

Bethel College Mennonite Church

June 21, 2026



BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

June 21, 2026—Pride Sunday

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music *On Jordan's Stormy Banks* (arr. D. Bish)
Will Wiebe-Friesen

Welcome & Opening Prayer Karen Ediger

*Hymn *The Dove Will Fly on Mended Wing* Insert

Children and Youth Conversation Jill Robb

Worship Music Suzanne Burch

Scripture Reading Genesis 21:8-21 Adam Robb

*Hymn *God of the Bible* VT 420

Sermon *Thriving in the Wilderness* Joanna Harader

*Hymn *Fill Us With Your Feast* VT 309

Receiving the Offering and Prayers of God's People

*Hymn *Sing a New World Into Being* VT 809

*Benediction

Postlude *Now Thank We All Our God* (J.S. Bach/Virgil Fox)
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—Will Wiebe-Friesen
Audio visual—Ken Lamp

The Week at BCMC: June 21—28, 2026

Sunday, June 21

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Joanna Harader

Livestream Link: <https://youtube.com/live/0S4GJZJ60Bg?feature=share>

Monday, June 22—Church office will be closed

Thursday, June 25

2 p.m. Deacon Commission—Room 14

3 p.m. Cancer Care Group—Nursery

4 p.m. Witness Commission—Room 14

Saturday, June 27

10 a.m. Memorial service for Arthur Whillock

Sunday, June 28

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Joanna Harader

June is Pride month! Newton Pride is hosting Popsicles in the Park today, 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.

We are seeking delegates from Bethel College Mennonite Church to attend the Western District Conference Annual Assembly, August 7-9, in Dallas Texas. This is an important time for us to form connections with the broader church as we pray, learn, and worship together! For those unable to make the trip, there is also an option to participate virtually. If you are interested in serving as a delegate, please contact Pastor Joanna or a member of the Gifts Discernment Committee (Dale Schrag, Barb Koontz, Dorothy Nickel Friesen).

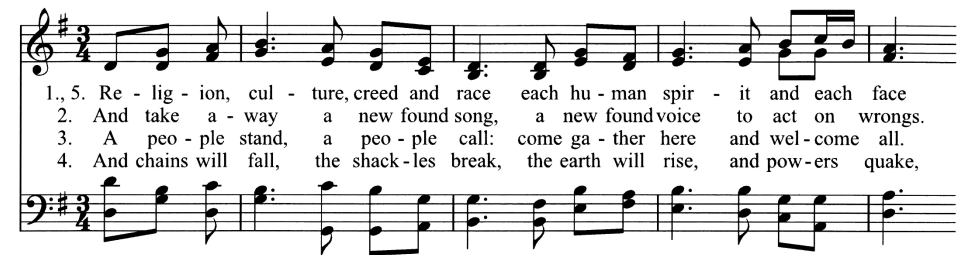
Western District Conference Annual Assembly – Registration is now open! Please register by July 26! Visit our Assembly webpage to learn more about Assembly at <https://mennowdc.org/2026-annual-assembly/> It is up to registrants to make their own lodging arrangements. The reservation deadline for WDC's block of rooms is July 24 so move fast to make your reservation! Join us at Iglesia Luz del Evangelio, Dallas, TX August 7-9, 2026.

We offer sympathy to Doris Whillock, her son William and his wife Sarah, and their son Cooper Whillock, and the extended family, on the death of Doris' husband, Arthur. A memorial service is planned for Sat., June 27, 10 a.m. at BCMC.

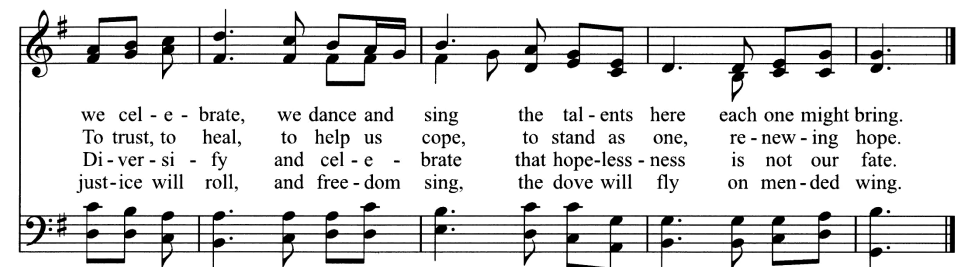
The Dove Will Fly on Mended Wing

Tim Reaburn

O WALY WALY
Traditional English, harm. CJ Redden-Liotta



1., 5. Re - lig - ion, cul - ture, creed and race each hu - man spir - it and each face
2. And take a - way a new found song, a new found voice to act on wrongs.
3. A peo - ple stand, a peo - ple call: come ga - ther here and wel - come all.
4. And chains will fall, the shack - les break, the earth will rise, and pow - ers quake,



we cel - e - brate, we dance and sing the tal - ents here each one might bring.
To trust, to heal, to help us cope, to stand as one, re - new - ing hope.
Di - ver - si - fy and cel - e - brate that hope - less - ness is not our fate.
just - ice will roll, and free - dom sing, the dove will fly on men - ded wing.

