

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 praises God for the 29 SOOP volunteers serving in Arizona and Florida this month. Pray that these SOOPers will be a blessing to vulnerable populations, as they serve between two weeks and four months.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Pray for congregations that are hosting visits from listening teams during the coming months as part of the WDC Listening Process, that they would be blessed through sharing and conversation together about how God is at work in their community and how WDC can support their congregational ministry.

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; 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

Bethel College Mennonite Church January 12, 2025



"Scratchboard Stars"

created by Hazel, Lawrence, Lincoln, Myra

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
January 12, 2025

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music

Will Wiebe-Friesen

Welcome & Prayer

John Sheriff

*Hymn

Be Thou My Vision

VT 549

Children's Conversation

Kathy Stucky

Worship Music

Country Dance (C.M. von Weber)
Rebecca Schloneger and Will Wiebe-Friesen

Scripture Reading

John 1:1-5; Proverbs 8:22-36 Richard Friesen

*Hymn

In the Beginning

VT 270

Sermon

Sophia Christ Nathan Koontz

*Hymn

Praise to the Living God VT 204

Prayers of God's People

*Hymn

O God, Our Help in Ages Past VT 203

*Benediction

Postlude

* You are invited to stand

VT—*Voices Together*

Audio visual—Ben Lichti

We offer sympathy to Nathan Kaufman and family on the death of Nathan's wife, Jill Kaufman. Jill died Dec. 27 at Kidron Bethel Village. The memorial service was held on January 2 at Kidron Hall, Kidron Bethel Village, and may be viewed at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/@KidronBethelVillage/streams>

Greetings!

I am looking for volunteers who would be willing to provide a morning snack for our youth on Sunday mornings. Items could be, but not limited to, cinnamon rolls, fruit, cookies, etc. We generally have 4-7 young persons participate in Sunday School and would be gracious for yummy treats before their lessons starts. If you are able to volunteer, please email me at jill@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org.

There will be a congregational meeting on Sun., Jan. 26, during the Sunday School hour in the sanctuary. The meeting will be available through streaming options. An agenda will be available in the near future. The following items will be included on the agenda: The Church Board recommends the approval of Melanie Mueller to the Witness Commission and approval of the 2025 BCMC Budget.

Changes for your BCMC Directory

- **Al and Sue Penner no longer have a land-line.** Add Sue's cell phone: 620-727-0941
- **Omar Voran's new address in Wichita:** Cedarhurst Senior Living, 11820 W. 29th Street N, #14, Wichita, KS 67205

Upcoming Memorial Services:

- **January 13, 10:30 a.m.: Leona Kaufman's** memorial service at Eden Mennonite Church, 401 18th Ave., Moundridge. Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88103194061?pwd=pMzTgraQS8KPtIOZldMYMtX6iqZ6Go.1>
Meeting ID: 881 0319 4061
Passcode: 576696
- **January 20, 11 a.m.: Dorothea (Dotty) Janzen's** memorial service at BCMC
- **Helen Paul's** memorial service is pending (Helen died Dec. 25, 2024)

Newton Community for Racial Justice will hold its annual anti-racism training Feb. 13-15. This is a date change from previous years. Training will be held at the Newton Recreation Center from Thurs. evening, Feb. 13 through Sat. afternoon, Feb. 15. Registration: \$350 per participant. Some scholarships are available. REGISTER HERE: <https://forms.gle/pXViB4fzH8y3u7WM7> Payment can be made online: https://www.convergepay.com/hosted-payments?ssl_txn_auth_token=%2Bd%2Fr1xrRRCaZybUyv2z%2FeAAAZON0fyjv

Hesston College Music Department will host a program called Anabaptism at Five Hundred: Hymn Festival Sun., Jan. 19, 3 p.m., at Hesston Mennonite Church. The Hymn Festival coincides with the 500th anniversary of the first Anabaptist adult baptisms in Zurich, Switzerland in 1525. This event will also celebrate the release of the *Anabaptist Community Bible*. The public is invited to this community wide celebration that involves singers from surrounding churches, as well as audience participation in the singing of hymns, led by Russell Adrian and Karen Unruh. The core of the program will be historical narrative by Ken Rodgers tracing important hymns and texts throughout the past five centuries.

Anabaptism at 500! This year, Anabaptists around the world are celebrating the 500th anniversary of the first Anabaptist baptism on January 21, 1525.

As part of this world-wide celebration, MennoMedia has published the *Anabaptist Community Bible*, which two different BCMC Sunday School classes contributed to. You can find a copy in our church library. And if you'd like to read through the Bible in 2025, you can find a reading chart in a BCMC email. Our primary time for congregational celebration will be our worship service on January 26. BCMC will sing 16th century/Anabaptist hymns, hear reflections by two members, see a banner, and pray for wisdom as we observe this anniversary. On February 2, Dale Schrag will preach as we continue to mark Anabaptism 500.

MC USA Climate Justice | Zoom book study

Join MC USA in imagining a sustainable future for ourselves, our children and our planet by participating in an online book study of the compelling and timely book, "So We and Our Children May Live" by Sarah Augustine and Sheri Hostetler. In five sessions (Jan. 16 through Feb.13, 2025), we will engage in discussions in both large and small groups, interact with the authors, and explore how we – and our communities – are called to contribute to creating a more just and vibrant world. Register on-line today!

