

BETHEL COLLEGE

2026 Student Orientation Booklet



Explore, Discover, and Develop your passions

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BETHEL COLLEGE

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BETHEL COLLEGE

Student Orientation

WELCOME

Welcome to Bethel College, where academics, employment, faith, service, and community intersect to create an unparalleled student experience. We call this the Thresher Way!

MISSION

Bethel College prepares students for meaningful lives of work and service through faith formation, the liberal arts, and practical experience in career pathways.

VISION

Bethel College graduates students who increase human flourishing (shalom) in society by owning and enacting their faith, demonstrating compassion for the powerless, engaging in critical thought, and bringing value to the workplace.

CORE VALUES

High standards and expectations for behavior and performance in all dimensions of campus life.

Dialogue that transforms conflict within communities where there are differences in opinion and understanding.

Peace and justice that seek fair and equitable treatment for all members of society.

Vocational discernment that helps students identify their calling and God's purpose for their professional lives.

Holistic wellness through a balance of mental, physical, and spiritual practices.

Creative approaches for living harmoniously within a constantly changing world and workplace.

Community with global consciousness that cherishes social connectivity, shared endeavors, and intergenerational living.



"Other foundation can no one lay, than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

BETHEL COLLEGE

Student Orientation

WELCOME MESSAGE

Welcome, Incoming Fall 2026 Threshers!

You have officially begun your journey at Bethel College—your Passport to Possibilities—and this is a milestone we celebrate with great excitement. As you begin this new chapter, remember that your experience here is about far more than earning academic credits; it is about discovering opportunities, building relationships, and creating experiences that will shape your future.

At Bethel College, we are committed to fostering a campus where every student feels seen, supported, and inspired. You are joining a community that values belonging, personal growth, academic excellence, faith, service, and purpose. Our faculty and staff believe in your ability to succeed—not only in the classroom, but in every aspect of your college experience.

During your time here, your passport will be stamped through leadership opportunities, student organizations, campus traditions, meaningful relationships, and experiences that will challenge you to grow. We encourage you to explore boldly, ask questions confidently, and engage intentionally. These moments will become the foundation of your Bethel story.

Choosing Bethel College means choosing possibility. My team and I are dedicated to helping you make the most of every opportunity while supporting your academic, personal, and professional success. As you progress through your journey, remember to seek balance, renew your spirit, reflect often, and remain true to your purpose.

Collect the moments. Embrace the journey. Become the example.

Welcome to the Bethel College family. We look forward to celebrating your accomplishments and making this an unforgettable experience.

Roll on Threshers,

MeShonya M. Wren-Coleman, Ph.D.

Vice President of Student Life and Dean of Students

BETHEL COLLEGE

Student Orientation

STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Welcome, Incoming Fall 2026 Threshers!

Starting college is an exciting new chapter, but it can also bring stress, uncertainty, and moments of loneliness. It is normal to question whether you belong or whether college is the right path. At Bethel College, you are not expected to face those challenges alone. Free, confidential counseling services are available to support your emotional well-being and personal success.

Students may schedule a single appointment to talk through a concern or meet regularly for ongoing support. The Counseling Center provides a welcoming, confidential space where students can be heard, encouraged, and connected with resources that promote overall wellness.

We recognize that mental health is closely connected to academic success, financial stability, relationships, and basic needs. Counseling staff work collaboratively with campus and community partners to ensure students receive the support they need to thrive.

AVAILABLE SERVICES

- Mental health and substance use assessments, when appropriate
- Individual counseling
- Referrals to community providers and specialized services
- Crisis intervention, including support for suicidal thoughts
- Connection to campus and community resources

Students are encouraged to seek support early. Reaching out when concerns first arise can improve your well-being and help you have a more successful college experience. Parents and guardians may also contact the Counseling Center if they have concerns about a student.

Fall 2026 counseling hours will be emailed to students. A QR code for scheduling appointments will also be available on campus electronic signs and printed flyers.

