

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.

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.

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: Today, Mennonite Mission Network's Mennonite Voluntary Service units bring closure to their five-day retreat, hosted by the Alamosa Colorado unit in Colorado. Pray that participants will return to their units renewed by this time of worship, mutual encouragement, learning and fun.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Give thanks for the rich variety of study materials available in the WDC Resource Library, and pray for WDC congregations hosting Bible studies and book discussions to strengthen Anabaptist witness and courageous faith as followers of Jesus in today's world.

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: Monday; **1887 Café Hours Wednesday, 8-10 a.m.**
Cell phone: 407-201-0503; Email: joanna@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
- Pastor Nathan Koontz, Days off: Mondays and Wednesdays
Cell phone: 316-212-4593; Email: nathan@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

October 5, 2025
Fall Fest Sunday



Loving Enemies (Matthew 5:43-48)

SARAH FULLER

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

October 5, 2025—10 a.m.

Prelude *Symphony of Spirituals* (arr. Joel Raney)
Christina Liu, piano; Will Wiebe-Friesen, organ

Christ Candle Lighting

Welcome and Land Acknowledgment Dale Schrag

Centering Music *Cantate Domino* (Monteverdi)
Bethel College Chamber Choir; Russell Adrian, director

*Sing to the Lord a new song. Sing and give praise to the name of the Lord.
For the Lord has done marvelous deeds.
Sing and exult and praise with the harp and voice.*

Call to Worship (Psalm 96) Dale Schrag

Leader: O sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.

**People: Sing to the LORD; bless the holy name;
tell of God's salvation from day to day.**

Leader: Declare God's glory among the nations
and marvelous works among all the peoples.

**People: For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised;
The Holy One is to be revered above all gods.**

**All: Worship the LORD in holy splendor;
tremble before God, all the earth.**

*Hymn *Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing* VT 7

Children and Youth Conversation Naomi Krause and Barb Koontz

Worship Music *When the Morning Stars Together* (Ferguson)
Bethel College Concert Choir
Congregation joins for verses 2 and 4
(See insert)

Sing Me UP to Heaven (arr. Christopher) Woven

Scripture Reading Matthew 13:31-33, 44-48 William Eash

*Hymn *Be Thou My Vision* VT 549
(Melody only on last verse)

Sermon *The Kin(g)dom of God is Like . . . What!?* Joanna Harader

Worship Music *Spirit* (Harbor) Bethel College Concert Choir
It Is Well With My Soul (arr. Harrington) Open Road

Prayers of God's People Dale Schrag

*Hymn *Praise God* VT 70

*Benediction

Postlude *Prelude in G Maj* (BWV 550) (JS Bach)
Will Wiebe-Friesen

You are invited to stand
VT—*Voices Together*
Keyboard—Will Wiebe-Friesen
Audio visual—Ben Lichti

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.*

Come to the Gathering Place after the worship service for coffee, water, and cake. Help Marlin and Monica Lichti celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary, which was yesterday, October 4!

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.



Mennonite Central Committee Meat Canning is Nov. 5, 6, & 7

Sign up to be one of the volunteers at the mobile meat cannery in North Newton on November 5, 6 or 7 at <https://tinyurl.com/MeatCanning2025>

If you wish to make a monetary contribution please write your checks to "MCC Central States" with "Newton Area Meat Canning" in the memo line.

The Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association annual banquet will be Oct. 18, 5 p.m. at the Burrton City Auditorium (203 N. Burrton Ave., Burrton).

Peter Buller, recent Bethel College graduate, will speak about his experience this summer at Reba Place in Chicago, connecting with bigger themes about our role as Mennonites in the world. Music provided by the Schwisters. RSVP by Oct. 11 to Dave Stucky at bigdstucky@gmail.com or text or call 620-532-4408. Cost is \$25 and can be paid at the door or online at www.swissmennonite.org.

The Goessel Arts Fund Committee is hosting an Arts Soirée on Sun., Oct. 19, 2-5 p.m. at Tabor Mennonite Church north of Newton.

There will be an art show in the hospitality hall that will feature local and regional artists. A concert at 3 p.m. in the sanctuary will include performances by the Salina Symphony Brass Quintet, Holly Swartzendruber (soprano), and a piano duo extravaganza that will feature Goessel area pianists Russell Adrian, Marcia Brubaker, Jason and Renae Peters, and Karen Unruh performing works for 4-10 hands! Following the concert at 4 p.m. refreshments will be served in the hospitality hall. Plan now to attend this free event! (The Goessel Arts Fund Committee is a subsidiary of the Goessel Community Foundation)

FREE Authors Speaking Series will be Oct. 13 starting at 10 a.m. in Kidron Hall at Kidron Bethel Village, 3001 Ivy Dr.

Two speakers will discuss the published books they have written. Both are amazing stories based on their lives. They will share those stories with a question-and-answer session following.

- **Mon., Oct. 13: Justina Neufeld will discuss her book, "A Family Torn Apart",** about her escape from Ukraine in her youth after WWII.

Wilma Loganbill will discuss her book, "A Very Fortunate Woman", about the tragedy of losing her husband and son and how God gives us the strength to go through what we could never survive on our own.

- **Mon., Nov. 10: Lauren Friesen,** discusses his two new books coming out in October, "The Anabaptists: a Comedy in Two Acts" and "Acting Up: An Anthology of Mennonite Playwrights" Lauren has spoken around the globe, has awards from the Kennedy Center, and many other awards and degrees.

Janice Pauls will discuss her children's book "Dandelions are Beautiful"

Sunday, October 5, 2025

Worship 10 a.m.

