

# BETHESDA NEWS

## Welcome to Worship!

### January 18, 2026

---

#### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

**"A community caring for all God's people, being transformed by Christ's love, serving others as a witness of God's grace and peace."**  
**CONNECT, EQUIP, SEND**

---

## MINISTRYTEAM

Pastor Andrea Wall: 402-710-3195

[andrea@mainstaycomm.net](mailto:andrea@mainstaycomm.net)

Pastor Chelsea Vaught: 402-363-7004

[chelsea.vaught@bethesdamc.org](mailto:chelsea.vaught@bethesdamc.org)

(On Sabbatical)

Pastor J Epp: 402-366-7475

[j.epp@bethesdamc.org](mailto:j.epp@bethesdamc.org)

---

## CONTACTUS

Bethesda Mennonite Church  
930 16<sup>th</sup> Street PO Box 130  
Henderson, NE 68371-0130  
Church Office: 402-723-4562

BMC Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

BMC Office Manager Email: [bethesda@mainstaycomm.net](mailto:bethesda@mainstaycomm.net)

BMC Treasurer Email: [treasurer@bethesdamc.org](mailto:treasurer@bethesdamc.org)

BMC Website: [www.bethesdamc.org](http://www.bethesdamc.org)

---

## WORSHIP SERVICES

Can be viewed/listened to live...

- † Livestream @ <http://bethesdamc.org/watch-live>
- † Facebook
- † KOOL Radio 103.5 FM
- † Local Cobalt Cable Channel 3207

**Reminder...**

- † The east doors will remain open during office hours 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday. If you drop off items in the Et Cetera room and need to have the north door unlocked, please call the office.

# WEEKLY CALENDAR

<i>Sunday, January 18</i>	<i>SLCC Winter Retreat (Grades 5-8)</i> 8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:40 a.m. Children's Sunday School/Q&A with Pastor J and Lisa Epp Catechism Retreat
<i>Monday, January 19</i>	7:00 p.m. Church Council
<i>Tuesday, January 20</i>	9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 7:00 p.m. Board of Business 8:00 p.m. Board of Education 8:00 p.m. Board of Service & Outreach
<i>Wednesday, January 21</i>	12:00 p.m. Bulletin Announcements Due 6:30 p.m. High School Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Cornerstone 7:00 p.m. Midweek 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Church Offices Closed
<i>Friday, January 23</i>	8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet
<i>Sunday, January 25</i>	9:30 a.m. Worship – Pastor J Vote Message: Pastor Andrea Wall Music: Sandra Quiring, Pianist Offering to God 10:40 a.m. Sunday School

## CHURCH FAMILY

**Please keep in prayer those with health concerns, grief, or family needs:**  
Rachelle Schweitzer, Lisa Friesen, Bryan Bechtel, Wyona Friesen, Elly Siebert (Marge Siebert's granddaughter), Dee Hansen and the family of Blanche Franz.

### Full Time Ministry Connection

Jaden and Katelyn Regier (Jaden is the grandson of Don and Donna Regier and Katelyn is the daughter of Alan and Kim Janzen and the granddaughter of Darlene Janzen) – Teachers at the Chiang Rai International School in Chiang Rai, Thailand

### Death

Blanche Franz, 95, passed away on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, in Henderson, Nebraska. She is survived by her children: Shari Peters of Golden, Mo., Mel

(Becky) Franz of Henderson, Carolyn (Burdon) Peters of Henderson and Randy (Christie) Franz of Golden, Mo.; grandchildren: Tammi Sahling, Luke Peters, Angie Friesen, Jill (Mark) Carrillo, Tessa Glinsmann, Douglas Franz, Jeff (Tami) Peters, Greg Peters, Lance (Kirsten) Peters, Caleb (Savannah) Franz, Hadley (Julie) Franz, Audra (Ben) Mohnkern, Olivia (Adam) Jahnke; 32 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild and sister-in-law, Wilma Dick of Henderson. Please remember to keep Blanche's family in your prayers.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Pastor J Epp Affirmation Vote

The Board of Deacons have unanimously voted to recommend that the Bethesda congregation call Pastor J Epp for a five-year term, running from January 26, 2026 to January 26, 2031. The Deacon Board recognizes and appreciates the many gifts God has given Pastor J and are excited to recommend him to join our ministry team. Today, January 18, there will be a question and answer time in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School Hour. A congregational vote will be held following the worship service on Sunday, January 25, 2026. Absentee ballots are available during regular office hours from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

### Annual Meeting

The 2026 Annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, February 1, 2026. Annual reports will be available to pick up following the worship service on January 18, 2026. Absentee ballots will be available during office hours beginning Monday, January 19 and must be returned no later than Thursday, January 29, 2026. The youth will be serving us lunch as a fundraiser. Be sure to join us as we look back on 2025!



