

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, immigration status, 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.

BCMC Offering for Mar. 22: Gen. Fund \$8,612.34; Wed. Supper \$244; MCC Sale \$75; Caring Fund \$200; Bethel College Scholarship Fund \$200; Kitchen Fund \$22; Women's Fellowship \$147; Al Penner Mem. \$100.

Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request: Ben and Laurel Woodward-Breckbill, and their two children, are wrapping up their first two-year mission term at the Paris (France) Mennonite Center and will begin their second term soon. Pray for clarity as they plan their next term, and pray that their family would be able to find time for rest and connection.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Pray for wisdom and clarity as we discern God's vision for new church plants and emerging ministries. [Church Planting Commission]

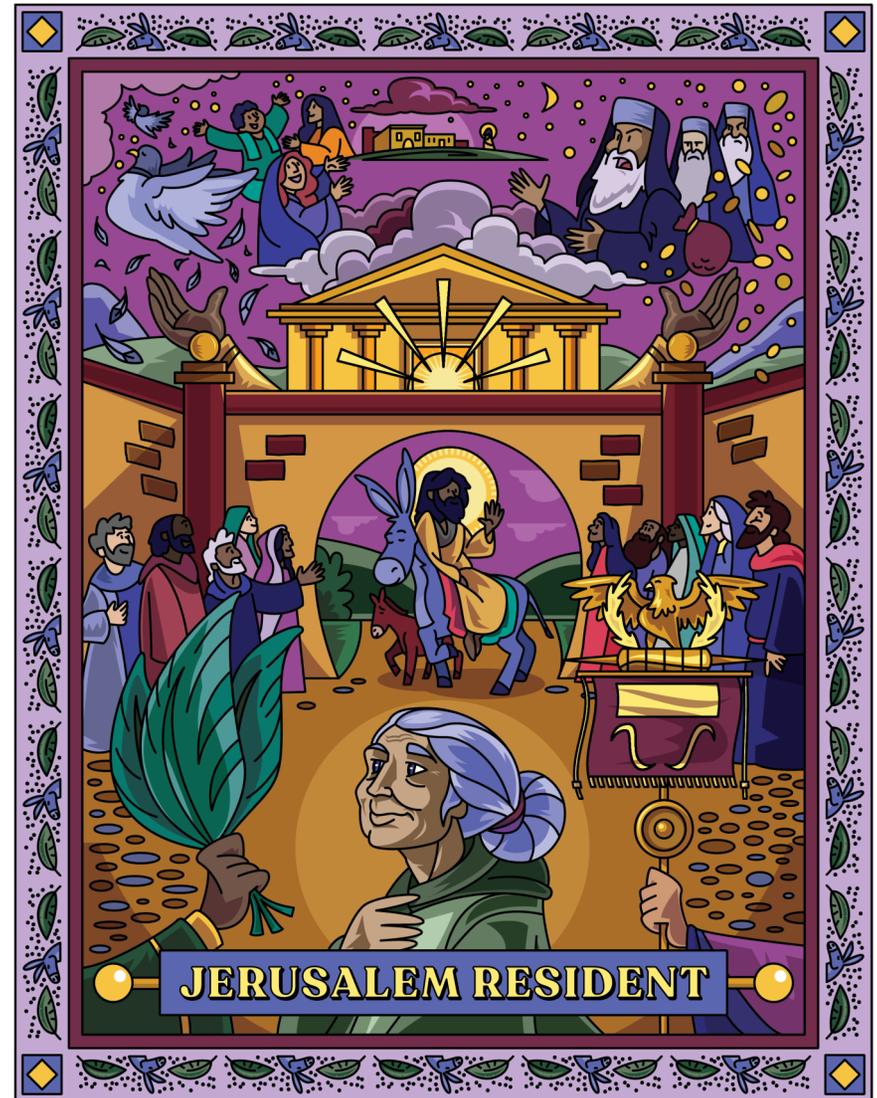
Bethel College Mennonite Church, 2600 College Ave., Box 364, North Newton, KS 67117
Phone: 316-283-3667—Fax: 316-283-2079 Email: office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org
Website: bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

- 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
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

March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday—Sacred Protest



Matthew 21:1-17 • illustratedministry.com

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

March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday: Sacred Protest

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* [VT 313] (arr. P. La Plante)
Will Wiebe-Friesen

Welcome and Call to Worship Sondra Bandy Koontz

One: Come into God's presence, you who imagine and you who seek, you who disrupt and you who repair.

All: By the Spirit, we gather in hope.

One: Come into God's saving grace, you who shout, "Hosanna," you who pray, "save us," you who wave branches to welcome Christ.

