

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.

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.



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: Pray for the people of Venezuela, and Mennonite Mission Network's partner Network of Mennonite Missions of Venezuela, amid the political instability caused by the forceful removal of Venezuela's president by the U.S. last month. Pray that the new governmental leaders will reflect the will of the Venezuelan people and bring peace to the country.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Give thanks for participants joining the zoom book-study of Woven: Nurturing a Faith Your Kid Doesn't Have to Heal From, hosted on zoom by WDC's Kids Meet Christ program this spring. Pray for all caregivers, parents, families and ministry leaders seeking to nurture healthy faith in children!

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; Café 1887 Hours: Thursdays 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Cell phone: 407-201-0503; Email: joanna@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
- Pastor Nathan Koontz, Days off: Mondays and Wednesdays—**Away on retreat January 21-29**
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

February 1, 2026

Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the Lord says:
Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.
2 Hear, you mountains, the case of the Lord,
and you enduring foundations of the earth,
for the Lord has a case against the people,
and will contend with Israel.

3 "O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you?
Answer me!

4 For I brought you up from the land of Egypt
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,
and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

5 O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the Lord."

6 "With what shall I come before the Lord
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before God with burnt offerings with calves a year old?

7 Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

8 God has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice
and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?

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 1, 2026

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music *My Lord, What a Morning* (arr. R. Lau)
Will Wiebe-Friesen

Welcome and Land Acknowledgment Erin Brubacher

*Hymn *O Worship Our God, All Glorious Above* VT 74

Children and Youth Conversation Esther Koontz

Worship Music *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* (arr. J.R. Martin)
Will Wiebe-Friesen, piano

Scripture Reading Matthew 5:3-12 (VT 295) Richard Friesen

*Hymn *We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer* VT 34

Scripture Reading Micah 6:1-8 Richard Friesen,
Dorothy Nickel Friesen, Joanna Harader

Sermon *Generous Worship* Joanna Harader

*Hymn *What Does the Lord Require of You?* VT 207

Receiving the Offering and Prayers of God's People Erin Brubacher

*Hymn *Go My Friends in Grace* VT 810
Those with January birthdays are welcome to come forward during this
hymn to receive a birthday blessing.

*Benediction

Postlude *Little Prelude and Fugue in C Major* (J.S. Bach)

* You are invited to stand

VT—Voices Together

Keyboard—Will Wiebe-Friesen Audio visual—Ken Lamp

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:

—**Have you read the BCMC land acknowledgement**, history and prayer available at the doors to the church? Find it, read it, and share it.

—**New hope for Oak Flat and the sacred lands of the Apache Stronghold.** As her first bill after she was seated, newly elected Congresswoman Adelita Grijalva put forth the Save Oak Flat from Foreign Mining Act. We are being asked to contact our representatives and ask them to co-sponsor this bill as well as to call co-sponsors and thank them for co-sponsoring. BCMC Indigenous Task Group will be sponsoring an event to carry out these actions in February here at BCMC. Watch for the date and come join us. This gives us a chance to work on behalf of saving Oak Flat!

We offer sympathy to the family of Joan Brubacher. Joan died Jan. 11. Please continue to remember Joan's husband Wade, their children Anne, Kate, and Jacob and their families in prayer. The memorial service for Joan will be Sat., Feb. 14, 11 a.m. at BCMC.

Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) request for prayer

On Thurs., Feb. 5, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit in Washington, D.C., will hear opening arguments in an appeal for injunctive relief in the "sensitive locations" lawsuit, Mennonite Church USA et al., v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security, et al. Representatives from MC USA leadership will attend the hearing.

2025 Giving Update

Thank you to all who contributed financially to our church for 2025! Your generosity is much appreciated as we seek to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God. The Finance Committee is pleased that our financial contributions for 2025 were close to our 2025 expenses. A full report will be forthcoming in the lead up to our congregational meeting February 8.

The reason that Camp Mennoscah was able to immediately begin repairs on the retreat center was because we maintained a healthy reserve fund. But what would happen if a similar repair was needed today? If each of our donor households gave just \$20/month over the next 12 months, our reserve accounts would be replenished and ready to respond to the next emergency building repair. And our website allows you to easily set-up a monthly recurring investment to do just that. Visit CampMennoscah.org, or text "RECURRING" to our Development office at 620.755.2583 to begin the process.

