

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 9, 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: Today, Mennonite Mission Network's board members are worshiping in congregations in the Newton, Kansas, area, after a weekend of meetings. Pray for the board members, as they work to implement what they have discerned as the future directions for the agency.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Pray for God's guidance and wisdom for WDC pastors and congregations who are concluding ministry relationships or beginning a new season of ministry together.

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.

BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH
June 9, 2024

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music *When Morning Guilds the Skies* (arr. Raymond Haan)
Will Wiebe-Friesen

Welcome Brad Kohlman

Land Acknowledgement

Prayer

Hymn *Let Us Build a House* VT 36

Children's Conversation Adam Robb

Kin_dom Report *Mennonite Mission Network*
Don Kempf and George Thompson

Old Testament Reading Psalm 32:1-5, 8-9 Brad Kohlman

Special Music Rebecca Schloneger

Gospel Readings Matthew 18:15-20 ; John 20:19-23

Sermon *Cheap Forgiveness* Roger Neufeld Smith

Hymn *Put Peace into Each Other's Hands* VT 485

Prayers of God's People

Hymn *Sing a New World into Being* VT 809

Benediction

Postlude *Prelude in G Major, BWV 550a* (J.S. Bach)

*You are invited to stand

▪ VT—*Voices Together* ▪ Audio visual— Francis Toews, Ben Lichti

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.

Land Acknowledgement from 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

- Having read *Unsettling Truths*, you are invited to participate in a Zoom meeting with the author, Mark Charles, June 13, 7 p.m., at Kidron Bethel Village, Classroom A, 3001 Ivy Drive, North Newton. A BIG question for Mark to answer - "How do we use and become the four elements - earth, fire, water, and air - to facilitate change?" Since Mark ran for President in 2020, we hope he will focus his suggestions for change in the political system.
- **Kaw Nation Intertribal Powwow at Allegawaho Park and Performance Pavilion**, Council Grove, Kansas on June 21 and 22, 7:30 p.m.
- **BCMC has joined in supporting Oak Flat's attempt to save Apache Stronghold** by signing onto an amicus brief in support of religious freedom..
- **BCMC youth plan a visit to the First Americans Museum** in OKC in July
- **A recording of the Mennonite Action event on May 24:** Land, Palestine, and Indigenous Solidarity. Sarah Augustine, co-founder and Executive Director of the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery, Samiha Hureini, co-founder of the Youth of Sumud movement, and activist Ali Awad explored how land and body are deeply entwined—and how one can not simply “leave” for another home. A YouTube link to the recording is: <https://youtu.be/tMX4MW0bCz8?>

You are invited to attend the dedication and celebration of the new Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) Cabinet Shop and Warehouse, Sun., June 9 at 604 E. Main St., Goessel, KS from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is free. During the celebration, we will offer tours of the cabinet shop and warehouse, and an opportunity to learn more about this innovative MDS initiative to draft and distribute kitchen cabinets to be installed in MDS volunteer-built homes across the U.S. We have already distributed cabinets to more than 75 homes. Also featured will be a fundraising concert at 5:30 p.m. by September River, a family band featuring Jude and Doug Krehbiel and daughter Stefanie (Krehbiel) Giffin. The band incorporates elements of bluegrass, gospel, blues, acoustic rock, Irish, and folk music. The MDS Storm Encounter will also be on hand for those who want to experience a simulated tornado—then see how MDS volunteers respond to bring hope to communities impacted by disaster.

Hesston College Announcement

June 16 to 22 - Summer Theatre Camp Student actors ages 11 to 18 are invited to stage a live theatre performance at Hesston College's annual summer theatre camp June 16 to 22. The weeklong theatre immersion will culminate in a public performance of the musical "Mean Girls" at 2 p.m., Saturday, June 22, in the Hesston Mennonite Church sanctuary on the Hesston College campus. Theatre camp registration is \$335 per person and includes lodging and meals for seven days and six nights, or \$285 for day camp only. A discount is available for families registering more than one student. Participants can visit hesston.edu/theatrecamp to register online. Registration is due June 10.

You're invited to Concert on the Concrete, June 9, 5 p.m. Featuring Newton Senior Center's Golden Notes Choir, along with a sing along, in the parking lot across from the Senior Center, 122 E. 6th, Newton. If rain, the concert will move inside. Free will offering to be used for building renovations.

Summer Story Days are BACK! Stop by the Western District Conference Resource library, 2517 N. Main in North Newton, KS on **Saturdays June 29 and July 27 from 10 a.m.-7p.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.

Future Events at BCMC:

- June 22: Memorial service for Charlotte Siemens, 11 a.m. with a lunch to follow. The service will be live-streamed.
- June 29: Memorial service for Evelyn Lehman, 11 a.m. with a lunch to follow. The service will be live-streamed.

The Next Week at BCMC: June 9-16, 2024

Sunday, June 9, 2024

9:30 a.m. Worship Service—YouTube Link for this Sunday:

<https://youtube.com/live/kjDjhoL8Cx0?feature=share>

Monday, June 10, 2024

10 a.m. Library Committee meeting in Room 14

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

11 a.m. Staff meeting

Sunday, June 16, 2024

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

BCMC Offering for May 26, 2024 General Fund \$5,607; Plant Fund \$50; Sr Hi Youth \$1679; Caring Fund \$50; Library Reserve Fund \$60; Kitchen Fund \$8; Women's Fellowship \$275; Solar Fund \$14,000.

BCMC Offering for June 2, 2024 General Fund \$480; Solar Fund \$1,000.