All: In Christ, we gather in celebration.

One: Come into God's presence, singing for joy and for justice; bringing prayer and worship, your most faithful acts of resistance.

All: To God be the glory! We gather to praise!

(from Illustrated Ministries)

Opening Prayer

*Hymn *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* VT 313
Children and youth are invited to meet Pastor Joanna at the back of the sanctuary to participate in the palm parade during the singing of this hymn.

Children and Youth Conversation Barb Koontz

Worship Music *I'm Gonna Sing when the Spirit says Sing*
Children's Choir, Olivia Garber on the Ukulele

Scripture Reading Psalm 118:1, 25-29 Dilores Rempel Suderman

*Hymn *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* VT 315

Scripture Reading Matthew 21:1-11 Lee Suderman

Sermon *No Kings?* Joanna Harader

Breath Prayer *"Hosanna," I cry./ "Save us," we pray.*

*Hymn *Ride On, Ride On in Majesty* VT 316

Receiving the Offering and Prayers of God's People

*Hymn *God, Be the Love* VT 43
Those with March birthdays are welcome to come forward during this hymn to receive a birthday blessing. This morning we also celebrate the birthday of Payne which is this coming Thursday, April 2!

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Postlude-Reflection for Palm Sunday* [VT 315 & 325] (arr. M. Ellis)

* You are invited to stand

VT—*Voices Together* Keyboard—Will Wiebe-Friesen Audio visual—Ken Lamp

BCMC's Lenten Banners illustrate a progression created around the motif of the crown of thorns. The series is about the contrasts, emotion, and movement of the Lenten season. The artist, Anne Friesen Birky, lives in Denver, CO with her family and is the daughter of Duane and Elizabeth Friesen. Thank you to Matt Koontz for organizing the banner installation each week.

The annual meeting of the Community Playschool Corporation will be Mon., Apr. 13, 7:15 p.m. at the BCMC Fellowship Hall. Interested members of the congregations supporting Community Playschool are invited to attend.

Community Playschool, Inc is happy to announce a celebration for its 60th anniversary! EVERYONE, including members of sponsoring churches, former teachers, volunteers, families, students and anyone else, is invited and welcome to join us on Thurs., Apr. 16 from 5:30-7 p.m. for a look back at the history of the preschool. We will have slides and photos, a timeline of the major events and changes, a place for memories and stories and, of course, cake! The classrooms will be open for tours while the main activities will take place in the Fellowship Hall of BCMC. Please plan to come and help us celebrate this monumental occasion!

Simon Koontz is returning this week from a Mennonite Central Committee workshop in Los Angeles entitled Creative Resistance: Art, Faith & Social Change. Education and Service Scholarship Committee (ESSC) provided some support for this experience. We look forward to hearing or seeing some of his ideas from his week in LA. Simon is in his sophomore year at McPherson College.

Artwork on the bulletin cover is from Illustrated Ministry, "The Work of Imagination."

Bethel College Announcements:

- **Sun., March 29: Bethel College Concert Choir and Wind Ensemble** spring concert, 4 p.m., Memorial Hall
- **Life Enrichment, the series at Bethel College** for adults age 60 and older, meets Wednesday mornings in Krehbiel Auditorium. **Apr. 1 programs;** note time switch): **9:30 a.m.**, "SEARCHING FOR LIGHT: Through the Lens of a Portrait Photographer," Jim and Nola Stucky; **10:50 a.m.**, "RAILEROBOTICS: Inspiration of Today, Technology of Tomorrow," Newton High School robotics team. See <https://www.bethelks.edu/academics/life-enrichment/> for a link to the complete spring schedule.
- **Sat., Apr. 4: Kauffman Museum bird walk**, 7 a.m. start time in the museum parking lot, 2801 N. Main St., North Newton. Experienced birders lead a walk of 1-1.5 hours in Chisholm Park and on Sand Creek Trail
- **Mon., Apr. 6: Bethel College will present its 2025 alumni awards** in convocation, 11 a.m., Krehbiel Auditorium. Young Alumnus, Kristin E. Wedel '08 (social work), Providence, R.I., a therapist with a particular interest in new parent issues; Outstanding Alumnus, Virgil Penner '60 (industrial arts), North Newton, a long-time educator, coach, administrator and visual artist; Distinguished Achievement, Tim Wiens '74 (social work), Silver Spring, Md., a health services administrator focused on the needs of adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- Now in the Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center: annual Student Art Exhibit, featuring the work of students in Bethel College art classes, in various media, through Apr. 17. Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m.
- **Fri., Apr. 10: Junior recital by Bethel College student Seth Balzer**, brass, 7 p.m. Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center
- **Sat., Apr. 11: Senior recital by Bethel College student Caleb Koontz**, piano, 4 p.m. Administration Building chapel
- **Sat., Apr. 11: Senior recital by Bethel College student Caleb Garber**, cello, 7 p.m. Administration Building chapel

