

BETHESDA NEWS

Welcome to Worship!

April 26, 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

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, April 26

8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet
9:30 a.m. Worship – Pastor J Epp Installation
10:40 a.m. Sunday School
6:30 p.m. Reenactment of the Russia to America Experience at Henderson Mennonite Heritage Park

Monday, April 27

2:00 p.m. Church Council Policy Committee

Tuesday, April 28

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday, April 29

12:00 p.m. Bulletin Announcements Due

6:30 p.m. High School Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Cornerstone

8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

Church Offices Closed

Friday, May 1

Sunday, May 3

8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet

9:30 a.m. Worship – GRAD SUNDAY

Message: Pastor J Epp

Music: Laura Steingard/Chancel Choir

Offering to God

10:40 a.m. Sunday School

10:40 a.m. Conscientious Objector (CO)

Informational Meeting in the Powerhouse Room

12:00 p.m. Graduation Pancake Lunch

7:00 p.m. Alan Janzen and Jonah & Memee from Mennonite Mission Network – Thailand Sharing

CHURCH FAMILY

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

Rachelle Schweitzer, Bryan Bechtel, Dean Brehm, Elly Siebert (Margie Siebert's granddaughter), Margaret Hiebner, Mike Harrison, the family of Diane Harrison and the family of Roger Friesen.

Death

Roger D. Friesen of Henderson, Nebraska died on Wednesday, April 22, 2026 at the age of 83. Services are pending. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen; sons, Shawn and Travis J. (Danielle) and grandchildren, Hunter and Harper. Please keep the family in your prayer as they mourn the loss of Roger.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Sunday School Series

May 10-31: Everyone is invited to join Pastor J, Pastor Chelsea and Pastor Andrea as they lead a four-week Sunday school series May 10-31 in the fellowship hall, called “Being God’s Faithful Community.” The series will pair with the Sunday morning sermon and provide a space to go deeper in the scriptures and discussion around the following topics:

Week 1: What does it mean to be a covenant people?

Week 2: What is the role of the Holy Spirit in Forming us as God’s People?

Week 3: What spiritual practices form us into Christ’s body, the church?

Week 4: How do we trust the Holy Spirit to be at work among us when we face difficult issues?

Radio Broadcast

Change: 11:00 a.m. Our radio broadcast on 104.9 Max Country/Kool Radio will now be played at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings. At the radio station's request, our Sunday morning broadcast will no longer be live on air but a recording of our worship service. Our livestream, however, will continue to be live (as it says in it's name "live"stream) starting at 9:30 a.m.

MCC Golf Tournament Sign Up

Saturday, May 16: It's time to sign up for the 2026 MCC Golf Tournament which will be held at the Centura Hills Golf Club in Cairo on Saturday, May 16. The tournament is a 2 Person Scramble with cart, lunch, awards, and flag prizes included. Look for the poster in your church or at facebook.com/NebraskaMCCGolf for details. Email NebraskaMCCGolf@gmail.com or contact Glen at 402-560-7818 via voice or text to sign your team up. Signup prior to May 8 is preferred.



From Pastor Chelsea

During my sabbatical, I wrote a “Devotional for the Unexpected Twists and Turns of Life” as a resource to provide comfort and encouragement when we face those unexpected challenges that life brings our way. You are invited to pick up a copy at your convenience – they are available on the table in front of the office.



Parent Child Dedication

Parent Child Dedication will be held on Sunday, May 10, 2026. If you wish to have your child dedicated, please email the church office at bethesda@mainstaycomm.net and include the name of the child, the hospital and city they were born in, and the name of the parents. You will receive a letter with instructions when we receive your request.

Upcoming Mission Sharing Night

Sunday, May 3: Alan Janzen and Jonah and Memee from Mennonite Mission Network – Thailand Sharing at 7:00 p.m.

Jonah and Memee serve as mission associates with Mennonite Mission Network, leading seminars and training groups that focus on empowering women, men, restoring relationships between married couples, strengthening theological education, and developing leadership across Southeast Asia.