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At the June 11 BCMC board meeting, the proposal presented by Faith Formation and Worship Commissions to switch the order of Sunday School and Worship was discussed at length. Central to the discussion was congregational feedback from Sunday School classes (Agape, Bible Study, Open Circle, Issues in Christianity and Seekers) as well as feedback received from those who do not attend a Sunday School class. Among concerns expressed by congregants and by board members was the fact that many classes discuss the sermon and that participation in bell and church choirs would be affected. It was felt that the proposed change to the Sunday morning schedule would not in itself attract young families or college students. The feedback was overwhelmingly in favor of not making a switch of Sunday School and Worship service times. For these reasons, the board did not vote to proceed with the proposal.

The board is grateful to Faith Formation and Worship Commissions for their efforts in bringing this issue forward. The board is also grateful for the feedback from Sunday School classes and others. *Margaret Toews, Board Moderator*

Pastor Joanna has registered for the upcoming Western District Conference Leader Forum on Communications Today. If you are interested in helping Bethel College Mennonite improve our communication with church participants and the broader community please consider joining her for this conversation next Tuesday, June 23, from 6:30-8 p.m. on Zoom. More information is available on the WDC website under the "Events" tab. Contact Joanna if you would like to participate in the call with her at the church and/or discuss it afterwards. (joanna@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) 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.

MCC Grandparent Days, July 13 & 14, 9:30-11:30 a.m. each day. Gather your grandchild(ren) to pack MCC school kits at the Material Resources Center in North Newton. You'll be helping MCC reach our 2026 School Kit Challenge goal of 30,000 school kits this summer! There is more information at mcc.org/grandparent-days or you can contact brociamueller@mcc.org or call her at 316.836.5045.

Mennonite Mission Network is seeking a Service Engagement Coordinator. This position is full-time, fully remote or hybrid in the Newton, KS or Elkhart, IN offices. This role builds relationships with congregations, schools, partners, and prospective participants while supporting recruitment, engagement, training, and outreach efforts. Working collaboratively across the organization, the coordinator helps people explore, connect with, and thrive in service experiences that support Mennonite Mission Network's mission locally and globally. Visit MennoniteMission.net/employment for more information.

ONLINE REGISTRATION IS OPEN for the annual Mennonite Women in Mission Womens & Girls (ages 8 - high school) Retreat at Camp Mennoscah on September 12-13. Forms are available on the website for printing for mail in registration, although online is preferred and easy! Detailed schedule information and registration is at www.mennonitewomeninmission.org. Retreat starts at 10 a.m. Saturday with SoulCollage™ with Elizabeth Eells, comforter tying for MCC, and the Faith & Life bookstore open. The retreat theme is "My Time is in Your Hands" with session speakers Melissa Atchison & Audrey Ratzlaff. Girls leaders are Schyler Entz and Emily Brandt with an additional girls tie dye bandana session with Marla Sawatzky Rowe. Come join us for fun, fellowship, and inspiration! Questions? Email mennonitewomeninmission@gmail.com.

Colorado peaches are coming! Palisade peaches from western Colorado are available for pre-order. 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
- **In honor of the U.S. semiquincentennial (250 years), the Mennonite Library and Archives at Bethel College** has a small exhibit of books owned by the MLA that were published in 1776. The 9 titles are in German, Dutch and French. You can view the exhibit in the MLA Mon.-Thurs., June 22-25 and June 29-July 2 (Mon. 1:30-4:30 p.m., Tues.-Weds.-Thurs. 9:30-noon and 1:30-4:30 p.m.). The MLA is closed starting July 3 and reopens in August, when the display is available for viewing again.
- **Bethel College is hosting Crossmen Drum & Bugle Corps**, a top-tier competitive drum corps, on campus through July 7. They will give a free performance July 4, 8 p.m., in Thresher Stadium — everyone is welcome!

Amy Marshall, a recent graduate of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS), will soon be at Bethel College as the new Campus Pastor! You can read more about Amy--and the podcast she started!--on the AMBS website; go to "About AMBS" and then "News and Updates."

BCMC Offering for June 14: Gen. Fund \$3,419; Caring Fund \$300; Bequests \$70,193.53; Kitchen Fund \$27; Don Harrold Mem. \$50.

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.

Camping season has started and is underway! BCMC has the following youth at camps over the next few weeks:

June 21-25- Camp Mennoscah Pre-Jr

Kaiya Anderson (counselor)

June 25-27 First Camp

Jake Robb

Gabby Robb

June 28-July 3—Camp Barnabas

Payne Claassen

Please consider writing to our youth while they are at camp! Address labels are located in The Gathering Place for you to use. Thank you for supporting our youth while they explore their faith in their various roles at camp.

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.

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!

The library's loss is your gain. We have weeded books out of the library that don't fit our needs anymore. They are on the top shelf of the cart outside of the library. Please help yourself and add a donation of your choice to the envelope provided on the right. (This helps fund our online catalog!) Happy Summer Reading!

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: Today, as people in the United States celebrate the father figures in their lives, pray that those who do not have a father to celebrate with will find solace in the love and sacrifice that our heavenly parent has freely given to all.

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Pray for WDC congregations in pastoral transition and for potential pastoral candidates, as they each discern the Holy Spirit's leading in equipping the church for mission and ministry.

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; 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