

**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:** Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Euclides Bauza, a Mennonite church leader in Venezuela, who served as an election observer in the country’s disputed presidential election in July. Pray for Bauza’s safety, the families mourning the deaths of loved ones, protection for those who have been arrested and that Venezuelan authorities will care for the needs of citizens.

**Western District Conference Prayer Request:** Pray for ministers gathering for a retreat next weekend in Texas, sponsored by the WDC Ministerial Leadership 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: Friday; 1887 Café Hours: Thursday 10 a.m. to 12 noon  
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

## Bethel College Mennonite Church September 22, 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**

**September 22, 2024**

**International Day of Peace**

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music      *Give Me Jesus* (arr. Lau)      Will Wiebe-Friesen

Welcome & Prayer      Lucy Burch & Marlene Ewert

\*Hymn      *In Christ There Is No East or West*      VT 390

Children's Conversation      Joanna Harader

\*Hymn      *Come Now, O Prince of Peace*      VT 391

Psalm & Antiphon      Psalm I  
Chancel Choir; Joel Garber, director; Will Wiebe-Friesen, accompanist

Scripture Reading      Isaiah 26:1-4 & 1 Peter 5:6-9      Ben Janzen

Sermon      *Cultivating a Culture of Peace*      Joanna Harader

Worship Music      *Verleih uns frieden* (Mendelssohn)      Chancel Choir

\*Hymn      *For the Healing of the Nations*      VT 705

Prayers of God's People      Adah Hodge & Barb Koontz

Choral Benediction      *Peace I Leave You* (Amy Beech)      Chancel Choir

\*Benediction

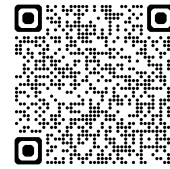
Postlude      *Fugue from Sonata No. 6*  
"Our Father Which Art in Heaven" (Mendelssohn)  
Will Wiebe-Friesen

\* You are invited to stand

▪ VT—*Voices Together*    ▪ Audio visual— Ken Lamp

**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.**

**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. Volunteer in the nursery today is Esther Koontz.



**We extend a special welcome to those who are visiting Bethel College Mennonite this morning.** Thank you for sharing in worship! If you would like us to keep in touch, please scan the QR code and fill out the visitor form.

**Activity bags are now available for our littles during the church service!** The 10 bags are filled with a coloring book/page, crayons, and a library book. After using the activity bag, please make sure all the supplies are in the bag and hang on the hook at the back of the sanctuary. Library books will be switched out on a monthly basis. *Jill, Faith Formation Coordinator*

**We offer sympathy to the family of Donna Friesen.** Donna died Sept. 18 at Kidron Bethel Village.

**Interested in becoming a member of Bethel College Mennonite Church?**

If you are interested in becoming a member, or transferring membership, or learning more about membership at BCMC, please contact Elizabeth Schmidt, Pastor of Congregational Care. She will be happy to visit with you!

**The Abuse Prevention and Response Committee, at the request of the Faith Formation Commission,** has approved a provisional change to the Abuse Prevention and Response Policy that will allow our nursery to be staffed by one approved adult and one approved youth volunteer. (II.A.3) This change takes effect immediately. Over the coming months, the APRC will be reviewing the policy in full and will bring an updated version of the policy to the congregation for approval some time in 2025. Copies of the policy are available on the church website and in the office. If you have questions about the policy or changes to suggest, please reach out to one of the pastors or a member of APRC.

