Around THE Green

BETHEL COLLEGE ALUMNI MAGAZINE

WINTER 2024





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WINTER 2024
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Published two times a year © 2024 Bethel College

On the cover: Carolyn Coon '82
CARY EDMONSON

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A message from

President Jon C. Gering

Grateful and joyful

Dear alumni and friends of Bethel College,

This issue of *Around the Green* stands out to me for a couple of reasons.



First, it shows Bethel has had a remarkable year. Enrollment of full-time undergraduates increased for the sixth consecutive year because of the excellent work of our admissions team, the college's increasingly strong value proposition, and our desirable location, among other factors. We also concluded the *Engage the Future* campaign with a total of $18M in gifts. The Wellness Center will open in fall 2025, bringing finality to many years of discussions, planning, and fundraising. We are excited to use the facility! Another remarkable accomplishment was the launch of the Employment Experiences program as a graduation requirement in fall 2024. We are responding to the needs of college-going students by integrating employment into our academic and faith experiences. We've worked together through many challenges. Though not highlighted among these pages, we also completed work on Thresher Studio (in the basement of Mantz Library). Thresher Studio will initially be used by students and employees for recording podcasts and videos. We are extraordinarily grateful to your support – these accomplishments would not have been possible without you.

Second, this issue demonstrates the excellence and generosity of our graduates. Carolyn Coon '82 and George "Jolly" Rogers '69 had outstanding careers in higher education. Jerrell Williams '15 is building a career in ministry right here in central Kansas. I am thankful for each of them and their ongoing interactions with the college. The college's financial foundation is stronger thanks to the estate gifts of Rosalind Enns Andreas '63, John '58 and Evelyn (Dyck) Bertsche '58, Willis '50 and Eunice (Unruh) Esau '50, and Don Harder '60. They all loved Bethel College and helped us build a firm financial foundation. Finally, we are pleased to welcome Victor Simmons '78 and Jonathan Funk '96 to our Board of Directors. Each of them brings unique talents to our ever-growing leadership capacity. Also, please take a moment to read about the successes of our students and employees and enjoy the updates in the "Class Notes" section.

I am truly grateful and joyful for all the accomplishments of 2024. Thank you again for your engagement and support. I wish you peace and love during the holidays.



TAKE NOTE



» Jenna Mahoney was selected as the **Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference (KCAC) SALT president**, representing the NAIA Association of Student-Athletes. SALT stands for Student Athlete Leadership Team. Mahoney is also in her second term as the NAIA representative to the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's (ITA) Student-Athlete Council.

» Entering the ITA Central-West Region Tournament as the #1 seed in women's doubles, Daniela Casique and Daniela Herrera proceeded to **win the championship** and qualify for the national tournament. Both also competed in the NAIA Individual Championships, Nov. 1-2 in Rome, Ga., each winning their first match to advance to the Round of 16.

» Software Development Club members Meriem Dhouibi, first-year, and Caden McArthur, senior from Cleveland, Texas, participated in two hackathons in the Dallas area this fall. A hackathon is an intense, 24- to 48-hour event where programmers and tech enthusiasts collaborate and compete to create software on a particular theme. They **received two awards**, People's Choice and Local Impact, at the NASA Space Apps Challenge Oct. 5-6.

» Women's soccer players Malaysia Larque and Leonie Kuhrt, both first-years, earned **2nd Team All-Conference honors**.

» Emily Guldner, senior from Independence, Mo., **took second place** in her category, Avocational Adult Musical Theatre, at the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) West Central Region competition, held Nov. 7-9 at Wichita State University. First-year Pandora Freeman **advanced to the semi-final round** in her category, First-Year Classical Treble.

» By the end of the fall season, **three members of the forensics team had qualified for AFA-NST**, the national collegiate forensics tournament: Emil Benavides, senior from Stockton, Kan., and sophomore Sophia England in After Dinner Speaking, and first-year Preston Vicenzi in Extemporaneous Speaking.

» Bethany Schrag, senior from Valley Center, Kan., became the **first Bethel female cross-country runner to qualify for nationals since 2011**, following her strong showing at the KCAC Championships Nov. 9. She is also the first national qualifier for Julio Martinez '19 since he began coaching at Bethel, first as an assistant and now as head cross-country coach.

» Sophomore forward Filip Maksimovic finished the season as **1st Team All-Conference and Offensive Player of the Year** in men's soccer. Lucas Pardo, senior from Montevideo, Uruguay, was named 2nd Team, and Juan Volker, senior from Viña del Mar, Chile, and sophomore Andrija Mitkovic, Honorable Mention. The Threshers advanced to the KCAC semi-finals before losing to Oklahoma Wesleyan.















» Bethel is 62nd (out of 223) in the *Washington Monthly* rankings for 2024-25 of the best liberal arts colleges in the United States, and is the **highest-ranking Kansas college on that list**. These rankings consider three broad categories: research, in which Bethel is 13th, and service, where Bethel is 38th, along with social mobility.

» Peter Buller, senior from Inman, Kan., is the **winner of the college division** of the Newton Mid-Kansas Symphony Orchestra's Dwight Beckham Young Soloist competition for this year. He will perform the first movement of Vaughn Williams' *Oboe concerto in A minor* with the NMKSO, Feb. 2, 2025.

» Maddie Chupp, senior from Goshen, Ind., was named **KCAC Champion of Character, and five other Thresher volleyball players earned KCAC honors**: 1st Team, sophomores Darla Crow and Cameron Offerle; 2nd Team, Mia Roman, senior from Prairie Village, Kan., and Laci Ownbey, senior from Newton; 3rd Team, Kylah Carter., senior from Missouri City, Texas.

» Thresher football players who **earned All-KCAC honors** were: 1st Team Defense, Ernest Ferrier III and Noah Miller; 2nd Team, Loggan Birch (O), Josiah Buller (O), Josh Ciers (D), Kenyon McMillian (ST, punt return), Robin Neely (D), Torriano Richardson (O) and Tate Seabolt (D); Honorable Mention, Reese Bennett (D), Larry Cherry Jr. (O), DJ Ciers (O), Rodrick Edwards (D), McCarty (D), Kenyon McMillian (ST, kick return), and Jaric.

1. Women's soccer warm-up; 2. Men's soccer practice, from left, Nnazitere Onyeonwu, Filip Maksimovic and Pana Charalambous; 3. Grace Dawes; 4. Women's soccer; 5. Daniela Herrera; 6. Jenna Mahoney; 7. Women's cross-country team, from left, Emma Graber, Ellie Bertholf, Myiah Logue, Bethany Schrag, Cleo Naranjo and Taryn Paulino; 8. Volleyball players, from left, Landree Merriman, Ryleigh Foster, Layla Avalos and Brooke Russell. 1, 2-5, 8: AKINDOTUN OGUNBIYI; 6-7, BC ATHLETICS



EXPECTED COMPLETION:
FALL 2025

TESSERE

McCOWN GORDON CONSTRUCTION

WELLNESS CENTER

$6.3 MILLION



EMILY TIMPERLEY

A Bethel College value is giving our students ways to achieve holistic wellness through a balance of mental, physical and spiritual practice.

This center will bring our facilities out of the Mem Hall basement, providing space for students and community members to improve their physical and mental well-being.

Wellness Center groundbreaking at Fall Fest, Oct. 5, from left: McGownGordon rep Todd Dumler, Tessere rep Chris Kliewer '97, Director of Facilities Adam Akers '03, President Jon Gering '94, VP for Institutional Advancement Pam Tieszen, VP for Business Affairs Jayna Bertholf, and Athletic Director Tim Swartzendruber '81

COMPLETION OF THE *ENGAGE THE FUTURE* CAMPAIGN – $18 MILLION

BETHEL COLLEGE FUND
$4.7 MILLION OVER THREE YEARS

The Bethel College Fund ensures that Bethel remains strong, helping provide critical resources where tuition alone does not cover costs. Areas supported include academic programs and faculty development, student scholarships and instructional resources, student life services, and much more.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS
$1.6 MILLION

New programs will enhance the academic community at Bethel, while providing avenues to help bolster student enrollment. Any program under consideration has been identified through a process that includes feasibility studies to ensure viability, and faculty input to assure campus cohesion.

- *Software Development major*
- *Health and Human Performance major*
- *Chair in Economics*

CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS
$2.5 MILLION

Campus improvements benefit small liberal arts colleges like Bethel by enhancing student recruitment and retention, fostering a sense of pride and belonging, and improving the overall learning environment.

- *Softball facility*
- *Mabee Observatory upgrades*
- *Thresher Stadium Locker Room*

TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES
$2.8 MILLION

Technology is woven into every aspect of our students' lives, empowering them to engage more deeply with their academic fields, navigate an ever-changing world, foster harmony within communities, and build meaningful connections across generations.

- *Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds*
- *Classroom upgrades and infrastructure for improved wi-fi*

WELLNESS CENTER
$6.3 MILLION

This wellness and fitness center is intended to give students and the broader community a place to develop and improve their physical and mental well-being. It includes a gym with basketball, volleyball and pickleball courts; a cardio room; a weight room; and an indoor walking track.

- *Construction began:* ***December 2024***
- *Expected completion:* ***September 2025***

Additional contributions: more than ***$18M*** *in bequests received over the past 5 years.*

The Bethel College Fund (operating) and the endowment are two critical revenue streams that support the college.

Your gift to the Bethel College Fund has the widest impact on campus life. The Bethel College Fund ensures that the college remains strong, helping provide critical resources where tuition alone does not cover costs.

Areas supported include academic programs and faculty development, student scholarships and instructional resources, student life services, and much more. You can also direct your gift to a specific department or program. See below for a few examples:

Named Scholarships

- **Example**: Patty and Joe Smith Scholarship
- **Purpose**: Supports students in [department name]
- **Threshold**: $50,000 (can be achieved in 5 years)

Named Academic Chairs

- **$2 million –** Supports the salary and benefits for a faculty position

Endowed Program Funds

- **Threshold**: $50,000 minimum
- Yields approximately **5% annually** to support students, faculty and departments



AKINDOTUN OGUNBIYI

PHONATHON 2025
SAVE THE DATES

FEB. 3-6, 10-13, 17-20

Donations made during Phonathon directly support Bethel students. Contributions help fund scholarships, academic programs, campus ministries, health and wellness initiatives, fine arts programming, and more. Answer the call this February and visit with one of our students!