CRISIS RESOURCES

If you or someone you know is experiencing suicidal thoughts or a mental health crisis, call or text **988**, or contact the local community mental health crisis line at **800-362-0180**. Both services are free and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Liz Rempel, LCSW, LCAC
Student Mental Health and Wellness Counselor
Phone: 316-284-5326
Email: lrempel@bethelks.edu
Location: Will Academic Center (WAC), Basement Level, Room 129



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Student Orientation

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BETHEL COLLEGE
STUDENT ORIENTATION 2026

**NEW AND RETURNING STUDENT
FALL ATHLETES ONLY**

AUGUST 7, 2026
MOVE-IN DAY & ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

PARTICIPATING FALL PROGRAMS
**CHEER • CROSS COUNTRY • DANCE
FOOTBALL • SOCCER • VOLLEYBALL**

BETHEL COLLEGE

Student Orientation 2026

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2026 MOVE-IN DAY & ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

TIME	EVENT
7:00 AM–2:00 PM	1887 Café Open Schultz Student Center
8:00 AM–2:00 PM	Thresher Days Check-In & Move-In Fall Athletes Only: Football, Soccer, Cross Country, Volleyball, Cheer & Dance Luyken Fine Arts Center (FAC), Lobby Entrance Residence Halls Open: Haury Hall, Warkentin Court & Voth Hall Contact: Mr. Larry Rice, Director of Residential Life & Student Engagement
8:00 AM–5:00 PM	Thresher Shop Open Schultz Student Center
11:15 AM–1:00 PM	Lunch Schultz Student Center – The Caf
2:00–2:30 PM	The Thresher Way Session Presenters: • Dr. Wynn Goering, President (video) • Tim Swartzendruber, Athletic Director • Dr. Heidi Hoskinson, Vice President for Enrollment Management Luyken Fine Arts Center Auditorium
2:30–4:30 PM	Parent & Supporter Session Luyken Fine Arts Center Auditorium
2:30-4:30 PM	Get Things Started Workshops with Athletic Teams

SWAY TESTING • STUDENT HANDBOOK • TITLE IX ROTATIONS

TIME	SWAY TESTING	STUDENT HANDBOOK	TITLE IX
	<i>Gymnasium</i>	<i>Projection Room</i>	<i>Mantz Library Lounge</i>
2:30–3:00 PM	Men's Soccer Cross Country Volleyball	Football Offense	Football Defense
3:00–3:30 PM	Women's Soccer Cheer Dance	Football Defense	Football Offense
3:30–4:00 PM	Football	Men's Soccer Cross Country Volleyball	Women's Soccer Cheer Dance
4:00–4:30 PM	Football	Women's Soccer Cheer Dance	Men's Soccer Cross Country Volleyball

BETHEL COLLEGE

Student Orientation 2026

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2026 MOVE-IN DAY & ORIENTATION SCHEDULE (CONTINUED)

TIME	EVENT
4:30–5:30 PM	Individual Team Meetings with Coaches (Students & Parents) <i>Locations will be communicated during prior sessions.</i>
5:30–6:30 PM	Friends & Family Celebration Schultz Student Center – The Caf
8:00–9:30 PM	You've Arrived! New Place. New Faces. New Connections. Leave your room and meet your fellow Threshers! Location: Haury Hall Lounge Hosted by: Orientation Leaders

Saturday, August 8, 2026

TIME	EVENT
8:00 – 10:00 AM	Continental Breakfast Schultz Student Center – The Caf
11:30 AM–1:00 PM	Brunch Schultz Student Center – The Caf
1:00 PM–5:00 PM	Athletic Programming
5:00 PM–6:30 PM	Dinner Schultz Student Center – The Caf Orientation Leaders will eat with their groups and get to know students.
8:00 PM–10:00 PM	Athletic Programming

Sunday, August 9, 2026

TIME	EVENT
8:00–10:00 AM	Continental Breakfast Schultz Student Center – The Caf
9:30–10:30 AM	Worship Services Available Bethel College Mennonite Church Chapel Administration Building (AD), 2nd Floor Amy Marshall, College Pastor Orientation Leaders guide and attend with students.
11:30 AM–1:00 PM	Brunch Schultz Student Center – The Caf Orientation Leaders will eat with their groups and continue building connections.
1:00–5:00 PM	Athletic Programming
5:00–6:30 PM	Dinner Schultz Student Center – The Caf

7:00–10:00 PM	Athletic Programming
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BETHEL COLLEGE

Student Orientation Continued 2026

MONDAY, AUGUST 10 – WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12 ORIENTATION & ATHLETIC PROGRAMMING	
TIME	EVENT
7:00 AM–2:00 PM	1887 Café Open Schultz Student Center
7:00 AM–9:00 AM	Breakfast Schultz Student Center – The Caf
8:00 AM–5:00 PM	Thresher Shop Open Schultz Student Center
8:00 AM–5:00 PM	Campus Offices Open Administration Building • Will Academic Center • Luyken Fine Arts Center • Krehbiel Science Center
11:15 AM–1:00 PM	Lunch Schultz Student Center – The Caf
1:00–5:00 PM	Athletic Programming
5:00–6:30 PM	Dinner Schultz Student Center – The Caf
7:00–8:00 PM	Athletic Programming
9:00–10:00 PM	Orientation Leader Connection Series Monday: Team Trivia Thresher Gymnasium Tuesday: Minute-to-Win-It Sports Challenges Thresher Gymnasium Wednesday: Dodgeball Tournament Thresher Gymnasium



