

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

August 18, 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 Ben and Laurel Woodward-Breckbill, who are preparing to serve as directors of the Paris (France) Mennonite Center. Pray that God and God’s people will provide all the necessary resources, so that the Woodward-Breckbill family can begin ministry this month.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Give thanks for WDC church communities observing the 150th anniversary of Mennonites coming to Kansas and Nebraska. Pray for God’s wisdom, both as we celebrate the gifts of the past and as we pursue paths for healing the harm and injustice that is also part of our story as Mennonites.

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 Joanna Harader, Day off: Monday
Cell phone: 407-201-0503; Email: Joanna@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
- Pastor Nathan Koontz, Day off: Wednesday
Cell phone: 316-212-4593; Email: nathan@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
- 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

August 18, 2024

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* (arr. Lau)
Will Wiebe-Friesen

Welcome & Prayer Adam Robb

*Hymn *Be Thou My Vision* VT 549

Children's Conversation Esther Koontz

Worship Music *Lead me Lord* (Wesley)
Chancel Choir; Joel Garber, director; Will Wiebe-Friesen, accompanist

*Hymn *Come and Seek the Way of Wisdom* VT 196

Scripture Reading 1 Kings 3:3-14; Mark 10:35-45
Jeanette Stucky and Coralee Shenk

Sermon *The Glory of a Heart that Listens* Joanna Harader

*Hymn *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant* VT 778

Prayers of God's People Adam Robb

*Hymn *God of Grace and God of Glory* VT 716

*Benediction

Postlude *Wer nur den lieben Gott lässt walten* (JS Bach)
Will Wiebe-Friesen

* You are invited to stand

▪ VT—*Voices Together* ▪ Audio visual— Francis Toews

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.

Pastor Joanna will have office hours at the 1887 Cafe in the Schultz Student Center every Thursday morning from ten to noon. She would love for you to stop by for a chat!

Greetings on behalf of Faith Formation!

The Sunday School teaching year will officially begin **September 8** and we are in need of teachers and helpers to teach 3 age levels of our youth: pre-k, elementary, and middle school.

Sunday School Safe Sanctuary training will be September 1 during the Sunday School time in Fellowship Hall.

Even if you are the slightest bit interested, please listen to the call and email Jill Robb at jill@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

We offer sympathy to the family of Monica Gross. Monica died August 15 at Kidron Bethel Village Health Care. Please remember in your prayers Monica's daughters Cheryl Britsch and Camille Tantibanchachai and their families. The date and time for the memorial service will be announced soon.

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 Department of Bethel College and in collaboration with area churches invites you to engage with Christianity and Democracy led by well known author, academic, and presenter, David P. Gushee (<https://davidpgushee.com>).

The 2024 issue of Bethel College's online journal Mennonite Life can now be viewed at ml.bethelks.edu The issue includes articles by Rod Ratzlaff, Mark Jantzen and Rachel Pannabecker related to the 150th anniversary of Mennonite immigration to North America from the Russian Empire, as well as the text from last spring's Bible Lectures by César García and Sandra Báez, several other articles, and book reviews.

Bethel College Announcements:

- **Sun., Aug. 18 – Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum, 3 p.m., with Lorna Harder**, professor emeritus of biology at Hesston College and former curator of natural history at Kauffman Museum, on the 40th anniversary of the museum's tall-grass prairie reconstruction; museum auditorium (corner of Main & 27th streets, North Newton).
- **SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, Sept. 15, Forum on Democracy and Christianity with David Gushee, Distinguished University Professor of Christian Ethics at Mercer University, 3 p.m., Memorial Hall at Bethel College**; sponsored by Bethel College Mennonite Church and the Bethel Department of Bible and Religion. Gushee will also speak in **convocation Mon., Sept. 16, 11 a.m.**, in Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center.

It's almost here - 150th celebration on August 23-25, at Eden Mennonite Church. Throughout the last year we have celebrated with Zwingli movie, Ukraine speaker, Quilt show, plowing and planting with horses and binding and shocking wheat, Jerry Juhnke talking about genealogy, the historical drama, unveiling the memorial sculpture by Ann Zerger and Chip Parker, and now comes more to enjoy: seminars, Readers' Theater, poppyseed break, threshing Red Turkey wheat, ethnic supper, entertainment. Children's activities. We still have t-shirts and mugs and books for you to remember the weekend. And lots of meeting new and old friends under the banner of "Schweitzers AND Friends." Better register now. All the events will be recorded and put on the www.swissmennonite.org website so you can see anything you missed. I can't wait. See you there. - *Kathy Goering*

Saturday, Aug. 24, will be the final Schweitzers & Friends 150th celebration Pioneer Event with a demonstration of threshing and milling of Turkey Red Hard Winter Wheat which was raised using horse drawn and vintage equipment, just west of the Moundridge Museum complex. We will be using a McCormick-Deering threshing machine powered by an antique tractor to thresh the bundles of Turkey Red we bound and shocked back on June first. There will also be an 1874 grist mill, milling demonstration providing a unique opportunity to have Turkey Red wheat flour available for purchase. Along with the threshing and milling events, Vintage Farm Equipment, with some of the great machines of the past, will be on display all day. These events will start with the farm equipment display beginning at 9 a.m., just west of the Moundridge Museum Complex. We will be setting up the threshing and milling demonstration all morning with our official start at 3 p.m. There will be limited bleacher seating and concessions (including K3 Creamery) available to help you enjoy these unique pioneer events and celebrate the 150th Schweitzers & Friends anniversary celebration. The whole community is invited to join us! --Glen Goering

The Next Week at BCMC: August 18—25, 2024

Sunday, August 18, 2024—Welcome to Joanna Harader

9:30 a.m. Worship

YouTube Link for this Sunday:

<https://youtube.com/live/YCmTrnD5WVU?feature=share>

Wednesday, August 21, 2024

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

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

Thursday, August 22, 2024

4 p.m. Witness Commission meeting in Room 14

7 p.m. Deacon Commission meeting in Room 14

Sunday, August 25, 2024—Blessing of the Backpacks

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

4 p.m. Newton Community Children's Choir parents' meeting in sanctuary

A reminder that the next Women's Fellowship Executive Board meeting will be Wednesday, August 21 at 9 a.m.

