

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 released 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 Laura Schlabach, who, for the past two years, has served on the interim executive director team for JCS International, in addition to being the organization's finance and IT director. Pray for wisdom, energy and patience for Laura, as she carries a double workload for this consortium of mission agencies in Mongolia. Pray for the executive director search committee as they work through the recruiting process.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Pray for God's guidance and blessing for all who are preparing for WDC Annual Assembly, coming up August 8-9 at Hesston Mennonite Church.

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

- Pastor Joanna Harader, Day off: Wednesday; 1887 Café Hours: Suspended for summer
Cell phone: 407-201-0503; Email: Joanna@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
- Pastor Nathan Koontz will be on Sabbatical until August 11, 2025
- Elizabeth Schmidt, Pastor of Congregational Care
Email: elizabeth@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
- Office/Facilities Manager: Monica Lichti, 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

July 20, 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

July 20, 2025

MennoCon Sunday

Christ Candle Lighting		Chris Sattler
Centering Music	<i>Prelude in Classic Style</i> (Gordon Young)	Karen Schlabaugh
Welcome		Adam Oswald
*Hymn	<i>Mountain of God</i>	VT 11
Children and Youth Conversation		Youth
Children's Hymn	<i>Alleluia</i>	VT 72
Scripture Reading	Deuteronomy 10:18-20	Pozzi Krehbiel
Delegate Reflection		Jill Robb and David Kreider
*Hymn	<i>You are Salt for the Earth</i>	VT 297
Scripture Reading	Luke 4:16-21	Emma Gering
Reflection	Lucy Burch, Mara Oswald, Adah Hodge	
*Hymn	<i>My Soul Cries Out</i>	VT 412
Prayers of God's People		Rylee Schmidt Stapleton
Convention Highlights		Youth
Video	<i>Praise God Above</i>	VT 70
*Hymn	<i>Praise God Above</i>	VT 70

(Benediction is on the inside back page of the bulletin)

* You are invited to stand

■ VT—*Voices Together* ■ Audio visual— Francis Toews & Ben Lichti

***Benediction**

Youth: The spirit of the Lord is upon me

Congregation: because the Lord has anointed me

Youth: The Lord has sent me

Congregation: to preach good news to the poor

Youth: The Lord has sent me

Congregation: to proclaim release to the prisoners

Youth: The Lord has sent me

Congregation: to proclaim recovery of sight to the blind

Youth: The Lord has sent me

Congregation: to liberate the oppressed

Youth: The Lord has sent me

ALL: to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor

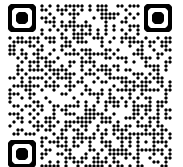
Postlude *Postlude on "Fredericktown"* (Robert J. Powell)
Karen Schlabaugh

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.



Anabaptist World adult Sunday School elective - immigration update. Join with others in the Chapel to hear Pastor Joanna share an update from a MennoCon seminar by Pastor Diane Garcia of Iglesia Chrisiana Roca de Refugio on the status of congregants detained by ICE after legal entry (see "Anabaptist World" July 2025, page 28).

Sympathy Notices:

- **We extend sympathy to the family of Sharon Stucky.** Sharon died July 11 at Kidron Bethel Healthcare. Please keep Sharon's husband Wayne and their extended family in your prayers. The memorial service for Sharon will be Aug. 15, 2 p.m., at Kidron Bethel Village, Kidron Hall.
- **We extend sympathy to the family of Ilene Schmidt.** Ilene died July 11, at Kidron Bethel Healthcare. Memorial service plans are pending. Please keep Ilene's children and the extended family in your prayers.

Online registration is open for the Womens & Girls Retreat Sept. 6-7 at Camp Mennoscah sponsored by Western District Women in Mission. Speakers are Pastor Katherine Goerzen (Tabor Mennonite Church) and Pastor Laura Goerzen (First Mennonite, Newton). For a detailed schedule go to westerndistrictwomeninmission.org, register and pay online, or print out forms to register and pay by mail. Registration is due Aug. 29. Questions: Email westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com Share the news and bring a friend!