BETHEL COLLEGE

STUDENT ORIENTATION 2026

**NEW NON-ATHLETES AND
WINTER/SPRING ATHLETES ONLY**

AUGUST 13, 2026

MOVE-IN DAY & ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

STUDENTS INCLUDED

**ALL NON-ATHLETE STUDENTS • BASKETBALL
FLAG FOOTBALL • GOLF • SOFTBALL
TENNIS • TRACK & FIELD**

BETHEL COLLEGE

Student Orientation 2026

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2026	
TIME	EVENT
7:00–9:00 AM	Breakfast Schultz Student Center – The Caf
7:00 AM–2:00 PM	1887 Café Open Schultz Student Center
8:00 AM–2:00 PM	Residence Halls Open • Haury, Warkentin Court & Voth Hall Contact Person: Mr. Larry Rice Director of Residential Life and Student Engagement
8:00 AM–2:00 PM	Thresher Days Check-In & Move-In (Winter/Spring Athletes & Non-Athletes) Krehbiel Fine Arts Center Lobby
8:00 AM–5:00 PM	Thresher Shop Open
11:15 AM–1:00 PM	Lunch Schultz Student Center – The Caf
2:00–2:30 PM	Welcome Session for Students, Families & Friends Presenters: Dr. Wynn Goering, President Dr. Robert Milliman Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty Dr. MeShonya Wren-Coleman Vice President of Student Life and Dean of Students Dr. Heidi Hoskinson Vice President of Enrollment Management Hope Jacobs, SGA President Krehbiel Fine Arts Center Auditorium
3:00–4:00 PM	Campus Tour (Students) Orientation Leaders in Charge
3:00–4:00 PM	Friends & Family Panel (NO STUDENTS) Presenters: Dr. Robert Milliman Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty Dr. MeShonya Wren-Coleman Vice President of Student Life and Dean of Students Dr. Heidi Hoskinson Vice President of Enrollment Management Sheryl Wilson Vice President of Culture and Belonging Dr. Joseph Husong AVP of Employment Experience Liz Rempel, Mental Health & Wellness Counselor Hope Jacobs, SGA President Krehbiel Fine Arts Center Auditorium
5:00–6:30 PM	Friends & Family Celebration (Everyone) Schultz Student Center, Caf
7:00–9:00 PM	Freshman Feud: Survey Says... Welcome to Bethel! ALL Incoming New Students Krehbiel Fine Arts Center Auditorium Pizza Provided

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 2026	
TIME	EVENT
7:00–9:00 AM	Breakfast
7:00 AM–2:00 PM	1887 Café Open
8:00 AM–5:00 PM	Thresher Shop Open
8:00–8:30 AM	Residence Hall Meeting (Required for ALL New Students) Welcome to your home away from home! This session will introduce you to the Director of Residence Life and Community Assistants. Presenters: Mr. Larry Rice Director of Residential Life and Student Engagement Community Assistant Team Memorial Hall
8:30–9:00 AM	Title IX (Required for ALL New Students) Presenters: Janet Fulmer, Coordinator for Title IX and Team Memorial Hall
9:00–9:30 AM	Let's Talk Safety (Required for ALL New Students) Presenters: North Newton Police Department Harvey County Sheriff's Department Thresher Alert Committee Memorial Hall
9:30–11:30 AM	Academic Orientation (Required for ALL New Students) Presenters: Dr. Robert Milliman Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty Memorial Hall
11:15 AM–1:00 PM	Lunch Schultz Student Center, The Caf
1:15–1:45 PM	Your First Year: What to Expect & How to Thrive (Required for ALL New Students) Presenter: Liz Rempel Student Mental Health & Wellness Counselor Memorial Hall
2:15–3:15 PM	Foreign Language Competency Exams Will Academic Center, Rooms 212 & 213
3:00–3:45 PM	Possibilities Fair (Required for ALL New Students) Memorial Hall
4:00–5:00 PM	Employment Experience
5:00–7:00 PM	Dinner Schultz Student Center, The Caf
7:00–9:00 PM	Capture the Flag The Green
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2026	
TIME	EVENT
7:00 AM–3:00 PM	1887 Café Open
8:00 –10:00 AM	Continental Breakfast Schultz Student Center – The Caf