Live-Stream Link: <https://youtube.com/live/tqJbHX9mOZo?feature=share>

Wednesday, October 8, 2025—Messy Church

8-10 a.m. Pastor Joanna will be at the 1887 Café— Bethel College campus

6—7:30 p.m. Messy Church—Fellowship Hall

We will gather at 6 p.m. to share a meal and a time of all-age, interactive worship. The menu for this Wednesday is "Stone Soup" (chicken and vegetables)/ bread/ peach cobbler. Please bring your own tableware to assist in the clean-up. Be sure to bring a bowl for the soup.

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal—Sanctuary

Thursday, October 9, 2025

7 p.m. Church Board—Room 14

Sunday, October 12, 2025—Immigration Sabbath

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Joanna Harader, communion will be served; music by Chancel Bells

3 p.m. Pet Blessing in the Church Playground

Our next Messy Church gathering is this Wednesday, October 8, at 6 p.m.

Everyone is invited for supper and a time of interactive worship for all ages. What is the reign of heaven like? And which table team will win this month's challenge? Join us Wednesday to find out!

During September we had three Sunday School sessions

focused on conscientious objection. Most of the resources that were shared in that class are available on the web page which you can access with the QR code. We encourage all young adults (aged 16-25) to fill out and file the "Christian Peacemaker Registration Form" that is available on that page. Pastors Nathan and Joanna are happy to answer any questions and the church office can provide stamps, envelopes, and copies as needed.



Bring your pets to the church playground for a pet blessing on Sunday, October 12, at 3 p.m.!

This event is a special request from one of our younger community members and will be a fun time to gather, appreciate our animal companions, and give thanks for God's creation. All animals (that do not pose a danger to people or other animals) are invited to come with their people to receive a blessing. You are also welcome to bring a picture of your pet or one of their toys.

Commissioned by Warren and Jo Hartness Guinn for the dedication of the C. B. Fisk organ, Opus 121, Charles E. Daniel Chapel, Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina, in honor of Tom and Edna Hartness

When the Morning Stars Together

John Ferguson

Based on *WEISSE FLAGGEN*

From *Tochter Zion*, Cologne, 1741

Albert F. Bayly, 1901-84



Choir: 1. When the morn-ing stars to- geth- er Their Cre- a- tor's
All: 2. When in syn- a- gogue and tem- ple Voic- es raised the
Choir: 3. Voice and in- stru- ment in un- ion Through the a- ges
All: 4. Lord, we bring our gift of mu- sic; Touch our lips and



glo- ry sang, And the an- gel host all shout- ed
psalm- ists' songs, Of- fer- ing the ad- o- ra- tion
spoke your praise, Plain- song, tune- ful hymns, and an- thems
fire our hearts, Teach our minds and train our sens- es,



Till with joy the heav- ens rang, Then your wis- dom
Which a- lone to you be- longs, When the sing- ers
Told your faith- ful, gra- cious ways. Choir and or- ches-
Fit us for these sa- cred arts. Then with skill and



and your great- ness Their ex- ul- tant mu- sic told,
and the cym- bals With the trum- pet made ac- cord,
tra and or- gan Each a sa- cred of- f'ring brought,
con- se- cra- tion We would serve you, Lord, and give



All the beau- ty and the splen- dor
Glo- ry filled the house of wor- ship,
While, in- spired by your own Spir- it,
All our pow'rs to glo- ri- fy you,



Which your might- y works un- fold.
And all knew your pres- ence, Lord.
Po- et and com- pos- er wrought.
And in serv- ing ful- ly live.

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Bethel College Announcements

- **Sun., Oct. 5: Last chance to see the 2025 Fall Festival play *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*** by Christopher Durang, 2 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College. Ticket purchase required, online <https://www.bethelks.edu/fine-arts/theater/theater-department-presents/#tickets>) or at the door. Contains adult content and may not be suitable for young children.
- **Thurs., Oct. 9: Bethel College Wind Ensemble concert**, Chris Miertschin, director, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center
- **Sun., Oct. 12: As part of the annual KIPCOR Film Series**, the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution at Bethel College and Peace Connections are co-sponsoring a screening of the documentary *Join or Die*, 2 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center. Based on the book *Bowling Alone* by Robert Putnam (Simon & Schuster, 2000); followed by a mini-fair of local non-profits and community organizations
- **Now in the Regier Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center:** "Made for you by a professional seamstress," fiber art by Karen Reimer, through Oct. 27. Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m.
- **SAVE THE DATES** [please note change from some previously printed calendars]: **Oct. 19-20**, Dr. Kat Hill will give the annual Menno Simons Lectures.
- **Registration is now open for Bethel College's Worship and the Arts Symposium, "Preaching Good News in a Troubled World," Nov. 2-4** on the Bethel campus. There is no fee, but registration is needed to get accurate numbers. Go to <https://www.bethelks.edu/academics/worship-and-the-arts-symposium/> and click the "Registration" button. The focus of the 2025 symposium is homiletics, with Dr. Luke Powery from Duke Divinity School in Durham, N.C. Of particular interest to pastors but open to everyone is a preaching masterclass from 9 a.m.-noon on Tues., Nov. 4. The featured visual artist is Merrill Krabill, Goshen, IN, a former professor at Bethel and now retired from teaching at Goshen College. Use the link above to see a complete schedule.

Life Enrichment is a series designed for adults age 60 and over. Sessions are in the Bethel College Fine Arts Center, Krehbiel Auditorium, on Wednesdays, 9:30—11:50 a.m. Next session: **October 8**

9:30 a.m. "Peace Work in Chicago," Mark Frey, finance manager/administrative coordinator, Community Peacemaker Teams, Chicago

10:50 a.m. "Indigenous Residential Schools in Canada," Dr. Trent Voth, Bethel College assistant professor of Bible and Religion