

**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:** Toni and Matthew Krabill, who are serving in Ghana with Mennonite Mission Network, will begin their two-month North American ministry this month. Pray for their good health and safe travels and that God’s Spirit will guide their speaking and conversations, as they update congregations about what God is doing through their ministries. Pray for renewal, as they reconnect with family and friends.

**Western District Conference Prayer Request:** Give thanks for WDC members who traveled this weekend to Goshen, IN, to attend the Hope for the Future event for BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) leaders and white allies celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Damascus Road anti-racism process and renewing a dedication to equality and love in action.

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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: Monday; No 1887 Café Hours February 27  
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 March 2, 2025



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**  
**Transfiguration Sunday**  
**March 2, 2025**

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart* (Eithun)  
Chancel Bells; Verlene Garber, director

Land Acknowledgement

Welcome & Prayer Dorothy Nickel Friesen

\*Hymn *All Creatures, Worship God Most High* VT 81

Children's Conversation Esther Kreider Eash

Worship Music *Dodi Li* (Austin) Chancel Bells

Scripture Reading Luke 9:28-36 Steve Stucky

Sermon *From Monument to Movement* Nathan Koontz

\*Hymn *The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound* VT 392

Prayers of God's People

\*Hymn *The Lord Lift You Up* VT 832

\*Benediction

Postlude *Going Home Medley* (arr. Labenske)  
Meghann Rogers

\*You are invited to stand

VT—*Voices Together*

Keyboard—Meghann Rogers

Audio visual—Francis Toews

**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*

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**Land Acknowledgement from words by Mark Charles and VT #878**

*As we do on the first Sunday of each month,  
we acknowledge that we worship  
on the land of the Kanza, Osage, and Wichita.  
We thank them for their care and respect for this land  
and acknowledge the injustice of their forced removal.  
We ask the Spirit to heal our histories  
and find new paths of right relationships with them  
and all of creation.*

**GOING BEYOND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

\***Last Sunday evening BCMC game night raised \$125 for Repair Coalition** while observing Pastor Joanna's work on the prototype educational game being constructed by Repair Coalition members about extraction and consequences.

\***Plan to attend Bethel religion faculty member Trent Voth's presentation, "The Long Road to Tuktoyaktuk" during the Sunday School hour today** to inform yourself about the history of Indigenous Residential Schools in Canada based on Trent's work and research.

\***Inform yourself about what is happening at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas.** Haskell has recently received federal cuts which have cost faculty members' jobs and other harms. BCMC Indigenous Task Group is working to learn how we can best support them through this perilous time. These cuts represent another treaty broken for the Indian Nations.

**BCMC Offering for Feb. 23:** Gen. Fund \$10,192; Sr Hi Youth \$50; Jr Hi Fund \$30; Kitchen Fund \$15.

**Photo on bulletin cover** is *"Between Heaven and Earth"* by Jan Richardson, used by permission.

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.

In response to recently proposed legislation, Kansas Interfaith Action is pulling together a working group to focus on immigrant justice. If you are interested in being part of this group, contact Pastor Joanna or be in touch with KIFA directly through their website—<https://kansasinterfaithaction.org/>

**Life Enrichment, in the Bethel College Krehbiel Auditorium, is a series designed especially for adults age 60 and over. Programs for March 5:**

**9:30 a.m.** “C. Henry Smith Peace Oration Contest,” Erin Nisly, KIPCOR director of education and training and peace speech contestants

**10:50 a.m.** “Circle of Hope and Much More,” Kendra Davila, director, Peace Connections, Newton

**Organist Christopher Shaw will present an organ recital/hymn festival to remember Shirley Sprunger King.** Shirley taught at Bethel College for twenty years and was organist at Bethel College Mennonite Church. Christopher Shaw will be joined by Lorraine Miller (flute) and Don Kehrberg (oboe), both former members of the Deknatel Consort with King. In addition to organ pieces and hymns, there will be remembrances of Shirley. The event will take place on **Sat., April 5, 7:30 p.m.** (note the time change from 7 to 7:30 p.m.) at Bethel College Mennonite Church, 2600 College Ave., North Newton.