10:00–11:00 AM	Meet Your Host Family Students participating in the Host Family Program and along with their parents who may still be in town are invited to meet their matched host family and make an initial connection. <i>Schultz Student Center, 1887 Café</i>
11:30 AM–12:00 PM	Meet Your Host Family/FOOTBALL PLAYERS Students participating in the Host Family Program and along with their parents who may still be in town are invited to meet their matched host family and make an initial connection. <i>Schultz Student Center, 1887 Café</i>
11:30 AM–1:00 PM	Brunch <i>Schultz Student Center, The Caf</i>
1:00–3:00 PM	Campus-Wide Employment Experience Project
3:00–3:30 PM	Break
4:00–5:00 PM	Affinity Focus Groups Dr. Joseph Husong AVP for Employment Experience & Student Success
5:00–7:00 PM	Welcome Back Bash Food Options will be in <i>The Caf</i> Dessert Options will be served on <i>The Green</i> Games, Music and Fun!
SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2026	
TIME	EVENT
7:30–9:30 AM	Pancake Breakfast <i>Haury Hall Entrance Lounge</i>
9:30–10:30 AM	Worship Services Available Bethel College Mennonite Church Chapel <i>Administration Building (AD), 2nd Floor</i> Amy Marshall, College Pastor Orientation Leaders guide and attend with students.
11:30 AM–1:00 PM	Brunch <i>Schultz Student Center, The Caf</i>
1:00 – 2:00 PM	Employment Experience
2:00–3:00 PM	Roll On Thresher Session <i>Memorial Hall</i>
3:00–5:00 PM	Varsity Volleyball Game <i>Thresher Gymnasium</i>
5:00 – 7:00 PM	Dinner <i>Schultz Student Center, The Caf</i>
7:00 – 9:00 PM	ALL ATHLETIC MEETING <i>Krehbiel Fine Arts Center Auditorium</i>

Classes Start August 17, 2026



#WeAreThreshers

Welcome Week Schedule

August 17, 2026—August 22, 2026

August 17, 2026 at 7:00 AM -10:00 AM

KICK OFF WITH DONUTS IN FRONT OF ADMIN BUILDING

In Front of Admin Building

All Following Events are at 7:00 PM-9:00 PM

August 18, 2026

DEVELOPMENT, INCLUSION, AND VALUES COUNCIL (DIVCO)

Loteria, Taco Tuesday Featuring Tacos El Poderoso
Will Academic Center, Basement Level, and Outside

August 19, 2026

STUDENT ACTIVITIES COUNCIL (SAC)

Friendship Bracelet Making
Mantz Library, Main Floor

August 20, 2026

WORSHIP NIGHT WITH PASTOR AMY MARSHALL

The Green

August 21, 2026

THE OFFICE OF CULTURE AND BELONGING

Bethel's Got Talent Open Mic Night
1887 Café

August 22, 2026

DEVELOPMENT, INCLUSION, AND VALUES COUNCIL (DIVCO)

Water Day
The Green

BETHEL COLLEGE

Student Orientation 2026

KEY INFORMATION

Lost Your Room Key?

Email Larry Rice, Director of Residential Life and Student Engagement, at lrice@bethelks.edu.
Replacement cost: \$50.00 per key.

Locked Out of Your Room?

Call the Community Assistant (CA) Cell Phone: (316) 212-3694.

Lost Your Student ID?

Visit the Student Life Office (Administration Building, Basement Level). Replacement IDs are free.

Need Assistance Logging Into Your Email?

Contact IMS at ims@bethelks.edu or visit the IMS Office in the Mantz Library (Lower Level).
Additional support: support@bethelks.edu

Need to Receive a Package?

Mailing Address:
300 E. 27th St.
North Newton, KS 67117
Include your full name. The Thresher Shop will email you when your package arrives.

Receiving Mail?

Student mailboxes are located in the Schultz Student Center, to the right of the 1887 Café entrance.

Your Bethel Email = Your Campus Inbox

Check your bethelks.edu email regularly for campus announcements, events, professor communications, Convocation updates, and important reminders.

Questions, Comments, or Concerns?

Stop by the Student Life Office or email studentlife@bethelks.edu. We are happy to assist you.



BETHEL COLLEGE

Student Orientation 2026

ORIENTATION DICTIONARY

Bethel Terms Every Thresher Should Know

Starting college means learning a new language. Colleges often use words, abbreviations, and phrases that may be unfamiliar to new and returning students. Understanding these terms will help you navigate campus, communicate confidently, and make the most of your Bethel experience.