UNLOCK POTENTIAL, CHANGE LIVES!

Your contribution paves the way for students to achieve their dreams. With your support, we can break down barriers to education and empower future leaders. Donate now to ensure every student has the opportunity to thrive!

MAKE A GIFT TODAY!
BETHELKS.EDU/GIFT

BC GIVES

ALUMNI AWARDS

YOUNG ALUMNUS

JERRELL WILLIAMS '15

COMMUNITY IS 'THE MAIN THING'



AKINDOTUN OGUNBIYI

The 2024 Young Alumnus Award winner is a pastor who knew from a young age that he wanted to be one, but the route wasn't always direct.

Jerrell Williams grew up in the Dallas metro area and was recruited to play football at Bethel. He was also drawn to the Bible and religion program. Growing up Southern Baptist, Jerrell had important pastoral mentors, and he saw youth ministry as his future career.

Despite his motivations, Bethel wasn't an easy touchdown. After taking his first Bible class, he wasn't at all sure ministry was his calling.

"A good thing about Bethel is the diverse number of classes you can take," Jerrell says. He tried out communication arts, and then social work, ultimately deciding he couldn't juggle all the requirements for a major in the latter, but completing a minor in Human Services.

He continued to work in ministry settings during summers at home and while at Bethel, including a pivotal internship at Bethel College Mennonite Church. That was "where I preached my first sermon, and discovered I really like preaching. Then I built some good relationships with older people in the congregation." He began to see that pastoral ministry had a broad range, beyond youth work.

Jerrell developed important relationships at Bethel. He would often go to the Student Life office when he had a half-hour between classes and play video games. He felt like he could relax there and "build community beyond the student body" – such as with administrative assistant Patsy (Brandt) Dirksen '81, whose younger daughter, Sierra, transferred to Bethel in 2012. Jerrell and Sierra were married in 2015.

Jerrell and Sierra moved to Pittsburgh in 2016, where Jerrell enrolled at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, affiliated with the Presbyterian Church USA – even though by that time, Jerrell was headed toward the Mennonite church and ministry in that denomination.

The location allowed Jerrell to experience the broader Mennonite church. He preached in a Vietnamese Mennonite congregation (his first experience using an interpreter) and visited Congolese and Indonesian Mennonite churches as well as the oldest Mennonite congregation in North America (Germantown in Philadelphia).

"The Mennonite church is so much more than what I saw in Kansas," Jerrell says. "It was eye-opening, something I wanted to be a part of."

Also while at PTS, Jerrell began a regular column for the Mennonite Church USA magazine *Anabaptist World*. He attended his first Hope for the Future conference, a gathering specifically for Mennonites of color. "That really sealed the deal for me," he says.

And all that led Jerrell to where he is now, lead pastor in his second Mennonite congregation – from Salem (Ore.) Mennonite Church to Shalom Mennonite Church in Newton.

Jerrell is not the first to say Bethel prepared him well for graduate school, better than most of his peers. But that's not his main takeaway.

"What Bethel does is assure you you're not forgotten when you go home for the summer or when you graduate. You can build a legacy here that you can't build in other places. You are part of a tight-knit, close family that cares for one another.

"I want to see Bethel 'Keep the main thing the main thing' – to build a sense of belonging for students as well as faculty and staff, to create a system or culture of community where everyone feels like they belong."

MELANIE ZUERCHER

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT

CAROLYN COON '82

A LIFETIME OF LISTENING TO COLLEGE STUDENTS

An excused absence from AP English led to a "life-changing" move for Carolyn Coon, the 2024 recipient of the Distinguished Achievement Award.

When a Bethel College recruiter came to her Sarasota, Fla., high school in the late '70s, Carolyn and a buddy saw their chance to "legally" skip class. She talked to Kent Rogers – as Bethel's head football coach from 1979-94, he might not have been looking for her, exactly. But he astutely put her in touch with Jim Huxman '68, director of admissions, and Dick Koontz '72 in the financial aid office.

"I was sure I was going to Florida State [University, Tallahassee]. And then the next thing I knew, I was getting off a plane on a Saturday night in the middle of Kansas," to start college a couple of days later.

It wasn't an easy transition. "It was culture shock," Carolyn declares. "After my first semester, I said, 'I'm going home, and these people will never see me again.'

"But then I made friends. I got involved. In the Mennonite tradition, I was invited to Sunday dinners with people's families. I got hooked and loved it."

Among her involvements was student government (she was student body president for a year), and one friend and contact she made was the CEO of Prairie View Mental Health Services in Newton, Elmer Ediger '40. Carolyn ended up going to work as administrative coordinator at Prairie View when she graduated from college, staying from 1982 to 1986.

The experience fed her interest in nonprofit administration and particularly health-care administration. She enrolled in the Health Sciences Administration program at Wichita State University, finishing up the master's degree in 1988 while also working at Bethel in Student Life as residence hall director, director of student activities, and director of minority affairs, 1986-88.

"I discovered I liked working in education, although I'd been convinced I would stay in health care." Health care administration began to change in ways that didn't fit her, she says.

In 1988, she moved up the road to McPherson College, as director of residence life – and, she says, "I got hooked on higher ed. I wanted to get a doctorate." She began commuting to Kansas State University in Manhattan for classes until, in 1991, she moved to Manhattan to study full-time while working as a graduate teaching assistant. She completed a Ph.D. in counseling and student personnel services in 1997.

In the meantime, "I was almost done, finishing my dissertation, and I told myself I needed to get a real job." Continuing her journey within the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference, she took a position as assistant dean of students at Avila University in Kansas City in 1995. She stayed until 1998, when she went back to McPherson as associate provost, dean of students, and associate professor of behavioral science until the spring of 2002, then spent one year as executive assistant to the vice president for student affairs and dean of students.

At that point, Carolyn made the big move out to the West Coast, to the institution where she would stay for the rest of her career, California State University-Fresno. She retired at the end of 2022, having served as associate vice president of student affairs and dean of students for most of that time, with two stints as interim VP of student affairs and enrollment management.



CARY EDMONSON

Looking back, she says, "Being at a small school like Bethel was exactly what I needed, and didn't know it. Being at Bethel really was life-changing and life-influencing. The people I met at Bethel are my family – still my brothers and sisters. The balance and the values of the people and the place were so important to us as young students.

"When I went to Cal State-Fresno from small, faith-based colleges, I thought it would be different, and in many ways it was. But having that background made a difference in how I did my job. I learned that 25,000 students are 25,000 people with interesting stories, if you will just take the time to listen.

"People have given me a lot of grace in my life, and it's hard not to catch hold of that after a while."

MELANIE ZUERCHER

OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS

GEORGE ROGERS III '69

THE ONE WHO SHOWS UP



TAYLOR BROWN

George "Jolly" Rogers is well known to generations of Bethel supporters for his athletic achievements. Excelling as a player, coach and administrator, he was inducted into the Thresher Athletic Hall of Fame in 2006. But this is only a part, and perhaps not the most important part, of the impact he has had on his alma mater and adopted community. (It is as if Bill Bradley of New Jersey was known only as a former basketball player, and not for his three terms in the U.S. Senate.)

In 1967, Otto Unruh '27 recruited George from Woodrow Wilson Junior College in Chicago to play football at Bethel, and it was in athletics he first made his mark. Shortly after graduating with a degree in physical education, he was named Bethel head track coach. In the space of 10 years, he built a varsity track program that dominated the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference. Coaching both men's and women's track, he was named KCAC Coach of the Year in 1974, 1975 and 1979 and, also in 1975, at age 28, the NAIA District 10 Coach of the Year, the NAIA Area 3 Coach of the Year, and one of eight finalists for the NAIA National Coach of the Year.

At the same time, George was steadily accumulating other significant duties and responsibilities at the college. After completing his master's degree, also in physical education, at Wichita State University in 1972, he joined Bethel's physical education faculty and rose to the rank of associate professor. He had been appointed athletic director in 1971, and was named NAIA District 10 Administrator of the Year in 1990. He coached football continuously, from 1969 through 1991.

In 1991, George became dean of students (today called vice president for student life and dean of students), a position he filled under two Bethel presidents. As a member of the Executive Cabinet, he was responsible for all aspects of student and residence life.

In the fall of 1998, George was recruited again, this time to join the Black-owned construction firm of his friend and fellow alumnus Earl White '69. He worked at Whitewing Construction as its chief operating officer until his retirement in 2011.

Remarkably, in the midst of these labor-intensive professions George found time to give leadership to many other parts of his community. He worked part-time at Youthville (now EmberHope) in Newton as a counselor and instructor throughout the 1970s. In 1972, he was appointed to Newton's Substance Abuse Board, and ever since has been a sought-after member of behavioral health boards and commissions. George served six years on the board of Meadowlark Homestead, ten years on the board of Prairie View Inc., and continuously on the board of Mirror Inc. since his initial appointment in 1996.

Other area institutions have also tasked George's wisdom and judgment. After being asked to run for the USD 373 (Newton Public Schools) Board of Education in 1987, he was elected twice, serving eight years, including two terms as board chair. He has also served for 24 years on the Ninth Judicial District Nominating Commission, and 12 years on the Bethel Board of Directors (2009-20), including ten on the Executive Committee.

Inevitably, as a Black man living in an overwhelmingly white part of the country, George has experienced many "firsts" in his professional and personal life. Those who know him appreciate the unassuming way he has approached the challenges that come with that distinction. Those who know him well also know how seriously he has taken those challenges. He is a long-standing member of the Wichita Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, one of the oldest and most prestigious Black fraternities in the nation, whose activities include everything from feeding the homeless to providing college scholarships to promoting public health.

George married Rita Guhr, a 1970 graduate of the Bethel Deaconess Nursing Program, in 1976. They have two children, Tara and Bret. Tara died in 2021 of complications from lupus. George and Rita remain an active presence in the lives of her children, Adrian (who attended Bethel for a year before transferring to study aviation) and Alyssa, and Bret's daughters Amelia and Evelyn.

