
The 2016-2017 academic year at Bethel College is nearly over, and we have much for which to be grateful. We thank God for the following (and much more):

- A strategic plan that is beginning to unfold.
- Campus ministries opportunities for students, including:
 - Centering prayer
 - Tough Talks and Tasty Treats (discussing faith questions)
 - Navigator Bible Study
 - Weekly Chapel Services
 - Threshers for Christ Bible Study
 - Fellowship of Christian Athletes with continually increased participation
 - A newly launched small group initiative
 - Special events, like 24-hour prayer and packaging 25,000 food packs.
- Eight wonderful student chaplains who help monitor and lead spiritual life activities on campus.
- A beautiful campus with well-maintained facilities.
- The women and men of our excellent faculty and staff, who give of themselves tirelessly, who teach and instruct carefully, who model Christian character daily.
- A newly formed Anti-Oppression Task Force, which seeks to address issues of oppression and intercultural competence on our campus.
- A release of *Mennonite Life* with major articles on performing in prison, on Mennonite/s writing, and in memoriam of Robert Kreider.
- Commissioning and hosting important research on American Mennonites and social engagement for the common good, presented by Perry Bush of Bluffton University.
- Hosting the Mennonite Faculty Conference, which focused on the theme “Fidelity of Place,” inspired by Robert Kreider.
- Hosting this year’s Intercollegiate Peace Fellowship, around the theme, “Uniting for Social Change,” with keynote speaker David Anderson Hooker of Notre Dame’s Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies.
- Hosting Drew G.I. Hart of Messiah College as this year’s Staley Distinguished Scholar, for presentations on racism and the church.
- Hosting Arli Klassen of Mennonite World Conference for a pair of speaking engagements during her tour.
- Hosting Palestinian and Jewish Voices for peace, with extended interaction with Palestinian human rights lawyer and chairperson of the Bethlehem Bible College board of trustees, Jonathan Kuttab.
- A concert choir tour, which traveled as far north as Winnipeg. The tour was a benefit for Mennonite Central Committee, and raised over \$20,000 for MCC’s work of relief, development, and peace in the name of Christ.
- Working closely with AMBS-Kansas Center to provide courses for seminary credit and continuing education.

In gratitude for the prayers and good wishes from the Franconia Mennonite Conference and Eastern District Conference, we humbly ask for your continued support, as we seek to build, for generations to come, upon the foundation that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.