This Orientation Dictionary introduces common Bethel College terminology and campus language you'll hear throughout the year. Keep this section handy as a quick reference whenever you need it. Welcome to the Thresher Way—let's learn the language together!

Coming Up Next

The following pages contain commonly used Bethel College terms and their definitions, organized for quick reference throughout your first year.

The Thresher Way

BETHEL COLLEGE

Student Orientation 2026

ORIENTATION DICTIONARY

A

Academic Probation: Class performance is unsatisfactory and improvement is required

Academic Suspension: Student has a cumulative GPA below the suspension level at the conclusion of a fall or spring semester and dismissed from the college

Academic Year: August through July; when the majority of classes are offered

Add Course: Adding a class to your class schedule; this can only be done during specific times of the year called Enrollment Periods

Add/Drop Period: Period of time at the beginning of each semester when students can Add or Drop courses without financial or academic repercussions

Adjunct Instructor: Part-time instructor

Administration Building: sometimes called Admin or Ad, this is the white stone building in the middle of campus. It contains the Admissions, Registrar, Financial Aid, Student Billing, and Language Arts faculty offices

Attendance: The Federal Department of Education requires colleges and universities to verify student attendance for all federal financial aid recipients; professors must report attendance

Audit: Taking a course for no credit

B

Bachelor's Degree: A degree that requires about 120 credit hours to complete; usually completed in 4-5 years

BCAPA: acronym for the Bethel College Academy of the Performing Arts

BCWA: acronym for the Bethel College Women's Association

BIFL: acronym for the Basic Issues of Faith and Life course, which is a capstone course taken by all Bethel graduating seniors

Blue Book: A blue book containing writing paper, used for some essay-based tests

C

CA: acronym for Community Assistant, these are students assigned to a particular residence hall to assist students

Cabinet: Vice-President, Director, or Dean of each major discipline or department that reports directly to the president

Canvas: Online Learning Portal used by Bethel College; assignments, grades, course syllabi, and attendance for classes can typically be found here

Catalog: Publication produced each academic year that details policies, degree requirements, and course descriptions

CAD (Center for Academic Development): On-campus tutoring center in the Will Academic Center (WAC); unlimited tutoring is included in the cost of attendance at Bethel College

Complete Withdrawal: Withdrawing from every course in a particular semester

Comprehensive Test: Test covers topics addressed throughout the entire class

Convo (Convocation): A required course for all full-time students at Bethel College; a gathering of the entire Bethel community every Monday at 11:00am

Course Number: Identifies the course with an abbreviation of the department and a number (ex: CHE 101 is Introductory Chemistry)

CR/NC: acronym for Credit/No Credit. Certain courses can be taken CR/NC rather than for a grade. Ask your advisor if taking a course this way is a good fit for you.

Credit Hour: Unit of measurement used to indicate the amount of instructional and learning time required to achieve the students' learning outcomes of a college level course

Cumulative GPA: An average of all final grades individual students earns from the time they first enrolled in college to the completion of their education

D

Degree Check/Audit: Meeting with the Registrar to help check your progress in your area of study towards your degree

Department: Division within a college comprising one subject area or group of related subject areas

Drop Course: Officially removing a class from your schedule within the drop period at the beginning of a semester

E

Employment Experiences: The work-study program at Bethel College. Participating students receive a \$2500 grant based on 5 hours of work per week

Enrollment: The action of enrolling or being enrolled in classes, sometimes referred to as officially building a class schedule

F

FAC: acronym for the Luyken Fine Arts Center, a campus building containing classrooms, the auditorium, music and choir rooms, and the radio station

FAFSA: The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is a form completed by prospective and current college students to determine their eligibility for student financial aid

Fall Semester: Courses taken in August through December

Federal Loans: Students borrow money from the federal government, this form of financial aid has to be repaid to the federal government or its designated agency

Fees: Required financial charges added to a student's bill to support a specific program such as health insurance or student activities

FERPA: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act law that governs access to educational information and records by public entities

Finals: An examination at the end of a term, academic year, or particular class

First Year Seminar: The introductory class required for new freshman at Bethel, emphasizes writing and discussion skills

Full Time Student: Student enrolled in 12 or more credit hours during the term

G

Gala: Christmas party for students

General Education: The core or basic college courses that you are required to complete before graduating

Goering Hall: building between the tennis courts and the football field where the athletic coaches' offices are located

GPA: Grade Point Average

Grants: A sum of money given by a government or other organization for a particular purpose

H

Haury Hall: often referred to simply as Haury, this is the residential life building where all new freshman live together in a traditional college setup

Herman Bubbert: Bethel's perennial prankster, Herman was enrolled as a student in the late 1950's and early 1960's. He apparently came to classes and took tests, but no one will claim to ever have actually seen him. Ever since then, when there's a prank on campus, Herman Bubbert gets the blame (or cred-it).