Democracy, it has been said, is made possible by those who show up. Time and again George Rogers has shown up when asked to lead and serve his family, college and community. I believe his legacy is distinctive and unrivaled in our school's history.

WYNN M. GOERING

[Wynn Goering '77, Albuquerque, will lead "A conversation with George Rogers" in convocation April 7, 2025, when George will receive the Outstanding Alumnus Award.]

CLASS NOTES

Information received as of Nov. 1, 2024

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF:
ALUMNI EVENTS: **bethelks.edu/alumni/events** | ATHLETICS: **bethelthreshers.com** | FINE ARTS: **bethelks.edu/calendar**

1960-69

Craig Challender '68, Farmville, Va., released *Masters of War*, a prose poem that is a call-and-response between the Vietnam and Civil War eras, published by Scurfpea Publishing.

Lauren Friesen '67, North Newton, authored *Theatre, Peace, Justice: Collected Essays Toward a Mennonite Dramaturgy*, published by Pandora Press, which explores how two facets of human life – religion and theater – diverge, converge or seek common ground.

Dorothy Nickel Friesen '69, North Newton, wrote *The Church By the Playground: The Story of the Sharing Community in Rosedale*. Published in July by Rainbow Mennonite Church, Kansas City, Kan., the book covers the 50-plus-year ecumenical ministry of three congregations – United Methodist, Disciples of Christ and Mennonite – in southeastern Wyandotte County, Kan.

1970-79

Carl Edwards '79, Lawrence, Kan., after serving Kansas taxpayers for more than 34 years as an attorney for the Kansas Board of Tax Appeals, retired in June. He celebrated by participating in the 2024 history tour of Poland (led by Mark Jantzen '85 and John Thiesen '82), with added time in Germany and Austria. A highlight was attending a program devoted to Carl's great-great-great-uncle Wilhelm Ewert's leadership of a group of Prussian Mennonites migrating to Hillsboro, Kan. Carl continues to serve as a deacon at Grace Episcopal Cathedral in Topeka.

David E. Ortman '75, Seattle, ran lead-off for the USA M70 4x4 relay team, who won the gold medal at the 2024 World Masters Athletics (WMA) track and field meet in Gothenburg, Sweden, on Aug. 25, with a time of 4:27.72. David also tied for 4th place in the high jump (1.40m). The WMA outdoor championships for masters athletes (35 and older, divided into 5-year age groups) are held every two years. As of Sept. 1, 2024, in the U.S. M70-74 age group, David ranked 3rd in the 400m and 300m hurdles; tied for 3rd in the high jump; and tied for 8th in the 200m.

1980-89

Doug Gaeddert '81, Elkhart, Ind., after running the towables divisions at Forest River Inc. for 25-plus years, will now oversee Forest River's entire Recreational Vehicles Division, including towables and motorized.

Mark Jantzen '85, professor of history, received the Ralph P. Schrag '37 Distinguished Teaching Award for teaching excellence at the 131st commencement at Bethel on May 12. The award is presented at commencement most years to recognize a Bethel faculty member who has made an outstanding contribution to teaching. Mark published the article "Becoming German, Becoming Polish: The Diverging Paths of the Mennonite Communities of Former Russian and Austrian Poland in the Second Polish Republic" in *Polish Review*, 69, no. 3 (September 2024): 8-26; and two articles in the 2024 issue of *Mennonite Life* (ml.bethelks.edu), "Fifty Transformative Years in the Russian Empire" and "Elder Wilhelm Ewert of Obernessau and His Defense of Nonresistant Faith."

Lora Jost '88, Lawrence, Kan., **Scott Jost** '85, Harrisonburg, Va., and **Carolyn Wedel** '83, Salina, Kan., were three of the featured artists in an exhibit at Carriage Factory Gallery in Newton titled "Echoes of Nature," July 20-Sept. 13.

David Kreider '82, museum technician at Kauffman Museum, moved the traveling exhibit "Sorting Out Race: Examining Racial Identity and Stereotypes in Thrift Store Donations," from the Topeka (Kan.) and Shawnee County Public Library to Johnson County (Kan.) Community College for June and July, and then installed it at the Hays (Kan.) Public Library for the months of August and September.

Gary Pauls '85, Hutchinson, Kan., was named women's basketball officials supervisor for the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference.

Bonnie Welty '89, Salina, Kan., joined the Kansas Wesleyan University faculty full-time in sports and exercise science after initially coming on as the education coordinator in 2021.

1990-99

Rachel Epp Buller '96, professor of visual arts and design, was the keynote speaker for "Attuning to Climate: Walking, Listening, Acting," a symposium held Oct. 16-18 in Edmonton, Alberta. Her recent publications include a chapter on "Art Among Mennonites" for the volume *Variations on Christian Art* (Bloomsbury), and an essay, "Walking and/as Listening," in the volume *Disruption and Convergence: Generating New Conversations through Arts Research* (Brill).

2000-09

Katie (Ott) Campbell '03, Kansas City, Mo., graduated with a doctorate in educational leadership from Baker University, Baldwin City, Kan., in May. Her dissertation, *A Suburban School District's Approach to Address the Drop-out Rate*, is a study related to the interventions (and their impacts on student learning) put into place after the Covid-19 pandemic. Katie and her husband, Jared, live in downtown Kansas City with their two dogs, June and Augie. Katie is an elementary school principal in the Olathe (Kan.) school district.

Brett Jackson '08, Roeland Park, Kan., **Aaron Linscheid** '07, Fairway, Kan., and **Joel Linscheid** '08, Davenport, Iowa, were inducted into the Newton Fine Arts Hall of Fame. Brett and Aaron were present for the induction ceremony during the All-District Band concert in Newton on May 5.

JOIN THE ALUMNI BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Support other Bethel alumni by using their amazing products and services. If you are a small business owner and a Bethel alum and would like to join our Alumni Business Directory, **SCAN QR TO SIGN UP.**

WHAT IS NEW?

Alumni are invited to submit recent news of interest to others—marriage, job change, addition of a child, award, promotion, graduate school, retirement, and so on—to the **Office of Alumni Relations. Mail to 300 East 27th Street, North Newton, KS 67117**, e-mail to *alumni@bethelks.edu* or submit via the Bethel website at **www.bethelks.edu/alumni-update**

PHOTOS WELCOME!

Please model your information after the current listings below, beginning with name, class year, city and state.

Anyone who earns 24 or more credit hours is a Bethel alumnus, whether a graduate or not. When reaching alumni status, they are assigned a "class year" (later replaced by "grad year" if they graduate).

The year behind each name is the person's class year, often the same as the grad year unless the individual has told the alumni office that they wish to associate with another reunion year (as in the case of a five-year program, study overseas, etc., that delays graduation).

For additional activities of Bethel faculty and staff who are alumni of the college, go to **www.bethelks.edu/news-events/news-room/facstaff-achievements**

Laurie (Steffen) McLouth '08, Lexington, Ky., was awarded funding as part of President Joe Biden's Cancer Moonshot Initiative. She attended an event at the White House with other biomedical research leaders last November. She had previously presented her research as part of Bethel's STEM Symposium in 2022.

Annaken Toews '00, Colorado Springs, Colo., passed the LCSW exam in the state of Colorado and is licensed as a psychotherapist. She provides therapy to individuals and families in English and Spanish, specializing in using somatic approaches to treat clients who have experienced trauma.

Julie Waldschmidt '08, Waldron, Kan., graduated from Emporia (Kan.) State University with an Education Specialist in School Psychology degree.

2010-19

Cayla (Lawless) Hiebert '18, Walton, Kan., completed her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree and began in a position at Health Ministries Clinic in Newton.

Kiley (Varney) Preheim '18, Newton, spent November and part of December in Antarctica as a fellow in the Polar STEAM program. While there, she participated in research on how humans are affecting the Earth, through observing phytoplankton, microscopic photosynthetic organisms.

Randall Schmidt '19, Kansas City, Kan., published an article, "Social Determinants of Health in a Kansas Community Health Center," in the May-June edition of the *Kansas Journal of Medicine*. The article is a continuation of the research Randall did for his senior thesis at Bethel. He is currently a medical student at the University of Kansas.

Lacey (Parker) Schroeder '11, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, was named director of the Uptown Marion program in Marion, Iowa.

Ken Ward '11, Pittsburg, Kan., won the award for the best journalism and mass communication history book published in 2023, from the History Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication for his book *Last Paper Standing: A Century of Competition Between the Denver Post and the Rocky Mountain News*.

Katelyn (Fatten) Wilson '17, Newton, competed in August in the VIII Sports Championships, a special event open to YMCA members and employees, televised on ESPN2.

2020-24

Jared Mocaby '23, Wichita, started as assistant athletic director for communications at Bethel in July.