### New Address or Phone Number

If your address or phone number has changed please let the church office know. You may email [bethesda@mainstaycomm.net](mailto:bethesda@mainstaycomm.net) or call 402.723.4562 with the information.

### School Kit Bags

School kit fabric for bags has been cut at this time. They are available to be picked up in the office across from the church office. Thank you!

# BETHESDA WOMEN'S MINISTRIES



## *Winter Sewing Days*

### **Bethesda Women's Ministries Winter Sewing Days**

Are you looking for a way to be God's Hands in this hurting world? Do you need a place where you can fellowship and be of service to others for a few hours? Then join Bethesda Women's Ministries at their Winter Sewing Days, tie some knots in a comforter, put a few stitches in a quilt or tea towels, crochet/knit a prayer shawl, or just come for the Fellowship. All projects benefit MCC Winter Warm Up or the Nebraska MCC Relief Sale. The upcoming January date is **Tuesday, January 27, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.** Come as your schedule allows. Lunch will be served at Noon. You are also welcome to come just for Lunch and Fellowship. Winter Sewing days are the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of January, February and March.

Come for a time of service and fellowship.

### **Bethesda Women's Bible Study**

The Bethesda Women's Bible Study led by Linda Goertzen will begin a study of Mark's Gospel on Monday, January 26 from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

We will have 11 sessions in the first Gospel ever written. Lesson 1 will cover Mark 1 - chapter 2:17. Please bring your Bible and something to write with. We will meet in the Powerhouse Room (old choir roomn) just east of the sanctuary. All are welcome!

# YOUTH MINISTRIES

## **5<sup>TH</sup> Quarter**

Living Hope Church will be holding a 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter on Friday, January 23 following the H&H basketball games. Come for pizza, snacks and games and bring a friend along with you!

## **Catechism**

Today following Sunday School the 2025 Catechism group will meet for an afternoon retreat to celebrate their baptism and discuss how to live into our life following Jesus within the body of Christ.

The 2026 catechism/baptism invitation letters for high school youth will be going out in the next month.

If you are an adult and would be interested in being baptized or becoming a member of Bethesda please let us know. You can contact any pastor, deacon or the church office.



### New Arrivals!

We have so many new books we are excited about for all ages! Here are a couple of the newest series for elementary kids:

- **The Restorationists**: This series for kids is a fantasy fiction series that explores the power of art and the adventures of a secret society called the Restorationists. Young heroes Vincent and his cousin Georgia discover that paintings can be portals to new worlds filled with danger and excitement. They must protect art and uncover the truth about their family's heritage while facing various challenges along the way. The series is designed for readers age 9 to 12.

Don't miss any of the books in the Restorationists trilogy: BENEATH THE SWIRLING SKY, BETWEEN FLOWERS AND BONES, BEYOND THE FAR HORIZON.

- **Winnie The Early Years**: Winnie could ride horses before she could walk but training them is another story. Join eight-year-old Winnie as she learns the fine art of horse gentling from her horse wrangler mom on the family ranch in a series of four books: A HORSE'S BEST FRIEND, HORSE GENTLER IN TRAINING, LUCKY FOR WINNIE, and HOMESICK HORSE.



# MISSIONS LOCAL/GLOBAL

## A sending prayer for Ron and Wes Goertzen

During worship service on Sunday, January 25, 2026 we will be offering a sending prayer for Ron and Wes Goertzen as they head to the Congo at the beginning of February.

## MCC's Great Winter Warm-up

The chill of winter is settling in and that means it's time for **MCC's Great Winter Warm-up!** From January to March, the goal is 10,000 comforters to help spread warmth, joy and comfort to people around the world. Start plans now to gather with friends and family to make comforters for MCC this winter! Find inspiring stories and instructions at [mcc.org/gww](http://mcc.org/gww).

## Calling for 2026-27 MCC SALT Participants!

MCC's Serving and Learning Together (SALT) program is a year-long cross-cultural experience for young adults ages 18-30. It's a chance to immerse yourself in another culture and grow in ways you never imagined. Whether your interest is in a specific region of the world, specific country, type of work or a language, there are numerous possibilities waiting to be explored. There is no cost to participate and there is student loan assistance available. You'll grow. You'll experience the world, find purpose, and you will Serve and Learn Together. Dates: August 12th, 2026 – July 17th, 2027. Visit [mcc.org/salt](http://mcc.org/salt) for more information, applications due Feb. 15.

