

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 29, 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 Anicka Fast, as she fosters collaborations that cross academic disciplines and national boundaries, and as she teaches global church history and archiving skills throughout Africa. Pray for her as she edits a new Mennonite World Conference Global Anabaptist-Mennonite history series, in addition to teaching and traveling.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Pray for the IBA Christian formation program at the new Arca de Salvacion Church in Uspantan, Guatemala. May God bless and guide the leaders and participants, and may this program strengthen the faith and commitment of the community in its walk with Christ. -WDC Church Planting Commission

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: Friday; 1887 Café Hours: Thursday 10 a.m. to 12 noon
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
September 29, 2024
World Communion Celebration

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music *Morning Song of Praise* (Hakes)
Chancel Bells, Verlene Garber, director

Welcome & Prayer Dale Horst

*Hymn *From North and South, from East and West* VT 460

Children's Conversation Jim Robb
Birthday Blessing
(Those with *September* birthdays please come to the front of the sanctuary when indicated)

Worship Music *Abide with me* (Moklebust)
Chancel Bells; Lucy Burch, flute

Scripture Reading Psalm 19; Mark 9:38-50 Pam Epp

Sermon *Gatekeepers of God?* Nathan Koontz

*Hymn *I Come with Joy* VT 478

Communion Joanna Harader, Elizabeth Schmidt

Prayers of God's People

*Hymn *Put Peace into Each Other's Hands* VT 485

*Benediction

Postlude Karen Unruh

* You are invited to stand

- VT—*Voices Together* ▪ Keyboard—Karen Unruh
- Audio visual—Francis Toews

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 attendants in the Nursery today: Kathy Stucky and Margaret Toews



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

Jill Robb and Megan Kohlman will be leading a book study of the book *Woven: Nurturing a Faith Your Kid Doesn't Have to Heal From* by Meredith Miller. Don't have kids? Your kids are grown up? Come anyway! We will be discussing this book from the perspective of parents, a faith community that supports parents, and individuals who grew up in a faith community (maybe even one you had to heal from). We plan to begin the book study Oct. 13 and discuss chapters 1, 2, and 3. Please meet us in the blue Sunday School room (Room 26) on the 2nd floor. You can purchase *Woven* from Faith and Life bookstore, Amazon, or your favorite independent bookstore. We look forward to the conversation!

A six-week grief support group will be offered through Bethel College Mennonite Church for interested individuals. To indicate interest, or to learn more, please contact Elizabeth Schmidt, Pastor for Congregational Care.

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!

BCMC Offering for Sept. 22: Gen. Fund \$13,369.50; Columbarium Fund \$2,000; Kitchen Fund \$27; Women's Fellowship \$410; Solar Fund \$1,000; Marilyn Stucky Memorial \$50.

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

Bethel College Announcements:

- **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.
- **Mon., Sept. 30: “SMOL,” art by Audra Miller,** opens in the Regier Gallery, Fine Arts Center. Exhibit reception is Fri., Oct. 4, 6-8 p.m., in the gallery as part of Fall Fest. The exhibit is open through Oct. 25. Regular hours are Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m. (extended hours: Sat., Oct. 5, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.).
- **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.
- **Thurs., Oct. 3: Bethel College Jazz, 6 p.m.** on the Main & Broadway stage at Taste of Newton, downtown Newton.
- **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. 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: Kauffman Museum bird walk, 8 a.m.** start time in the museum parking lot at the corner of Main and 27th streets. Experienced birders lead a walk of 1-1.5 hours in Chisholm Park and on Sand Creek Trail.
- **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, 10 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).
- **Sat., Oct. 5: Fall Fest programs at Kauffman Museum in the museum auditorium: 10 a.m.,** Rosi Penner Kaufman will play the historic Teschemacher cabinet organ and present “Organ Music at Home, Wherever that May Be”; 1 p.m., Steve Friesen, author and historian, “Gallop Gourmet: The Buffalo Bill Nobody Knows”; 3 p.m., Steve Friesen, “Alps on the Plains: The Life and Work of Emil Kym.” The museum will also have special kids’ activities throughout the day.
- **There will be no Life Enrichment program at Bethel College** for Wednesday, October 2, due to Fall Fest.