**The bulletin cover, "Peace and Reconciliation" is by Bob Regier.**

**BCMC Offering for Sept. 15:** Gen. Fund \$8,697; Kitchen Fund \$19; Solar Fund \$25; Marilyn Stucky Memorial \$6,100

## Bethel College Announcements:

- **PLEASE NOTE:** The screening of the KIPCOR Film Series film “The Lincoln School Story,” scheduled for today, Sun., Sept. 22, has been canceled.
- **Tues., Sept. 24: “Sing My Soul” high school choral festival at Bethel College, Dr. Henry Waters, director, with a short public concert at 1:40 p.m.,** Memorial Hall or livestream at <https://www.youtube.com/live/9cZe9ofldNE?feature=shared>
- **Thurs., Sept. 26: The Bethel College Wind Ensemble presents “dinner and a show,” 6:30 p.m., Memorial Hall.** Tickets are \$20 per person or \$200 for a full table (8 people). Call 316-284-5202, or go to Thresher Shop on the Bethel campus, Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-5 p.m., to buy tickets. You must have a ticket to attend this concert.
- **Sun., Sept. 29: Mark Jantzen, Bethel College professor of history, speaks on “Brief Imperial Russian Sojourn: Lasting Mennonite Memories,” following a brief annual meeting at 3 p.m., Kauffman Museum.** This coincides with the opening of the new special exhibit “Unlocking the Past: Immigrant Artifacts & the Stories They Tell,” sparked by the 150th anniversary of the migration of Mennonites from Russia and Prussia to the Central Plains of North America and by the 500th anniversary of Anabaptism in 2025.
- **Bethel College’s Fall Festival is Oct. 3-6,** with most activities taking place Sat., Oct. 5, on campus. Features include music, food, class reunions, football, the musical “9 to 5”, and the 50th-anniversary celebration for the social work program. See <https://www.bethelks.edu/fallfest/> for the complete schedule.
- **Fri., Oct. 4, 7:30 p.m., Sat., Oct. 5, 3:30 p.m., Sun., Oct. 6, 2 p.m. – Bethel College music and theater departments present 9 to 5 during Fall Festival,** Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center. Ticket purchase required, in Thresher Shop in Schultz Student Center weekdays 8 a.m.-5 p.m., online (<https://bethelks.hometownticketing.com/embed/all?depts=3>) or at the door. Contains adult content and may not be suitable for young children.
- **Sat., Oct. 5: Sarah Augustine will give a keynote address for the 50th anniversary of Bethel College social work, 2 p.m., Kidron Hall at Kidron Bethel Village. She will also speak Sun., Oct. 6, 9:30 a.m., at Bethel College Mennonite Church,** and Mon., Oct. 7, for convocation in Krehbiel Auditorium. The public is invited to any and all events. Augustine is the founder and co-chair of the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery, author of *The Land is Not Empty* (2021) and co-author of *So We and Our Children May Live* (2023).
- **Life Enrichment program at Bethel College for Wednesday, Sept. 25.** 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. 25, 9:30 a.m.:** Bluegrass and Flint Hills music by the Tallgrass Express, Annie Wilson, singer, guitar player and lyrical storyteller, Elmdale  
**Sept. 25, 10:50 a.m.:** “Why I Paint,” Virgil Penner, North Newton

## The Week at BCMC: September 22-29, 2024

### Sunday, September 22, 2024—International Day of Peace

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Faith Formation for Junior and Youth

Volunteer in the Nursery today is Esther Koontz

YouTube Link for the worship service this Sunday:

<https://youtube.com/live/tjSYI12o2i4?feature=share>

**6 p.m. Dessert Reception for Bethel College students on the sidewalk in front of Haury Hall, sponsored by the BCMC Relations Team with assistance from the BCMC Hospitality Commission.** 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.

### Tuesday, September 24, 2024

4 p.m. Worship Commission meeting

### Wednesday, September 25, 2024

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

### Thursday, September 26, 2024

2 p.m. Inurnment service for Monica Gross at Restlawn Gardens of Memory

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

7 p.m. Deacon Commission meeting in Room 14

7:30 p.m. Hospitality Commission meeting in Fellowship Hall

### Sunday, September 29, 2024

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

10:30 a.m. Faith Formation for Children

10:45 a.m. Congregational Meeting in the Sanctuary

12 noon Senior High Youth Group Fundraiser Lunch in Fellowship Hall

All are invited!

