

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: Joseph and Rachel Givens, who are serving with Mennonite Mission Network, are on North American ministry. Pray for safety as they travel, as well as for a time of renewal and Spirit-inspired sharing in congregations. Pray for the ministry of Maria Skobtsova House in Calais, France, as it adapts to new anti-immigration laws.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Give thanks for the WDC Resource Library, and pray for children and their families who join in fun and faith formation activities at the library's Summer Story Day on July 27.

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

Bethel College Mennonite Church July 21, 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
July 21, 2024

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music *In the Bulb there is a Flower* (arr. Portman)
Will Wiebe-Friesen

Welcome & Prayer Tim Hodge

*Hymn *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns* VT 101

Children’s Conversation Kathy Stucky

Special Music *Rondeau* (Mouret)
Ben Lichti, trumpet; Will Wiebe-Friesen, accompanist

Scripture Readings Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Mark 12:28-34 Suzanne Burch
Lucy Burch, Faith Burch

Sermon *A Good Teacher* Sara Dick

*Hymn *Renew Your Church* VT 717

Prayers of God’s People

*Hymn *Holy Presence, Holy Teacher* VT 531

Benediction

Postlude *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* (arr. Payne)

* You are invited to stand
 VT—*Voices Together*

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. Mary Ellen Hodge will be a nursery attendant today.

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.

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 July 21 in Fellowship Hall. Chapter discussion of Judith Herman's book *Truth and Repair* 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. Please contact Bethany Schrag at bethanyjoyschrag@gmail.com if you have questions. We look forward to continuing learning more of how we can best support trauma survivors in our church with you! — *APRC Committee*

If you've been a nursery volunteer in the past or would like to become a new nursery volunteer, please notify Sara Dick, new nursery schedule coordinator, at saradick1@gmail.com. The schedule is posted in the nursery and will be updated as folks volunteer. Please notify Sara rather than sign yourself up for shifts directly on the schedule, so she knows where we need helpers and where we're all set. Thank you for caring for our youngest attenders and their families!

Western District Conference Annual Assembly, August 2-4, at First Mennonite Church, Beatrice, NE: Delegates will process recommendations to receive three congregations into membership in WDC (Crystal Springs Mennonite Church, Harper, KS; New Life Christian Center, San Benito, TX; and Hesston Mennonite Church, Hesston, KS), and to release West Zion Mennonite Church from membership in WDC. Delegate agenda also includes approving a financial budget for WDC ministries in 2025, and affirming new leaders for elected positions. Register on the WDC website: <https://mennowdc.org/> **Registration deadline is July 21. If you are interested in being a delegate to the Assembly, contact Jeanette Stucky, Roger Neufeld-Smith or Monica Lichti in the BCMC office.**

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Announcements

- **Colorado Peaches are coming!** Peaches can be ordered **July 1-31** 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 Aug. 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.
- **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: phone 316-836-5045 or email brociamueller@mcc.org A full list of MCC kit contents can be found at mcc.org/kits.

You are invited to an open house to celebrate Raymond Regier's 100th birthday on Friday, August 2, from 3 - 4 p.m. The open house will be at Kidron Bethel Assisted Living, 3056 Ivy Court. Please stop by to wish him happy birthday and enjoy some refreshments. If you cannot come to the open house, you can also send him a card at this address: 3056 Ivy Court, Room 18, North Newton, KS 67117. — *Ray’s Family*

The Next Week at BCMC: July 21—28, 2024

Sunday, July 21, 2024

9:30 a.m. Worship

YouTube Link for this Sunday:

<https://youtube.com/live/Gl0-oIWtNFw?feature=share>

10:45 a.m. Book discussion on Judith Herman's book *Truth and Repair* led by the Abuse Prevention and Response Committee—in Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

2 p.m. Everence Stewardship Team—Room 14

Wednesday, July 24, 2024

10 a.m. Deacon Commission meets in Room 14 to assemble the mailing to non-residents of BCMC

1:30 p.m. Structure Group meets in Room 14

Thursday, July 25, 2024

3 p.m. Peace Sunday Ad Hoc Committee meets in Room 14

Sunday, July 28, 2024

9:30 a.m. Sermon by Pastor Roger Neufeld Smith; music by Ron Garber and Doyle Preheim; Birthday Blessing for July birthdays

Please hold Nathan Toews and Leidy Muñoz in prayer as they mourn the death of their newborn daughter, Antonia Sophia, in Mexico City on July 9. Nate and Leidy are at the end of their term in Bolivia and were in Mexico City to attend meetings of MCC leaders from Central and South America. They plan to relocate to Goshen, Indiana in August.

