

**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 25, 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 the 25 congregations that make up Colombia Mennonite Church (IMCOL). Pray that IMCOL will realize its goals of strengthening its Anabaptist identity and organizational capacity.

**Western District Conference Prayer Request:** As the sun sets on another day, let's welcome the gift and blessing of tomorrow. Let's pray and be thankful for the opportunities to build relationships and share the love of Christ. Let's pray for resolve and encouragement along with perseverance to keep trying. Let's pray for our leaders and those called and willing to church plant and support church planting across WDC. Let's be thankful for a new day! -WDC Church Planting Commission

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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](mailto:office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)  
Website: [bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](http://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](mailto:Joanna@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- Pastor Nathan Koontz, Day off: Wednesday  
Cell phone: 316-212-4593; Email: [nathan@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:nathan@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- Elizabeth Schmidt, Pastor of Congregational Care  
Email: [elizabeth@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:elizabeth@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- Office/Facilities Manager: Monica Lichti, Cell phone 316-249-9652  
Email: [office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- Faith Formation Coordinator: Jill Robb—Email: [jill@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:jill@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- Youth Coordinator: George Leary—Email: [george@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto: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 Announcements:**

- **Mon., Aug. 26** – “The Rose Aesthetic,” works by Gwen and Victor Rose, opens in the Regier Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College (reception Sept. 19). Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m.
- **Sat., Sept. 14** – Duo piano recital: Dr. Christina Liu (Bethel College) and Dr. Brett Janssen (Central Christian College), 4 p.m., Ad Building chapel at Bethel College
- **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.

**The Life Enrichment program at Bethel College** plans to start up again on Wednesdays from Aug. 28-Nov. 20 this Fall. Life Enrichment is for people age 60 and above and is an excellent way to continue learning and meet people from the surrounding area in a relaxed setting.

- Cost: \$40 per semester or \$4 per week; first-time attendees get a free day
- Time: Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m.-11:50 a.m. for two-session dates; Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. for three-session dates
- Location: All sessions will be in Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center on the Bethel campus
- Lunch cost: \$7 full meal; \$5 soup/salad/dessert. Please purchase tickets for lunch by 10:30 a.m. with cash, or check payable to “Aladdin Foods.”

**August 28—9:30 a.m.** “The Case for a Mennonite Work College,” Jon C. Ger- ing, president, Bethel College

**August 28—10:50 a.m.** “The Harvey Girls: Women’s Roses in Railroads, Kan- sas and U.S. History,” Dr. Michaeline Chance-Reay, professor emeritus of women’s studies and education, Kansas State University, Manhattan

**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](mailto:westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com).

### **The Next Week at BCMC: August 25—September 1, 2024**

#### **Sunday, August 25, 2024—Blessing of the Backpacks**

9:30 a.m. Worship. Jeanette Leary will be the volunteer in the nursery.

YouTube Link for this Sunday:

<https://youtube.com/live/bVTAA8eiK1g?feature=share>

#### **Wednesday, August 28, 2024**

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

#### **Thursday, August 29, 2024**

6 p.m. Hospitality Commission meeting in Fellowship Hall

#### **Saturday, August 31, 2024**

11 a.m. Memorial Service for Marilyn Stucky in the Sanctuary; Lunch in the Fellowship Hall will follow immediately after the service

#### **Sunday, September 1, 2024**

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Joanna Harader

**Monday, September 2, 2024—Labor Day—Office will be closed; church locked; Tuesday, September 3, 2024—Office will be closed**

**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.

**Dorothy Unruh turns 103 on September 12, 2024!** Send birthday messages and blessings to Dorothy at 1407 Hillcrest Road, Newton, KS 67114.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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!

**Community Playschool is gearing up for the start of another school year on September 10.** We have 15 children and 8 volunteers lined up to participate in two classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We are offering a HUGE thank you to the youth group and their sponsors for clearing out debris from the perimeter of the playground. This happened on July 6 during their service/learning week. It was brutally hot that day, and they worked tirelessly to clear out several years of leaf clutter that gathers at the fence. We are so grateful to them for this effort! We hope you all can venture down the north hall in the lower level often after September 10 to see signs of our program at work right here at BCMC!  
— Jeanette Leary and Kasey Newell, co-directors

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

**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 sessions. The upcoming option for participants is Mondays at 8 p.m. ET beginning Oct. 7; ending Nov. 18. Register at [everence.com/partners](https://everence.com/partners).

**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](mailto: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.

**BCMC Offering for Aug. 18, 2024:** General Fund \$10,075; Kitchen Fund \$23.30; Solar Fund \$275.

**LABOR DAY WORK & PLAY RETREAT: If you want to enjoy the holiday weekend at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp, there are 16 spaces available to register.** The weekend is offered as a day of work and play (Sat. or Sun.) with a Monday morning sendoff after breakfast. This year (Aug. 30-Sept. 2), we'll be serving (foodservice & housekeeping) along with additional work projects in preparing our facilities/grounds for the coming winter. Contact [rmmc.org](https://rmmc.org)

**The deadline for announcements for the week's upcoming Sunday's BCMC bulletin is Thursday morning.** It may not be possible to include an announcement if it is received later.

### **September and October Webinars from EVERENCE®**

**Finances and You!** Discover topics that integrate your faith and finances! This is a free, four-part webinar series where you'll hear how Everence® can help you make important financial decisions that reflect your faith values. The webinars will be presented by Everence professionals and there will be time for your questions. **All webinars held on Wednesdays at 2 and 8 p.m. (Eastern Time) For more information, visit [everence.com/national](https://everence.com/national). Or Email: [national@everence.com](mailto:national@everence.com) with any questions.**

- **Sept. 11 Seminar: Why give now?** 12 strategies to maximize your generosity in 2024. No matter your income or age, explore how you can make a difference in the world by stretching the impact of your giving to the missions, ministries and organizations you care about. Presented by: Lyle Miller, Stewardship Consultant & Phil Pratt, Charitable Consultant
- **Sept. 18 Seminar: Getting our lives together,** Giving our lives away, and Giving our deaths away. For those of us interested in integrating our faith with our finances, we often find ourselves focusing on different concerns throughout our lives. Intentionally embracing these unique periods of our lives can encourage growth in our stewardship journey and help form us into the image of Christ. Presented by: Colin Saxton, Stewardship Theologian and Director of Church Relations
- **Sept. 25 Seminar: Social Security: Understanding your benefits.** Does the thought of figuring out social security make you want to curl up in a ball and cry? Help is on the way. Come and learn the ins and outs of social security that will provide you clarity as you consider your social security future. Presented by: Steve Lane, AWMA®, CFP®, Financial Consultant
- **Oct. 2 Seminar: Investing 202.** Mutual funds, pensions, stocks, bonds, IRA's, Roth IRA's, 401k's, Real estate. The list seems to go on and on for investment options. This presentation will help you sort through your investment options and other considerations as you explore what investments make sense for you. Presented by: Michael Burton, CFP®, CEPA®, Financial Consultant

### **Et Cetera Shop Volunteer Experience**

Do you want to expand your social circle? Do you want to make new friends? Do you want to be a part of a mission that serves our local communities and the world? Then join us for our Volunteer Experience Sat., Aug. 31 from 9-11 a.m., as we explore the mission and vision of the Newton Et Cetera Shop! We will journey through the history of the shop, our current vision, the work of our volunteers, and how you might become a part of this vital mission in our community! This event is open to all!