#### **Hesston College Announcements**

- **Hesston College Theatre presents “Urinetown”, March 5-9, a three-time Tony award winning musical set in a Gotham-like city facing a severe water shortage due to a 20-year drought.** The government has imposed a ban on private toilets, forcing citizens to pay a corrupt corporation for access to public restrooms. Urinetown uses satire, comical characters and even makes fun of the musical genre itself to tell the story of a hero who, fed up with the whole system, plans a revolution to restore freedom to the people. Filled with music, dancing, and hilarious dialogue. Tickets can be purchased now at the Hesston College Bookstore or by calling 620-327-8104.
- **Hesston College is rolling out the welcome mat for its Spring Community Day, and the entire community is invited to join the campus community on Sat., March 8,** for a day packed with exciting Lark athletics, delicious food, family fun and a chance to connect with friends and neighbors. Throughout the afternoon, fuel up with tasty eats from the Grill Club, offering lunch as part of a fundraiser, and Salted Creamery will also be onsite selling their locally-sourced handmade ice cream! Admission to athletic events is FREE! For more information, visit [hesston.edu/communityday](https://hesston.edu/communityday).

#### **The Week at BCMC: March 2—March 9, 2025**

##### **Sunday, March 2, 2025**

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

YouTube Link for the worship service this Sunday:

<https://youtube.com/live/AKcNwG6M6I?feature=share>

##### **Tuesday March 4, 2025**

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

##### **Wednesday, March 5, 2025**

6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship in the Sanctuary—YouTube Link:

<https://youtube.com/live/ZscKf3nwtU?feature=share>

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

##### **Thursday, March 6, 2025**

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

7 p.m. Church Board meeting in Room 14

##### **Friday, March 7, 2025**

11 a.m. Memorial Service for Edie Krehbiel in BCMC Sanctuary

##### **Sunday, March 9, 2025—First Sunday of Lent**

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Joanna Harader; music by Chancel Choir

10:30 a.m. Faith Formation

2:30 p.m. Swiss Mennonite Cultural & Historical Association (SMCHA) meeting in Fellowship Hall

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#### ***Prone to Wander* Sunday School book discussion**

**Members of the Agape class are planning to lead a book discussion during Lent** of Joanna's new book, *Prone to Wander*. We will be meeting in the chapel for the six weeks of Lent: March 9 - April 13 during the Sunday School hour. Reading the book is helpful, but not necessary. All are welcome and encouraged to come.

#### **Future Events at BCMC:**

**The Bethel College Mennonite Church office will be closed the week of March 17-21 (Spring Break).** Pastors will be available on an on-call basis: Pastor Elizabeth, March 17-18; Pastor Joanna, March 19-20; Pastor Nathan, March 21-22. **There will be no Wednesday night gathering on March 19. Wednesday night suppers will be March 12, 26, April 2, 9. BCMC's Camp Mennoscah Retreat will be April 26-27.**

#### **Upcoming Memorial Services:**

- **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.
- **We offer sympathy to the family of Merrill Raber.** Merrill died Feb. 16 at Kidron Bethel Village. Merrill's memorial service will be May 3, 11 a.m. at BCMC.
- **We offer sympathy to the family of Calvin Flickinger.** Calvin died Feb. 18 at Kidron Bethel Village. Calvin's memorial service will be March 15, 11 a.m. at BCMC.
- **We offer sympathy to the family of Louise Thiesen.** Louise died Feb. 22. Louise's memorial service will be March 29, 11 a.m. at BCMC

**As the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale (KMRS) nears (April 11 & 12), there are many opportunities to support the sale and contribute to MCC's relief, development, and peace-building work.**

- **MY COINS COUNT!** This year, coins will support FOOD programs around the world. Bring coins (and bills!) to church Sunday mornings until the sale. Place coins into collection jars in Sunday School rooms or in the large jug in the gathering place. How full will the jug be? Last year, the jug was filled over halfway— and totaled almost \$800!
- **Sign up online** to help staff food booths, crafts booths, help with the general auction, with kids activities, and more! Online volunteer signup sheets are available at <https://kansas.mccsale.org/volunteer/>
- **See the posterboard in the Gathering Place** for KMRS information and extra forms, or go to the KMRS website at <https://kansas.mccsale.org/> or contact a BCMC liaison (Brad and Diane Born, William and Esther Kreider Eash, and Steve and Elaine Schurr).