Summer Story Days 2025. Join Western District Conference Resource Library staff for stories and come & go activities for ages 3-8 and their caregivers. New this year: Virtual participation with mailed craft kits available--sign up for virtual participation at forms.gle/8DnWnLs64VkZJoeB6. No sign up for in-person activities in North Newton. Join us August 9 as a part of WDC Annual Assembly. For more information contact Jennie at crlib@mennowdc.org.

David E. Ortman, currently of Seattle, WA, will be attending his 50th Bethel Class Reunion ('75) Oct. 2-5. If anyone would be willing to host four nights (Thurs-Sun), contact him at (206) 789-6136 or deortman@msn.com. A couch or cot is fine, no meals required. Avoidance of a motel would mean a larger class gift. David is a friend of Lauren Friesen (Lauren was his former pastor.)

Mennonite Central Committee Peace Camp at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp, Sept. 21-27: How can we live out God's call for justice and reconciliation through nonviolence in a world that is built on the myth of redemptive violence? If you are a young adult (age 18-30) concerned about the state of our world and energized to reimagine society built on God's vision of love and justice for all, come join us for a week of experiential learning rooted in theological reflection, peacebuilding practices, and real-world application. Register by Aug. 31 at mcc.org/events/rocky-mountain-peace-camp.

The 2025 issue of Mennonite Life, Bethel College's annual online journal, is now live at ml.bethelks.edu, with articles and reviews by Susan Fish, Ardie Goering, Don Goertzen, Peter Goerzen, Jeff Gundy, Michele Hershberger, Melanie Howard, Melanie Springer Mock, Justina Neufeld, Ken Rodgers, Mary Schertz and John D. Thiesen.

The Week at BCMC: July 20—27, 2025

Sunday, July 20, 2025—Worship 9:30 a.m.

YouTube Link: <https://youtube.com/live/yRh8ZuQrDp8?feature=share>

Monday, July 21-Sunday July 27

Pastor Elizabeth will be taking time away July 21 - 27 for vacation and rejuvenation. Pray for travel blessings and wellsprings of refreshment and renewal. In her absence, contact Pastor Joanna or Monica at the church office.

Sunday, July 27, 2025—Worship 9:30 a.m. with sermon by Joanna Harader; special music by Doyle Preheim



After the worship service come to the Gathering Place and have cake with Justina Neufeld! Justina celebrated her 95th birthday on July 16 and wishes to celebrate with BCMC. Come wish Justina a Happy Birthday!

Standing With Immigrants: What people of faith can do to help the strangers living amongst us. Shalom Mennonite Church will be hosting Sandrine Lisk, Esq., managing attorney of Immigration Law & Advocacy, Wichita, July 30, 7 p.m. at Shalom Mennonite Church, 800 E. 1st, Newton. Come learn how we can support and advocate for immigrants in our community. Bring your questions and share your stories with others who are concerned about the state of immigration in our country in light of Jesus' call to love our neighbors. As a tangible way of supporting immigrants among us, donations will be collected for a scholarship fund supporting immigrant high school graduates and international students. Checks can be made payable to "Wichita African Business & Professional Network".

BCMC will be putting together Mennonite Central Committee school kits in August. If you would like to donate money for this special project, place your donations in the designated fish bowls at the back of the sanctuary. **Please make checks payable to "BCMC" with "school kits" in the memo line.** Donations will be accepted through July and into August.

Upcoming Memorial Services in the BCMC Sanctuary:

- August 16, 11 a.m. Marion Deckert Memorial
- August 30, 11 a.m. Keith Rhoades Memorial

The board is pleased to announce that we have formed a pastoral search committee to fill an opening created by Elizabeth's upcoming retirement. Megan Leary will serve as chair. Karen Ediger, Mary Ellen Hodge, Mara Oswald, and Francis Toews are additional committee members. They will soon begin their thoughtful work alongside Western District Conference, our staff, and the board. Brad Kohlman will serve as a liaison between the committee and the board/congregation. Please keep the committee members in your prayers as their work begins.

