

BETHESDA NEWS

Welcome to Worship!

March 1, 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

MINISTRY TEAM

Pastor Andrea Wall: 402-710-3195

andrea@mainstaycomm.net

Pastor Chelsea Vaught: 402-363-7004

chelsea.vaught@bethesdamc.org

(On Sabbatical)

Pastor J Epp: 402-366-7475

j.epp@bethesdamc.org

CONTACT US

Bethesda Mennonite Church
930 16th 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

BMC Treasurer Email: treasurer@bethesdamc.org

BMC Website: 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

Sunday, March 1

Second Sunday of Lent

8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:40 a.m. Sunday School

Monday, March 2

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Church Council

Tuesday, March 3

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday, March 4

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

Friday, March 6

Sunday, March 8

Third Sunday of Lent

8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet

9:30 a.m. Worship

Message: Pastor J Epp

Music: Marilyn Kroeker, Pianist/Worship Band

Offering to God

10:40 a.m. Sunday School

12:00 p.m. Potluck

CHURCH FAMILY

Please keep in prayer those with health concerns, grief, or family needs:

Rachelle Schweitzer, Lisa Friesen, Bryan Bechtel, Elly Siebert (Margie Siebert's granddaughter), Andrew Regier, the family of Jeannie Bose (Kim Epp's mother), the family of Virginia Barnes (Rodney & Debbie Barnes, mother of Rodney) and the family of Roma (Friesen) Epp.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hometown Fresh

The Food Bank of Lincoln will begin bringing their Hometown Fresh mobile food pantry to Henderson on the second Wednesday of each month starting on Wednesday, March 11. The Hometown Fresh program is committed to serving neighbors with limited access to food (such as not having a grocery store in town). The trailer is equipped with refrigeration, freezer and shelving units and



welcomes neighbors to walk through and select fresh produce, meat, dairy and shelf-stable items.

The trailer will be parked in the Bethesda parking lot on March 11 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. and the food is free and the trailer is open to everyone. We are looking for a few volunteers from the church and community to help man the trailer when it is here. Volunteers would mainly be assisting their neighbors through the trailer and helping to carry bags to their cars. Contact the church office at 402.723.4562 or bethesda@mainstaycomm.net or the Henderson Chamber at 402.723.4228 or hendersonnebraska@gmail.com if interested in volunteering.

Church Council Meeting Rescheduled

The Church Council will meet on Monday, March 2 at 7:00 p.m. This is a rescheduled meeting from Monday, February 23, 2026.

My Coins Count

Coins add up. Each year, spare change collected by churches, children and families add up to more than \$600,000 for MCC's work around the world. **Beginning March 1, 2026**, bring your spare change for the children to collect during offering time!



White Cookbooks Are Here!!

The White Cookbook is officially digitized, printed and in the church office as you read this! This is the fourth printing of the Bethesda Mennonite Church Cookbook thanks to the Bethesda Women's Mission. The price has gone up a smidge as they are now available for \$25.00. Stop in and pick one, two, three, or four up because you never know when the next White Cookbook Drought will hit!



Come and Pinch Verenika

We will be making verenika for the Nebraska MCC Sale on Saturday, March 14 starting at 8:00 a.m. north of the church kitchen. No experience needed... we offer on the job training. Come for an hour, pop in after work, stay the whole time, whatever you schedule allows.

Swan Lake Christian Camp Annual Meeting

The Swan Lake Christian Camp Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, March 8 at 4:00 p.m. The meeting will probably be held in the new worship center so you can see the progress being made. A light lunch will follow. RSVPs are appreciated. Contact Judi Kroeker at 605.326.5690 or www.myslcc.com.





New Address or Phone Number

If your address or phone number has changed please email the church office at 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. If you have any questions contact Lindy Siebert at 402.723.4376 or Deanna Steingard at 402.366.6284. Thank you!

Bethesda Women's Bible Study

The Bethesda Women's Bible Study led by Linda Goertzen is currently studying Mark's Gospel. The Bible Study takes place each Monday from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

There will be 11 sessions during which the group will explore further the first Gospel ever written. Please bring your Bible and something to write with. We will meet in the Powerhouse Room (old choir room) just east of the sanctuary. All are welcome!

