

Bethel College Mennonite Church
June 14, 2026



The Rich man and Lazarus, by Eugène Burnand, 1899 © Musée Eugène Burnand, Moudon

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
June 14, 2026

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music *Dove of Peace* (Cherwien) Karen Unruh

Welcome & Prayer Margaret Toews

*Hymn *Oh, How Shall I Receive Thee* VT 215

Children and Youth Conversation Barb Koontz

*Hymn *I Bind My Heart This Tide* VT 556

Scripture Reading Luke 16:19-31 Beaty Robb

Sermon *Locked In* Peter Goerzen

*Hymn *Help Us to Help Each Other* VT 722

Reception of New Members: Mike Ingenthron, Rachel Porter,
Bruce & Meribeth Buhr VT 961

Offering Invitation & Prayers of God's People VT 1040

*Hymn *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant* VT 778

*Benediction

Postlude *Let the Whole Creation Cry* (Burkhardt)

*You are invited to stand
VT—*Voices Together*
Keyboard—Karen Unruh
Audio visual—Ben Lichti

The Week at BCMC: June 14—21, 2026

Sunday, June 14, 2026

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Peter Goerzen

Livestream Link: <https://youtube.com/live/Hxv8op0g2lo?feature=share>

Wednesday, June 17, 2026

7 p.m. Youth Group

Thursday, June 18, 2026

2 p.m. Deacon Commission—Room 14

Friday, June 19, 2026

3 p.m. Memorial service for Marles Preheim

Saturday, June 20, 2026

11 a.m. Memorial service for LaVern Stucky

Sunday, June 21, 2026

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Joanna Harader; music by a bell ensemble

June is Pride month! Newton Pride is hosting Popsicles in the Park on Sunday, June 28, from 2-5 p.m. at Athletic Park. Come join the celebration!

This Summer share your love of reading by recommending a book you've checked out of our library. Blank recommendation forms are available at the checkout desk. Your short review will be attached to the book and featured on a table outside the library to entice other readers.

Welcome New Members to BCMC!

Please extend a warm welcome to the 4 new members joining BCMC. These new members bring a host of gifts and experiences to give and receive as we journey in faith. Their faith statements are available electronically and a printed version at the back of the sanctuary. (In this bulletin also.) New members will be available in the gathering space after worship. Let us give thanks for the new life that we will experience together.

Thanks to Peter Goerzen

Thanks to Peter Goerzen for being our guest preacher today. Peter came to Bethel as campus pastor and director of church relations in 2014. He started teaching in the Bible and religion department at Bethel in 2016, and transitioned to a full-time teaching focus in 2020. Peter, Katherine, and their children are active at Tabor Mennonite Church in rural Newton, where Katherine is a pastor. Peter also serves on committees for the Western District Conference of Mennonite Church USA.

BCMC Offering for June 7: Gen. Fund \$22,078; Community Playschool \$500; Caring Fund \$340; Kitchen Fund \$12; Solar Fund \$50.

Mike Ingenthron Faith Statement

Some 70 odd years ago, at the moment of my birth, I became a CATHOLIC. At the time of their birth, babies of Catholic parents were automatically Catholic, well at least about 85% because until you were baptized, you did not have the right to enter heaven. That permission was only given after the rite of baptism was performed. That is why most Catholic babies are baptized so soon after birth. I don't remember much of those first few years. It was not until I entered grade school that religion really started to become important. We had no children's time or special activities in my church for your kids. Kind of jealous of that now. My grade school years consisted of church six days a week....and nuns. Now nuns were kind of special creatures. You really didn't know if they were people or not. The nuns I had in school were old order Sisters of Charity nuns. They wore full habits so they had no ears...they had no hair...and they had no feet. I say they had no ears because they wore a headdress that only allowed their face to be seen. They had no hair because the headdress covered all of their head so none of it was visible. They had no feet because their skirt went clear to the floor and when they came down the hall it appeared as if they were floating like a ghost. Very traumatizing to a young person. School consisted of Mass every morning at church. We then marched to school where we had a prayer and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. You had the same nun all day long for all your different studies, all in the same room. Never saw a nun eat. Never saw a nun drink. Never saw a nun cry and on very few occasions saw one smile or laugh. You were in school to read, write and learn about God. High school still had a lot of religious overtones but not quite as in your face. Still had some nuns but also had some lay teachers. You found out that not all instructors were aliens.