Women & Girls come join the annual Mennonite Women in Mission's potluck salad supper Mon., Apr. 20, 6 p.m. at Tabor Mennonite Church, rural Newton. Guest speaker, Kate Mast presents "Our Time, Our Stories, Our Stuff." This presentation encourages us to think kindly about our stuff in relationship to our time and the stories we tell about our lives. Please bring a potluck salad and one small item that is a treasure of yours to share with your table group. RSVP not required. More info: mennonitewomeninmission.org or their Facebook page.

Men and Boys Retreat, sponsored by Mennonite Men of the Plains, is Apr. 17-19. Registration is online at <https://campmennoscah.campbrainregistration.com> or in person at the shed by the basketball court. Please check in at the shed, even if you register online. Lodging is available in the bunkhouses, cabins, or your own tent. There are two 20 amp RV hookups and two 30 amp RV hookups available in the south (boys) cabin area on a pole of the gazebo. The hookups/outlets are not spread out. Camp Mennoscah only has electrical hookups. Meals are available for Sat. evening and Sun. breakfast and lunch. Contact Kevin N. at 316-322-5515.

The Week at BCMC: March 29—April 5, 2026

Sunday, March 29, 2026—Palm Sunday

9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Coffee/water/tea in the Gathering Place

YouTube Link for the worship service this Sunday:

https://youtube.com/live/JF4jQ02_jns?feature=share

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

11 a.m. Poems and Prayers Group for Lent—Chapel

12 noon—3 p.m. Library Committee—Room 14

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

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

Thursday, April 2, 2026—Maundy Thursday

6 p.m. Chancel Bells Rehearsal—Room B7

7 p.m. Maundy Thursday service in the Sanctuary

(Church Board meeting is postponed to April 9)

Caring Fund Contribution Opportunity April 2, Maundy Thursday and April 5,

Easter Sunday. The Caring Fund is an above budget benevolent fund administered by the Deacon Commission for the purpose of assisting our congregation's members and community persons in need. The fund is generated by above budget offerings made payable to Bethel College Mennonite Church and designated "caring fund." There will be fishbowls on the back tables for your donations. Thank you for your continued support and contributions.

Friday, April 3, 2026—Good Friday

You are invited to an ecumenical Good Friday worship service April 3, 7 p.m., at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church (2001 Windsor Drive, Newton). This service will be planned and led by Bethel College Mennonite, Shalom Mennonite, Faith Mennonite, Salem United Methodist, Trinity Heights United Methodist, and St. Matthew's Episcopal. We are excited to connect with others in our community during this sacred season.

Sunday, April 5, 2026—Easter Sunday—No Sunday School

7 a.m. Easter Sunrise Worship—at the Prouty Farm, 332 N. Hoover Road, Newton; potluck breakfast to follow, please bring an item for breakfast to share

10 a.m. Worship Service to include welcoming new members! Sermon by Nathan Koontz, music by the Chancel Choir **Note the later start time of worship on Easter Sunday.**

Friday April 24 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. there will be a relief kit packing event happening on behalf of Bethel College Service Club and Mennonite Central Committee held at the MCC building, 121 E. 30th St., North Newton. There will be a meal of hotdogs and hamburgers along with some sides and desserts that will be paid for by donation (suggested amount \$15). All donations will go back to MCC to make more relief kits! Bethel College's Woven and Open Road will also be giving a small concert during the time. Following the meal we will be packing relief kits with a goal of 500 kits! Come join us for an evening of singing and service! — *Adah Hodge, Bethel College Service Club* (See the church bulletin board for flyer and sign up sheet.)

This Lent, we are exploring *The Work of Imagination*, led by material from Illustrated Ministry.

“This is the work of imagination: to envision a world remade by mercy, to trust that healing is possible even in the shadow of empire, and to practice love that outlasts despair.” Please plan to join us for Sunday morning worship, and consider participating in these special Lenten opportunities:

- Thurs., Apr. 2, 5:30 p.m.: All-Age Maundy Thursday Worship in the Chapel
- Thurs., Apr. 2, 7 p.m.: Maundy Thursday Worship with communion in the Sanctuary
- Fri., Apr. 3, 7 p.m.: Ecumenical Good Friday worship service at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church (2001 Windsor Drive, Newton).
- Easter Sunday, Apr. 5: NO Sunday School
 - * Easter Sunrise Worship @ 7 a.m. at the Prouty Farm, 332 N. Hoover Road, Newton. Potluck breakfast to follow, please bring an item for breakfast to share.
 - * Worship Service @ 10 a.m. to include welcoming new members!