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) invites you to Borderlands & Beyond Monthly Charlas, a new conversation series featuring MCC partners, community leaders, and borderlands practitioners who will share their work, struggles, insights, and hopes. Each charla provides a welcoming space to learn, ask questions, and explore how we can participate in faithful advocacy and accompaniment. You can join a charla via Zoom the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. Register here: [Borderlands & Beyond: Monthly Charlas with MCC – Stories, Struggles & Faithful Action – Fill out form](#)

The Newton Mid Kansas Symphony Orchestra Winter Classics Concert will be Sun., Feb. 15, 4 p.m. at Bethel College Memorial Hall. This concert features the Dwight Beckham Young Soloist winners, Seth Balzer (tuba, Bethel College) and Ryan Antle (horn, Newton High School). Advance tickets for sale online, and at Faith and Life Bookstore. Tickets will also be available the day of the concert at the door. <https://nmkso.org/tickets/>

Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp Announcement

Save the dates! **Men's Retreat is coming February 27- March 1** with Paul Unruh leading conversations on "The Power of Service and Story". **Women's Retreat March 6-8, 2026** will be led by Anita Amstutz exploring "Breathing through Transition". Please visit rmmc.org for more details and for registration.

Lunch and Learn at Mennonite Central Committee Tuesday, Feb. 17, 12-1 p.m. join the *Global Voices Speaking Tour* to hear firsthand stories of the intersection of climate and peace. Speakers Dr. Arefur Rahaman with MCC Bangladesh and David Waiswa with MCC East Africa and Sahel Region will share how they are working toward peace and climate resiliency, especially around food security. RSVP by Feb. 10 at mcc.org/global-lunch or contact patsydirksen@mcc.org, 316.283.2720. Suggested \$10 donation per lunch.

Mennonite Central Committee Central States annual meeting – You are invited to the MCC Central States annual meeting on Sat., March 7, 11 a.m. at MCC Central States, 121 E. 30th St, North Newton.

The Week at BCMC: February 1–8, 2026

Sunday, February 1, 2026—Worthy Worship

Worship 9:30 a.m.

YouTube Link for the worship service this Sunday:

<https://youtube.com/live/gNbc-S7wTqU?feature=share>

10:45 a.m. Membership Information Session in Fellowship Hall

11 a.m. Fellowship Group Potluck Lunch in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

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

Thursday, February 5, 2026

4 p.m. Staff Congregation Relations meeting—Room 14

6 p.m. Chancel Bells Rehearsal—Rm B7

Note: Church Board meeting is postponed to February 12.

Sunday, February 8, 2026—Worthy Worship

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Nathan Koontz

10:30 a.m. Congregational meeting in the Sanctuary

The congregational meeting scheduled for January 25 has been postponed to February 8 during the Sunday School hour in the sanctuary. Agenda items include: Church Board recommendations on proposals from the Finance Committee and from Witness Commission, and the approval of the annual church budget. Details of the budget and proposals were sent by email and are available in the Gathering Place. There will be live streaming of the meeting. The youth will provide a fundraiser meal after the meeting.

BCMC Offering for January 25: General \$11,593.34; Library Reserve Fund \$10.

Joanna's 1887 Cafe office hours this semester will be on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. You are welcome to stop by for a chat!

"Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" will be Sun, Feb. 22, at noon. You can email the office to indicate whether you would like to be a host or a guest. Hosts provide main dish, beverage, and maybe bread. Guests are assigned a side dish (vegetables, salad, dessert) or maybe bread. Experience this event interacting with some of our congregational members, as assigned, on a social level. There will be sign-up sheets in the Gathering Place, this Sunday, Feb. 1 and next Sunday, Feb. 8.

We offer sympathy to Homer Goering, Vern Goering and Helen Nachtigal and their families on the death of their sister Jo "Josephine" Schmidt, who died Jan. 28. She was a resident of Kidron Bethel Village Health Care. Memorial plans are pending.

Faith Formation has set our Wednesday night schedule for this semester.

Thank you to those who shared their thoughts with us through the survey and through conversations. We recognize that the six-week meal and fellowship schedule is valued by many people and also received very positive feedback about the monthly intergenerational worship—particularly from our families with school-aged children. We are preserving both elements. The “Messy Church” from last year is now called “Open Table,” but the idea is the same: a time to learn, worship, and connect across generations. On Open Table Wednesdays, all ages—including high school youth—are invited to participate. The youth group will have a brief gathering after Open Table in the youth room upstairs. See the email for the full schedule. There are also fliers in the literature racks in the front foyer.

