

Bethel College Mennonite Church

August 9, 2026



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

August 9, 2026

Christ Candle Lighting

Centering Music *Thou True Vine That Heals the Nations* (arr. R. Haan)
Will Wiebe-Friesen

Welcome & Prayer John Waltner

*Hymn *Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing* VT 7

Children and Youth Conversation; Backpack Blessing Esther Kreider Eash

Worship Music *Notturmo* (Ottorino Respighi) Abby Koontz

Scripture Reading Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 Diana Torline

Hymn *Kyrie eleison* VT 678

Sermon *Dysfunctional Families* Nathan Koontz

*Hymn *Healer of Our Every Ill* VT 644

Offering Invitation & Prayers of God's People

*Hymn *Go, My Friends, in Grace* VT 810

*Benediction

Postlude *Prelude in Classic Style* (G. Young) Will Wiebe-Friesen

* You are invited to stand VT—*Voices Together*
Keyboard—Will Wiebe-Friesen 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 9—16, 2026

Sunday, August 9—Worship with sermon by Nathan Koontz

Livestream link: <https://youtube.com/live/FKU6MCDJFBE?feature=share>

Tuesday, August 11

2 p.m. Facilities Committee meeting in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, August 12

6 p.m. Open Table in Fellowship Hall **Our first Open Table of the semester will be from 6-7:30 p.m.** We will begin with a meal and then have an interactive time of worship and Bible study for all ages. Open Table will be the second Wednesday night of each month, and this semester's topic is: *Monsters in the Bible!* Join us for this time of learning and connecting across generations.

Sunday, August 16—Bethel College Sunday

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

Calling all singers! The Chancel Choir will soon reconvene 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 rehearsal is scheduled for Aug. 26, and 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.

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).

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. The next information session about the scope and cost of an AV upgrade will be held in the sanctuary **Aug. 23.** All are welcome. - Margaret Toews, Moderator

A member of Casa Betania has reached out to our congregation to sell cheese-cake as a fundraiser to help support her family. She is selling two sizes: small for \$4 each and large for \$12 each. Please text, call (316.323.8372) or email your choice to me at kthrsimmons@gmail.com **by Aug. 10.** Your order will be delivered to the church on Aug. 15 for pick up on Aug. 16 where a moneybox will be available for payment by the refrigerator. Thanks for supporting Casa Betania.
— Kathryn Simmons

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.

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

BCMC Offering Aug. 2: Gen. \$5,575.20; Harvest of Love \$1,250; Camp Mennoscah \$1,000; Safe House \$250; Kitchen Fund \$13.12.

Bethel College Mennonite Church will have a table at the Bethel College Ministry and Community Fair on Aug. 26. We would love to offer Bethel students and staff some homemade cookies—as an act of hospitality and as incentive for them to come to our table and learn about the church. If you would be willing to make some cookies for this event, please let Joanna know. Thanks!
(joanna@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)

Many thanks to our Bethel College Mennonite Church delegates to Western District Conference Assembly this weekend: Anita Breckbill, Ron Flickinger, Francis Toews, Margaret Toews, Dale Schrag, Dorothy Nickel Friesen, and Joanna Harader. Feel free to reach out with any questions about the work of our conference.

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.

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- 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