## GIVING ATTENDANCE

Sunday, January 11, Worship Attendance: 231

Sunday, January 11, Sunday School Attendance: 92

Worship Offering: January 11, 2026

Bethesda General Operating Receipts	\$7,913.00
Sunday School Offering	\$213.00
<b>Total Sunday Offering</b>	<b>\$8,126.00</b>

# Jesus Clears the Temple

S W A C S K V J G T W H S W E J L U U W O G A H  
N X Y G W O F B L M N V K R Y T C X U K F E P H  
N U T H J N O R Z M H A E G R X M M A V Q E S S  
R H I Z T P J M I T L C E T G Q B P R A I S E T  
W P W H U M B L E S N V W U N H C V K J Z B E N  
J X N L U K F L L I E L L U A W L J U H T L B A  
W S J T X B O V S I D Y S E P P V G D F A G G H  
S J Q G S U Y N L R F R N C D L H T U M O D E C  
L X D O I F I E F U I Z J O F O G M B T Y C G R  
A B D H N W B G Z H W G Q U L H V S A N I O Q E  
U Q S Z G W Q N U O R H H Y Q Y L B I F E W B M  
W Y I C V J K F R P I B M T T T M A I A O M S Q  
U I N M B D X S A O V C S Y E D H R D Y T O R Q  
Q L C Y F N H V S H S G N Q D O C N W Y T M N X  
W G E B F I C Q N I L D E T I A U K V Y C G L S  
F B R D P M X J K M O Y Y A S Z N S L M T D D U  
V Y E W R J H Y W G S O C U N E Q E O V K W W S  
Z N P F T P O M S E J L U Y T K U N V H U N U E  
C S J S E V R C G L J O B Y V N E J P G D L K J  
U D J C Q I E E R P H V M P A Y J O D D V B O T  
Z H P Q K D D Q U M Y E U M D Y O H E T I L O P  
I S L A M I N A W E H B M X T L A N K H O X U X  
C Q I J O K N N H T O E Y O R Z N G K E M V B W  
Y K P J E A L O U S Y N K D E G N I K B J J L C

Sacrifice	Righteous	Merchants	Insincere	Jealousy	Emmanuel
Worship	Sincere	Believe	Animals	Temple	Praise
Polite	Humble	Money	Lambs	Jesus	Angry
Whip	Sing	Love	King	John	Jews
Holy	God				

# JESUS CLEANSSES THE TEMPLE

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



# Cleaning House

So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. John 2:15 (NIV)

Choose the word that best matches the definition.

Answers can be found in John 2:13-16 (NIV)



- \_\_\_ 1. The Son of God  
A. Jerusalem B. Passover C. Dove D. Jesus
- \_\_\_ 2. A place where people gather to buy and sell things  
A. temple B. house C. market D. court
- \_\_\_ 3. A small, wild pigeon  
A. cattle B. sheep C. dove D. chicken
- \_\_\_ 4. A piece of furniture with a smooth, flat surface and four legs  
A. table B. chair C. whip D. bed
- \_\_\_ 5. Coins or bills used to pay for something  
A. money B. cattle C. sheep D. dove
- \_\_\_ 6. A building dedicated to the worship of God  
A. temple B. market C. table D. courts
- \_\_\_ 7. An animal raised for its wool  
A. dove B. cattle C. whip D. sheep
- \_\_\_ 8. A strip of leather or cord fastened to a handle  
A. table B. whip C. money D. dove
- \_\_\_ 9. A Jewish holiday celebrating being freed from slavery in Egypt  
A. Christmas B. Easter C. Passover D. Thanksgiving
- \_\_\_ 10. A building where a family lives  
A. market B. house C. temple D. tent

## Jesus clears the Temple.

Matthew 21:12-16; Mark 11:12-19; Luke 19:45-48



# CONNECT

For more information, complete the form below and drop this tear-off in the offering or the church office.

I would like more information about:

<input type="checkbox"/> Children's Programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Serving
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Baptism
<input type="checkbox"/> Bible Studies	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership
<input type="checkbox"/> Choirs	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

I would like to receive the weekly e-Bethesda News and bulletin. Please enter your email address: \_\_\_\_\_

I am new to Bethesda Mennonite Church.

Please update/add my contact information to the Bethesda yearbook.

Name	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Email	
Home Phone	
Cell Phone	

My age range:

<input type="checkbox"/> Elementary School	<input type="checkbox"/> Junior High
<input type="checkbox"/> High School	<input type="checkbox"/> College
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult	

Comments/Bulletin Announcement...

**MESSAGE NOTES**  
**"In My Father's House"**  
**Pastor J Epp**  
**John 2:13-25 (NRSV)**