From the Finance Committee

As the 2nd quarter of the financial year of our church ends, we offer gratitude for the generosity shared in donating monetary offerings toward our annual budget. Each gift is important to the process of fulfilling our mission. A brief report is listed below. The following is a BCMC financial report of the general fund income and expenses on June 30, 2025 (50% of the year).

Total income	\$ 220,458	40% of budget
Total expense	\$ 265,753	48% of budget
Net income/expense	- \$ 45,296	

BCMC Offering for July 13: General \$3,107; MCC \$433; Library Reserve Fund \$10; Kitchen Fund \$20; Solar Fund \$200.

Readers for a new one-act play needed. Lauren Friesen has written a new play on Erasmus and is inviting interested persons who would like to be readers for a rehearsed staged-reading of the play. One rehearsal on Monday evening Sept. 15 (7 - 8:30 p.m.) in Kidron Classroom A (3001 Ivy Drive) and the staged-reading with audience on Tues., Sept. 16 (7 p.m.) in Kidron Classroom A. The play is approximately 40 minutes long. Ten characters (three female, six male, one stage-manager with lines). Notify Lauren if you are interested. If I get an avalanche of responses, I'll need to be selective. Scripts will be provided at no cost to you and there will be no honoraria. Contact Lauren at Lfriesen@umich.edu

Send some camp mail! Senior High Camp is Next Week!

As a congregation we are fortunate we have youth attending camps. As our youth form their faith in these special places, we encourage you to send letters of encouragement while they are there.

July 27-August 1 Maisie Brubacher, Lucy Burch, Collin Gaeddert, Adam Oswald, Mara Oswald, Abram Wall, Mabel Wall @ Camp Mennoscah, 9458 SE 40th St., Murdock, KS 67111. **Thank you for encouraging our youth to explore their faith!**

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

Western District Conference Assembly will be held August 8-9 at Hesston Mennonite Church. Would you consider being a delegate for Bethel College Mennonite? Contact a Gifts Discernment Committee member or the church office to indicate your willingness to participate. (GDC members: Jeannette Stucky, Jerry Buller, Dick Koontz, and Francis Toews)

For the Western District Conference Assembly:

Registration is now open at <https://mennowdc.org/2025-wdc-annual-assembly-registration/> Please register soon. Join us at Hesston Mennonite Church, Hesston, KS August 8-9, 2025. For more information visit our Assembly webpage: <https://mennowdc.org/2025-annual-assembly/>

Colorado peaches are coming to Mennonite Central Committee: Palisade peaches from western Colorado are available for order and purchase until July 30. Two sizes are available: 9 lb. for \$30 and 18 lb. for \$42. Orders can be placed by emailing patsydirksen@mcc.org or by calling MCC, 316.283.2720. Payment in the form of cash or check is due by July 30.

Make checks payable to Beth-El Mennonite Church with "peaches" in the memo line and mail to: MCC, PO Box 235, North Newton, KS 67117 or drop off at MCC at 121 East 30th, North Newton. Peaches will be ready for pick-up on Mon., Aug. 18 at the MCC warehouse. Beth-El Mennonite Church sells peaches as a fundraiser for bierocks ingredients that are sold at the Rocky Mountain Mennonite Relief Sale in October.

Subscriptions—"Rejoice" and "Anabaptist World"

- **It's time to renew the BCMC group subscription for the devotional magazine "Rejoice".** The September-October-November issue will be in your mailboxes here at the church (or mailed) in late July, early August. If you wish to renew or want a new subscription to "Rejoice", place a check for \$36.63 in the offering plate or bring to the church office.
- **It's also time to renew for "Anabaptist World".** If you wish to renew through the BCMC Group subscription, please remit \$54.00 payable to BCMC in the offering plate or bring to the church office.