Honor Roll: Student who has achieved academic distinction

Housing Selection: The orderly way in which students pick their housing residence for the next academic year

I

IMS: acronym for Information Media Services, this department is located under Mantz Library and offers technical support for all Bethel community members

K

KCAC: Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference. This is the athletic conference that Bethel College belongs to. There are 15-member schools across Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri.

KIPCOR: Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution. Reflects Bethel's commitment to peace and social justice

Krehbiel Auditorium: usually referred to as Krehbiel, this is the large auditorium in the Luyken Fine Arts Center where Convo presentations, music performances, dramas, and musicals are performed

Krehbiel Science Center: Building on campus which houses the Biology, Chemistry, Psychology and HHP departments and lab spaces, as well as the Observatory telescope

L

Liberal Arts: An educational tradition and philosophy that emphasizes critical thinking grounded in the exploration of the human experience and scientific inquiry

LEA (Liberal Education Advisor): Freshman advisors

M

M, T, W, R, F: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

Major: Specific subject area that students specialize in

Mantz Library: the main library on Bethel's campus and is attached to the historic Mennonite Library and Archives

May Term: 3-week class during the month of May

Mem/Mem Hall: Memorial Hall. This building houses a historic gym and is often used for large gatherings of students or community events

Mennonite: a Christian faith tradition that arose from the Reformation, some key elements of the Mennonite faith are adult baptism and freely chosen faith, as well as a commitment to peace and service

Mennonite Church USA: the Mennonite denomination that Bethel is affiliated with

Minor: Supplemental subject area of specialization; traditionally academic minors cannot be selected from the same field as the selected major

MLA (Mennonite Library and Archives): Historic building attached to Mantz Library. Also houses the Projection Room.

myBC: Online Campus portal, provides access to course enrollment, unofficial transcripts, etc.

N

NAIA: National Association of Intercollegiate Athletes. The athletic association that Bethel aligns with.

P

Part: Time Student - Student enrolled in 11 or less credit hours

Plagiarism: To use someone else's work as your own, this is a violation of Bethel's Academic Integrity policy

Pre-Requisite: - Class you must have successfully completed before taking the next in the sequence

Program Advisor: Advisor that performs a range of advising and support services to assist students enrolled in a particular academic program

R

Registrar: Responsible for academic records and credentials, from the transcript to the diploma

S

Scantron: Answer sheets used for testing purposes

Scholarships: A grant or payment made to support a student's education awarded on the basis of academic or other achievement

Schultz Student Center: Building on campus which houses the cafeteria (or Caf) and the 1887 Café, Thresher Shop, and mailboxes

Section Number: Identifies a specific offering of a course, follows the Course Number. ex. CHE 101-01 or CHE 101-02

Semester: A half-year term in a school or college

Semester GPA: Grade point average for that one semester/term

Spring Semester: Semester, typically begins after the winter break

SAC (Student Activity Council): A group that oversees planning of numerous student events

Student Email: Email the college uses to communicate important information to students

SGA (Student Government Association): Modeled after the U.S. federal government, Student Government Association (SGA) divides power between an executive, legislative, and judicial branch. Student government functions independently of the college administration

Student ID: Number that each student is given as a signifier of their identity on campus

Summer Semester: Semester falling in between spring and fall

Syllabus: An outline of the subjects in a course of study or teaching

T

The Caf - Short for Cafeteria, located in Schultz Student Center

Thresher: Bethel's athletic team name which comes from the threshing stone, once used to separate grain (Kansas wheat) from the chaff

Thresher Days: Bethel's new student welcome leading up to the first day of classes

Thresher Gymnasium: usually referred to as Thresher Gym, this building is the home of the men's and women's basketball, volleyball, cheer and dance teams

Thresher Shop: The prime place to purchase a gift for a Bethel parent, alumnus, prospective student or yourself. They also sell tickets for most events that place on campus, as well as offer services such as shipping and photocopying.