**Dorothy Stucky Halley, LMSW, will be the speaker at the 2025 Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association (SMCHA) annual meeting Sun., March 9, 2:30 p.m., at the Bethel College Mennonite Church.** Dorothy is co-founder and co-director of the Family Peace Initiative. She was the executive director of a domestic violence shelter from 1986 to 1996; has worked with those who cause harm and has served as an expert witness in domestic violence cases; taught social work at Pittsburg State University for a decade before becoming the state's Victim Rights Coordinator and directing the Victim Services Division of the Kansas Attorney General's Office. Her development of a motivation typology for those who batter has opened the door to a more nuanced understanding for domestic violence professionals.

#### **Bethel College Announcements**

- **Thurs., March 6: Reception for David Long and "Untethered," 6-8 p.m.**, Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College. Regular gallery hours are Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m.
- **Thurs., March 6: Bethel College Wind Ensemble**, directed by Chris Miertschin, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center
- **Sun., March 9: Bethel College Choir Tour Send-off Concert**, directed by Dr. Henry S. Waters, 4 p.m., Memorial Hall. The theme "Sing You Home" includes performances by the Chamber Singers, Woven and Open Road.
- **Sun., March 9, and Mon., March 10: The Hartzler Bible Lecture Series** at Bethel College presents Doug Miller, professor emeritus of biblical and religious studies at Tabor College, "The Book of Isaiah"; 7 p.m. Sunday, Ad Building chapel, 11 a.m. Monday, Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center
- **Tues., March 11: Bethel College Jazz, 7 p.m.**, Krehbiel Auditorium
- **SAVE THE DATE: Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (KIPCOR) Peace Lecture**, "A Conversation with Sister Barbara McCracken" (from Mt. St. Scholastica, Leavenworth), March 27.

**Want to make your voice heard but don't know how?** Check out "5 Calls," an easy and effective way to be in touch with your congressional reps. The website provides help with knowing how to make your calls, provides a timely list of topics to address (gets updated frequently) and a handy script guide to help you know what to say. Check them out at <https://5calls.org/>  
— Witness Commission

#### **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. Event is hosted by Kansas Friends of MCC. Info at [mcc.org/comforter-blitz](http://mcc.org/comforter-blitz) or email [brociamueller@mcc.org](mailto:brociamueller@mcc.org), 316-283-2720.
- **The Great Winter Warm-up: Spread warmth around the world this winter by helping MCC reach a goal of 7000 comforters by the end of March.** You can sponsor, donate 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](mailto:tinaschrag@mcc.org) know about it (we've got some small gifts for those who host events!) Check [mcc.org/great-winter-warm-up](http://mcc.org/great-winter-warm-up) for instructions, coloring pages for kids and more!
- **Please pray for MCC staff and the communities in Kentucky and West Virginia that are experiencing catastrophic flooding.** Torrential rain Feb. 15-16 filled creeks and rivers, causing significant flooding. MCC staff report that most residents lost power and water. Appalachia Build staff are working with partner churches at sites in Kimball, WV, and Elkhorn City, KY, that are serving as temporary shelters. Support MCC's efforts in the region: [mcc.org/donate-Appalachia](http://mcc.org/donate-Appalachia) Learn more about MCC Appalachia Build: [mcc.org/appalachia-build](http://mcc.org/appalachia-build)

**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](mailto:cdlin319@gmail.com).

**Commemorating 500 Years of Anabaptism & Swiss Alps Tour. May 21-31, 2025.** Space remains! Preview tour at [www.tourwithweldon.com](http://www.tourwithweldon.com) Contact Weldon Martens at [weldon.martens@gmail.com](mailto:weldon.martens@gmail.com) / 402-202-9276 for itinerary, registration and full details.