

**Bethel College Mennonite Church**  
**May 3, 2026**  
**Prayers for Peace**

**BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH**  
**May 3, 2026**  
**Prayers for Peace**



Peace and Reconciliation by Bob Regier

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music      *Master Tallis's Testament* (Herbert Howells)  
 Will Wiebe-Friesen

Land Acknowledgement & Welcome      Dorothy Nickel Friesen

\*Hymn      *God of Grace and God of Glory*      VT 716

Children and Youth Conversation      Esther Kreider Eash

Worship Music      Lucy Burch, flute

Scripture Reading      2 Kings 6:8-23      Jim Robb

\*Hymn      *This Is My Song*      VT 710

Sermon      *Good News & Bad News*      Joanna Harader

\*Hymn      *My Soul Cries Out*      VT 412

Senior Recognition      Maisie Brubacher and Emma Gering

Receiving the Offering and Prayers of God's People

\*Hymn      *Dona nobis pacem*      VT 707  
 Lucy Burch and Annabelle Francouer, flutes

\*Charge and Benediction

Postlude      *Let There Be Peace on Earth* (arr. Wiebe-Friesen)

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

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.

## The Week at BCMC: May 3—10, 2026

### Sunday, May 3, 2026

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Joanna Harader; music by Lucy Burch  
YouTube Link for the worship service:  
<https://youtube.com/live/lgkxD2y0ep0?feature=share>

### Tuesday, May 5, 2026

11 a.m. Poems and Prayers Group—Chapel  
1—3:30 p.m. Bethel College choir setup for recording—Sanctuary  
3:30—5:30 p.m. Bethel College choir recording—Sanctuary

### Thursday, May 7, 2026

Noon—3:30 p.m. Bethel College choir recording—Sanctuary  
7 p.m. Church Board—Room 14  
7 p.m. Senior High Youth Group Faith Exploration—Room 24

### Friday, May 8, 2026

Noon—4:30 p.m. Bethel College choir recording—Sanctuary

### Saturday, May 9, 2026

2-4 p.m. Memorial Reception for Don Harrold—Fellowship Hall  
7 p.m. Bethel College Concert Choir Europe Tour Send-off Concert—  
Sanctuary

### Sunday, May 10, 2026—Bethel College Baccalaureate

9:30 a.m. Prelude by Bethel College's Open Road and Woven  
10 a.m. Baccalaureate Service in the Sanctuary  
5:30 p.m. Private Graduation Party in Fellowship Hall

**Pastors Nathan and Joanna are leading the faith exploration session May 20, 7 p.m.** with the high school youth during Wednesday night youth group. Our church retreat and baptism at Camp Mennoscah has been moved from its usual time in May to Aug. 30.

### **Memorial Gathering for Don Harrold**

Donald Harrold, a long-time member of Bethel College Mennonite Church, died on Saturday, April 25. All are welcome to an informal celebration of life and time of sharing in the BCMC Fellowship Hall on Saturday, May 9 from 2-4. This is a come-and-go event but there will be structured sharing at 3. Please come and enjoy this time of fellowship as we grieve Don's passing and remember and celebrate his life.

**The Sprunger family thanks everyone who participated in Aldine's card shower.** We had hoped she would receive 90 cards, but thanks to everyone's support, she ended up with well over 100. The electronic greetings and cards were a welcome surprise for her 90th birthday. There will be a public reception for Aldine on June 28, to which you are all invited.

**The Bethel College Board of Directors invites you to a reception honoring Dr. Jon and Deborah Gering for their dedicated service to the College.** As Bethel's 15th president, Dr. Gering has led with vision and purpose, achieving an impressive array of accomplishments that have positioned the College for continued growth and success. We are grateful for the enthusiasm and tireless commitment he and Deborah have shared with the Bethel community. Please join us as we celebrate their legacy and leadership, Wednesday, May 6, 3–6 p.m. (Remarks at 4:30 p.m.) in the 1887 Café in the Schultz Student Center.

