

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

February 9, 2025

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 Kate Widmer, who is part of a team that works alongside the residents of a low-income area in eastern France, through the outreach programs of The Prairie Church of Montbéliard. Pray for her and the neighbors she relates to through sewing classes, a bookstore and café, and mentoring young people.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Pray for WDC’s Gifts Discernment Committee as it discerns nominees for elected positions in WDC, and for those who are called by the Spirit to offer their gifts and leadership in our conference’s 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



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
February 9, 2025

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music *My Life Flows On In Endless Song* [VT 605], (R. Haan)
Will Wiebe-Friesen

Welcome & Prayer John Waltner

*Hymn *Holy, Holy, Holy!* VT 76

Children's Conversation Jill Robb

Worship Music *Sanctus* (Charles Gounod)
Chancel Choir; Joel Garber, director; Will Wiebe-Friesen, accompanist

Scripture Reading Isaiah 6:1-13; Luke 5:1-11 Doris Whillock

*Hymn *Will You Come and Follow Me* VT 540

Sermon *Fishers* Nathan Koontz

*Hymn *I Bind My Heart This Tide* VT 556

Prayers of God's People

*Hymn *This is My Song* VT 710

*Benediction

Postlude *Comfort, Comfort, O My People* [VT 212]
(arr. Wiebe-Friesen)

*You are invited to stand ■ VT—*Voices Together*
■ Keyboard—Will Wiebe-Friesen ■ Audio visual—Ken Lamp

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.



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

We offer sympathy to the family of Michael Brubacher. Michael, brother to Jim and Wade Brubacher, passed away peacefully at his home in Scottsdale, AZ, on Jan. 30. He was a longtime member of BCMC.

We offer sympathy to Greg Nye and Elizabeth Schmidt and their extended family on the death of Greg's mother, Kathryn Nye, February 7. Plans for a memorial service are pending.

From Will Wiebe-Friesen:

Today's centering music is an arrangement of *My Life Flows On in Endless Song* [VT 605] by Raymond Haan (b. 1938), a song that has been running through my mind quite a lot lately. This hymn was introduced into the Mennonite vernacular with the 1992 *Hymnal: A Worship Book* and quickly became a favorite, being sung with fervency in a variety of settings. One memorable instance involved friends of mine from Germantown Mennonite Church (Philadelphia, PA) who loudly and tearfully sang it as they exited the building after learning that their ties with the Mennonite Church were to be severed over issues of LGBT inclusion in 2012. The song has been in use by the Quakers since at least the early twentieth century and was popularized by folk singer Pete Seeger during the McCarthy era with an additional, still-relevant verse written by Doris Plenn:

*"When tyrants tremble, sick with fear,
And hear their death-knell ringing,
When friends rejoice both far and near,
How can I keep from singing?
In prison cell and dungeon vile,
Our thoughts to them go winging;
When friends by shame are undefiled,
How can I keep from singing?"*

As our state and national political climate becomes increasingly threatening to trans and queer people, you are invited to “the gayest Anabaptist gathering of the year”! Join LGBTQIA+ people and their allies/accomplices for *Fabulous, Fierce, and Sacred*—a weekend of worship, fellowship, learning, and community: May 2-4 in Philadelphia, PA. Please share this invitation with those you think would be interested. Contact Pastor Joanna to learn more and to coordinate travel to the event.

Kansas Interfaith Action (KIFA) works with people of faith to promote justice-focused public policy in the state of Kansas. Please consider participating in an upcoming lobby day at the Kansas Statehouse to advocate for affordable housing, Medicaid expansion, and KIFA’s legislative priorities of supporting public education, lgbtqi+ rights, economic justice, and climate and clean energy. Let Pastor Joanna know if you’d like to attend any of these events and she will help coordinate transportation.

—Kansas Housing Advocacy Network Capitol Hill Day, February 13

—KIFA Day, March 10

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. See BCMC emails for registration and payment forms.