Marriages

Charlie Gibson '22 and **Nathan Garber** '22, Hesston, Kan., Oct. 22, 2023

Remembrances

Ross Becker '65, Visalia, Calif., July 20

Vinette (Graber) Bomhoff '59, Fort Worth, Texas, May 28

Thomas Buller '64, Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 22

Sondra (Patton) Cowan '61, Newton, Aug. 23

Arthur Dick '55, Hesston, Kan., Oct. 20

Gerald Duerksen '89, Abilene, Kan., July 25

Harold Duerksen '51, Tucson, Ariz., April 11

Kenneth Dunn '64, Chicago, Oct. 14

Robert Feeback '90, Delta, Colo., Aug. 5

Kenneth Franz '63, Newton, June 22

Donna (Voth) Friesen '56, North Newton, Sept. 18

LeRoy Friesen '58, Henderson, Neb., Oct. 12

Diane (Stucky) Gering '67, Ritzville, Wash., July 22

Leonard Goering '60, Portland, Ore., Oct. 16, 2023

Marlo Goering '56, Wichita, Oct. 12

Glenn Goertz '56, Hillsboro, Kan., May 14

Carla (Schultz) Goertzen '97, Buhler, Kan., Sept. 28

Monica (Dirks) Gross '45, North Newton, Aug. 15

Luana (VanderSloot) Hiebert '63, Spokane, Wash., July 13

Gary Kaufman '65, Lenexa, Kan., Aug. 9

Evelyn (Goering) Lehman '49, North Newton, June 3

Janet (Fath) Messing '95, Hutchinson, Kan., May 10

Lorene (Janzen) Nickel '60, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Dec. 16, 2023

Eulala (Hiebert) Pankratz '52, North Newton, July 10

Norman Pankratz '52, Goessel, Kan., May 12

Evelyn (Voth) Penner '53, Whitewater, Kan., May 8

Kathryn (Bachman) Penner '49, Hesston, Kan., Dec. 30, 2023

Twila (Huebert) Penner '57, Hesston, Kan., March 31

Jerry Perisho '61, Fairbanks, Alaska, Sept. 12

Galen Peters '64, Greenville, Ill., March 26

John Preheim '63, Goshen, Ind., April 19

Elaine (Unruh) Ratzlaff '72, Moundridge, Kan., June 16

Marian (Voth) Rice '72, Arden, N.C., June 20

Rosemary (Blair) Roberts '70, Newton, May 31

Bonnie (Klassen) Royer '55, Newton, March 27

Patricia (Wedel) Rupp '65, Moundridge, Kan., Aug. 11

Howard Schmidt '63, Newton, April 13

LeRoy Schmidt '61, McPherson, Sept. 10

Anna (Thimm) Schrag '55, Moundridge, Kan., June 18

Calvin Schrag '50, West Lafayette, Ind., March 11

Charlotte Siemens '82, North Newton, May 31

Marian (Kleinsasser) Towne '55, Indianapolis, Jan. 21, 2023

LeRoy Unruh '59, Eagan, Minn., April 9

Nola (Kruse) Unruh '60, Clay Center, Kan., Jan. 10

Elvera Voth '46, North Newton, June 9

Stanley Voth '67, Hesston, Kan., May 28

Christine (Duerksen) Waltner '51, Newton, July 27

Martha (Becker) Yoder '68, Parnell, Iowa, July 13

Susan (Smith) Zerger '61, El Dorado, Kan., April 23

EVENTS

PHONATHON

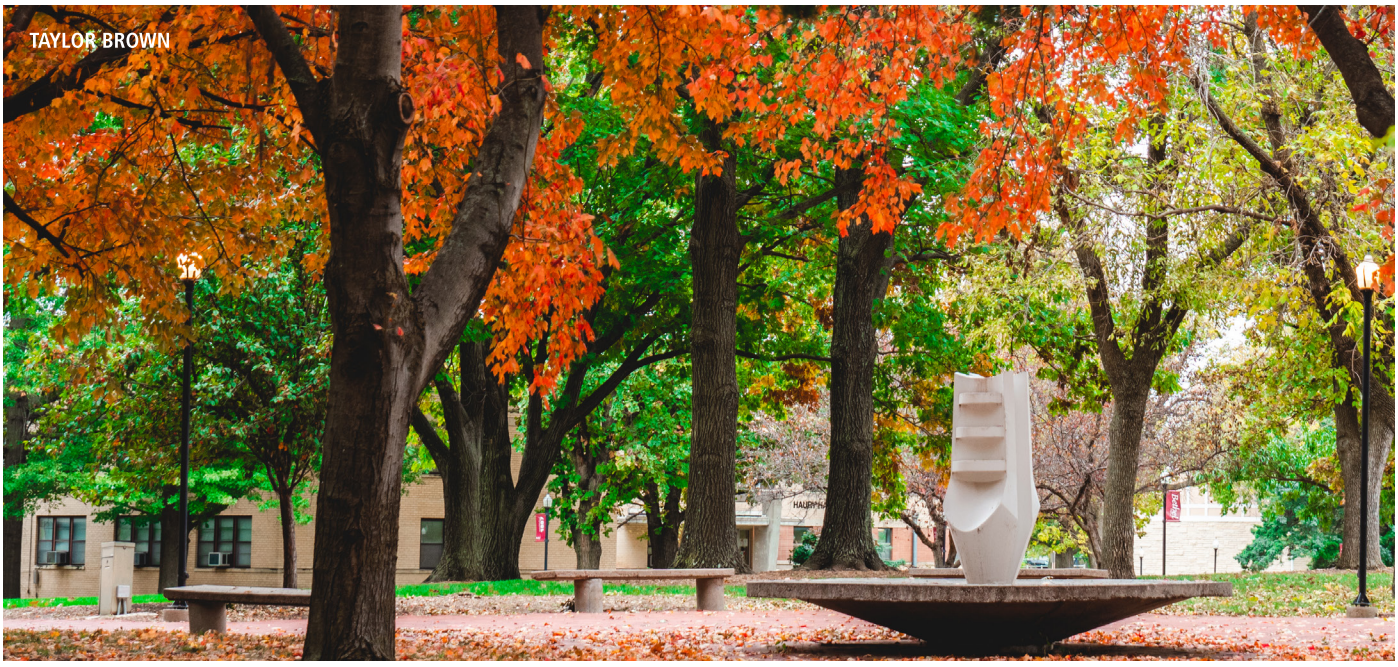
- Feb. 3-6, 10-13, 17-20, 2025

SPRING 2025 CHOIR TOUR

- Fri., March 14: Rainbow Mennonite Church, Kansas City, Kan., 7 p.m.
- Sun., March 15: Faith Mennonite Church, Minneapolis, Minn., 9:30 a.m.
- Sun., March 15: Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church, Minneapolis, Minn., 7 p.m.
- Tues., March 18: Salem Mennonite Church, Freeman, S.D., 7 p.m.
- Weds., March 19: Bethesda Mennonite Church, Henderson, Neb., 7 p.m.

ALUMNI RIDE (tentative)

- Sat., June 7, 2025


TAYLOR BROWN

Foundations for the future

The estate gifts of three alumni cement their support during their lifetimes for higher education, church-based colleges and Bethel values.

by Melanie Zuercher



Left to right: Rosalind and Carl Andreas when Rosalind received the Distinguished Achievement Award from Bethel in 2003; Evelyn and John Bertsche flank their granddaughter Emma Regier (Reesor) at Bethel graduation in 2013. COURTESY PHOTOS

In the last few years, Bethel has received significant support in the form of planned giving – a total of $18 million since 2019, when the recently concluded *Engage the Future* campaign launched. Included in this were two seven-figure gifts to the college from the estates of Rosalind Enns Andreas '63 and John '58 and Evelyn (Dyck) Bertsche '58.

Rosalind Andreas had Bethel College in her DNA. She was born Rosalind Haury Enns, named for her grandparents, Dr. R.S. Haury, a Newton surgeon, and Linda Krehbiel Haury, who taught elocution at Bethel, and for whom Haury Hall is named. Rosalind's great-grandfather, J.J. Krehbiel, was one of the founders of Bethel College. His blacksmith business on E. 6th Street in Newton is now the Carriage Factory Art Gallery (another of his children was the American Impressionist painter Albert Henry Krehbiel).

There was no question that Rosalind would attend Bethel College, where she gloried in the liberal arts, pursuing her interests in education, literature, writing, vocal music, home economics and drama. Her younger sister, Ellen Goering '68, says, "I was in awe of her roles as Eliza in *Pygmalion*, Julie in *Carousel*, the Countess in *The Marriage of Figaro*, her amazing voice as soloist for Brahms' *Requiem*." Rosalind's friend Dianne (Waltner) Epp '61 remembers Rosalind and Tony Epp '63 (later Dianne's husband) writing a musical as Bethel seniors. Another friend, Lenore (Pankratz) Waltner '56, recalls first taking note of Rosalind in the Bethel choir, performing at a church conference: "She was a wonderful singer."

Rosalind graduated from Bethel in 1963 with a B.A. in English with high honors. She worked as a teacher and consulting teacher in middle and high schools in the Shawnee Mission district (Kansas City, Kan.) and completed a master's degree in speech communication at the University of Kansas in 1973. That same year, she married Carl Andreas '50 and moved to Detroit.

There, Rosalind began her career in higher education administration at Oakland University, where she became the first female dean of students. During those years, she completed a doctorate in education at the University of Michigan. She went on to serve at the University of Arizona, Tucson, also as the first female dean of students, and finally, for the longest stint, at the University of Vermont, where she was vice president of student affairs and held other faculty and administrative roles until she retired in 2003. Rosalind chaired the Mennonite Board Education, overseeing Mennonite schools from kindergarten through college, and served two terms on the Bethel Board of Directors. After she and Carl moved to North Newton in 2012, Rosalind was on the boards of Bethel College Mennonite Church, Kauffman Museum (serving as secretary, vice chair and chair) and the Carriage Factory Gallery. She was Bethel commencement speaker in 1987 and received the Distinguished Achievement Award in 2003.

As Carl's health declined, Rosalind was his primary caregiver. He died June 8, 2019. Rosalind died March 15, 2021, in North Newton.

Robert Milliman, vice president for academic affairs and dean of students, spent significant time with Rosalind, especially when she was chairing the Kauffman Museum board. The museum was in "a tumultuous period" in which Rosalind "expertly [employed] her talents as a seasoned administrator." He credits her with assuring the museum's survival during that period.

His experience working with Rosalind gave him "many adjectives to describe her. Here are just a few: intelligent, hardworking, detail-oriented, deliberate, thoughtful, thorough, considerate,

conciliatory, listening, facilitative, decisive, lighthearted, gentle, kind and generous – generous with her time and her resources."

Rosalind loved higher education, he said, after spending most of her life in it, but she especially loved Bethel College. She left "a lasting legacy of love" with her estate gift. "Her investment of time and resources during her life transformed Bethel, and that transformation will have a lasting benefit through her parting generosity."

As a pastor's daughter, Evelyn Dyck lived in Newton, Beatrice, Neb., and Burrton, Kan., before she was 13. Then her mother died, and the family moved to Elbing, Kan., to live with grandparents. Evelyn's father, Walter Dyck, and grandfather, H.J. Dyck, were both alumni (1927 and Academy 1900), so Bethel was her college choice. She studied Bible and chemistry, with a view toward medical school, and also met an Illinois farm boy seven years her senior. Her daughter, Cindy Regier '82, notes that after starting to date John Bertsche, Evelyn tried to "cool things off" for a while, saying that too many students (especially women) ended up not finishing college because of romance.