MOVING TOWARD RIGHT RELATIONS: Join us for a transforming personal accountability training as we seek together to move toward right relations with our Indigenous brothers and sisters. Sponsored by the Kansas Repair Communities, Mennonite Central Committee-Central States, and Western District Conference and led by staff from the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery, Fri., Apr. 24, from 5:30-9 p.m. and Sat., Apr. 25, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. All sessions in the Fellowship Hall of the Bethel College Mennonite Church. Meals provided Friday evening and Saturday noon. There is no registration fee, but registration is required (deadline April 17). Questions? Please contact Ada Schmidt-Tieszen (adast@bethelks.edu) or 316-842-9751.

Camp Mennoscah Announcements

- **Camp Mennoscah reminds all their friends and supporters at BCMC** that there remains a \$2,500 challenge within your congregation to support the completion of the retreat center. Across our partner churches, this initiative has raised almost \$140,000, and just under \$2,000 remains available still to be matched here at BCMC. To have YOUR investment in the future of camp doubled, simply write "BCMC match" in the memo line of your check, or text "Match" to 620.755.2583, and a representative of Camp Mennoscah will be happy to pick up your gift.
- **The Camp Mennoscah dam** will be put in Sun., Mar. 29, at approximately 2 p.m. You are welcome to help or watch. This is not a task for young ages, but all are invited to watch. Helpers must be of a sufficient age and size to handle heavy planks. Meet at the shelter. Contact 620-297-3290 with questions.
- **Summer Camp Staff Needed!** A head cook is needed for the PreJunior I Camp, June 21-25. Kitchen staff is needed for all weeks EXCEPT First Camp and Senior High. A nurse is needed for July 19-24. Volunteers for custodial and maintenance are needed for most weeks of camp. Call/text Olivia at 316-293-7313 or email olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org for more details.

Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale (KMRS) is April 10 & 11, 2026 at the Kansas State Fair Grounds in Hutchinson. Your participation supports Mennonite Central Committee's (MCC) relief, development, and peace-building work around the world.

- **Calling all bakers!** Bags and pie tins are ready to pick up at the back of the sanctuary today after worship. Sign up to make zwieback, pie, and other baked goods. We are almost to our pie goal, but need dozens more zwieback to feed the multitudes!
- **My Coins Count** continues in the Gathering Place. Place your coins, bills, and checks in the jug each Sunday until the sale to help fund MCC education programs!
- **THANK YOU to the BCMC Sunday School classes** who help underwrite KMRS costs. Thanks to generous donors, all expenses are covered before the sale so all sale proceeds go directly to Mennonite Central Committee programs.
- Donations needed!
 - **Silent and General Auctions** are accepting items such as vehicles, furniture, and other items. Let a BCMC liaison know so we can submit photos and work with you on getting the item to the sale. Donated items can be viewed on KMRS website a <https://kansas.mccsale.org/auctions/sunflower-auctions/>
 - **Children's Auction is accepting new**, in-the-package items that appeal to children and youth such as board games, Lego sets, etc. for the Saturday Children's Auction.
 - **Plant Sale** accepts anything related to gardening -- bulbs, seeds, garden or house plants, trees, and tools such as garden hose and rakes.
 - **Bring donated auction and plant items** to BCMC's south entrance on Friday, April 12, and a liaison will make sure it gets to the sale.
- **Volunteers Needed:** All hands on deck! The KS Mennonite Relief Sale is powered by over 1,000 volunteers each year and there are many openings available, big and small. Check out the available positions at <https://kansas.mccsale.org/volunteer/> and consider signing up for a slot or two on the Sign-Ups. There is something for everyone!
- **Urgent Needs:** See the flyer on the KMRS table in the Gathering Place. Help us find someone willing to help with these positions: New Year Cookies Frying Committee, Enthusiastic Ringman for Quilt Auction, Verenike Frying for Feeding the Multitude. Tap shoulders. Pray someone will step up to help. Contact Jim Robb at 620-747-0186; jimrobb2021@gmail.com for more info.
- **For more information:**
 - **KMRS posterboard & table** in the Gathering Place for *Run for Relief* forms, the *My Coins Count* jug, urgent service opportunities and more.
 - **KMRS website:** <https://kansas.mccsale.org/>
 - **BCMC liaisons:** Steve & Elaine Schurr, Brad & Diane Born, and William & Esther Kreider Eash.