

Bethel College Mennonite Church

April 12, 2026

Holy Humor Sunday



BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

April 12, 2026 ☺ Holy Humor Sunday

Christ Candle Lighting	<i>This Little Light of Mine</i> (v. 1)	VT 762
Centering Music	<i>Canon Collins</i> (Carl Davis)	Meghann Rogers
Welcome		Adam Robb
*Hymn	<i>Joy to the World</i>	VT 240
Children and Youth Conversation		Joanna Harader
Worship Music	<i>The Mennonite Game</i> (arr. Shelly)	BCMC Men's Quartet
Scripture Reading	Matthew 28:1-8	Tim Hodge
*Hymn	<i>Christ the Lord Is Risen Today</i>	VT 346
Sermon	LOL	Joanna Harader
*Hymn	<i>Lift Your Glad Voices</i>	VT 340
Receiving the Offering		
Worship Music	<i>Just a Little Talk with Jesus</i> (arr. Seekell)	BCMC Men's Quartet
Prayers of God's People		
*Hymn	<i>You Shall Go Out with Joy</i>	VT 847
*Benediction		
Postlude	<i>There's a New Name Written Down in Glory</i> (arr. Diane Bish)	Will Wiebe-Friesen

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.

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

The Week at BCMC: April 12—19, 2026

Sunday, April 12, 2026—Holy Humor Sunday

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Joanna Harader; music by a men's quartet

10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time; 10:45 a.m. Faith Formation

11:45 a.m. College students are invited to a pizza lunch today, hosted by the Agape Sunday School class. We will gather in the fellowship hall around 11:45.

YouTube Link for the worship service:

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

Monday, April 13, 2026

7:15 p.m. Community Playshool—**The annual meeting of the Community Play-school Corporation** in Fellowship Hall. Interested members of the congregations supporting Community Playschool are invited to attend.

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

11 a.m. Poems and Prayers Group—Chapel

7 p.m. Finance Committee—Room 14

7 p.m. Faith Formation Commission—Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

7 p.m. Senior High Youth Group—Room 24

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

Thursday, April 16, 2026

9 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Mennonite World Conference meeting—Room 14

4 p.m. Witness Commission—Room 23

5:30—7:30 p.m. Community Playschool 60th Anniversary Celebration in Play-school Rooms and Fellowship Hall ([see announcement below](#))

6 p.m. Chancel Bells Rehearsal—Room B7

6:30 p.m. Hospitality Commission—Room 23

6:30 p.m. Abuse Prevention & Response Committee (APRC)—Chapel

7 p.m. Bethel College Women's Association—Room 21

Friday, April 17, 2026

9 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Mennonite World Conference meeting—Room 14

Sunday, April 19, 2026—Creation Care Sunday

9:30 a.m. Sermon by Joanna Harader; music by Chancel Bells

10:45 a.m. Congregational Meeting—Sanctuary

Community Playschool, Inc is happy to announce a celebration for it's 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!

Thanks to those who participated in our Open Table time on Wednesday. We learned about God's creation, heard about St. Francis, and made pinecone bird feeders! Our next Open Table will be Wed., May 13, with a meal at 6 p.m. followed by a brief time of intergenerational, interactive worship. All are welcome!

Poems and Prayers Group

The poems and prayers group that has been meeting during lent will continue to meet weekly through May Tuesday mornings at 11 in the BCMC chapel. This is an informal time to bring a poem or prayer that speaks to you and share it with the group. Readings will be followed by silence and discussion. Your selection could be something that you have written or something that someone else has written. You do not need to consider yourself a poet to attend. Simply bring a listening ear, an open heart, and joy for the truth revealed when words and phrases rub together and catch fire.

Don't miss a wonderful opportunity for a free training—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 BCMC. Meals provided Friday evening and Saturday noon. There is no registration fee, but registration is required (deadline April 17). For more info, contact Ada Schmidt-Tieszen, 316-842-9751 or email adast@bethelks.edu. You can use the QR code to register.