Their ministry is rooted in walking alongside Hmong, Laos, and Thai communities in the region. The Yangs' work includes Sister Care, Compassionate Care for Couples, and Brotherhood Care for men, along with participation in the AMBS Journey: Missional Leadership Development Program. Their ministry also extends to leadership development initiatives, hands-on ministry projects, and practical care such as feeding children in orphanages.

Through Sister Care, Compassionate Care, and Brotherhood Care, new opportunities have opened for women to step into church leadership and pursue further study through the AMBS Journey Program, and leadership development training.

Each year, Jonah and Memee travel to Southeast Asia to facilitate requested seminars and training. Over the past six years, their work has contributed to meaningful transformation — lives have been changed, relationships have been restored, reconciliation has taken place, and forgiveness has been extended.

Jonah and Memee currently live in North Branch, Minnesota with their children. They attend Emmanuel Mennonite Church, where Jonah occasionally serves in the pulpit, preaching once or twice a month during Sunday worship services. Jonah is also currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) degree through AMBS.

Reenactment of the Russia to America Experience

Sunday, April 26: Henderson Heritage & Tourism will be hosting a reenactment of the Russia to America Experience at Heritage Park tonight, Sunday, April 26 starting at 6:30 p.m. Come and join in on a special night of reliving our combined history.

Celebrating Our Grads!

Please remember to notify the church office if you have a graduate in the family. Whether preschool, high school, college or graduate school we want to recognize them all! Contact Kerri at bethesda@mainstaycomm.net or call 402.723.4562. Help keep our records up to date and look for our list of 2026 Graduates in upcoming editions of the Bethesda News.



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.

Faith Journals

Just a reminder for teachers and leaders, if you have submissions for our Graduate's Faith Journals please have them to the church office by the end of next week.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

BWM Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, May 5: Bethesda Women's Ministry will hold their May meeting on Tuesday, May 5 in the Fellowship Hall. Cindy Friesen and Nicole Wetjen will be giving a presentation on Henderson's Community Garden. Please join us for an inspiring meeting on gardening.

BWM Day Trip to Newton

Bethesda Women's Ministry is hosting a Day Trip to the MCC Material Resource Center in Newton, KS. As volunteers for the day, we may process a variety of projects from packing Relief Buckets, checking School Kits, or folding Comforters for the baling machine.



WHEN: Monday, May 18, 2026

TIME: Leave the church parking lot at 6:00 a.m.
Return around 8:30 p.m.

HOW: Sign up on BWM bulletin board in east hallway.
Travel in church van.

QUESTIONS: Contact Carol Janzen at 402.366.7984

The Material Resources Center functions to process and ship quality material resources for MCC both domestically and internationally. Volunteers provide the manpower while taking part in MCC's ministries. The MRC also offers educational opportunities to visitors and volunteers alike.

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, you never know when the next White Cookbook Drought will hit!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 1-5: All roads lead to Rome... come and join us! Travel back in time June 1-5 at Bethesda Mennonite Church. Each day from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., kids can become part of history as they explore the caves of the Underground Church, meet the Apostle Paul and create cool Bible-times projects. They will play high-energy games, sample tasty Mediterranean snacks, and hear unforgettable music. Plus, they will meet lots of new friends.

These experiences make God's Word come alive with new meaning for all who participate! Register now at bethesdamc.org. If you are interested in helping with VBS please fill out the 2026 VBS Volunteers form on the bethesdamc.org website or visit with committee members Taylor Chrisman, Lisa Peters, Brie Steingard, Joy Friesen or Lindy Siebert.

Please sign up by May 1 in order to get a t-shirt!



YOUTH MINISTRIES

Graduation Pancake Lunch

Sunday, May 3: On Sunday, May 3 we will celebrate our graduates with a pancake lunch following Sunday School. Please be sure to stop by the Fellowship Hall to greet the graduates and sign the books we will give them as a gift from the congregation.



The Northwest Sunday School Class will meet in the new blue room across from the Preschool Sunday School Room. The Northeast Sunday School Class will meet in the Conference Room.