Born in 1929 in rural Illinois, John was a child of the Great Depression. And he might have stayed on the farm except that the Korean War came along, and he went to Gulfport, Miss., for two years of voluntary service in place of the draft. In Gulfport, his eyes were opened to issues of race, class, poverty and civil rights. By the time he returned home, his younger sister had gone to Bluffton (Ohio) College, making college seem possible for him as well. John wanted to go somewhere different, and he had met Bethel alumni in Gulfport so, at age 25, off he went. He studied natural sciences, Bible and history, also with medical school in mind.

John and Evelyn graduated May 26, 1958, and were married that same evening. They moved to Chicago, where John went to medical school at the University of Illinois-Chicago, and their two children, Cindy and her younger brother, Dan, were born. From 1964-66, the family lived in Grande Rivière du Nord, Haiti, serving with Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). John worked in a public hospital and Evelyn home-schooled Cindy for kindergarten and first grade (with Dan auditing classes) and worked with local artisans in income generation, making and selling crafts for fair-trade distributors.

Back in the United States, John finished residency and the family moved to Normal, Ill., where John practiced for the rest of his career. Evelyn took care of home and family, volunteered with community and church organizations, and served on Mennonite church committees on the local, district and conference levels, as well as on the Bethel College board from 1999-2010. Evelyn and John opened their home to many guests – MCC international visitor-volunteers, Brethren Voluntary Service workers, Mennonite-Your-Way guests, international students at Illinois State University, recent immigrants (particularly from the Democratic Republic of Congo) and friends.

Once Dan and Cindy went off to college in the 1980s, Evelyn pursued her interests in pastoral ministry and spiritual direction, taking classes at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Ind., and the Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation in Washington, D.C. She was an associate pastor at Mennonite Church of Normal from 1982 to 1996, when she retired, and an important mentor to other women pursuing church leadership.

Later in life, Evelyn suffered increasing back pain. Her mobility became more limited and there were changes in her cognitive function. Over time, John became her caregiver. Evelyn moved to a local nursing facility in March 2020 just before the Covid lockdown, making visits difficult. She died Oct. 22, 2020, shortly after Dan was finally able to visit her in her room.

John was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 1993. After many years of successful treatment, by spring 2020, it was no longer effective, and in the summer he entered hospice care. In spite of Covid restrictions, family were able to care for him during his last months. He died Aug. 8, 2020, at home.

Both John and Evelyn were shaped by their upbringings to value the church and service to others, and their Bethel education reinforced that. Throughout their years at Mennonite Church of Normal, they were strong advocates for Mennonite education, giving to the church's program that helped to pay full tuition to Mennonite colleges for any church youth who wanted to attend one.

John and Evelyn left three-quarters of their estate to Bethel. One reason, Cindy says, was that their own time at Bethel was "a pivotal experience to them that they wanted to help make available to other people." Son-in-law Chuck Regier '81, adds, "Bethel represented their values, and they wanted to help make sure that continued."

HERITAGE ROLL OF HONOR



A gift to Bethel from the Esau family of land that sold for more than $500,000 honors the lives of Willis '50 and Eunice (Unruh) Esau '50, pictured here with their children: standing, from left, Vickie Howard, Todd Esau '85, Rex Esau '75 and Sherry Krehbiel.

COURTESY PHOTO

If these stories inspired you, consider joining Bethel's Heritage Roll of Honor, with others who have included Bethel in their estate planning or through deferred gifts. Your influence will extend far beyond your lifetime.

Contact George Leary '85, director of development, gleary@bethelks.edu or 316-284-5226, to learn more.

CAMPUS
NEWS

FOR MORE STORIES, VISIT: **bethelks.edu/news-events**

HARDER GIFT WILL HELP BUILD MUSEUM'S FUTURE THROUGH ENDOWMENT



COURTESY PHOTO

At its June 17 meeting, the Kauffman Museum board of directors accepted the final portion of a $3.4 million gift from the estate of Donald C. Harder '60.

Harder, who died in 2021, was a lifetime rancher and grain farmer in the Whitewater area, as well as a longtime museum member.

Board chair Donna Becker '70 said, "On behalf of Kauffman Museum, I want to express deep gratitude for the generosity and vision of Mr. Don Harder for this future-altering gift to the museum.

"The check presented [June 17] is a tangible expression of Mr. Harder's lifelong care and stewardship of his assets. We are both honored and humbled to be entrusted with his bequest."

Transfer of the gift has been in process since Harder died. An ad hoc committee convened in fall 2023 to gather ideas and suggestions about how best to use or invest the anticipated funds.

With input from museum staff, board and community members, the committee determined that the majority of the gift should be used for long-term financial sustainability through the endowment.

A smaller portion will be reserved for personnel expenses anticipated in the near future, and for non-budgeted smaller equipment or facility improvements.

"I appreciate the work of the ad hoc committee, their thoughtful discussions and, in the end, their wise counsel on the use of Don's gift," said Kauffman Museum Director Andi Schmidt Andres '85.

"We knew Don as a generous donor, curious museum member and a savvy businessman.

"We are especially pleased that Don thought highly enough of Kauffman Museum and its mission, values and careful use of donor funds to name the museum as the recipient of his residual estate."

Andres added, "In his lifetime, Don was not interested in recognition for his gifts but now we can publicly acknowledge his generosity.

"We are sincerely grateful to Don Harder for his foresight and significant gift. Because of his support, we know we can continue exploring Mennonite stories for years to come," she concluded.

NEW KIPCOR DIRECTOR BRINGS BACKGROUND IN PEACEBUILDING, CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION



Keren Kandel
COURTESY PHOTO

The new director of the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (KIPCOR) has an extensive background in peacebuilding and conflict transformation, with emphasis in the Middle East.

Keren Kandel, Chicago, began Dec. 4 in the executive director position. She replaces Sheryl Wilson, who served from November 2017 until this past July, when she became Bethel vice president for culture and belonging.

Kandel has a B.S. in international relations from Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, a Graduate Certificate in Faith-Based Peacebuilding from Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Harrisonburg, Va., and an M.A. in Conflict Transformation from the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg.

Kandel's credentials in peacebuilding and conflict transformation come not only through education, but also experience.

As an undergraduate, she spent a semester studying peace and conflict at LCC International University in Klaipeda, Lithuania, and another semester as a volunteer intern with the Holy Land Trust in Bethlehem, Palestine.

She lived in Bethlehem from 2016-20, where she was the Holy Land Program Coordinator for Experience Mission in Bethlehem, and for most of that time also served as English Communications Officer for Bethlehem Bible College.

In the fall of 2023, she worked as a peace associate at Lombard (Ill.) Mennonite Peace Center, where she also completed the Mediation Skills Training Institute.

Kandel was most recently an independent contractor for the Chicagoland Trauma Informed Congregations Network.

"As I step into the role of director at KIPCOR, I am eager to accompany our staff, clients, students and communities we serve to equip one another for navigating and transforming conflict situations," Kandel said.

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to come alongside the important work of KIPCOR."

KIPCOR
Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution
BETHEL COLLEGE

NURSING RECEIVES FULL ACCREDITATION



Nursing students in simulation lab
AKINDOTUN OGUNBIYI

Bethel's nursing program has successfully completed its most recent accreditation process.

The baccalaureate degree program in nursing at Bethel College is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (http://www.ccneaccreditation.org).

The accreditation process takes place every 10 years.

"In July, we received full approval from the Kansas State Board of Nursing with no recommendations for improvement," said Becky Bartell '02, director of Bethel's Department of Nursing.

"[In October], I received word from CCNE that we have been granted accreditation for another 10 years and that we 'substantially complied with all four accreditation standards.'"

The accreditation takes effect retroactively, as of Feb. 26, 2024, and extends to Dec. 31, 2034. The on-site evaluation took place in late February and early March of this year, and the next one will be at approximately the same time in 2034.

A continuous improvement progress report (CIPR) will be submitted at the 5-year mark.

The program is evaluated based on the CCNE *Standards for Accreditation of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Programs* (2018).

"We are thrilled to see the dedication and hard work of our students, alumni, faculty and staff being recognized," Bartell said.

"Our nursing program stands out for its excellence, and this was clearly evident to the site visitors.

"This achievement is a testament to the commitment and passion that everyone involved has put into making our program exceptional."

UPWARD TREND IN ENROLLMENT CONTINUES FOR 6TH STRAIGHT YEAR



Opening convocation of 2024-25
AKINDOTUN OGUNBIYI

The release of "20th-day figures" for enrollment shows Bethel has continued a steady climb over the past six years. Enrollment numbers for the fall semester are released on the official 20th day of classes, which was Sept. 11 this year.

As of that date, the fall enrollment headcount was 507, compared to 503 in 2023.

As was true last year, the most significant number was that of new students (first-time freshmen, transfer students and former students – those previously at Bethel who returned): 209.

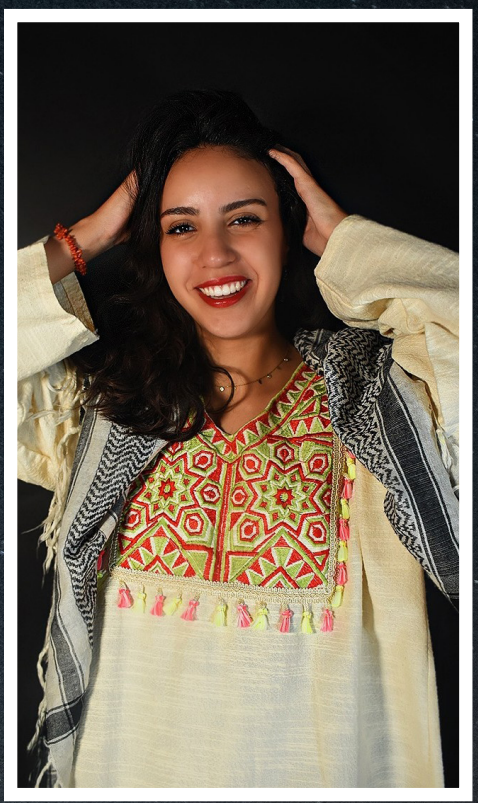
"This is the first time since 2017 we've had an incoming class of over 200," said Eric Preheim '16, director of admissions. "It's the largest first-year class, 170, in 40 years, since 1984."

