for someone living with dementia, both professional caregivers and family or friends. One Continuing Education (CE) hour available for \$15. Those wanting the CE must register for it prior to the forum at bluestemks.org/events.

Western District Conference Listening Tour: Sun., July 14, three representatives from Western District Conference - Kathy Neufeld Dunn, Dave Wiebe and Wendy Funk Schrag - will be visiting our congregation as part of WDC's conference-wide Listening Tour. The purpose of the Listening Tour is to empower the vitality of WDC congregations by hearing their stories, offering ongoing relationship, and supporting congregational witness and mission. **For BCMC, this will also be an opportunity to share important stories and hopes for the future (in written form) with our soon-to-be pastor, Joanna Harader.**

During BCMC worship on July 14, a representative from the WDC Listening Team will share a brief meditation, then the team will introduce the process for learning about BCMC ministries and hopes for the future. All adults and youth will then be **invited to Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour** to share responses around tables to the following questions.

1. *When have you felt most alive and vibrant as a congregation, or as a participant at BCMC?*
2. *What is foundational and reassuring about BCMC that has helped in difficult times (COVID, pastoral transition, etc.)?*
3. *What do you hope for the future for your church and what resources from WDC would be helpful for that?*

Responses from the table discussions will be shared back with all participants at the end of the SS hour. A summary of themes will be compiled by WDC to share with WDC constituency and used to guide ongoing resourcing for congregations in WDC. **A summary will also be shared with Joanna Harader and other members of BCMC leadership.**

This listening process can be a very valuable resource, both for WDC and for our new BCMC pastors and leaders. Please plan to attend and participate on Sunday, July 14.

The Live Wire Stringband, a collection of players with decades performing for audiences throughout the Midwest, play old time fiddle tunes, gospel and traditional songs on the fiddle, banjo, guitar, mandolin and bass, sometimes harmonica. **Come and enjoy lively tunes to make your feet want to move at Kidron Hall Fri., July 12 at 6:30 p.m.**

Members of the band: *Jesse Graber, son of Charles & Diana Graber of Newton and husband of Ruth Harder, former pastor of BCMC and current pastor of Rainbow Mennonite Church. Steve and Gail Goeke live in rural Missouri, just northeast of KC and are current members of Rainbow Mennonite Church. Bob and Melissa Atchinson live in Manhattan, KS, and Melissa is the current pastor of Manhattan Mennonite Church.*