Those who enjoy singing are invited to join as the Chancel Choir begins the year with the August 11 worship service. The anthem includes parts for choir, handbells, and congregation, and will be a meaningful way to both bid farewell to Roger Neufeld Smith and welcome to Joanna Harader. Rehearsal will take place on August 7 at 7:30 PM.

Roger Neufeld Smith will be returning to Newton Wed., July 24 and will be in Newton through Sun. afternoon, July 28. Roger checks his email and phone regularly. Feel free to contact him via email, text or phone (785-220-1968.)

Pastor Nathan Koontz is on vacation July 8—August 10.

BCMC Offering for July 14, 2024 General Fund \$7,807; Kitchen Fund \$15; Solar Fund \$30; Evelyn Lehman Memorial-\$220

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.
- **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.

For those who subscribe to the devotional *Rejoice* through the BCMC group subscription, the last issue of *Rejoice* (Sept.-Oct.-Nov.) will be coming soon. Therefore, it is time to renew for the coming year. The bulk subscription price is \$35.93. The devotional is mailed to BCMC and your copy will be either placed in your mailbox here at church, or mailed to you. If you wish to subscribe (even if you have not subscribed before) place your check in the offering plate or bring or mail to the office with "*Rejoice* subscription" in the memo line.

150th Celebration Announcements

- **Sat. Aug. 24, 8 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. at Eden Mennonite Church, Moundridge, part of the 150 Years Celebration of Mennonites Coming to U.S., is John McCabe-Juhnkes' Readers Theater, "Schweitzers Talking."** A cross-generational dialogue based on (probably) true and (mostly) entertaining stories told by Schweitzers. Featuring the dramatic talents of Jerod Kaufman, Julianna Kaufman, John McCabe-Juhnke, Leann Toews, Aaron Tschetter, Karin Kaufman Wall. Be sure to make your reservations at swissmennonite.org.
- **See the schedule posted on the bulletin board for what is planned August 23 -25 at the 150th Celebration of Ancestors coming to U.S.** to be held at Eden Mennonite Church, rural Moundridge, 401 18th Ave. Interested persons can register on www.swissmennonite.org website under "Reservations and Celebration Information" Step 1 and sign up for the ethnic meal on step 2 (pay credit card or pay at the door). If persons need help registering, they can call Kathy Goering 316-371-6189. Hopefield Church will be open for visitation 9 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday, even serving coffee, lemonade, and cookies. The Moundridge Museum will be open for visitors 1:30-4:30 p.m. Saturday afternoon.

What was it like to travel from the home you knew across a vast ocean to start all over on a treeless prairie. The presentation on Fri., Aug. 2, 7 p.m. "From Russia to Kansas: A Story of the 1874 Mennonite Immigration" will help give some insight. A narrated pictorial presentation, with firsthand accounts, will describe the journey of the Alexanderwohl immigrants leaving South Russia and finding a new home in Kansas. The event will be at the Goessel High School Auditorium 100 E. Main, Goessel. This is a benefit event for the Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum. Donations gratefully accepted.

Scam Awareness Webinar July 25 at 2 p.m. ET, with Steve Bustos, Everence Stewardship Consultant, and Kim Miller, Partner Relationship Specialist for Financial Choice: Learn how to outsmart the scammers and protect your finances. In the webinar, you'll discover how to recognize the most common forms of scams and fraud, how to reduce your risks and how to respond if fraud occurs. Register at [Scam-proof your finances link. \(link to https://www.everence.com/everence-events/everence-stewardship-partners/scam-awareness-webinar\)](https://www.everence.com/everence-events/everence-stewardship-partners/scam-awareness-webinar)

Women & Girls! Western District Women in Mission invites you to our annual retreat September 7-8 at Camp Mennoscah! Theme: Peaceful Practices with Kristine Regehr as our keynote speaker. Girls' Programming for 5th grade - high school with Janna Duerksen. Registration is due August 30. Retreat brochure and registration form are available at: <https://www.westerndistrictwomeninmission.org/register> Come early at 10 a.m. on Saturday morning to tie Camp Mennoscah t-shirt comforters! They will also be available to tie throughout retreat. We hope to get 6 comforters tied and give them to Camp to sell as fundraisers. At least 15 years of past camp T-shirts are in the comforters!

Mennonite Central Committee immigration-focused learning tour in South Texas, Aug. 18-23: MCC learning tours present a unique opportunity to engage directly with the work done by MCC and partner organizations. The tour will give participants the chance to meet with law enforcement officials from Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), gain insights into the complexity of immigration enforcement, including deportation and apprehensions, and visiting migrant response shelters. The tour will shed light on the challenges faced by migrants on their journey and raise awareness about the asylum process, and conditions faced by displaced and uprooted individuals. Find out more and register for the trip by August 9. Questions, please contact Abraham Diaz Alonso, MCC Central States Immigration Program Coordinator at abrahamdiazalonso@mcc.org.