The memorial service for Marilyn Stucky (Marilyn died June 20) will be Sat., Aug. 31, 11 a.m. at BCMC, with a lunch in fellowship hall following the service.

BCMC Offering for Aug. 11, 2024: General Fund \$7,502; Mennonite Central Committee \$200; Sr Hi Youth \$200; Kitchen Fund \$10; Solar Fund \$80.

The Chancel Bells will begin practicing September 5 for our fall music. But, I need several players to complete the choir. This commitment ideally would be for the entire year, but I can work with a month at a time. We are easy to work with and very forgiving if you are a new player. Please consider making this contribution to the worship of our church. I am excited to get going again with some new music and some that hasn't been done for several years. Our library has many options. Contact Verlene: verlenegarber@gmail.com or 620-217-5266

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!

Last Call for those who subscribe to the devotional Rejoice through the BCMC group subscription. The last issue of Rejoice (Sept.-Oct.-Nov.) is in your mailbox or in the mail. 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.

Looking ahead to November, the Library theme for the next few months will be Religion and Politics. We've pulled some books that might help answer questions about our current political climate. A partial display is behind the library desk.

Volunteer opportunity: The next volunteer training session for New Hope Shelter is on Monday, August 19th at 7:30 pm. BCMC is one of 24 area congregations regularly providing volunteers to New Hope, and about five times a year we fill a week's worth of evening slots in coordination with Faith Mennonite Church. Volunteers provide food for an evening meal or spend time at the shelter with the residents, along with an on-site staff supervisor. More help is always welcomed, and can be regular or occasional. If you'd like to learn about the work of New Hope or consider volunteering, please plan to attend the August 19 session at 308 South Meridian Road, Newton, KS. New Hope serves homeless men, women, and children from Harvey, Butler, Marion, and McPherson counties. -Cynthia Linscheid

FreedUp: Everence® is offering a new stewardship training program. The FreedUp program is a way for everyone to get their finances in order – and gain a deeper faith perspective on your money. Everence facilitators will lead the group sessions, including the first get-acquainted session. There are two upcoming options for participants to choose from:

- Tuesdays at 2 p.m. ET beginning Aug. 20; ending Oct. 1 or
- Mondays at 8 p.m. ET beginning Oct. 7; ending Nov. 18.

Register at everence.com/partners.

We're just a few weeks away from the Western District Women in Mission Women's & Girls' Retreat on September 7-8 at Camp Mennoscah with our theme of Peaceful Practices. Registrations are due by August 30. The retreat brochure and registration form are on our website at this link: <https://www.westerndistrictwomeninmission.org/events>
If you plan to come Saturday morning to tie comforters, please remember that lunch is not provided, so bring a sack lunch. Questions? Send an e-mail to westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com.

Now is the time to renew the BCMC group subscription to Anabaptist World, a monthly magazine featuring voices from across the Anabaptist-Mennonite world. If you sign up with the congregation's plan, you receive this publication at the discounted rate of \$44. If interested in joining the group plan, contact Monica Lichti in the church office as soon as possible. New subscribers can also receive a one-year subscription for the discounted rate of \$44. To subscribe email office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
Bring in or mail your \$44.00 to the office or place it in the offering plate Sunday. Mark your checks with "Anabaptist World" in the memo line. If you are currently receiving Anabaptist World through the BCMC group subscription plan it will expire Nov. 2024. Anabaptist World would like us to renew the subscription now so that you receive the magazine without interruption.

Dear BCMC congregation:

The Solar Panel committee would like to bring you an update on our solar project.

1. About our pledges:

- a. A total of \$192,180 has been pledged -- that is enough to pay for the entire project! A big thank you to BCMC! We are overwhelmed by your generosity!
- b. To date \$150,609.86 of the pledges have been received!
- c. The remaining \$41,109.14 pledges are expected to be received over the remaining pledge period for the years 2025 and 2026.

2. To follow the solar panels "at work":

- a. there is a link you can access to follow "minute by minute" how the solar collectors convert solar energy into electricity: Use the following link:
<https://monitoringpublic.solaredge.com/solaredge-web/p/site/public?name=BCMC#/dashboard>
- b. This link will be available on the BCMC website in the near future.
- c. Look at the bulletin boards in the Gathering Space for a large printout of the solar panels at work. Look for regular updates of these graphs.
- d. Check out the solar equipment at ground level on the east side of the church. The "humming" you hear indicates that the inverters are at work.

3. The application for the 30% Federal Energy grant is in process. Applications for this energy grant can only be applied for once the project is finished. For BCMC the application will be processed in the next Federal tax cycle of 2025. The grant amount comes to about \$58,000.

4. If you have questions concerning the BCMC Solar Panel project, please contact any member of our committee: Dwight Krehbiel, Margaret Toews, Lorna Harder and Hugo Boschmann