Western District Conference Israel Palestine Task Force Update: Feb. 25 at 7 p.m. CT, Esther Koontz will lead a Zoom discussion of the book, *Apeirogon* by Colum McCann. Special guest, Tareq Abuhmila, will begin the meeting with an update of life on the ground in Gaza based on reports from his family in Gaza. Participants will have a chance to ask Tareq questions, give their responses to the book, and name their own stories of peace to add to the book’s 1001 powerful vignettes. Please register by emailing wdc@mennowdc.org by Mon., Feb. 17.

Life Enrichment, in the Bethel College Krehbiel Auditorium, is a series designed especially for adults age 60 and over. Programs for February 12:

9:30 a.m. “Interesting Moons of Our Solar System,” Jim Yoder, professor emeritus of chemistry, Hesston College

10:50 a.m. “Blue Zones: Keys to Living Longer and Better,” Sharolyn Jackson, M.S., extension specialist, family and consumer sciences, Kansas State University, Manhattan

Upcoming webinar from Everence: Changing behaviors around money is never easy, but to reach your goals it’s necessary. In this workshop you will learn strategies to organize your finances, set goals, and improve financial habits. Steve Bustos, Everence Stewardship Consultant, will host this webinar presented by Kim Miller of Financial Choice on Feb. 11 at 2 p.m. or 8 p.m. ET. Sign up at everence.com/partners.

The Week at BCMC: February 9—16, 2025

Sunday, February 9, 2025—Mennonite Central Committee Relief Sale Quilt display at the back of the church, under the balcony.

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

YouTube Link for the worship service this Sunday:

<https://youtube.com/live/OOnyjYCxBK0?feature=share>

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

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

Thursday, February 13, 2025

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

Sunday, February 16, 2025

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Joanna Harader; music by Kevin Vaughn, guest organist. 10:30 a.m. Faith Formation

Some of our many Anabaptist History books are currently being highlighted in our church library to coincide with the 500 Year Anabaptist Celebration. We have quite a collection in back of our library desk (including two new editions of the Anabaptist Community Bible), but these are by no means all of them. Several more are available, many in the 289.7 section. Please come in and peruse at your leisure.

BCMC Offering for Feb. 2: Gen. Fund \$6,757; Sr Hi Youth \$250.47; Library Reserve Fund \$5; Kitchen Fund \$25; Solar Fund \$50; Dotty Janzen Mem. \$235; Leona Kaufman Mem. \$670.

Upcoming Memorial Services:

- **Helen Paul’s** memorial service will be at Kidron Bethel Village, Kidron Hall on Feb. 28 at 2:30 p.m.
- **We offer sympathy to the family of Edie Krehbiel.** Edie died Jan. 23 at Paramount Community, Newton. Edie’s memorial service will be March 7, 11 a.m. at BCMC.

If you are interested in becoming a member, 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!

Pastor Joanna is attending a retreat at Holy Wisdom Monastery near Madison, Wisconsin, February 6-9.

“Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner” is a way for BCMC folks to get acquainted with other BCMC folks that they might not know very well. The Hospitality Commission has matched people who signed up as hosts with people who signed up as guests. Guests: You will receive your food assignment Sunday, Feb. 16. Hosts: you will receive the number of guests you will host on Feb. 16. The dinner is Feb. 23.

Board Game Night to support the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery: Pastor Joanna is currently working with other members of the Coalition to develop a board game that addresses issues connected to Indigenous justice. To raise awareness of and money for this project, the Indigenous Task Force is hosting a board game night on Fri., Feb. 21, at 7 p.m. in the church Fellowship Hall. We will have a prototype of the Coalition game available along with plenty of other game options. There is no charge to attend the event, but we will receive donations for the Coalition from those who would like to contribute.

Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale (KMRS) is April 11 & 12, at the Kansas State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson. This year's theme is "In the name of Christ."