The Education and Service Scholarship Committee (ESSC) is supporting Grace Harader-Ellett and Ani Koontz to attend the Mennonite Central Committee Peace Camp being held in Puerto Rico this coming February. We wish them safe travels and a rich week of experiences - most of it in Spanish!

Share the love this Valentine’s with Offender Victim Ministries & Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). Feb. 12 from 6-8 p.m. In the spirit of Saint Valentine, help us pack 350 MCC prisoner care kits for men on the indigent list at Hutchinson Correctional Facility. Hear impact stories at 7:30, design a note to go into each kit, enjoy snacks and give a monetary donation to help cover the cost of the kit items. All ages are welcome to join us at MCC, 121 E. 30th St., North Newton. Find out more at mcc.org/prisoner-care or contact brociamueller@mcc.org.

Buhler Mennonite Church's Annual Chicken Noodle Soup Supper is Wed., Feb. 11 with a carryout meal featuring chicken noodle soup, bread and pie. Orders will be accepted through Wed., Feb. 4. Call or text 620-664-7699 to let us know how many meal orders you want. Pickup will be at the north entrance of the church from 4 to 6 p.m. on Wed., Feb. 11. Enter from the south side parking lot on B Street to pick up your meals. This is a freewill offering with all proceeds going to Mennonite Central Committee Meat Canner and Outreach Meals. Checks may be made out to Buhler Mennonite Church. Cash donations will also be accepted that evening. Note the change in traffic direction.

Current status on the search for an associate pastor: All our paperwork has been sent to Western District Conference and the job description is posted. The search committee will continue to work with conference minister Kathy Neufeld Dunn, who will share information with us about potential candidates. If you have names of people who may be interested in the position, you can send them to search committee chair Megan Leary at megleary28@gmail.com

Bethel College/Kauffman Museum Announcements

- **Now in the Regier Art Gallery** in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College: “Reclaiming My Roots,” works by Marco Hernandez Guillen from Wichita State University, through Feb. 12. Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m.
- **Sun., Feb. 1: The Bethel College Chamber singers present a program** entitled “Resound!”, 4 p.m., Shalom Mennonite Church, 800 E. 1st St., Newton. Chamber Singers personnel are: Maddie Anderson, Lucy Burch, Emma Graber, Abigail Grittman, Kyra Linenberger, Bethany Schrag, sopranos; Anna-Joy Jones, Abby Koontz, Faith Peterson, Dalaina Schutte, altos; Caleb Garber, Riley Hartvickson, Liam Ortman, Jacob Schrag, Timothy Schrag, tenors; Seth Balzer, Henry Harrington, Ben Janzen, Ethan Wilcox, basses; Dr. Russell Adrian, director
- **Life Enrichment, the series at Bethel College for adults age 60 and older, resumes** for the spring semester on Wed., Feb. 4, with Larry Hatteberg of KAKE TV, Wichita, and Joe Fred Perez of Brownsville, TX. See <https://www.bethelks.edu/academics/life-enrichment/> for details and a link to the complete spring schedule.
- **Sat., Feb. 7: Kauffman Museum bird walk, 8 a.m.** start time in the museum parking lot at the corner of Main and 27th streets (2801 N. Main St., North Newton). Experienced birders lead a walk of 1-1.5 hours in Chisholm Park and on Sand Creek Trail.
- **Sun., Feb. 8: Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum, 3 p.m., with Prisca Barnes, founder of Storytime Village Inc.,** “The Dockum Drugstore Sit-In,” Kauffman Museum auditorium. This program is in conjunction with the special exhibit “Voices of Conscience: Peace Witness in the Great War.”
- **Tues., Feb. 10: Bethel College Organ Recital Series:** YunJung Lee, 7 p.m. Administration Building chapel
- **SAVE THE DATE: Bethel College’s biennial Justice Symposium**, Feb. 25-27, with a focus on immigration and with special guest speaker Karen González, author of *Beyond Welcome* (2022) and *The God Who Sees* (2019).
- **SAVE THE DATE: Bethel College spring musical, *Alice by Heart***, March 6, 7 and 8 in Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center

WANTED—Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, RV's, Campers, Tractors, Modern Farm Equipment, etc. for the KS Mennonite Central Committee Sale. Items you no longer need help feed and clothe thousands in desperate living conditions. ALL donations are tax deductible. Call Jerry Toews for info: 620 367 8257. Help make a difference. Be a part of the growing number of folks donating vehicles to the Mennonite Relief Sale.