The Week at BCMC: January 12—19, 2025

Sunday, January 12, 2025

9:30 a.m. Worship — **10:30 a.m.** Faith Formation

YouTube Link for the worship service this Sunday:

https://youtube.com/live/_uUj8rcts7Y?feature=share

4 p.m. Service of Remembrance in the Sanctuary

YouTube Link for Service of Remembrance:

<https://youtube.com/live/5-CgsEfm7BY?feature=share>

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

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

Thursday, January 16, 2025

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

Sunday, January 19, 2025

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Joanna Harader; 10:30 a.m. Faith Formation

The congregation is invited to enjoy a piece of cake in the Gathering Space during fellowship time today, January 12, to help Glen and Karen Ediger celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, which was December 28th.

Activity bags are 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*

BCMC Offering for Dec. 29: Gen. Fund \$10,567.74; Plant Fund \$50; Gen Fund 2025 \$2000; Flower Fund \$20; Kitchen Fund \$14.01; Solar Fund \$2,000; Dotty Janzen Mem. \$103; Women's Fellowship \$581.

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 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.

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

The Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus is getting organized for our 2025 season. Those who sang last year should have received information from Aaron Stucky (stuckya2003@yahoo.com). For those who would like to join this year please contact Aaron or myself, Joe Peters 316-288-7031 or joep67117@gmail.com or join us at our first rehearsal on January 26. We sing so others may live.

Volunteer at New Hope Shelter: BCMC is part of a 24-congregation network providing volunteer support for evening shifts at New Hope Shelter. About five weeks per year, we carry in several meals for 25-30 people and have two volunteers stay through the evening to support a staff person. As volunteers come and go, we can always use more help to cover this commitment. If you could help occasionally by contributing food for a meal or spending an evening at the shelter, please email Cynthia Linscheid at cdlin319@gmail.com. New Hope Shelter serves homeless men, women, and children from Harvey, Butler, Marion, and McPherson counties. Thanks to all who have volunteered their time and service at New Hope, either recently or in the past!

Volunteers needed at Rocky Mountain! Camp needs assistance with Food-service/Housekeeping for Jr and Sr High Snow Camps, Jan. 24-26 and Feb. 14-16. Please visit the camp website at rmmc.org and follow the link to the volunteer information and sign up to join us.

Register now for the 500 Years of Anabaptism & Swiss Alps Tour, May 21-31, 2025. Sites: The Swiss Alps, Swiss Mennonite sites, & the 500 Year Celebration in Zurich on May 29. Preview the tour at www.tourwithweldon.com. For information & registration details contact Weldon Martens at weldon.martens@gmail.com or 402-202-9276

Peace Connections is hosting a Bridges Out of Poverty Training Jan. 31 and Feb. 7. This training experience is a great way to invest in your community and expand resources, to help individuals understand the impacts of poverty. This FREE training will explore the root causes of poverty, increase personal understanding and identify ways to reduce barriers between each other. For more information or to sign up for this two-part training, please visit www.peaceconnections.org

Bethel College Announcements

- **Sun., Jan. 12: Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum program, "A Mennonite Sojourn in Central Asia, 1880-1935,"** with historian John Sharp, 3 p.m., Kauffman Museum auditorium.
- **Mon., Jan. 20: Bethel College's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration, 7 p.m.,** Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center, with local pastor (retired) and community leader Larry Lee.
- **Sat., Jan. 25: Kauffman Museum annual Kansas Day event, "At Home on the Range," noon-4 p.m.,** museum parking lot and grounds. Featuring food trucks, exhibits and activities indoors and out, and much more. For more information, see the Kauffman Museum Facebook page or kauffmanmuseum.org

New Bluestem U lifelong learning courses for winter and spring 2025 are now open for registration. Courses are available for individuals age 55 and better. This semester's offerings include STEAM, theatre, astronomy, bird watching and a free author's series. See more information and registration at bluestemu.org. Bluestem U is a lifelong learning program of Bluestem Communities in partnership with Bethel College and Hesston College.

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) is hosting a 75th Anniversary Annual Celebration in Wichita this February 14-15. As part of the celebration, MDS will be hosting a volleyball tournament and cornhole tournament! The tournaments will be held Sat., Feb. 15 at Ridgepoint Church in Wichita. The cornhole tournament is at 1 p.m. and the volleyball tournament is from 5 p.m.-8 p.m. They are looking for local teams or individuals to join the fun! Everyone is invited! If you are interested in registering a team or as an individual, please let Kaelan Swartley at kswartley@mds.org know by January 27. If you are looking to form or join a team with others from Western District Conference, contact the WDC office at wdc@mennowdc.org and we can connect you with others who may be interested.

Volunteers are needed to help with meals (meals are free for volunteers), welcome and hospitality, driving shuttle vans between hotels and church, and helping with meeting room preparation. Please contact Ada Schmidt-Tieszen at 316 842-9751 or adast@bethelks.edu for more information or sign up at the back of the sanctuary on Sunday, January 12. Thanks!