Youth Trip Parent/Student Meeting

Wednesday, May 6: On Wednesday, May 6 during our normal small group time high school parents and youth will meet to discuss the upcoming trip to San Angelo, Texas. Please arrive at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and a meal will be provided.

Conscientious Objector (CO) Information Meeting

May 3, 2026 (during Sunday School): With the upcoming military draft registration changes in December for boys age 18, an informational meeting will be held during the Sunday School hour on May 3. Parents of young children, parents of draft age children 18-25 or those curious about the changes are welcome. We will meet in the Powerhouse Room following worship and resources will be provided for how to start a CO file.

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.

Summer 2026 Dates

(Grades Based on '25-'26 School Year)

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

Final Midweek & Cornerstone

Wednesday, May 6: The last Wednesday Night of the year for Cornerstone (7th- 8th Grade) will take place on Wednesday, May 6.

Wednesday, May 13: Wednesday, May 13 will be the last day of High School Small Groups and we're having a Bowling Night in York in celebration!

Children's Midweek is done for the school year. Here's to next year!

GIVING ATTENDANCE

Sunday, April 19, Worship Attendance: 220

Sunday, April 19, Sunday School Attendance: 92

Worship Offering: April 19, 2026

Bethesda General Operating Receipts	\$12,379.00
Sunday School Offering	\$187.00
Total Sunday Offering	\$12,566.00

MISSIONS LOCAL/GLOBAL

Wigginton-Bravo Family Update and Prayer Request

April 11, 2026

Dearest friends and family

We would like to share with you a situation we have been going through over the past few weeks, and for which we are deeply grateful for your prayers.

Delicia's mother, Federica, had to be admitted to the hospital as an emergency. After several tests and a period of great uncertainty, the doctors decided to perform emergency surgery. During the procedure, they found a blood clot in her brain, confirming that she had suffered a thrombosis, which caused her critical condition.

She remained in intensive care from Saturday the 28th until Wednesday the 8th, and was then transferred to a regular care unit, where she has been gradually regaining strength and beginning to walk again. We thank God for each small improvement we have seen in these days.

During this time, we were also waiting for the results of several tests, as the doctors found it unusual that two sisters would have similar clotting issues (Delicia's aunt was also recently hospitalized due to cardiac arrests). The results ultimately confirmed that this is a hereditary condition that creates a tendency to form blood clots.

This past week, further tests also revealed that Federica has a blood clot in her lung as well. On Friday she had a moment of instability, which concerned us greatly, but thank God she is now stable again and continuing to recover.

We ask that you continue praying for her full healing, for strength for her and the whole family, and for wisdom for the doctors as they determine the next steps in her treatment.

We are deeply grateful for your prayerful support during this time.

With gratitude,
Peter, Delicia, Aliyah, and Ariana

Channels Only

... an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the Master . . . 2 Tim. 2:21

1. How I praise thee, pre - cious Sav - ior, that thy love laid hold of me;
2. Emp - tied that thou should - est fill me, a clean ves - sel in thy hand,
3. Wit - ness - ing thy power to save me, set - ting free from self and sin,
4. Je - sus, fill now with thy Spir - it hearts that full sur - ren - der know;

thou hast saved and cleansed and filled me that I might thy chan - nel be.
with no power but as thou giv - est gra - cious - ly with each com - mand.
thou who bought me to pos - sess me, in thy full - ness, Lord, come in.
that the streams of liv - ing wa - ter from our in - ner selves may flow.

Refrain

Chan - nels on - ly, bless - ed Mas - ter, but with all thy won - drous power

flow - ing through us, thou canst use us ev - ery day and ev - ery hour.

Ephesians 4

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

GODTHEFATHER
EPHESIANS
BELIEVER
FORGIVE
PRAISE
GRACE
LIVE

HOLYSPIRIT
SALVATION
WORSHIP
PRISON
CHURCH
FAITH
PAUL

CIRCUMCISE
MESSENGER
SLAVERY
TEMPLE
JESUS
BLESS
ROME

BEHAVIOUR
CENTURION
GENTILE
SINNER
PEACE
LORD
JEW

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

"Gifted into Service"

Susan Janzen

Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-16 (NRSV)