BETHESDAWOMEN'S MINISTRIES



Bethesda Women's Ministries Winter Sewing Days

Interested in making a comforter for MCC? Join Bethesda Women's Ministries and help MCC's Great Winter Warm-Up reach their goal of collecting 10,000 comforters for relief work around the world. Tie some knots in a comforter, put some stitches in a quilt or tea towels, crochet/knit a prayer shawl, or just come for the Fellowship. Lunch served at Noon. You are welcome to come just for Lunch and Fellowship. March dates are **Tuesday, March 10 and March 24, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.** Help us spread warmth where it's needed most.



Schedule of Events

*Friday,
March 27*

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Booth & Auction Setup - Volunteers are welcome to help us get the convention center ready for the sale. Setup is a come-and-go time slot, but all booths must be ready to open at 4:00 p.m. A free will donation lunch will be provided during setup.

10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Donation Check-In – Auction donations can be checked-in for the sale using the doors on the south side of the building.

3:30 – 8:00 p.m. Bidder Numbers Available - Bidder numbers are good for both days and can be used to purchase items at all auctions, booths, and meals. Once done with your purchases for the day, return to the same location to settle your bill (cash, check and credit cards accepted)

4:00 – 7:00 p.m. Evening Meal Options

- **Windsor Loin/BBQ Chicken Meal:** Your choice of BBQ chicken breast or a Windsor loin served with au gratin potatoes, green beans, roll and a drink.
- **Pork Sandwich Booth:** Pork sandwiches and chips.

4:00 – 8:00 p.m. Booths & Concessions Open - About MCC, New Year's Cookies, Apple Prieshka, Market, Espresso Bar, Ten Thousand Villages, Ice Cream Bars, Pie by the Slice, Mementos, Quilting Supplies, Golf Tournament, Pork Sandwiches, Drinks, My Coins Count

6:00 – TBD p.m. Friday Night Auction – The Friday night auction will feature a variety of auction items including quilts, comforters, wall hangings, table runners, crafts, furniture, tools, home décor, toys, meats, and much more.

**Saturday,
March 28**

7:00 – 9:00 a.m. Breakfast – Pancakes served with eggs, sausage, coffee and milk or juice.

8:00 – 10:00 a.m. Donation Check-In – Auction donations that didn't make it to the sale on Friday can still be checked in on Saturday. Earlier check-in is preferred since the auction also starts at 8:00 a.m. Use the doors on the south side of the building.

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Booths & Concessions Open – About MCC, New Year's Cookies, Apple Prieshka, Market, Espresso Bar, Ten Thousand Villages, Ice Cream Bars, Pie by the Slice, Mementos, Quilting Supplies, Golf Tournament, Pork Sandwiches, Drinks, My Coins Count

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Main Auction – The Saturday auction will feature a variety of auction items including quilts, comforters, wall hangings, table runners, crafts, furniture, tools, home décor, toys, meats, and much more.

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Kid's Auction - Head over to the Kid's Corner for an auction where the kids get to bid. All children must be accompanied by an adult with a bidder number.

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Noon Meal Options -

– **Verenika Meal:** Traditional Mennonite verenika (boiled or fried) served with cream gravy, ham, coleslaw, zwieback and a drink.

– **Taco Meal:** Taco bar and a drink.

– **Pork Sandwich Booth:** Pork sandwiches and chips.

*** Surplus Auction – A surplus (leftover food) auction follows with packaged leftovers from breakfast and the noon meals as well as anything not sold at the booths.*

2026 MCC Sale News and Updates

The 2026 Nebraska MCC Sale is set for March 27 and 28 at the Holthus Convention Center in York. The annual fundraiser for Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) is a two day event that is free to attend and features a variety of food offerings as well as an auction of quilts, furniture, tools, handmade items, gift baskets, toys, and more. Everyone is welcome and we look forward to fellowship with you! For more information check out

www.nebraskamccsale.org.