All youth: You are invited to a mentor/ mentee event at Gallery Mostaza, Sun., April 19 at 1:30 to paint a ceramic mug, stuff goodie bags for Bethel College students, fellowship and snacks. Come whether or not your mentor can come or even if you do not have a mentor. Meet at the Gallery, 615 N. Main, Newton.—Sandra Zerger

Care Packages for College Students

Help us bless our college students! We are collecting items for care packages to remind them their church family is thinking of them. Donations can be placed in the box by the mailboxes labeled "Care Packages." Suggested items include snacks, small essentials, and encouraging notes. We have 15 students we are preparing care packages for. **We will be assembling the care packages at a Mentor/Mentee event on Apr. 19** in the afternoon, so please have all items in the box by Sun., Apr. 19. Thank you for supporting and encouraging our students!

The Central Kansas Master Chorale will present Haydn's Lord Nelson Mass (*Mass for Troubled Times*) with orchestra. Join us for this special concert directed by Dr. Joel Garber, Sun., Apr. 19, 3 p.m. at Hesston Mennonite Church, 309 S Main St, Hesston. Admission is free, donations accepted. For more information, visit the chorale website: www.centrankansasmasterchorale.org

Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale is now finished for 2026.

Donating...baking...sorting...volunteering...bidding...browsing...eating...bidding...cleaning up...praying... However you supported the sale before, during, or afterwards, THANK YOU! Your support of Mennonite Central Committee programs means life, health, and hope for a healthy and just future for so many affected by natural disasters, poverty, and conflict. All in the name of Christ. Thank you. — BCMC Relief Sale Committee

Kidron Bethel Village is looking for volunteer pianists to play for chapel services on Wednesday afternoons and resident hymn sings on Thursday mornings. If you have the gift of playing the piano and would like to help create meaningful worship and fellowship experiences for residents, we would love to hear from you. For more information, contact Sheri Esau at 316-836-4821 or volunteer@bluestem.org.

Will and Johan Wiebe-Friesen will again sell tomato and pepper plants in the south entry of the church in the coming weeks. The date will be announced closer to the sale date depending on the weather. The plants are currently growing in the Bethel College greenhouse if you care to take a peek. Proceeds will go toward the BCMC Choral Scholars fund, which provides Bethel students with a small stipend for participating in the BCMC Chancel Choir.

Camp Mennoscah, 9458 SE 40th St, Murdock, KS, 67111, is seeking a bookkeeper/reservation specialist. Experience with accounting/bookkeeping and general office duties is preferred. Must have good phone, people and email skills, along with strong organization. This position has potential to be part-or full-time. Candidate will also need to be able to pass a background check and have transportation to camp property. Some remote work could be available. If interested, send inquiries and resume to Olivia Bartel, olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org

The Witness Commission invites you to support Camp Sunflower, an LGBTQ youth camp in Wichita, by attending their Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser: "Serving Queer Joy, One Plate at a Time"! The meal and a silent auction will be Apr. 25 from 4:30-7:30 at Calvary United Methodist Church, 2525 Rock Rd. Meal tickets are \$15 for adults, \$7 for children aged 4-10, and free for children under 3. You can purchase tickets on their website or at the door.

Bethel College Announcements: (Krehbiel Auditorium is in the Luyken Fine Arts Center)