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### **Congregational Meeting and Membership Vote:**

#### **Congregational Meeting Set for September 29:**

The next congregational meeting will be at 10:45 a.m. during the Sunday School hour on September 29. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary and made available live on YouTube only while the meeting is in progress; it will not be recorded. Remote viewers can text their votes to a number announced at the beginning of the meeting. Agenda items will include a vote for a change of Membership Guidelines and an update from pastors and moderators. The youth will host a fundraising luncheon following the meeting.

**Future congregational meetings will be held at 10:45 a.m. on January 26 and May 4, 2025.** Information about the Membership Vote is on the next page.

## **Proposal for Action at the BCMC Congregational Meeting Sept. 29, 2024**

The Church Board and Deacons recommend removing the "Welcoming Statement" (approved January 28, 2024) from Article IV: Membership. Both the Deacons and the Inclusive Task Group desire that the Welcoming Statement be separate from the membership guidelines. The current Welcoming Statement will continue to be used in BCMC publications but can be changed and updated under the leadership of the Inclusive Task Group. The revised membership guidelines for the congregational vote on September 29 read as follows:

### Article IV: Membership (Revised)

Membership in the Bethel College Mennonite Church is open to all who affirm their faith in God, who seek to center their lives in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, who are open to the presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit, and who have received baptism as the symbol of their commitment and covenant. Bethel College Mennonite Church welcomes into fellowship and membership all persons who commit to Jesus Christ, without regard to their race, ethnic background, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, economic status, marital state, age, or other factors which can lead to discrimination and marginalization. Members offer themselves to support Mennonite principles and to share in the life and work of this congregation.

**After a discussion between the pastoral team and the BCMC board, we have decided to postpone the annual leadership retreat**, usually held in the fall, to a yet-to-be-determined date in late 2024 or early 2025. This postponement will:

1. Allow our pastoral and moderator teams to continue their work of clarifying and defining their roles.
2. Allow pastors and moderators to create a leadership retreat that best equips leaders of commissions and committees for our current model of pastoral leadership.

In the meantime, we encourage committees and commissions to contact Brad Kohlman if they have questions or concerns. Look for an update on the timing of the leadership retreat later this fall or early winter.

**Mark your calendars for the annual Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Assoc. (SMCHA) Banquet** at Faith Mennonite Church, Newton, Oct. 10., 6 p.m. with an ethnic German buffet style meal catered by the Breadbasket and 'bohne beroggi' made by Schweitzer cooks. We'll focus on thanking those who coordinated the 150th anniversary of Schweitzers coming to the United States. Dale Schrag will be our speaker for the evening discussing the future. The cost of the banquet is \$25 to be paid at the door. RSVP to Nancy Stucky by October 7 with a text or phone call to 620-532-5693. We invite you to come and enjoy good food, learn who we are and were, learn what SMCHA is doing and planning, have a great time fellowshiping with friends old and new, and continue our celebratory mood from the 150th.

**September and October Webinars from EVERENCE® Finances and You** with topics that integrate your faith and finances! This is a free webinar series where 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. 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

**Join Mennonite Central Committee, the Church of the Brethren, and the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) for a webinar** on climate and peace Sept. 25, 11 a.m., EDT. Learn from partners around the world how climate change is driving conflict within their communities and how they are acting to address this crisis. Hear how you can take action to advocate for international climate assistance and to support peace globally. Webinar: Climate and peace: Stories from around the world. Register at: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_XqMu\\_dxZR\\_WKyU4OOWur5w#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_XqMu_dxZR_WKyU4OOWur5w#/registration) (Or click the link from the Sept. 21 BCMC email.)

**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@belhelks.edu](mailto:bcwa@belhelks.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#/>

**Enjoy a summer-fall evening at Camp Mennoscah and hear updates. The Annual Meeting on September 22** has been shortened to the annual business meeting at 5 p.m. instead of a full day event. Donations will be accepted for the Foundation 75 Capital Campaign.