

BETHESDA NEWS

Welcome to Worship!

March 8, 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

<i>Sunday, March 8</i>	<i>Third Sunday of Lent</i> 8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:40 a.m. Sunday School 12:00 p.m. Potluck
<i>Monday, March 9</i>	9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study
<i>Tuesday, March 10</i>	8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. BWM Winter Sewing Days 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 8:00 p.m. Sunday School Committee
<i>Wednesday, March 11</i>	12:00 p.m. Bulletin Announcements Due 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Hometown Fresh Trailer in Bethesda Parking Lot 6:30 p.m. High School Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Cornerstone 7:00 p.m. Midweek 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
<i>Friday, March 13</i>	Church Offices Closed 4:00 p.m. MCC Verenike Dough Mixing in Church Kitchen
<i>Saturday, March 14</i>	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. MCC Verenike Making North of the Church Kitchen
<i>Sunday, March 15</i>	<i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i> 8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet 9:30 a.m. Worship Message: Pastor J Epp Music: Sandra Quiring, Pianist/Chancel Choir 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, Elly Siebert (Margie Siebert's granddaughter), Andrew Regier, Kathy Epp, Dean Brehm and Hillary Bechtel, Ecuador Mission Trip.

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.

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. Don't forget to 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 today, 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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Swan Lake Christian Camp Dates



Mark your calendars now and sign up for camp this summer at Swan Lake Christian Camp! If you sign up before May 1, campers will get a free t-shirt (overnight camps only). Your child/children can attend Swan Lake Christian Camp at NO CHARGE. To register, go to www.myslcc.com, and check the appropriate church scholarship amount. Bethesda Mennonite Church will be billed at the end of the summer for those who attended.

(Grades Based on 25-26 School Year)

Summer 2026 Dates

Day Camp 1 (Age 5 – 2 nd Grade): June 4	5 th & 6 th Grade 1: June 28 – July 2
Day Camp 2 (Age 5 – 2 nd Grade): June 5	5 th & 6 th Grade 2: July 26-31
Day Camp 3 (Age 5 – 2 nd Grade): July 10	7 th & 8 th Grade 1: June 7-12
3 rd & 4 th Grade 1: June 1-3	7 th & 8 th Grade 2: July 12-17
3 rd & 4 th Grade 2: July 6-9	9 th – 12 th Grade: June 21-26



New Library Books!

Keepers of the Covenant - The Restoration Chronicles by Lynn Austin - In one life changing moment, the lives of the exiles in Babylon are thrown into despair when a decree from the king's palace calls for the annihilation of every Jewish man, woman, and child throughout the empire in less than one year. Ezra, a brilliant scholar, soon finds himself called upon to become the leader of his people. Forced to rally an army when all his training has been in the Torah, he struggles to bring hope in a time of utter despair, when dreams of the future - of family and love - seem impossible.



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:
 - All other donations - March 22 (Quilt deadline was March 1)
- 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 each Sunday leading up to the sale.

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.

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 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 marilypeters@mcc.org.

GIVING ATTENDANCE

Sunday, March 1, Worship Attendance: 183

Sunday, March 1, Sunday School Attendance: 83

Worship Offering: March 1, 2026

Bethesda General Operating Receipts	\$7,413.00
Sunday School Offering	\$113.00
Total Sunday Offering	\$7,526.00

My Coins Count

Hey kids! I'm Timmy Tuppence and as you can see, I'm a coin! And this year I'm here to keep track of how many coins you collect during "My Coins Count". You had a great start last week and collected a total of **\$102.75** plus one blue cold pill and one brown button! I can't wait to see how much you collect today! I'll report back next week.



Lenten Word Find

Y L B K T J P F S S Y I T W K X K W R J O L Y Q
P D B D Y A D I R F D O O G R G V I J A X B F Y
L U M U O H Y E N Y V M Z H C V A U T H C F I B
D X J A R P Y V P H C Z S T A T I O N S R C U O
N Q F S S P M O B B I C V K P O E I C H C J U Z
Z M A R Y C F L Q T L G O Y P R A Y E R S O A O
A B R B M X X A S A O V X V M G A F K Z E Q V F
V G N I T S A F Z C H R X D I V I N E M E R C Y
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Crown of Thorns
Palm Sunday
Sacrifice
Crucifix
Prayer
Love

Divine Mercy
Confession
Veronica
Passion
Cross
Mary

Last Supper
Good Thief
Stations
Fasting
Jesus
Lent

Good Friday
Forty Days
Catholic
Purple
Ashes
Alms

My Lenten Journey to Easter

What does Lent mean?

A time to pray, fast,
and grow closer to God.

What will I give up for Lent?

I'm giving up:

How can I help others?

I will:

How can I grow closer to Jesus?

I will:

Ash Wednesday

"Turn back to God"

Holy Thursday

Jesus' Last Supper



Good Friday

Jesus died for us.



Jesus is Alive!

"He is Risen!"

What brings me joy
at Easter?



Guess the Bible character.

1. 👤 👤 🌳 🍏 😬 🦴 👗 👖
2. 💪 ❤️ 🐔 🧑🏻 🗡️ 👁️ 👁️
3. 🏃 🚢 🍷 🙏 🌴 🏰 📢
4. 😱 🏰 🙏 🧒 🧑
5. 🐑 🎵 🎸 🇮🇸 👑
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Answers in next week's bulletin.



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

"The Two Sides of a Coin"

Pastor J Epp

John 18:12-27 (NRSV)