Thresher Stadium: This is the home of the men's football, men's and women's soccer, women's flag football, and men's and women's track and field teams

Thresher Way: The interconnected Faith, Academic, Community, Employment, and Service experiences that make up a Bethel education

Transcript: Official document that shows the courses you have taken, the grades earned and a cumulative grade point average (GPA)

Tuition: An amount of money charged by the college

U

Undergraduate: A student who is working towards a bachelors or equivalent degree

URICA: Undergraduate Research, Internship, and Creative Activity committee

V

Voth Hall – residence hall available to students during and after their sophomore or second year at Bethel

W

WAC (Will Academic Center): usually called the Will Academic Center, this building contains classroom spaces, the CAD (Center for Academic Development), Career Services Office, Student Success Office, Health Ministries Clinic, and Mental Wellness office as well as offices for faculty in the Bible and Religion, History and Political Science, Business, Nursing, Teachers Education, and Social Work departments

Warkentin Court (AKA "The Mods")- residence hall available to students during and after their sophomore or second year at Bethel

Withdraw: Dropping a class after the allowed add/drop period ends

Work Study: College program that enables students to work part-time while attending school

BETHEL COLLEGE

Student Orientation 2026

PAUSE & REFLECT

Your Thresher Journey Begins Here

Orientation is more than a schedule—it is the beginning of your Bethel story. Introduce yourself to someone new today, ask a question, and say yes to an opportunity that helps you grow. Small steps taken during your first week often lead to lifelong friendships and unforgettable experiences.

Before classes begin, take a few moments to reflect on what you hope to accomplish during your first year at Bethel College.

The Thresher Challenge

- Meet at least three new people.
- Learn the name of one faculty or staff member.
- Join at least one student organization or campus activity.
- Check your Bethel email every day.
- Ask for help when you need it.
- Be the example and leave Bethel better than you found it.

My First-Year Reflection

One goal I have this semester:

One person I want to meet:

One organization or activity I will join:

One way I will care for my well-being:

Something I am most excited about:

Welcome to the Bethel Family
Roll On, Threshers!

BETHEL COLLEGE

Student Orientation 2026

YOUR FIRST 30 DAYS AT BETHEL COLLEGE

Start Strong • Stay Connected • Be Successful

Your first month at Bethel College sets the foundation for your academic success, personal growth, and sense of belonging. Use this checklist to help you make the most of your first 30 days.

Week 1 – Get Connected

- Attend all Orientation activities.
- Meet your Resident Assistant (or Student Life staff if you commute).
- Introduce yourself to your professors.
- Check your Bethel email daily.
- Locate key offices: Student Life, Student Success Center, Financial Aid, Business Office, IMS, Library.

Week 2 – Build Relationships

- Attend at least one campus event.
- Join a club, organization, or intramural activity.
- Meet with your academic advisor.
- Eat with someone new and begin building your community.

Week 3 – Focus on Academics

- Review all course syllabi and important dates.
- Create a weekly study schedule.
- Visit the Student Success Center or tutoring services if needed.
- Ask for help early—don't wait.

Week 4 – Find Your Place

- Attend another Student Life or campus event.
- Explore service, leadership, or spiritual life opportunities.
- Reflect on your first month and set goals for the semester.
- The Bethel Success Promise

Show Up • Speak Up • Step Up

Every class matters. Every connection counts. Every student belongs.

Remember:

Asking for help is a sign of strength. The Bethel community is here to support you every step of the way.

BETHEL COLLEGE

Student Orientation 2026

2026-2027 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

FALL 2026 (UPDATED 3/18/26)

JULY

31 Payment arrangements due for fall semester at the Business Office; \$100 late payment arrangement fee for all returning students in effect on August 7, 2026

AUGUST

- 7 Move-in, late registration, and payment for all fall athletes
- 13 Move-in, late registration, and payment for all new students
- 13 Move-in, late registration, and payment for all returning students
- 14-16 THRESHER DAYS – REQUIRED ACTIVITIES FOR NEW TRANSFERS/FRESHMEN
- 17 First half semester & full semester classes begin (unless otherwise stated in the course schedule)
- 21 Last day to add a full semester class; last day to enroll in first half semester classes; last day to drop first half semester classes without a record or \$15 drop fee
- 28 Last day to drop a full semester course without a record or \$15 withdrawal fee; last day to change registration from letter grade to audit or vice versa; Directed Study forms due in Registrar's Office
- 31 \$15 withdrawal fee in effect