"This makes six straight years of enrollment growth, which is something that I think shows the strength of the college through difficult times. It's a measure not only of recruiting, but of retention as well."

New students this fall come from 22 states in addition to Kansas: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Washington; and 11 countries: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Cyprus, Germany, Mali, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, United Kingdom and Venezuela.

As far as staff can tell from records, the students from Mali, Sri Lanka and Tunisia are Bethel's first ever. Plus, besides the usual two exchange students from the University of Wuppertal, Germany, there are two more German students.

TUNISIAN STUDENT EXCITED TO STUDY SCIENCE, TEACH ABOUT HER COUNTRY



Meriem Dhouibi poses in traditional Tunisiain dress.

ELIZABETH SCHMUCKER

In the last five years, Bethel has seen a significant rise in the number of international students. In fall 2024, there were new students from 11 different countries, including three represented for the first time.

One of these is Meriem Dhouibi, a first-year from Tunisia (the other "first-time" countries are Mali and Sri Lanka). Although she spent her sophomore year in high school in Dallas, on a Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study scholarship, that's not how she found out about Bethel.

"I always loved science," she says. "I'm very math and physics oriented, but there are not a lot of [extracurricular study] opportunities back home. Those are mostly outside of Tunisia and very expensive.

"When I was in the U.S., I applied to as many summer science programs as I could." One was Bethel's Summer Science Institute. She was accepted, and though she was ultimately not able to attend, she kept getting e-mail from Bethel.

Dhouibi admits that when she thought about college, "I always envisioned being at home, comfortable and safe and not across the world, but I went ahead and applied to Bethel. Eric reached out, and the rest is history."

Eric Preheim '16, director of admissions, works with prospective international students.

There were "many financial constraints," Dhouibi says. "I told my mom, 'There's no way I'm going to be able to go.' With money transfer rates, it's an insane amount.

"But I kept talking with Eric, and I ended up with a lot of scholarships and grants and so I ended up coming here.

"Eric was very persuasive. We had a lot of calls. I also [communicated with] alumni, especially Kate Becker '04, who now works at NASA, which is one of my dreams."

Although Dhoubi's mother is sad to have her so far away, "a lot of my friends do study abroad, in Europe," she says. "And I had such a great experience [with the high school exchange], I think she was expecting it.

"When this opportunity came up, my family was very supportive. The only hard thing is the six-hour time difference. I'm so busy – by the time I finish classes and lessons and practice, my family is asleep. That's good in a way – it helps keep me focused."

Academics get the lion's share of Dhouibi's time. She is taking "as much math and physics as possible, and looking at math and software development" as majors. She also plays the violin and is taking lessons and participating in the chamber orchestra.

Dhouibi arrived at Bethel with gifts for friends and her host family (Dwight '69 and Bonnie [Graber] Krehbiel '69), along with a special decorative plate as a gift to the college.

"We have several similar ones at home," Dhouibi says. "It's customary to bring something when you enter someone's home. You can't come empty-handed.

"My mom and I were doing a lot of last-minute shopping in the market. We were not sure of the right gift for a school, but when we saw the plates in the market, that was what we decided to do."

At the beginning of the fall semester, Dhouibi presented the plate, made of metal and custom stamped and painted, to President Jon Gering '94 (see p. 30).

Preheim says, "'Ambassador for north Africa and Tunisia' is part of Meriem's attitude."

Asked what was behind the increase in international students, Preheim first cited "coaches, especially Gabe Johnson ['19, head tennis coach], who has done well at finding students who are good tennis players as well as great fits on campus. We also have soccer coaches who were international students in the U.S. themselves, and they have pipelines.

"This has helped some of our other coaches know the process and what to look for. They're seeing we can get international students to Bethel and they can be successful."

Dhouibi represents more recruitment efforts being aimed at non-athletes from outside the United States as well, Preheim says. Summer Science Institute, which is offered both on-campus and online, has the potential to be a conduit.

"It has enriched the campus to have the diversity of students," he says.

MELANIE ZUERCHER

SIX DECADES LATER, GRAD GETS HIS NAME ON AWARD



Shingo and Kathy Kajinami
MELANIE ZUERCHER

Almost 60 years after the fact, Shingo Kajinami '65 of North Newton has his name on a cherished Bethel award.

Kajinami is a retired professor of chemistry at McPherson (Kan.) College. He and his wife, Kathy '68, recently moved to Kidron-Bethel Village in North Newton after decades of living in McPherson.

Shingo Kajinami graduated from Bethel with a degree in chemistry. But he also took other courses to earn his liberal arts degree, including creative writing with Christine Miller. A short story he wrote earned praise and a high grade and is what he believes led her to nominate him for the highest Bethel academic award given to a graduating senior, the Thresher Award.

Kajinami grew up in Osaka, Japan's second-largest city. Although he was interested in pursuing chemistry early on, he also wanted to improve his English, so he took extra classes at a local YMCA. While there, he told one of his teachers that he dreamed of studying in America. The teacher knew a Bethel graduate – Kajinami can't remember the name – and from what he'd heard about Bethel, it was a good place to go.

"He told me, 'They don't drink, smoke or dance there. It's an excellent school – they are serious about their studies.' I didn't know anything else about Mennonites, and nothing about America or Kansas, except cowboys and Indians from movies. That was kind of scary."

He applied to Bethel among other schools, and when he was accepted, he decided to go.

"The Mennonites [I met] were so helpful and kind. During school breaks, people would invite me to stay with them. Student friends would take me home with them."

One of those was Barry Hieb '66 of Henderson, Neb. Barry's parents, Dr. Bill Hieb and Sally Hieb, considered Kajinami their fifth son, he says.

His chemistry professors, Ronald Rich and Robert Schmidt '52, were also important, he says. Schmidt pointed him in the direction of Schmidt's own graduate school alma mater, the University of Oklahoma, where Kajinami earned a doctorate in biochemistry.

After three years at Bethel, Kajinami decided to do a year of service with Mennonite Central Committee in Germany. He needed one semester to finish his degree and it turned out to be pivotal. He met Kathy Peters, a Bethel student from Walton, Kan. And he took the writing class with Professor Miller.

He was told he had been awarded the Thresher. But it was mid-school year and he was going back to Japan.

He got his physical award. Seniors in Bethel's Industrial Arts program made them from wood and milled the small metal threshing stones. But etching the names on the awards had to be outsourced, and there wasn't time to do it before Kajinami left the country.

So for the next almost six decades, the award came with him as he went to graduate school in Oklahoma, got married to Kathy and lived in New Jersey, Illinois and finally McPherson.

Earlier this year, when the Kajinamis moved to North Newton, they came to the Bethel campus to see who might be able to help get Shingo's Thresher Award personalized. Denise Krase, then the assistant in the academic dean's office, connected them with Adam Akers '03, director of facilities, who is now in charge of making Thresher Awards each year.

And now Shingo can proudly display his Thresher with his name and the award area evident for all to read.

MELANIE ZUERCHER

COY DICK CONTINUES TOP PEACE SPEECH TRADITION



Josué Coy Dick
COURTESY PHOTO

Josué Coy Dick comes from a family of peacemakers and peacebuilders, and recently became the third generation to place at the top of a contest that requires researching and then writing and speaking about a contemporary peace topic.

He is the winner of the binational C. Henry Smith Peace Oratorical Contest, held annually on the campuses of Anabaptist colleges in the United States and Canada.

Coy Dick's grandmother, Kirsten Zerger '73, won the 1973 contest (then called the Intercollegiate Peace Oration Contest, before it was endowed by the family of Mennonite historian C. Henry Smith). His uncle, Jesse Nathan '05, won in 2005.

At Bethel, the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (KIPCOR) organizes the contest, which is administered overall by Mennonite Central Committee (MCC).

The first-place winners from each campus presented their speeches (via video) to an international panel of MCC judges. Coy Dick competed against winning orations from Bluffton (Ohio) University, Canadian Mennonite University (Winnipeg, Manitoba), Conrad Grebel University College (Waterloo, Ontario), Goshen (Ind.) College, Hesston (Kan.) College and Tabor College (Hillsboro, Kan.).

Coy Dick's speech was entitled "Jesus and the Wounded." Its intent, he states, is "to make the case that confronting and healing the wounds of trauma is inseparable from and essential to Christian peacebuilding."

He continues, "Political and systemic change are essential for peacebuilding. They are necessary for interrupting and preventing violence, and even facilitating recovery. Alone, however, they cannot take us to shalom. Political change does not address the spiritual needs of any of us."

Coy Dick goes on to look at a story about Jesus in the biblical book of Luke (18:35-43) – in which Jesus heals a man from blindness – through the lenses of Black, womanist and liberation theologies, citing authors such as Howard Thurman, James Cone, Shawn Copeland and Gustavo Gutiérrez.

"If we seek to follow Jesus," Coy Dick concludes, "we should go where he went – among the wounded and marginalized – listening, as he did, to their stories and affirming, as he did, the power of redemption and liberation contained within them."

Coy Dick will receive a $500 cash award and a $500 scholarship to attend a peace conference of his choice. He is a fourth-year student majoring in music performance (violin), peace, justice and conflict studies, and social work.

MELANIE ZUERCHER

BULLER LEANS INTO LEADERSHIP WITH PEERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



Lucy Buller, top row, third from right, with her summer cohort
COURTESY PHOTO

Senior Lucy Buller, Newton, tries not to miss any chances to push herself, and this summer she got one that took her to Washington, D.C., and back.

The Albright Young Women Leaders Program, named for the late Madeleine K. Albright (the first woman to be appointed Secretary of State, in 1997) and administered by the U.S. State Department, is designed to empower young women through a global educational exchange.

Jennifer Chappell Deckert '96, associate professor of social work, encouraged Buller to apply. "Even though I haven't taken any classes with her, she's very aware of [how active I am] on campus," Buller says.

"I looked [the program] up and thought, 'This is the coolest thing ever, and I'm never going to get in.' But what was there to lose by trying? And then they reached out to set an interview – worst-case scenario, I'd get more interviewing practice."