Into college and the beginning of my career I started to drift away from the church. Making a living and supporting myself became a way of life and church was not as important. I still went to church on occasion when mom would ask, but not with any regularity. About 30 years ago, something happened that would completely change my life. I asked a woman to take me to her church. Thought it might score some points with her. Little did I know the path I was about to walk. I remember the very first morning. A congregation of about 100 people. Everyone talking, some laughing, some having deep conversations. Just like entering a living room with a whole bunch of family. The moment I walked in with this woman, the whole church went silent. I could see people watching, with some whispering and looking at each other. All I could think of was.....WOW. Probably not a good move on my part. When the service was over people began to introduce themselves and asked me questions about where I came from, and who my family was. They were trying real hard to play the Mennonite game. It was way over my head. As I became more involved in the Mennonite church and faith, it became very apparent I was becoming involved with some of the most caring, generous and loving people that I had ever met. It is with this admiration for these people that I wish to declare my faith. Please excuse me though if I stop part way through the Lord's Prayer or if I look up hunting for the cross when someone says "let us pray". Sometimes I still have a problem with being a "Cathonnite" or a "Mennolic". I do know however, when I

sign a document and it asks for religious affiliation, I proudly sign "Mennonite".

Rachel Porter Faith Statement

I am excited to return to BCMC after my adventures to raise my child in a church community that welcomed me warmly while I was in college, shaping me during a time of much faith exploration and change. I was raised in the United Methodist church (Kechi UMC then Calvary UMC) as well as being strongly steeped in the Episcopal church tradition when I would spend time with my maternal grandparents. I discovered when I began attending BCMC that the strong focus on service and creation care the United Methodist congregations embraced was combined with the hymn loving that I had always been excited about when attending church with my grandparents and that helped me connect with my spiritual life even deeper. I spent time after graduation in many different faith congregations, spending time in Mennonite churches as well as United Methodist, Episcopal, Greek Orthodox, and Catholic churches. I also spent some time doing life with many conservative and Orthodox Jews which led to many great discussions. Each experience changed aspects of how I viewed my faith but deepened my connection to Elohim and helped me learn what part of religiosity connected me.

As for a deeper look into faith, one could say I have become more spiritual while finding myself grappling intently with matters of religion. I find Elohim's touch everywhere I traverse, in the small things of life as I play with my daughter, in the back of my ambulance, and especially in music and connecting with others going through life. I definitely know that I have learned to hold my views in an open palm and I think that has really only brought positive changes to my faith life.

Bruce Buhr Faith Statement

My grade school and early junior high years were spent attending the Bethel College Mennonite Church. My father was a coach at Bethel College and we lived in the nearby Leisy House. I participated in the BCMC catechism class prior to us moving to Kansas City where we attended the Rainbow Blvd. Mennonite Church. After completing my Bachelors Degree back at Bethel, I spent three years overseas at an MCC Teachers Abroad placement. In Zaire, I was assigned to an American Baptist school where I attended an energetic, joyful local church. After returning to N. Newton, I felt a need to get more involved in the life of the church. A professor at Bethel recommended attending the "Life in the Spirit" seminar offered at the New Creation Mennonite Church. There I became reacquainted with Meribeth, and we both found the seminar to be very instructive. After moving several more times for my medical training, we settled in Wichita, KS where we have been attending the Lorraine Ave. Mennonite Church. Having come full circle back to N. Newton, I wish to, once again, rejoin the BCMC congregation. I feel a strong sense of community and support here, and I wish to align myself with others in this congregation who seek to improve themselves and our world by following Christ's teachings.

Meribeth Buhr Faith Statement—next page

Meribeth Buhr Faith Statement

I was baptized at the Bergthal Mennonite Church near Pawnee Rock, Kansas in my high school years. I continued my faith journey and questions while at Bethel College. Association with New Creation Fellowship in Newton after college helped broaden my faith. Most recently I was involved in the life of the church at the Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church in Wichita before moving to N. Newton this past year. My parents, Roland and Ethel Schmidt, were part of BCMC after they moved to Kidron. I hope to continue to grow in faith and service by joining this congregation.