The Week at BCMC: September 29-October 6, 2024

Sunday, September 29, 2024—World Communion Celebration

9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Faith Formation for Junior and Youth
10:45 a.m. Congregational Meeting in the Sanctuary
12 noon Senior High Youth Group Fundraiser Lunch in Fellowship Hall
All are invited!

Volunteer attendants in the Nursery today: Kathy Stucky and Margaret Toews
YouTube Link for the worship service this Sunday:

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

Monday, September 30, 2024

10 a.m. Library Committee meeting in Room 14

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

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

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

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

Thursday, October 3, 2024

4 p.m. Staff Congregation Relations Committee meeting in Room 14

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

Sunday, October 6, 2024—Fall Fest Sunday—No Sunday School

10 a.m. Worship with sermon by Sarah Augustine

Notes for your calendars

- **The family of Paul Harms invites you to a 90th Birthday Celebration for Paul on October 6 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the BCMC Fellowship Hall.**
- **The worship service on Fall Fest Sunday, October 6, will begin at 10 a.m. in the BCMC sanctuary. Note the beginning time of 10 a.m.**
- Wednesday night suppers will begin on Oct. 16 and run through Nov. 20.
- **Faith Formation Commission is sponsoring a visit to the P&M Pumpkin Patch, Sat., Oct. 26, 3-7 p.m.** All are invited!
- **Future congregational meetings** will be held at 10:45 a.m. on January 26 and May 4, 2025.

Congregational Meeting Today

The congregational meeting will be at 10:45 a.m. during the Sunday School hour today. 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. Information about the Membership Vote is on the next page.

YouTube Link for the congregational meeting is:

<https://youtube.com/live/mCK4NWF0UyM?feature=share>

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.

From the Finance Committee on behalf of the Church Board:

As the third quarter of our church year ends, we reflect on the many things for which we are grateful. We give thanks for the gifts that have been given this year by those volunteering time to the church or our benevolences; caring for family, neighbors and friends; raising prayers on behalf of those who are hurting, grieving or fighting injustice; and donating monetary offerings toward our annual budget. Each of these gifts strengthens our community as we work together to be the church right where we are. A financial update will be shared at today's congregational meeting and in the weekly email in early October.

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. After contacting Nancy, you are welcome to pay online on www.swissmennonite.org 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.

October Webinar from EVERENCE® Finances and You! This is a free webinar where Everence® can help you make important financial decisions that reflect your faith values. The webinar will be presented by Everence professionals and there will be time for your questions. **Webinar held on Wednesday at 2 and 8 p.m. (Eastern Time) For more information, visit everence.com/national. Or Email: national@everence.com with any questions.**

• **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

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 Volunteers are needed as well to staff the booths. To sign up, use this link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E4CA8A72FA3F58-50920044-fall/102465998#

Kidron Bethel Village will host its annual Country Breakfast on Sat., Oct. 5, from 7 to 10 a.m., in Kidron Hall, 3001 Ivy Dr . Enjoy pancakes, sausage and eggs by donation. Proceeds benefit the Kidron Bethel Village Health Care Benevolent Fund, assisting residents who are unable to cover the full cost of their care.

Western District Conference (WDC) invites you to subscribe to their weekly Tuesday announcement email "WDC News & Updates" to receive announcements from WDC, WDC Congregations, and their institutional partners as well as weekly articles from WDC staff, credential updates, and upcoming events. This is a great way to stay connected and informed about what is happening in and around WDC. To subscribe, visit the following link: <http://eepurl.com/hKcbDX> or contact the WDC Office at wdc@mennowdc.org or 316-283-6300. Thanks for your support of Western District Conference!

Registration for the Camp Mennoscah Fall Scrapbook and Crafts Retreats is open! The dates are November 1-3 and November 15-17. Lodging and crafting will be held at Main Camp in the bunkhouses and dining hall. Register on-line at <https://campmentoscah.campbrainregistration.com/>