SEPTEMBER

- 7 LABOR DAY - NO CLASSES
- 14 Registrar's 20th Reporting Day
- 16 Last day to withdraw from first half semester classes; last day to request credit/no credit grading (CR/NC) for first half semester classes
- 17 SERVICE DAY - No daytime classes; evening classes meet at 7:00 pm

OCTOBER

- 7 Last day of first half semester courses; mid-term
- 8 Second half semester classes begin
- 12-13 FALL BREAK - through 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 13
- 14 Mid-term grades due at 8 a.m. on Wednesday
- 17-18 FALL FESTIVAL WEEKEND
- 20 Last day to enroll in second half semester classes; last day to drop second half semester classes without a record or \$15 drop fee
- 21 Last day to withdraw from full semester classes; last day to request CR/NC grading for full semester classes

NOVEMBER

- 9 Last day to withdraw from second half semester classes; last day to request CR/NC grading for second half semester classes
- 25-27 No Classes - THANKSGIVING BREAK (NOTE: RESIDENCE HALLS WILL BEGIN A "SOFT" CLOSE AT 6 PM, NOV. 24; REOPEN AT 1 PM, NOV. 29; THE CAF WILL NOT BE OPEN OVER BREAK; WILL REOPEN SUNDAY, NOV. 29 FOR THE EVENING MEAL)

DECEMBER

- 7 Reading day – no classes
- 8-10 Final exams (NOTE: RESIDENCE HALLS CLOSE AT 6 PM, DEC. 10; THE CAF WILL CLOSE AT 1 P.M., DEC. 10 AND WILL NOT BE OPEN OVER BREAK)
- 14 Fall grades due at noon on Monday
- 21 Payment arrangements due for spring semester at the Business Office; \$100 late payment arrangement fee for all returning students in effect on January 11, 2026 end of day

SPRING 2027

JANUARY

- 8 New student registration and orientation; tuition and fees payment at the Business Office - \$100 late financial arrangement fee in effect beginning January 11
- 10 Residence halls reopen for new and returning students at 1:00 pm (THE CAF WILL REOPEN SUNDAY, JAN. 10 FOR THE EVENING MEAL)
- 11 First half semester & full semester classes begin (unless otherwise stated in the schedule)
- 15 Last day to enroll in full semester classes; last day to enroll in first half semester classes; last day to drop first half semester classes without a record or \$15 withdrawal fee
- 18 Martin Luther King Day – no classes
- 22 Last day to drop a full semester course without a record or \$15 drop fee; last day to change registration from letter grade to audit or vice versa; Directed Study forms due in Registrar's Office
- 25 \$15 withdrawal fee in effect

FEBRUARY

- 8 Registrar's 20th Reporting Day
- 10 Last day to withdraw from first half semester classes; last day to request credit/no credit grading (CR/NC) for first half semester classes

MARCH

- 1 EARLY ENROLLMENT FOR FALL 2027 AND SPRING 2028 BEGINS 11:59 pm
- 2 Assessment Day- No Classes
- 3 Last Day of first half semester courses; mid-term
- 4 Second half semester classes begin
- 8 Mid-term grades due at noon.
- 10 Last day to enroll in second half semester classes; last day to drop second half semester classes without a record or \$15 drop fee
- 12 Last day to withdraw from full semester classes; last day to request CR/NC grading for full semester classes
- 15-19 SPRING BREAK (NOTE: RESIDENCE HALLS CLOSE AT 6 PM, MARCH 12; OPEN AT 1 PM, MARCH 21; THE CAF WILL CLOSE AT 1 P.M. ON MARCH 12 AND WILL REOPEN FOR THE EVENING MEAL ON MARCH 21; THE CAF WILL NOT BE OPEN OVER BREAK)
- 26 GOOD FRIDAY - NO CLASSES

APRIL

- 9 Last day to withdraw from second half semester classes; last day to request CR/NC grading for second half semester classes
- 23 Graduating students only grades due at 12 NOON on Friday

MAY

- 3 Reading Day - no classes
- 4-6 Final exams (THE CAF WILL CLOSE AT 1 P.M. ON MAY 6)
- 7 NOON - Deadline for grade changes for graduating students only (NOTE: RESIDENCE HALLS CLOSE AT 6 P.M.)
- 9 Baccalaureate and Commencement
- 10 Spring grades due at 8 a.m. on Monday; (Note: RESIDENCE HALLS CLOSE AT NOON FOR GRADUATING STUDENTS)
- 17 MAY TERM begins; SUMMER TERM begins

JUNE

- 4 MAY TERM ends
- 7 MAY TERM grades due

JULY**AUGUST**

- 2 SUMMER TERM ends; grades are due