Buller was one of four women from Kansas and six total from the United States accepted to the program. The other Kansans were from state universities – as far as Buller knows, she's the first woman from a Kansas private college to participate in the program.

The rest of the 84 participants came from all over the world – Pakistan, India, Mongolia, Morocco, Hong Kong, Lebanon and Zambia were the countries Buller could pull off the top of her head.

The women started their five weeks with orientation in Washington, D.C., as a whole group.

"This helped everyone get used to the time zones," Buller said. "We had a conference day at Georgetown University, where we met people who had known Madeleine Albright. We did some sightseeing, like a night tour of the D.C. monuments."

After four days, the women split into four smaller groups, called institutes. Buller was part of a cohort of 24 who went to the University of Kansas campus in Lawrence. They spent most of their time at KU but also took trips to St. Louis University and the University of Missouri at Columbia.

The overall purpose of the program was to get participants thinking about the meaning of leadership, and specifically "adaptive leadership."

"Adaptive leadership is distinguished from authority," Buller says. "It's a communications theory that says leadership can be part of any position, and that having authority does not automatically create a leader."

The women were encouraged to inspire and rally others regardless of position or status, and not to allow leadership to be determined by hierarchy. They did this through rigorous classroom work, mentorships with older women, projects – and the relationships built from living on the same dorm hall for five weeks.

"For our Leadership for Change project, we had to assess a problem in our community and come up with a way to address it," Buller said. "At the end of the five weeks, we gave presentations on our projects."

She chose to address violence against LGBTQ+ groups in Harvey County and Kansas as a whole. "The most important part of the project was to make it so queer women do not have to leave their hometown to feel safe," Buller told *The Bethel Collegian*.

'I didn't expect to connect with the other women as much as I did," she says. "I thought that we wouldn't have anything in common, but I felt like every person I met, I found something – like the women from Lebanon who also loved Taylor Swift.

"I didn't start college until I was 20, so I saw this as getting opportunities I wouldn't have otherwise. I'm constantly doing things to test myself – like joining the forensics team when I was terrified of public speaking."

Buller has taken every opportunity to be active at Bethel. In addition to competing, she runs the forensic team Instagram. She's co-president of the BC Pride Alliance Council and a member of FemCore and the Bethel College Community for Justice and Peace.

An English major who plans to complete teaching certification, Buller has received the Dorothy Wedel Kaufman '45 Honor Scholarship for two years in a row. She works in the library and as a tutor and still manages to consistently make the Dean's List.

When asked what she liked best about the Albright leadership program, Buller says, "It's hard to pick any one thing out. It was really the whole five weeks.

"Being in D.C. was surreal. It's an expensive place to go, and as a low-income student, I don't even get to take spring break trips.

"Being in a room with 80-plus other women all passionate about women's leadership, and so involved in a diversity of issues and careers, was amazing. I'm used to being the only woman in the room, or the only one interested in LGBTQ+ issues.

"I loved the emphasis on succeeding and helping others succeed, [rather than] competing against each other. And this was an academic program but ungraded. Doing that kind of academic work without the weight of a grade was really good.

"It was an incredible opportunity."

MELANIE ZUERCHER

NEW EXERCISE SCIENCE LAB OPENS ON CAMPUS



Hannah Finley, left, explains the results of a vertical leap test to Missy Green, admissions administrative assistant.

MELANIE ZUERCHER

The Department of Health and Human Performance celebrated the opening of its new lab in the basement of Krehbiel Science Center with an open house Oct. 17.

According to Matthew Dorton, Ph.D., assistant professor of HHP, the exercise science lab was established on four main tenets: student learning – enhancing what's happening in the classroom by providing hands-on learning and practical skill development; student research – giving students the opportunity to design and carry out research ideas in preparation for graduate and professional schools; campus engagement – working with Employment Experiences to provide job opportunities and with the athletic department for individual and team testing; and community engagement – partnering with local schools and programs for the mutual benefit of students and community.

"Having a dedicated space with advanced equipment improves our ability to graduate students with a mastery of both theoretical concepts and practical skills that will match their desire for making a difference in the lives of individuals," said Dorton.

What sets this lab apart from other institutions is the breadth of equipment it contains, he added. This ranges from key metabolic measures (including gas analysis, muscle oxygenation and lactate monitoring) to physiological functioning (ECG, EMG and spirometry), while also including advanced body composition analysis, balance tracking systems and force plates.

The department currently has 36 majors in three concentrations. Other HHP faculty are Jodi Ehling, Ph.D., associate professor, and Melissa Siemens, M.S., associate professor.

MUSEUM EXPLORES IMMIGRATION THEMES, MARKS HISTORICAL ANNIVERSARIES



KAUFFMAN MUSEUM PHOTO

The years 2024 and 2025 are pivotal ones for the history of Mennonites, in the Great Plains and as a religious movement. Kauffman Museum's new exhibit and the programming around it was sparked by both anniversaries.

"Unlocking the Past: Immigrant Artifacts and the Stories They Tell" opened Sept. 29 and runs through May 25, 2025.

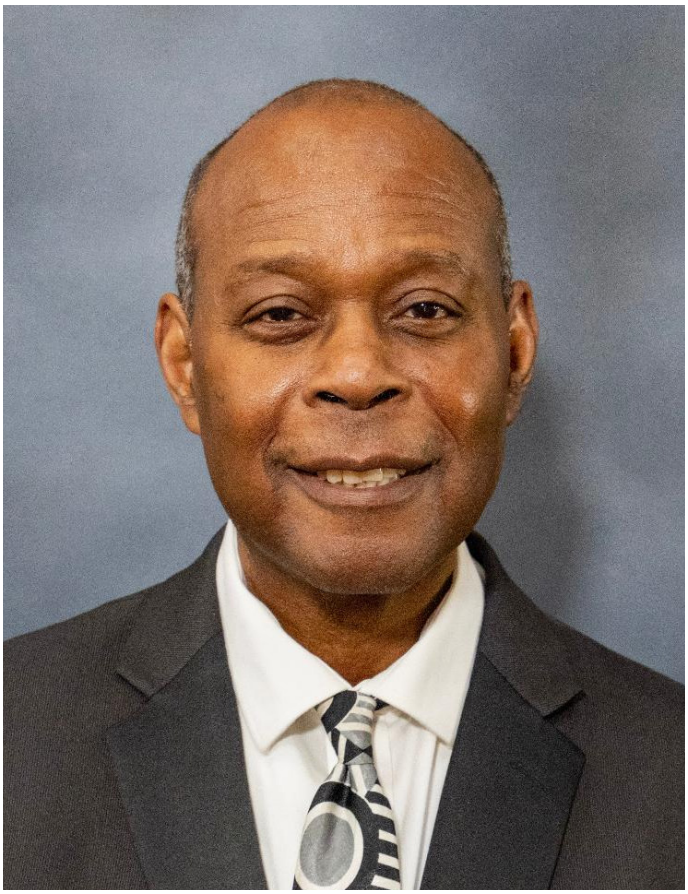
"Unlocking the Past" joins a number of special events and programs throughout 2024 that marked 150 years since the 1874 mass migration of Mennonites from South Russia and Prussia to the central plains of North America, including south-central Kansas. The exhibition explores the diversity of migration experiences.

Exhibit developer David Kreider '82 explained, "Artifacts in the Kauffman Museum collections reveal stories beyond the 1874 migration: forced removal of First Kansans, journeys of European Mennonites east and west, and war refugees."

The immigration theme concludes with stories of people on the move today, a reminder that the Anabaptist movement that emerged in 1525, from which Mennonites descended, is now a global community.

To find out about special programming planned in conjunction with "Unlocking the Past," see the museum website, kauffmanmuseum.org, or its Facebook page.

BOARD WELCOMES TWO NEW MEMBERS





From left: Victor Simmons, Jonathan Funk
COURTESY PHOTOS

The fall meetings of the Bethel College Board of Directors, Oct. 2-4 on campus, included the approval of two new board members, Victor Simmons '78, Chicago, and Jonathan Funk '96, Hesston, Kan.

Simmons is a board appointment and Funk is an Alumni Association appointment. Their terms start Jan. 1, 2025.

Simmons is a senior accounting professional, specializing in taxes and tax planning, who retired in late 2023 after 26 years with Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Illinois, where he served as tax fixed assets manager, unit manager and supervisor.

During his career, he also worked as a staff accountant with Rush Prudential of Chicago (1987-97) and with the American Hospital Association (1979-87), and as an insurance auditor and claims adjuster with Bankers Life and Casualty Insurance, Chicago.

Simmons has a degree in business administration from Bethel and an M.B.A. from the Keller Graduate School of Management in Chicago.

He has been inducted into *Marquis Who's Who in Finance and Accounting*.

Funk recently began as an executive in human resources and development at Catholic Care Center, Wichita.

Previous to that, starting in 2014, he worked for Bluestem Communities in North Newton and Hesston as vice president for human resources and marketing. From 2020-23 (with Bluestem) and 2023-24 (independently), Funk had various responsibilities for PACE (Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly).

He has also held executive and/or HR positions with Hutchinson (Kan.) Regional Healthcare System, The Summit: Surgical Hospital and Medical Management, Hutchinson, and Koch Industries, Wichita.

He was named an outstanding HR professional by the *Wichita Business Journal* in 2019.

Funk has a B.A. in natural sciences from Bethel and a master's degree in human resource development and organizational development from Friends University, Wichita.

The board also named a new slate of officers for the next two-year term (2025-2026): Wynn Goering '77, chair, Lori Schmidt-Harrison '87, vice chair, Cynthia Doyle Perkins '77, secretary, and Tom Penner '91, treasurer.

CHRISTIANITY AND DEMOCRACY, INDIGENOUS JUSTICE, GLOBAL MIGRATION ARE FALL LECTURE TOPICS



Sarah Augustine
COURTESY PHOTO

Bethel welcomed three speakers to campus this fall for major events: the 72nd annual Menno Simons Lectures, a celebration of social work's 50th anniversary, and a community forum on democracy and Christianity.

In September, the Witness Commission at Bethel College Mennonite Church teamed with the Department of Bible and Religion to bring renowned Christian ethicist David Gushee to campus for BCMC's Peace Sunday. In addition to preaching at BCMC and speaking in convocation, Gushee was the keynote speaker for a Sunday-afternoon forum that included a panel of local scholars and leaders.