If you wish to send a personal note of appreciation and/or well wishes to Jon and Deborah, please submit your message to Rosa Barrera, Assistant to the President, by May 1. Submission options include:

**Email:** [rbarrera@bethelks.edu](mailto:rbarrera@bethelks.edu)

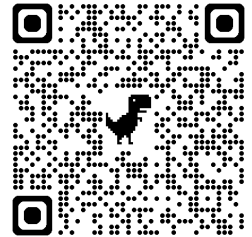
**Mail:** Office of the President, Bethel College, 300 East 27th Street, North Newton, KS 67117

**In person:** Administration Building, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be Tuesday-Friday evenings May 26-29 from 5-7:30 p.m. at Bethel College Mennonite Church and May 31 Worship at 10 a.m. (in Athletic Park).** Evening VBS is for any

and all children who have just completed Preschool (Age 4) through 4th grade. VBS will conclude with a Sunday morning worship on May 31 for ALL ages beginning at 10 a.m. in Athletic Park (700 W 1st St, Newton), immediately followed by games & crafts, fellowship and a potluck lunch. Please register your child/ren online by May 4th using this link (or scan the QR code): <https://forms.gle/8A7mo7dBEDuhSQ8a6> VBS

is a joint venture of Bethel College Mennonite Church, Faith Mennonite Church, First Mennonite Church, Iglesia Menonita Casa Betania, New Creation Fellowship Church, and Shalom Mennonite Church. **Adults can join the fun!** VBS volunteer forms are available at the back of the sanctuary. Please contact Jill Robb or Joanna Harader for more information.



### 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	

**BCMC Offering for Apr. 26:** Gen. Fund \$17,315.34; MCC Meat Canning \$500; Plant Fund \$50; Kitchen Fund \$15; Women's Fellowship \$658; Al Penner Mem. \$50; Bethel College Scholarship Fund \$25.

**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!

**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](mailto:olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org)

**Mennonite Central Committee Relief Sale Celebration:** Join us for a special evening of fellowship and gratitude Fri., June 5, 6 p.m., at the Maynard Knepp and Carol Duerksen Farm, 1582 Falcon, Hillsboro, as we celebrate the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale! This celebration is a reflection on a very successful decade for KMRS. An Appreciation Dinner will be provided at no cost for all who volunteered, attended, and supported the Sale. Enjoy an evening of music and a special presentation to MCC. Please bring lawn chairs and RSVP to Barb at 620-543-6863 (call/text) or [bj.reeves@live.com](mailto:bj.reeves@live.com) by May 18. We look forward to celebrating with you!

**One of the church youth is** looking for a reliable, inexpensive, car to purchase. If you know of such an option, please contact Pastor Joanna.

### Bethel College Announcements: (Krehbiel Auditorium and the Regier Art Gallery are in the Luyken Fine Arts Center)

- **TODAY, Sun., May 3: Bethel College Masterworks Concert, 4 p.m.:** Haydn's *The Creation*, with mass choir, orchestra and soloists, and including presentation of the Erwin C. and Verna Kaufman Goering Music Award to Dr. Barbara Fast.; Memorial Hall
- **Fri., May 8: Artist reception for Tre August, Nick Collins, Yuretzi Licea and Senior Art Exhibit II, 7-8 p.m.,** Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center. Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m. This week is the last chance to see the exhibit.
- **Bethel College commencement weekend is Fri.-Sun., May 8-10.**  
EVENTS: Friday – Senior Art Exhibit reception, 7-8 p.m., Regier Gallery; Saturday – Nurse Pinning Ceremony, 2 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center;  
**Saturday: Concert Choir Europe Tour Send-off Concert, 7 p.m.,** Bethel College Mennonite Church;  
**Sunday: Baccalaureate, 10 a.m., Bethel College Mennonite Church;** Commencement, 4 p.m., Memorial Hall.

