

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 the youth of First Mennonite Church in Hutchinson, Kansas, as they begin a week-long Christ at the Border Just Peace Pilgrimage. Pray for the participants as they learn about the realities of migration at the Mexico-United States border and the justice that Jesus is calling them to.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Give thanks for congregation members, delegates, families and guests gathering next weekend for WDC 2025 Annual Assembly! Pray for God's Spirit to enliven our worship, discernment, fellowship and learning around the theme Anabaptism@500: Faithfulness Then and Now.

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

August 3, 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
August 3, 2025

Christ Candle Lighting & Land Acknowledgement		Lyn Krause
Centering Music	<i>For the Beauty of the Earth</i> (arr. Lee Dengler)	Karen Unruh
Welcome		Joanna Harader
*Hymn	<i>Great is Thy Faithfulness</i>	VT 419
Children and Youth Conversation		Joanna Harader
Worship Music	<i>Valse Sentimentale No. 2</i> (Eric Christian von Fricken)	Abby Koontz
Scripture Reading	Ephesians 4:11-16	Adam Robb
*Hymn	<i>One Is the Body</i>	VT 386
Sermon	<i>Putting Faith Into Action</i>	Mandy Todd, KIFA
*Hymn	<i>We are People of God's Peace</i>	VT 797
Prayers of God's People		
*Hymn	<i>The Love of God</i>	VT 162
*Benediction		
Postlude	<i>Earth and All Stars</i> (arr. John Leavitt)	Karen Unruh

* You are invited to stand
VT—*Voices Together*
Audio visual—Ben Lichti

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.



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 sympathy to the family of Ruth Ann Hiebert. Ruth Ann died August 1, at Kidron Bethel Healthcare. Memorial service plans are pending.

Land Acknowledgement from words by Mark Charles and VT #878

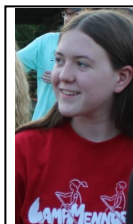
As we do on the first Sunday of each month, we acknowledge that we worship on the land of the Kanza, Osage, and Wichita.

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:

COME pray with us in the BCMC sanctuary at 11 a.m. Wed., Aug. 6 for the Apache Stronghold as they go to court to try to save Oak Flat from desecration by copper mining. On that date Apache Stronghold and allies will be at the Sandra Day O'Connor Courthouse in District Court in Phoenix and those of us not able to be with them in Phoenix will be praying and sending pictures of our groups across the country who stand in solidarity. We in central Kansas want to be among that number praying. Come and bring others. Try to be here a bit early so that we can be on line together at 11 a.m. CDT as a part of a great host of allies. Among the allies of the Apache Stronghold are environmental groups, political groups, land justice groups, Arizona groups, and surely those of us Christians who would wish to help in the dismantling of the Doctrine of Discovery which has caused so much harm to our Indigenous sisters and brothers. Let us pray together in solidarity with them for respect for religious freedom.



Wear your camp t-shirt to church on August 10 for our Camp Sunday celebration! As part of worship that day, we will see some photos of Bethel College Mennonite folks at Camp Mennonah this summer and give thanks for the ways camp helps us to connect more deeply with God, each other, and creation.

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!

The 2025 issue of Mennonite Life, Bethel College's annual online journal, is now live at ml.bethelks.edu, with a theme of anniversaries – 150 for immigration to the Great Plains of North America, 500 for Anabaptism. There are 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 Thiesen.

Greetings from the newly renovated Newton Et Cetera Shop! We're thrilled to share our fresh new look with you and the community! On an insert, (found at the back of the church where there are bulletins) you will find a few pictures of our renovations, but they must be seen in person! Bring the insert to the shop, check out the new view, and turn it in to save 10% off your entire purchase! We want to say "Thank You" for supporting the Newton Et Cetera Shop for all these years! With the utmost gratitude, James Wilson, General Manager, Newton Et Cetera Shop

From the Education Service and Scholarship Committee: BCMC is helping to support seven students at Bethel College this coming academic year! We are grateful for the choice our high school and college age youth are making to attend Bethel. As a result, however, the scholarship fund needs \$3000 to make up the difference between the church's budget amount and what will be needed for this year. Please consider supporting Bethel in this way. Make checks out to BCMC with Bethel College Scholarship Fund in the memo line. Thank you.

Upcoming Memorial Services

- August 15, 2 p.m. Sharon Stucky Memorial at Kidron Bethel Village, Kidron Hall

Memorial Services at BCMC:

- August 16, 11 a.m. Marion Deckert Memorial
- August 30, 11 a.m. Keith Rhoades Memorial
- September 15, 11 a.m. Ilene Schmidt Memorial

BCMC Offering for July 27: General \$6,162; MCC \$400; Plant Fund \$50; Caring Fund \$1,200; BC Scholarship Fund \$650; Kitchen Fund \$18.

The Week at BCMC: August 3—10, 2025

Sunday, August 3, 2025—Worship 9:30 a.m. with sermon by Rev. Dr. Mandy Todd. Rev. Dr. Todd serves as the Director of Engagement & Development at Kansas Interfaith Action, and as Pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church in Lindsborg. Mandy is a Kansas native who grew up in Junction City and attended Bethany College, earning a BA in Music Education. She is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ and has over 20 years working in local congregations in Colorado and Kansas. Mandy has a Masters degree in Theological Studies from Iliff School of Theology in Denver, CO, and a Doctor of Ministry in Public Theology from Drew University in Madison, NJ, where her research focused on the intersection of social justice, spirituality, and the arts. Mandy lives in Lindsborg with her family.