In early October, indigenous activist Sarah Augustine was part of the activities surrounding social work's 50th anniversary. The program was accredited beginning in 1974. An endowed lecture series at Bethel named for one of the first social work graduates, and later long-time professor in the department, Ada Schmidt-Tieszen '74, along with the Bethel College Women's Association's Carolyn Schultz Lectureship, helped bring Augustine to campus.

Finally, at the end of October, Eric Schmaltz, professor of history and global studies at Northwest Oklahoma State University, Alva, gave the Menno Simons Lectures on "Russian Mennonite Diasporas on Four Continents in the Age of Empires, Revolutions and Extremes Since the Late 18th Century," a topic timed to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the arrival of Mennonites to the Great Plains of North America, including south-central Kansas, in 1874.

Throughout his time at Bethel, Gushee expanded on his thesis that despite its sometimes horrific flaws, democracy needs Christian's support as "the best policy system short of the Kingdom of God, which is coming but not yet here."

Gushee spoke about "authoritarian reactionary Christianity" and "democratic covenantal abolitionism." The former describes a percentage of the population that has been reacting to much of American culture and politics since the 1960s, Gushee said. When reactionism meets a person who declares he is with them and doesn't limit himself to the rules of democracy, Christians are "[tempted] over the authoritarian cliff."

Those who subscribe to the latter are trying to uphold the principles of democracy (e.g., free and fair elections, no tolerance for political violence, a free press); the good of the community over an individual "winning"; and the stand for social justice and civil rights that is part of the legacy of anti-slavery movements, Gushee said.

Bethel College has "[an Anabaptist] tradition worth passing on ... Don't be erased by a generic American evangelicalism or a generic American culture."



David Gushee
COURTESY PHOTO

Augustine's social work lecture, "So we and our children may live," addressed the child removal policies implemented by the U.S. government against indigenous people.

One of these was removing children from their families and placing them in boarding schools, which happened to Augustine's own Tewa Pueblo father, "the most effective tactic of extermination against indigenous people." Another was taking indigenous children and giving them to white couples for adoption. The Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 has helped ensure that indigenous children in need of care are placed with family members, tribal members or other indigenous people.

Christina Haswood, a member of the Kansas House of Representatives, has introduced a bill to provide further support to indigenous children in Kansas. Augustine ended her lecture with a challenge to listeners from Kansas. "In every generation we have the opportunity to establish the kingdom of God. … My job is to deliver a message: Will you join your life energy to that project? It's happening because ordinary people show up."

In the Menno Simons Lectures, Schmaltz corralled into three presentations "a few hundred years of history across four continents" – Mennonites in the 18th century going east from the Netherlands to Poland/Prussia and the Russian Empire (and some beyond that, into central Asia), then to North and South America in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Schmaltz followed four key themes across the three lectures (the first focused on migration to the Russian Empire, the second on North America, the third on South America): pursuit of socio-economic opportunities and religious freedom; common and diverse experiences across space and time; the phenomenon of "conservatives" breaking away from "progressives" to settle elsewhere; and what Schmaltz called "the Dutch legacy," the Mennonite capacity to transform both society and physical landscapes.

"The Mennonite legacy in Kansas since 1874," according to Schmaltz, includes not only Turkey red winter wheat, developed by Russian scientists in the 19th century, and how it transformed agriculture and geography, but also education in the form of Bethel College, founded in 1887, and Tabor College, 1908.

Starting in the 1960s, Schmaltz said, there has been "ethnic revival" among Germans and others as part of "the multicultural movement" in the United States. This has involved people beginning to openly celebrate their ethnic heritage, as well as simple mainstream acceptance of the ethnic diversity of American society. It saw the creation of "two-heritage societies," including for "Germans from Russia," which have informed a large part of Schmaltz's writing and scholarship.

MELANIE ZUERCHER

VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONS, WINNINGEST FOOTBALL COACH IN 2024 HALL OF FAME CLASS



The 2024 athletic Hall of Fame class – front row, from left: Denise Critchfield, Lori Mallory, Diane Flickner, Cindy Combs, Teresa Kippenberger, Robin Becker, Sondra Rogers, Randall Rogers, Eric Rogers, Kirby Rogers and his son Jayson Rogers; back row: Beth Sheppard, J'Nan Ensz, Kara Hoover, Diana Schunn, Pam Hiebert and Gwen Mattice.

KATE ROWLAND

This year's Fall Festival included honors for the 2024 Athletic Boosters Hall of Fame class: the 1983 volleyball team and the late Kent Rogers, head football coach 1979-94.

Thresher volleyball won Bethel's 9th KCAC Championship in 1983 with a 17-1 conference record and an overall record of 33-14.

The team backed up a powerful offensive attack with a lightning-quick brand of defensive prowess never before seen at Bethel. The forward-thinking coaching staff, aka head coach Diane Flickner, used back-row defensive specialists long before the emergence of the libero position.

The Threshers concluded the season by winning the NAIA District 10 Championship, and were ranked 9th in the nation.

Lori DeGarmo (Mallory) '83 and Robin Craig (Becker) '85 were unanimous All-KCAC First Team selections, and DeGarmo was named to the NAIA All-District 10 Team and also earned NAIA Honorable Mention All-American status.

Other team members are: Teresa Flanigan (Kippenberger) '85, Julie Moore (Esau) '87, Denise Peters (Critchfield) '83, Gwen Harms (Mattice) '85, Cindy Napper (Combs) '84, Diana Erb (Schunn) '87, Kara Hobbs (Hoover) '86, Pam Wright (Hiebert) '85, Beth Sheppard '81 and J'Nan Hiebert (Ensz) '87, with assistants Martin Holt '84 and Dennis Reimer '84.

Kent Rogers became Bethel head football coach in spring 1979, injecting enthusiasm and optimism into the Thresher program. He worked tirelessly to recruit at a high level, and attracted some of the greatest players in Bethel history, including Hall of Fame members Eric Rhoades '86, Dennis Heide '87, Ed Smith '88 and Tod Bean '94.

Rogers took over a Bethel program that had gone 0-9 in the 1978 season, and would go on to lead the Threshers to their greatest season in program history at the time, in 1984, when Bethel went 9-0 in the regular season, clinching their first-ever KCAC Championship and making it to post-season play. They finished the regular season ranked #2 in the NAIA. Rogers was named KCAC Coach of the Year as well as NAIA District 10 Coach of the Year. During his tenure, he was KCAC Coach of the Year six different times.

The years 1983-86 were Coach Rogers' most successful. The Threshers were 29-8 during this four-year span. He still holds the record for most wins as a head coach, with 69. His 15 years as head coach are the second most in Bethel history behind Otto Unruh '27 (16 years).

Rogers also coached track and served as a professor in the health and physical education department. He left a tremendous mark on his students and players during his time at Bethel.

Rogers died in August 2017 after multiple health issues and a short bout with cancer.

His wife Sondra, along with their sons, Randall '90, Kirby and Eric, and their families, were present for Kent Rogers' Hall of Fame induction. So were a number of members of the 1984 football team, who held a reunion during Fall Fest 2024 to celebrate 40 years since capturing Bethel's first-ever conference football championship. The 1984 team was inducted into the Athletic Boosters Hall of Fame in 2003.



Kent Rogers, 1984

YEARBOOK PHOTO

BETHEL ANNOUNCES NEW FACULTY AND STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Lauren Barrera, associate registrar

Dayna Baxter, student wellness counselor

Lucas Delibas, assistant professor of mathematics. He has a Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Jodi Ehling, associate professor of health and human performance. She has a Ph.D. in health and human performance from Concordia University.

Jarrod Foster '23, assistant football coach-tight ends

Michael Gant, assistant football coach-defensive line, co-defensive coordinator

Jordan Geist, assistant to the vice president for academic affairs

Elizabeth Gerber, admissions counselor

Grant Godsey '23, assistant football coach-safetys

Cristobal Goldberg '23, assistant women's soccer coach

Curtis Hines, associate professor of software development. He has an M.A. in computer science from Madison University and an M.B.A. in management information systems from Fort Hays State University.

Elizabeth Hingst, accounting manager

Keren Kandel, executive director of the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (KIPCOR). She has an M.A. in Islamic and Middle East studies from Hebrew University, Jerusalem, and an M.A. in conflict transformation from the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding at Eastern Mennonite University (see p. 19).

Austin Kisrow, assistant football coach-quarterbacks

Daylon Markham, interim head football coach (from assistant coach)

Kade Miller '23, assistant football coach-linebackers, co-defensive coordinator

Jared Mocaby '23, assistant athletic director for communications

Erin Nisly, KIPCOR director of education and training

Abigail Pineda '19, assistant athletic trainer

Kara Robeson, JV volleyball coach

Julie Robinson, Kauffman Museum traveling exhibits coordinator

Alexandra Rome, admissions counselor

Mari Sailors, student wellness counselor

Jessanna Schumann, assistant volleyball coach

Jara Shoemaker, assistant women's basketball coach

Macy Sisco, assistant women's basketball coach

Holly Swartzendruber, associate professor of music. She has a D.M.A. (vocal performance concentration) from the University of Kansas.

Andrew Tisdale, assistant football coach-wide receivers

Sheridan Weinbrenner, career counselor

Jocelyn Wilkinson '14, technical director of theater

Kyle Wilson '19, head track and field coach (from assistant coach)

Chasz Wright, assistant football coach-offensive line







1. From left, President Jon Gering, first-year Meriem Dhouibi and Director of Admissions Eric Preheim with the commem
liams, assistant professor of social work, model the social work's 50th-anniversary T-shirts at Fall Fest; 4. Gracia Duron, H
Caleb Wiggins Jr., Sasha Salinas and Luz
AKINDOTUN







norative plate Meriem presented to the college; 2. Mason Bolen; 3. Kalie Kosminski, senior from Newton, and Sierra Wil-
Hannah Retallack and Camryn Entz in the 1887 Cafe; 5. Noah Schrag, Dylan Yoder and Lynnzey Young in choir rehearsal; 6.
z Mayora-Valenzuela enjoy Fall Festival.
N OGUNBIYI

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