

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

September 1, 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 is the Day of Prayer for Creation, promoted by Season of Creation, an ecumenical organization of prayer and action. Mennonite Church USA and Mission Network are members of this global community. Join in lamenting the harm human beings have inflicted on the Earth, and pray that we will discover unity, as we work together as caretakers of God’s creation.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Pray for WDC Commissions beginning the new program year, and give thanks for new commission members elected at the recent WDC Annual Assembly.

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 Announcements:

- **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.

Life Enrichment program at Bethel College for Wednesday, Sept. 4. 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.

Sept. 4—9:30 a.m. “Climate Change and Health: Harms and Opportunities,” Dwight Krehbiel, North Newton

Sept. 4—10:50 a.m. “STRATACA: One of the Eight Wonders of Kansas,” Rachel Terry, Strataca operation manager, Hutchinson

Bethel College Women's Association needs your donations of baked goods and craft items!

Home-made pies, poppyseed rolls, zwieback, cinnamon rolls, other baked goods and treats for Market-in-the-Round at Fall Festival are welcome. In addition, home-made jams/jellies and craft items are needed. All of these items can be delivered to the Music Library in Luyken Fine Arts Center from 1 - 5 p.m., Fri., Oct. 4. All proceeds will benefit Bethel College. If questions email: bcwa@bethelks.edu Volunteers are needed as well to staff the booths. To sign up, use this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E4CA8A72FA3F58-50920044-fall/102465998#/>

A Mennonite Central Committee immigration-focused learning tour in South Texas will be Oct. 6-11, a unique opportunity to engage directly with the work done by MCC and partner organizations. It 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, visiting migrant response shelters, and 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. Register for the trip by Sept. 20. Questions: contact Becky Teiwes, MCC Central States Borderlands Program Coordinator at beckyteiwes@mcc.org.

The Next Week at BCMC: September 1-8, 2024

Sunday, September 1, 2024

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Safe Sanctuary Training in the Sanctuary

YouTube Link for this Sunday:

<https://youtube.com/live/OUma3qVlp30?feature=share>

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

Tuesday, September 3, 2024—Office will be closed

Wednesday, September 4, 2024

8 am to 12 p.m. Community Playschool will be in kitchen/Fellowship Hall

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

Thursday, September 5, 2024

12:30 p.m. Staff Meeting

5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Community Playschool Open House in Playschool rooms

6:30 p.m. Chancel Bell rehearsal in Room B7

7 p.m. Church Board meeting in Room 14

Sunday, September 8, 2024—Installation for Pastor Joanna Harader

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Junior and Youth Sunday School Begins

Save the Date for the Annual Dessert Reception for Bethel College students

September 22 at 6 p.m. This year it will be held ON the Bethel College campus—on a sidewalk going to Haury Hall—just a few feet from the BCMC grounds. Please bring a dessert to share and be willing to engage with students. Chairs will be set up in circles.

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. 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 begin with some new music and some that hasn't been done for several years. Our library has many options. Contact Verlène: verlenegarber@gmail.com or 620-217-5266.

BCMC Offering for Aug. 25, 2024: General Fund \$5,795; Community Playschool \$500; Kitchen Fund \$15; Solar Fund \$1,517.95; Monica Gross Memorial \$50.

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

This is a reminder of the BCMC Witness Commission 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 Schowalter Singers, a resident choir from Schowalter Villa, will present its fall concert, "Our Journey to Heaven," Sun., Sept. 8, at 7 p.m., at Whitestone Mennonite Church, 629 Crescent Dr., Hesston. The concert is free and open to the public. Another opportunity to see the concert will be 3 p.m., Wed., Sept. 11, at the Schowalter Villa chapel, 200 W. Hickory, St., Hesston.

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

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.

LAST CALL 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.

September and October Webinars from EVERENCE®

Finances and You with 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. Or Email: national@everence.com with any questions.

- **Sept. 11 Seminar: Why give now?** 12 strategies to maximize your generosity in 2024. No matter 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.** 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

LET EVERENCE® HELP MAKE MEDICARE AN EASY STEP with Medicare Mondays

An informal conversation about Medicare that will cover the following: Enrollment details and deadlines; when to start Social Security; Prescription drug coverage; Plans that supplement Medicare. Webinars presented by Everence professionals, and there will be time for questions. All webinars held on the second Monday of the month at 2 and 8 p.m. (Eastern Time): Sept. 9; Oct. 14; Nov. 11; Dec. 9. Register with: everence.com/national. Email: national@everence.com with any questions.

Camp Mennoscah needs volunteers for the HVAC work at the Retreat Center Monday - Friday. No construction skills needed. Let us know when you are available, so we can prepare for you. For anyone interested in working on a weekend, two weeks notice is needed. Contact Isaac at 316-217-5626 to sign up.