Roger Neufeld Smith will be driving back to Topeka on Sunday, June 9. He will be back in Newton on June 19. Roger checks his email and phone regularly. Feel free to contact him via email, text or phone (785-220-1968.)

Abuse Prevention and Response Committee (APRC) will be hosting an education time to discuss how we can continue the journey of being a survivor centered congregation. This education opportunity will be held during the Sunday School hour June 16 and July 21 in Fellowship Hall.

June 16: Overview of the YouTube video *How Trauma Survivors Envision Justice* with Judith Herman

July 21: Chapter discussion of Judith Herman's book *Truth and Repair* Discussion will be led by members of the APRC committee.

The video *How Trauma Survivors Envision Justice* can be found on YouTube. This is approximately a 40 minute video. Judith Herman's book *Truth and Repair* can be found at your favorite local bookstore or local library inter library loan. Any questions? Please contact Bethany Schrag at bethanyjoyschrag@gmail.com. We look forward to continuing learning more of how we can best support trauma survivors in our church with you! — APRC Committee

Save the Date: Peace Witness Event, Sept. 15-16

The BCMC Witness Commission is very pleased to announce plans for a peace witness event around Peace Sunday on September 15-16. Our church along with the Bible and Religion Dept. Bethel College and in collaboration with area churches invites you engage with Christianity and Democracy led by well known author, academic, and presenter, David P. Gushee (<https://davidpgushee.com>). For more information see the weekly BCMC email from Saturday or Wednesday.

We offer sympathy to the family of Charlotte Siemens. Charlotte died May 31 at Kidron Bethel Village. The memorial service will be June 22, 11 a.m. at BCMC.

We offer sympathy to the family of Evelyn Lehman. Evelyn died June 3 at Kidron Bethel Village. The memorial service will be June 29, 11 a.m. at BCMC.

Greeters urgently needed: An easy way to help people feel welcome at BCMC is to be a greeter. Greeters provide a cheery “good morning” at one of the church doors as people enter for Sunday morning worship, directing them to the sanctuary and helping visitors with other simple questions they might have. You don’t have to know everyone by name – just be ready to share a smile and be helpful. If you would be willing to serve (even once every couple of months) please call (316-283-3342), email (marlene.violet@gmail.com) or talk to Marlene Faul, chair of the Hospitality Commission.

If you like coffee on Sunday mornings (and who doesn’t), help ensure that the coffee keeps perking through the summer months. Sign up on the clipboard on the coffee table to make or serve coffee once or twice this summer, or call (316-283-3342), email (marlene.violet@gmail.com) or talk to Marlene Faul, chair of the Hospitality Commission. Instructions on how to use the coffee makers, etc., will be provided.

All are welcome to a free concert at Friends University - Alumni Auditorium on Saturday, June 15 at 7:30 p.m. TREASURES OF DARKNESS: a choir concert to benefit Ukrainian refugees and the oppressed poor in Hungary. The Church of the Savior Chamber Choir, under the direction of Dr. William Eash, will feature two world premiers: "I Will Go Before You" by Hungarian composer David Magda, and "Treasures of Darkness" by Wichita composer Miriam Overholt. A freewill offering will benefit Ukrainian refugees and Hungarian poor.

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. If you are interested in being a delegate to the Assembly, contact Jeanette Stucky, Roger Neufeld-Smith or Monica Lichti in the BCMC office.

Enrollment is open for Uncle Carl's Camp at Kauffman Museum at Bethel College. Half-day camps are offered in art, history and nature for kids ages 4-18. Go to www.kauffmanmuseum.org/uncle-carls-camp/ for more information about camps with space still available, and to register online.

Save the Date! Western District Women in Mission's annual Women's & Girls' Retreat will be Sat./Sun. Sept. 7-8 at Camp Mennoscah. The keynote speaker will be Kristine Regehr on the topic of Peaceful Practices. More information and registration info will follow in July. Activities will be available for girls age 5th grade - high school and women of all ages! Come for a time of relaxation, peace, and friendship! Email questions to: westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com.

Everence® will hold an informative Social Security and retirement income workshop Tues., June 18, 6:30 p.m. at the Everence office: 3179 N. Main St. Suite 1B, North Newton. 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. There will also be plenty of time for questions. The in-person workshop will be Information 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.

CARE CONNECTIONS, sponsored by Deacon Commission, offers a variety of opportunities for extending care. Do you enjoy conversation? In-person visiting? Visiting by phone? Writing caring messages in cards, email or text? Preparing food or care packages? Delivering food or care packages? Individualized creative care possibilities? To learn more, express interest, or share ideas, please contact Elizabeth Schmidt, Pastor for Congregational Care.

BCMC Prayer Network: The Prayer Network is an email-based prayer network comprised of Deacon Commission members and BCMC congregants. Participants make a one-year commitment to this prayer ministry which is coordinated by Pastors and the Office and Facilities Manager. Pastors respond to prayer requests and determine when and how these requests are distributed. Specific prayer requests are shared only with the permission of the person(s) involved. If you would like to join the BCMC prayer network, please email your interest to office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org. Thanks to all who serve BCMC in the Prayer Network.

The Education and Service Scholarship Committee report given at the May 19 congregational meeting contained an error. The report stated that the BCMC Mission and Service Endowment Fund was accepting donations to help fund the above-budget annual amount for college scholarships. In fact, the annual amount needed to fund college scholarships IS in the budget. Please direct any gifts to the Bethel College Scholarship Fund. Apologies for the confusion.

—Margaret Toews, ESSC