- **Life Enrichment meets Wednesday mornings** in Krehbiel Auditorium. April 15 programs: **9:30 a.m.**, "C. Henry Smith Peace Oratory Contest," Bethel College student entries; **10:50 a.m.**, "It's a Small World," Weldon Schloneger, photographer. See <https://www.bethelks.edu/academics/life-enrichment/> for details and a link to the complete spring schedule.
- **Last chance to see the 2026 Student Art Exhibit** in the Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center, featuring the work of students in Bethel College art classes, in various media, which closes Fri., Apr. 17. The reception is Thurs., Apr. 16, from 11 a.m.-noon at the gallery, during the annual URICA Symposium. Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m
- **Tues., Apr. 14: Faculty recital:** Duo pianos, by Bethel College professor Dr. Christina Liu and guest Dr. Brett Janssen, (Central Christian College/McPherson College), 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium
- **Weds., Apr. 15: Bethel College Orchestra concert,** Kris Hilding, director, 7 p.m. Krehbiel Auditorium
- **Fri., Apr. 17: Junior recital** by Bethel College student Kyra Linenberger, voice, 7 p.m., Administration Building chapel
- **Sat., Apr. 18: Recital** by Bethel College student Maira Abrile de Paiva, voice, 7 p.m., Administration Building chapel
- **Sun., Apr. 19:** Composer recital: Professor Kris Hilding, Bethel College, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium
- **Thurs., Apr. 23:** Bethel College Wind Ensemble concert, Chris Miertschin, director, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium
- **Sun., May 3: Masterworks concert** at Bethel College, *The Creation* by Joseph Haydn

Friday Apr. 24 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. come join a relief kit packing event on behalf of Bethel College Service Club and Mennonite Central Committee 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 go to MCC to make more relief kits! Bethel College's Woven and Open Road will give 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.)

The current library theme is "The Story of Us: U S History Explored". We have chosen books that offer a different perspective of our 250-year history and if the highlighted ones don't interest you, we have more on the shelves. Come see what the BCMC Library has to offer!

BCMC Offering for Apr. 5: Gen. Fund \$15,425; MCC Sale \$100; Caring Fund \$200; Kitchen Fund \$17; Solar Fund \$50.

The April congregational meeting will be Sun., April 19, during the Sunday School hour in the sanctuary. Agenda items will include: Voting for new members for the Church Board and commissions; updates on the Pastoral Search, Facilities Committee renovation, AV project conversations, a Faith Formation proposal, a Worship schedule proposal and more. Live streaming of the meeting will be available. An Annual Report booklet will be sent by email early next week and hardcopies will be available in the Gathering Place.

Thank you to our Men's Quartet, Tim Hodge, Ron Garber, Doyle Preheim, and Bill Eash, for bringing us our special music today!

Notes from Organist Will Wiebe-Friesen

Today's postlude is one I've had in my back pocket for years, just waiting for the right Sunday! Diane Bish has hosted her television program *The Joy of Music* on PBS for 40 years and continues to film new episodes, highlighting pipe organs from around the world. Ms. Bish, even in her 80's, is one of the most visible organists in the world (in part due to her signature rhinestone shoes!) It may surprise you that she is a native of Wichita. Her sister and brother-in-law were United Methodist ministers in Marion, KS, and her niece is choir director at Lorraine Ave. Mennonite Church! I hope you enjoy the pep of her arrangement of this old gospel hymn!

Pastors Nathan and Joanna will be leading baptism exploration sessions with the high school youth during Wednesday night youth group (7 p.m.) on Apr. 22, May 6, and May 20. Any adults who would like to explore the possibility of baptism are invited to reach out to either Nathan or Joanna as well. Our church retreat and baptism at Camp Mennoscah has been moved from its usual time in May to August 30.

Women's Fellowship High Tea will be Tues., Apr. 21, 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Program will be by Mary Jo (Goering) Preheim sharing her life and music. All women and girls are invited. Tea coordinated by Brenda Turner.

From the Finance committee

As the 1st 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 BCMC financial report of the general fund income and expenses on March 31, 2026 (25% of the year) is listed below.

Total income	\$ 103,161	18% of budget
Total expense	\$ 131,979	23% of budget
Net income/expense	-\$ 28,817	

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.

Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request: This week, four SOOP participants will begin two-week assignments at Hesston (Kansas) College and Iglesia Cristiana Roca de Refugio in San Antonio, Texas. Additionally, another couple will wrap up a one-month SOOP placement in Calais, France, this week. Praise God for the willingness of these participants to give of their time and talents.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Pray for WDC's Kids Meet Christ program and for all WDC congregations utilizing KMC resources to explore and experience new dimensions of worship together as intergenerational communities.

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