Colorado peaches are coming! Palisade peaches from western Colorado will be available for pre-order starting June 15. Two sizes available: 9 lb. for \$31 and 18 lb. for \$43. An additional \$1 per box has been added as fuel expenses will be higher this summer. All orders must be received and paid in full by July 15. No orders will be accepted after this date. Place orders by emailing the MCC Central States Office at patsydirksen@mcc.org or calling 316-283-2720. Cash and checks are accepted. Make checks payable to Beth-El Mennonite Church with "peaches" in the memo line. Send payments to MCC, PO Box 235, North Newton KS 67117 or drop off at the MCC office, 121 East 30th, North Newton. Estimated pick-up date is Mon., Aug. 10 at the MCC warehouse. This date will be confirmed later in July. Beth-El Mennonite Church in Colorado Springs sells the peaches as a fundraiser for bierocks ingredients that are sold at the Rocky Mountain Mennonite Relief Sale, Oct. 17 in Castle Rock, CO.

Bethel College Announcements:

- **Bethel College's Host Family Program is looking for local individuals and families** who would enjoy offering friendship, encouragement and a sense of connection to Bethel students who are far from home. Being a host family does not require housing a student — support can be as simple as inviting a student for a home-cooked meal, delivering homemade cookies, offering a ride to the store or sending a quick text to check in. It's a meaningful way to extend hospitality, build relationships across cultures and generations and help students feel at home in our community. To learn more or sign up—www.bethelks.edu/host-family-program/ or email karinkw@bethelks.edu
- **Bethel College is hosting the Crossmen Drum & Bugle Corps, a top-tier competitive drum corps, on campus through July 7.** About 170 musicians and 40-50 staff are spending 12 hours a day, 6 days a week, rehearsing and putting their program together. They will give a free performance on July 4 in Thresher Stadium, with details to be announced later.

Mennonite Central Committee Mini Blitz, Fri., June 26 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sat., June 27 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at MCC Central States, 121 E. 30th St., North Newton. If you can tie a knot, you can help complete comforters, no sewing required. Bring a snack to share and your own sack lunch for Friday. Contact brociamueller@mcc.org or find out more at mcc.org/mini-blitz.

The Worship Commission is planning for a hymn sing service on July 26. If you have a hymn request, send it to Pastor Joanna by July 13. Please include a sentence or two about why you appreciate the requested hymn.

Save the Date for a Brass and Organ Concert on July 29, 7 p.m. at BCMC. The concert will feature Christopher Shaw at the organ and Intrepid Brass, a brass quintet from Wichita.

BCMC Prayer Network: The Prayer Network is email-based comprised of Deacon Commission members and BCMC congregants. Participants make a one-year commitment to this prayer ministry which is coordinated by Pastors and the Office and Facilities Manager. Pastors respond to prayer requests and determine when and how these requests are distributed. Specific prayer requests are shared only with the permission of the person(s) involved. If you would like to join the BCMC prayer network, please email your interest to office@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org. Thanks to all who serve BCMC in the Prayer Network.

Dear BCMC congregation, A note of thanks to you for your generosity when called to "donate to the BCMC Fishbowl Caring Fund" a few times a year. The Caring Fund is an above budget fundraiser to assist those in our local and extended community with financial assistance. During our last Caring Fund drive, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday a total of \$1640 was donated. Thanksgiving is another "Fishbowl Caring fund opportunity". Donations are accepted all year long. Agencies and organizations which have benefitted in the past: New Hope Shelter; Community Playschool; Harvest of Love; Peace Connections; Newton Community (Accessible Playground Project) Foundation; USD 373 School Lunch Program; USD 373 Social Workers and Counselors; individuals and families in our congregation. *(From the Deacon Commission)*

If your child will be attending camp this summer, Faith Formation would like to support them in two ways. As a congregation we would like to know when your child is at camp so mail can be sent to them at camp. We would also like to know in regards to providing a church scholarship to help offset some of the cost of the camping week. Email Jill Robb: jill@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org.

Aldine Sprunger's birthday may have come and gone, but the party isn't over yet! Please join her family in celebrating Aldine's 90th birthday on June 28, 2-4 p.m. at Kidron Hall (3001 Ivy Dr., North Newton, KS 67117). We will be enjoying root beer floats as well as some of Aldine's other favorite treats. No cards or gifts please. All are invited!

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 month, the participants in the Service Adventure units in Anchorage, Alaska, and Colorado Springs, Colorado, will complete their individual service placements, go on their year-end trip and end their term together. Pray that this final month will be a fulfilling time of fellowship and work, as they say goodbye to their new friends.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Pray for WDC congregations in agricultural communities, and for farmers navigating changing seasons, climate impacts and economic uncertainties. Give thanks for all who tend livestock, crops and gardens that supply food for our tables.

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, on vacation until June 17
- 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