Updates for the 2026 sale are as follows:

Registration

- Donation registration for this year's sale is now open!
 - Important deadlines:
 - Quilt Deadline - March 1
 - All other donations - March 22
- Quilts registered by the deadline (March 1) will be sold on Saturday and featured on the website and in the quilt guide. Quilts registered after the deadline will not be included in the guide and will be sold at the Friday evening auction.
 - Reminders when registering:
 - We've added a size field. Indicate if it is a king, queen, full, etc.
 - In the description, include the name of the pattern and the author's name if it is not your original design.
 - If submitting a project for the fat quarter color challenge, include that in your description.
 - Pictures should be uploaded during the registration process (at least 250 KB in size). Preferred pictures:
 - One picture of the full quilt
 - One with a corner folded back
 - One with up close details
 - Print the final registration page and pin it to the quilt so it can be identified at the sale.

Quilts and More

- We will also have a "Quilts and More" booth this year. You may donate clean fabric (please indicate how many yards or dimensions of each piece), sewing notions, sewing/embroidery/quilting kits, patterns and unfinished projects.

Meals

- There have been some slight changes in when meals will be served:
 - Friday Night Meal - Windsor Loin and BBQ Chicken Meal

- Saturday Lunch Meals - Taco Bar or Verenika
- The Pork Sandwich Meal will be available both days

Relief Kits

• MCC collects various different Relief Kits. Examples include but are not limited to Hygiene Kits, School Kits, Infant Care Kits and more. If you would like to donate, you can bring a variety of items or choose a specific kit as a church. Check out the website for the list of items accepted.

My Coins Count

• Don't wait to start collecting coins! There are links for resources on the MCC "My Coins Count" page on their website. Bring you coins to worship starting March 1.

MCC Golf Tournament

• The MCC Golf Tournament will be located at Centura Hills Golf Club in Cairo, NE on May 16th.

Help Needed for Verenike Meal

Help is needed for the annual MCC Sale verenike meal on Saturday, March 28 at the Holthus Center in York. Areas of need include helping with set-up, serving food, waiting tables, and cleaning up. Donations of zwieback and jelly are also needed. If you are able to help, please sign up on the east bulletin board or contact Evan & Kristen Friesen at 402-710-8586.



New Library Books!

Restoration Chronicles Book 1: Return To Me by Lynn Austin

After decades of exile, the prophecies are coming true - King Cyrus has declared the Jews may return to Jerusalem. Iddo, a priest, is sure this a sign of God's renewed favor. But nothing about their journey to the Promised Land is easy. As hardships mount, even the faithful, like Iddo's beloved wife, Dinah, question the sacrifice of following God's leading. Zechariah, Iddo's oldest grandson, feels torn between his grandfather's ancient beliefs and the family they left behind. But one life-changing encounter with the Holy One gives him insight that will change Zechariah and history forever.

MISSIONSLOCAL/GLOBAL

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.

MCC Central States Annual Meeting

Please join MCC Central States for our Annual Meeting as we hear an MCC update from MCC U.S. Board Chair Emerson Leshner. The meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 7 at MCC Central States, 121 E. 30th in North Newton, KS. If you would like to join us via Zoom, please email tinaschrag@mcc.org for a link to the meeting.

MCC is recruiting Canner Operators

MCC is recruiting Canner Operators to join its mobile meat canning team, which prepares about **600,000 cans of meat** annually for global communities in need. These operators travel to **30 U.S. locations** from October to April, managing machinery, operating steam and pressure vessels, coordinating volunteers, and ensuring compliance with USDA regulations. Make new friends while participating in **a unique service adventure!** Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until April 25th OR until position is filled. Apply online at mcc.org/careers. For more information, call 1-888-563-4676 or email marilyn timers@mcc.org.

GIVING ATTENDANCE

Sunday, February 22, Worship Attendance: 190

Sunday, February 22, Sunday School Attendance: 92

Worship Offering: February 22, 2026

Bethesda General Operating Receipts	\$7,937.00
Sunday School Offering	\$137.00
Total Sunday Offering	\$8,074.00

John 13

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

Simon Peter	Returning	Disciples	Betrayal
Festival	Passover	Glorify	Table
Bread	basin	Water	Jesus
Judas	Meal	Feet	

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...

MESSAGENOTES

"Congregational Reflections"

Pastor Andrea Wall & Pastor J Epp

John 13:1-17 (NRSV)