- **BCMC Sunday School Classes help underwrite KMRS costs.** All expenses are covered before the sale, so 100% of revenue goes directly to Mennonite Central Committee.
- **Start collecting your coins!** BCMC's My Coins Count drive begins in February.
- **Run for Relief entry forms** are available to sign up to run, walk, jog, or be a sponsor.
- **Do you have a quilt to donate, or are you considering bidding on a quilt?** This year, the KMRS quilt committee is asking that all quilt auction items be turned in by Feb. 14 — at least two weeks earlier than previous years. This means that the display of quilts at BCMC will be Sun., Feb. 9 from 9 to 11 a.m.
- **Donate furniture, quilts, vehicles, or children's items** for the auctions.
- **WANTED: Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, Campers, Tractors, Farm Machinery and anything of value to be sold at this year's KMRS.** Your donations can be used as a Charitable Tax Donation. More info: call Jerry Toews, 620 367 8257.
- **For more information** see the KMRS website at <https://kansas.mccsale.org/>, the posterboard in the Gathering Place, or contact a BCMC liaison (Brad and Diane Born, William and Esther Kreider Eash, and Steve and Elaine Schurr)

The Great Winter Warm-up: Spread warmth around the world this winter by helping Mennonite Central Committee reach a goal of 7000 comforters by the end of March. You can sponsor, donate one (or more) comforters, or attend a comforter event to tie in community with others. If you host an event in your home, church or community please let tinaschrag@mcc.org know about it (we've got some small gifts for those who host events!). Check mcc.org/great-winter-warm-up for instructions, coloring pages for kids and more!

Western District Women in Mission invites women & girls to our annual potluck salad supper Mon., April 28, 6 p.m. at Tabor Mennonite Church, rural Newton. The theme is "For the Beauty of the Earth" presented by WDWM executive committee member and Kansas City floral designer, Becca Schrag. Bring a salad to share and a small vessel to make a floral design in (a tea cup, bowl, or small vase). This is a free event with an offering taken to help cover expenses. RSVP not required but appreciated by email: westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) announcements

- **The 17th annual Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Comforter Blitz is March 3, 4 and 5 at the Journey Facilities Building** behind Charis Community Church, 3605 E. Long View Rd, Haven, near Yoder. Mon. 9-5, Tues. 9-9 (note that these hours are extended) and Wed. 9-4. No sewing skills required. Lunch is available by donation each day, or bring your own sack lunch. Snacks are welcome to share. This event is hosted by Kansas Friends of MCC. Info at mcc.org/comforter-blitz or email brociamueller@mcc.org, 316-283-2720.
- **The MCC Central States board will hold it's annual meeting Sat., March 1 from 2-3:30 p.m.** at MCC Central States in North Newton. All are welcome to attend.

Volunteers needed at New Hope Shelter: More than 25 volunteers from BCMC currently serve at New Hope Shelter during designated weeks, in coordination with supporting congregations throughout Harvey, Marion, and McPherson counties. Some help provide evening meals and others stay through the evening (5-10 p.m.) to support a paid staff person. As volunteers come and go, we can always use more help to cover this commitment. If you can volunteer or would like more information, please email Cynthia Linscheid at cdlin319@gmail.com.

Bethel College Announcements

- **Sun., Feb. 9: Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum with Carmaletta Williams from the Black Archives of Mid-America, 3 p.m., Kauffman Museum auditorium.** Her program, "Free Did Not Mean Welcome," is sponsored by the Kansas Humanities Speakers Bureau and is in conjunction with Kauffman Museum's "Unlocking the Past" exhibit on immigration.
- **Sun., Feb. 16: KIPCOR Film Series presents *The Third Harmony*, 2 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium.** The 44-minute documentary directed by Michael Nagler is a study of nonviolence in academic and practical terms. Audience talkback follows with Keren Kandel, KIPCOR executive director.
- **Tues., Feb. 18: Bethel College Organ Recital Series:** Dr. Kevin Vaughn, University of Notre Dame, 7 p.m., Administration Building chapel
- **Now in the Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College, "Untethered,"** ceramics by David Long, through March 14. Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m.
- **Tues., Feb. 25: Bethel College Orchestra,** directed by Kris Hilding, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center
- **SAVE THE DATE: Sun., March 9, 4 p.m.: Bethel College Choir Spring Tour Send-off Concert**
- **SAVE THE DATE: Sun., March 9, 7 p.m.: Bible Lecture** (the book of Isaiah) at Bethel College with Doug Miller