

Bethel College Mennonite Church

August 23, 2026



Our faith in a God of love leads us, by the power of the Spirit,
to follow Jesus in doing justice, loving mercy,

BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

August 23, 2026

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music *My Lord, what a Morning* (arr. Austin) Verlene Garber

Welcome and Opening Prayer Adam Oswald

*Hymn *God, Be The Love* VT 43

Children and Youth Conversation Glen Ediger

Worship Music *Spring* (by Beefik)
Olivia Garber, piano; Eliya Lehman, flute

Scripture Reading Genesis 45:1-15; Exodus 1:8-14 Mara Oswald

*Hymn *O Healing River* VT 706

Sermon *The Economy of God* Joanna Harader

*Hymn *Let Justice Flow Down* VT 791

Receiving the Offering and Prayers of God's People

*Hymn *Lead On, O Cloud of Presence* VT 194

[Those with August birthdays are welcome to come forward during
this hymn to receive a birthday blessing.]

*Benediction

Postlude *Praise Him* (Larson) Verlene Garber

* You are invited to stand VT—*Voices Together*
Keyboard—Verlene Garber Audio visual— Ken Lamp

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 Week at BCMC: August 23—30, 2026

Sunday, August 23—Worship with sermon by Joanna Harader

Livestream link: https://youtube.com/live/QSV9_CgFraA?feature=share

AV update - Bill Eash and Jon Zerger met with two audio visual companies and BCMC received bids from each focusing primarily on improving sound in the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. An information session about the scope and cost of an AV upgrade will be held in the sanctuary **today, during the Sunday school hour.** All are welcome. - Margaret Toews, Moderator

Monday, August 24

5:30 p.m. Kansas Repair Communities meeting in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, August 26

7 p.m. Youth Group Pool Party at Susie & Bill Swartley home, 9 Circle Dr., Newton

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Calling all singers! The Chancel Choir reconvenes Aug. 26 for a new season of providing worship music for BCMC. We welcome anyone who enjoys singing to join us for Wednesday evening rehearsals from 7:30-8:30 and on Sunday mornings approximately twice a month. Our first Sunday to sing during worship will be Sept. 13. For more information, please feel free to contact Will Wiebe-Friesen, music co-coordinator.

Thursday, August 27

2 p.m. Deacon Commission in Room 14

6 p.m. Chancel Bells rehearsal in Room B7

Saturday & Sunday, August 29 & 30—BCMC Retreat at Camp Mennoscah

You are invited to join the BCMC community at Camp Mennoscah Sat., Aug. 29 and/or Sun., Aug. 30 for a time of fellowship and worship with each other. Several members of the senior high youth group will be baptized, so this will be a very special worship service. We will do a potluck meal on Saturday night for dinner, and then breakfast and lunch will be provided on Sunday for those who are interested. Tent camping, cabin, and staff house are available for those who wish to spend Saturday night. There are Retreat schedules in the Gathering Place. If you cannot register on-line, you can contact the church office. For more information or questions contact Adam Robb. **Sunday breakfast is at 8 a.m.;**

Worship Service at 10 a.m.; Lunch at 11:30 a.m.

Save the Date - Leadership Retreat, September 26, Dyck Arboretum 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Everyone serving on commissions and/or committees is invited! More information will be coming. —BCMC Board

Bulletin cover is from *Voices Together*, page 468, "Communion" by Dona Park

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.

Pastor Joanna's schedule is shifting a bit as she begins teaching a section of Basic Issues in Faith and Life at Bethel College this semester. Her "day" off will be Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Her 1887 Cafe hours will be 11:45-1:30 each Wednesday.

BCMC Offering Aug. 16: Gen. \$5,012; Wed. Supper \$114; Library Reserve Fund \$20; Kitchen Fund \$16.

We have some amazing children who are part of our Bethel College Mennonite Church community, and you have an opportunity to spend some time and share your faith with them on Sunday mornings! We are starting to put together our Fall schedule for children's Sunday School. If you would like to serve as a teacher or helper for our preschool or elementary-aged groups, please contact Pastor Joanna (joanna@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org).

Going Beyond Land Acknowledgement:

Attend the art exhibit "Alive with Wonder" at Regier Gallery on the Bethel campus by Native Kansan and Cherokee artist Hattie Lee Mendoza opening Aug. 24 and running through Sept. 17 with a reception at 6:30 on Sept. 17. See examples of her wide-ranging work at <https://hattieleeart.com>
—Raylene Hinz-Penner, Indigenous Task Group

Bluestem Communities is launching a new semester of the Bluestem U lifelong learning program for individuals age 55+. Three courses will be offered, for \$50 each. Registration and more information is available at bluestemu.org. The semester courses are as follows: "Chemistry 101: Chemistry in and around us", taught by Jim Yoder; "Suing for Peace: A guide to resolving life's conflicts", taught by Robert Hull, Keren Kandel, Erin Omole, Bill Rich, Tim Voth and Aimee Voth Siebert; and "Buggies, Bonnets and Boundaries: A study of Amish faith, life and culture", taught by John Sharp.

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- Pastor Joanna Harader, "Day" off: Tuesday & Thursday afternoons; 1887 Cafe hours 11:45 am -1:30 p.m. each Wednesday; 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