

**Bethel College Mennonite Church**  
**July 12, 2026**

**BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH**  
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Esau sells his birthright to Jacob  
(painting by Matthias Stom—1600—1652)

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music      *Prairie Sunrise* (Leavitt)      Kathleen Rich

Welcome and Opening Prayer      Bill Braun

\*Hymn      *Come Away from Rush and Hurry*      VT 9

Children and Youth Conversation      Kathy Stucky

Worship Music      *Prayer* (Bloch)  
Carolyn Rich Voth with Kathleen Rich

Scripture Reading      Genesis 25:19-34      Megan Leary

\*Hymn      *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*      VT 610

Sermon      *Taking Advantage*      Joanna Harader

\*Hymn      *Come, Ye Disconsolate*      VT 643

Receiving the Offering and Prayers of God's People

\*Hymn      *In Thee Is Gladness*      VT 666

\*Benediction

Postlude      *All Things Bright and Beautiful* (arr. Carter)  
Kathleen Rich

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\* You are invited to stand  
VT—*Voices Together*  
Keyboard—Kathleen Rich  
Audio visual—Ken Lamp

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: July 12—19, 2026**

**Sunday, July 12**—Worship with sermon by Joanna Harader

Livestream Link: [https://youtube.com/live/\\_Z0td2AMuvU?feature=share](https://youtube.com/live/_Z0td2AMuvU?feature=share)

### **Tuesday, July 14**

12 noon Mid-Kansas Investment Club meets in Fellowship Hall

**Thursday, July 17 & Friday, July 18**—Pastor Joanna will be out of the office

**Sunday, July 19** 9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Joanna Harader; music by Rebecca Schloneger

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**Pastor Nathan will be on vacation from July 13 to August 3.**

**Music Note: Ernest Bloch (1880-1959) was a Swiss-born Jewish American composer.** "Prayer" is from his three movement work, "From Jewish Life," and is inspired by prayers of petition within traditional Ashkenazi synagogues. The modal tonality imitates a cantor's voice. — Carolyn Rich Voth

**We are seeking delegates from Bethel College Mennonite Church to attend the Western District Conference Annual Assembly, August 7-9, in Dallas TX.** 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).

**We offer sympathy** to Gwen Mattice, Paul Harms, Doug Harms, and Dawn Yoder Harms on the death of John Mattice, June 30, in Grand Marais, MN. John was the husband of Paul's daughter, (Doug's sister), Gwen Mattice.

### **Pastors' note about changes in bulletin announcements:**

Based on feedback from church members and visitors, we are experimenting with a reduced bulletin announcement format this summer. We will eliminate the announcement insert and include as many Bethel College Mennonite Church announcements in the bulletin as space allows. Priority will be given to announcements that are new and those pertaining to events that will occur in the coming week. Announcements from other organizations (Western District Conference, Mennonite Mission Network, etc.) and overflow BCMC announcements will still be included in the weekly email and will be available in a printed handout available at the back of the sanctuary each Sunday. Pastors Joanna and Nathan welcome your feedback about this change.

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.

**The international students at Bethel College have requested help filling gift baskets for new international students.** For details on how to contribute, please see the most recent Bethel College Mennonite Church email announcements or contact the church office. In addition to items on the registry, we've been assured that homemade cookies would also be appreciated.

**Fri., July 17: The Bethel College alumni office invites alumni and friends to a cookout** (hamburgers, hot dogs, sides, fixings, beverages and homemade ice cream; vegetarian and gluten-free options available), 6-8 p.m., around the Friesen fountain on the campus Green. There will also be live music by Jesse Graber, Ben Regier and Erin Mae. [This free event is a welcome to campus for Interim President Wynn Goering, with remarks from him and others at 7 p.m.](#) There will be a few tables and chairs on-site, but you're welcome to bring your own lawn chairs and blankets, along with yard games to share (a few will be available).

**Sun., July 26: Premiere of the Kauffman museum short video on the "Unlocking the Past"** exhibit, 3 p.m., museum auditorium. David Kreider and Kristine Schmucker will introduce the video and mini-exhibit of artifacts not on permanent display, which focus on the "Unlocking the Past" exhibition, on display in 2024-25 and sparked by the 150th anniversary of the 1874 migration of Mennonites from the Russian Empire to the Great Plains of the United States.

Bulletin cover is a painting by Matthias Stom (c. 1600 – after 1652), a Dutch, or possibly Flemish, painter.

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- Pastor Joanna Harader, Day off: Monday; Cell phone: 407-201-0503; Email: [joanna@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org](mailto:joanna@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)
- Pastor Nathan Koontz, Days off: Mondays and Wednesdays  
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