### Hesston College Announcements

- **Commencement Weekend 2026 will be celebrated at Hesston College May 15 and 16.** Weekend activities include a theatre showcase, student recitals, nursing pinning ceremony, commencement ceremony and much more. For information and full schedule of activities visit [hesston.edu/commencement](http://hesston.edu/commencement).
- **Music and Memories: A concert celebrating Ken Rodgers' four decades at Hesston College:** Plan to join the Hesston College community Friday, May 15 at 7 p.m. at Hesston Mennonite Church for this special celebration. The evening will feature music by Bel Canto Singers, organ and piano selections and congregational singing, along with reflections from Ken on his years at the college. All are welcome to attend this special celebration. For more information, visit [hesston.edu/ken-rodgers](http://hesston.edu/ken-rodgers).
- **Hesston College will host the annual Lark Open golf tournament** on Sat., May 30, at Hesston Golf Park. Check-in is at 7:30 a.m. for the four-person scramble event with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. The tournament features many team and individual prizes, hole-in-one prizes and raffle prizes. For more information visit [hesston.edu/lark-open-info](http://hesston.edu/lark-open-info). The deadline to register is May 27.

**Bluestem Communities hosts a summer Jr. Volunteer Program at Kidron Bethel Village and Schowalter Villa for youth ages 12 to 17.** Spend your summer making intergenerational connections and serving seniors. The program runs from June 1 to July 24 on a flexible schedule that meets volunteer needs. Application is required and must be submitted by May 8. To receive an application, contact [Volunteer@bluestem.org](mailto:Volunteer@bluestem.org) or 316-836-4821.

## 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:

Educate yourself about the tragedy of Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP). Read Laurie Dove's MASK OF THE DEER WOMAN. Join Kansas Repair Communities. Next meeting is at Faith Mennonite Church, 5:30 p.m., May 11.

### Music Note from Will Wiebe-Friesen

Master Tallis's Testament was composed in 1940 by English composer Herbert Howells. Inspired by Vaughn Williams' *Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis*, it is an homage to the Tudor composer Thomas Tallis. *Voices Together* contains two hymn tunes by Tallis, which you can find at VT 326 and 505. Master Tallis's Testament was composed in the eve of World War II, which I think comes through in the sorrowful tone and climactic build in tension. The whisper-quiet closing offers comfort after the roaring full organ climax. This piece is a good introduction to the opening hymn, *God of Grace and God of Glory*. The tune *CWM RHONDDA*, which is named for a valley in Wales, was composed by a contemporary of Howells, with the text used today by an America pastor, Harry Emerson Fosdick. Fosdick wrote the text for the dedication of Riverside Church in NYC, and the text reflects the era he lived in—World War I was in the recent past, the Great Depression was brewing, and tensions in Europe were building. Both of these are calls for peace during tumultuous times.

**On Wednesday, April 29, BCMC hosted a Conscientious Objector Information Night for area high school and college-age youth.** By our best count, 29 young people began the process of creating a CO file! Several attendees spent time filling out their Peacemaker Registration Forms and sent copies to MCC and their churches. (BCMC now has four on file.) People came from as far as Salina, and people from Church of the Brethren and Mennonite Brethren churches participated as well. Folders with information from the event are available in the church office. Feel free to contact Pastor Joanna with any questions or if you would like to receive the material via email.

**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:** Austin Roberts has successfully completed his final revision to his dissertation and has returned to work at Youth With A Mission in Rostrevor, Northern Ireland. Pray for him as he discerns what this new phase of life will look like. Pray also that his application for British citizenship will be approved.

**Western District Conference Prayer Request:** Pray for the WDC Annual Assembly planning team, as it prepares creative ways for us to join in "Becoming God's People," the theme of our conference gathering August 7-9 hosted by Iglesia Luz del Evangelio in Dallas, TX

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Website: [bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](http://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](mailto:joanna@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- Pastor Nathan Koontz, Days off: Mondays and Wednesdays  
Cell phone: 316-212-4593; Email: [nathan@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:nathan@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- Office/Facilities Manager: Monica Lichti, Email: [office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- Faith Formation Coordinator: Jill Robb—Email: [jill@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:jill@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- Youth Coordinator: George Leary—Email: [george@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:george@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- Music Coordinators: Verlene Garber and Will Wiebe-Friesen
- Chancel Choir Director: Joel Garber • Chancel Bells Director: Verlene Garber