YouTube Link: <https://youtube.com/live/S1w08uN1s6k?feature=share>

Wednesday, August 6, 2025

11 a.m. BCMC Indigenous Justice Task Force prayer for Oak Flat—in the sanctuary (See the announcement on the next page.)

Thursday, August 7, 2025

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

7 p.m. Church Board meeting in Room 14

Sunday, August 10, 2025—Camp Sunday—Worship 9:30 a.m. with sermon by Joanna Harader; special music by Holly Swartzendruber

Hymns requested July 27

July 27—Holy, Holy, Holy (VT 76)

- This is the impressive opener in the previous Menno Hymnary, but also the German tradition I experienced with gatherings of a small, singing, Kasper family in Kansas, plus, of course, two years of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Pax in Germany. — Arlo Kasper
- This was always our first hymn for worship at Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church in Hanley Falls, MN. At age 5 I remember how grown up I felt when I knew all the stanzas by heart and the whole liturgy. My dad gave me some coins to put in the offering plate. In Kansas I heard the hymn with descant. Beautiful. —Marlene Faul
- I had the privilege of singing it a lot and also singing it in different languages when I was overseas. —Norma Johnson (via Marlene Faul)

My Jesus, I Love Thee (VT 133) "This hymn is very special to me because it was sung at my baptism." —Nadine Peters

Praise God (VT 71) request from Hilda Regier (via Marlene Faul)

Hymn Request for August 3 (another hymn request is on the next page)

The Love of God (VT 162) "The last verse is a unique expression of faith." —Lee Suderman

Hymn Request: *Great is thy Faithfulness* (VT 419) I first heard it sung by MCC workers on the dyke in Holland when I was a refugee. The words completely resonated with my experience of fleeing my homeland. "All I have needed Thy hand hath provided. Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me." — Justina Neufeld

Pastor Joanna will host a board game night at her house on Tues., Aug. 26, from 7-? (Email Joanna for address/directions.)

This fall, Faith Formation and Hospitality Commission will be offering “Messy Church” on the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. beginning Sept. 10. This will be instead of the previous 6-week meal and program sessions we have had in the past. Messy Church is an ecumenical program that provides “A way of being church for all-ages to join in experiencing fun and faith formative activities. Found throughout the globe. Based on the values of all-ages together, celebration, creativity, hospitality, and centering ourselves in Christ.” We hope you will join us for these times of fellowship and worship.

Joanna’s 1887 Cafe office hours this semester will be from 8-10 a.m. on Wednesdays beginning Aug. 20. Stop in and say “hi”!

BCMC SUMMER READERS: Be Part of the Picture—Between now and the end of August, take a digital photo of you and your book or of you reading with others. Send the photo as an attachment to office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org. Become part of the BCMC photo collage of summer readers on display in the Gathering Place.

NEED SOMETHING TO READ THIS SUMMER? Visit the BCMC library to check out a book from the display of books most checked out by BCMC readers. ALSO, ask to see our wish list. Perhaps you own and have already read a book on the list. We appreciate donations. And, one last request. If you have the book, *King* by Jonathan Eig, please leave a note on our desk or return it. The computer did not properly check it out.

BCMC Mission quilters are looking for more hand quilters for our group. Experienced quilters are welcome and we are willing to teach new quilters. We meet on Mondays from 1-5 p.m. Carol Flickinger comes to read to us for one hour while we quilt. We also have a snack at 3 p.m. If you are interested, contact Rose Haury at : haury@juno.com or 316-288-0079 . Please join us.

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 into August.

Prayer Service for Oak Flat: This coming Wed., Aug. 6, there will be a hearing in the U.S. District Court in Phoenix, AZ. Two plaintiffs are seeking an injunction to prevent the land transfer of Oak Flat to Resolution Copper, currently scheduled to take place Aug. 19. The first lawsuit plaintiffs are Apache Stronghold and the San Carlos Apache Tribe who are seeking the injunction on the grounds of religious freedom, since Oak Flat has been the center of Apache spiritual life for generations. The second lawsuit plaintiffs are a coalition of environmental groups (Center for Biological Diversity, Arizona Mining Reform Coalition, Earthworks, Intertribal Association of Arizona, and Sierra Club Grand Canyon Chapter) who are seeking the injunction on the grounds of environmental degradation. This hearing may well be the “last gasp” for saving Oak Flat. The Coalition for Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery is holding a Zoom-accessible prayer service to be held during the court hearing. BCMC’s Indigenous Justice Task Force will be participating in that service here in the sanctuary on Wednesday at 11 a.m. (CDT). All are welcome to attend!

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 Mon. evening Sept. 15 (7 - 8:30 p.m.) in Kidron Hall (3001 Ivy Drive) and the staged-reading with audience on Tues., Sept. 16 (7 p.m). 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. No cost to you and no residuals, either. Contact Lauren at Lfriesen@umich.edu

Western District Conference Assembly will be held Aug. 8-9 at Hesston Mennonite Church. 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) **Registration is now open** at <https://mennowdc.org/2025-wdc-annual-assembly-registration/> Please register soon. Join us at Hesston Mennonite Church, Hesston, KS Aug. 8-9. For more information visit our Assembly webpage: <https://mennowdc.org/2025-annual-assembly/>

Subscriptions—“Rejoice” and “Anabaptist World”

- **It’s time to renew the BCMC group subscription for the devotional magazine “Rejoice”.** The September-October-November issue is in your mailboxes here at the church (or mailed). 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.