

BETHESDA NEWS

Welcome to Worship!

May 17, 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, May 17

8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet
9:30 a.m. Worship
10:40 a.m. Sunday School
10:40 a.m. Adult Sunday School Series – Week 2
11:40 a.m. VBS Teachers Meeting
6:30 p.m. Preschool Graduation

Monday, May 18

6:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. BWM Day Trip to
Newton, KS

Tuesday, May 19

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
7:00 p.m. Board of Business – Cemetery
Clean Up

Wednesday, May 20

8:00 p.m. Board of Education
8:00 p.m. Board of Service & Outreach
12:00 p.m. Bulletin Announcements Due

Friday, May 22

Church Offices Closed

Sunday, May 24

8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet
9:30 a.m. Worship
Message: Pastor J Epp
Music: Marilyn Kroeker/Worship Band
Offering to God
10:40 a.m. Sunday School
10:40 a.m. Adult Group Sunday School Series –
Week 3

Monday, May 25

Youth Group departs for Service Trip to Texas
9:00 a.m. Friesen Cemetery
Memorial Day Service
10:00 a.m. Bethesda Cemetery
Memorial Day Service
11:00 a.m. Mennonite Cemetery
Memorial Day Service

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, Alton Friesen and the family of Roger Friesen.

Harlan & Roine Peters Memorial Service

A memorial service in memory of Harlan and Roine Peters will be held on Saturday, May 30. Burial will take place at 9:45 a.m. at the Mennonite Cemetery (Buller) and services will be held at 10:30 a.m. at Bethesda.

Thank You

Dear Bethesda Mennonite Church,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On behalf of the Voice of Hope team, I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Bethesda Mennonite Church for warmly welcoming us to worship and fellowship with your congregation. Your hospitality was deeply appreciated by all of us.

We are also grateful to all the members who attended the presentation and generously supported the ministry's mission. We believe that the gifts we received will greatly help us meet the needs of the ministry and further its mission. May God continue to bless each of you abundantly.

Blessings,

Jonah Yang, Voice of Hope Team

TODAY'S EVENTS

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?

Vacation Bible School Volunteers Meeting

Sunday, May 17: There will be a Vacation Bible School Volunteers Meeting on Sunday, May 17 after Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall. Please plan to attend if you are volunteering to help at VBS.

Preschool Graduation

Sunday, May 17: All preschoolers and their families are invited to attend our end of the year program on Sunday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m. The preschoolers will perform a few songs and we will



celebrate our preschool graduates! The celebration will take place in the Fellowship Hall. A social will follow the celebration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bethesda Cemetery Cleanup

Tuesday, May 19: Bethesda Cemetery Cleanup is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, with a rain date of Thursday, May 21. Please refrain from placing memorials until after the cleanup is complete. Anyone is welcome to help!

Memorial Day Services

Monday, May 25: Memorial Day services will be held Monday, May 26, 2025, as follows:

- 9:00 a.m. Friesen Cemetery
- 10:00 a.m. Bethesda Mennonite Church Cemetery
- 11:00 a.m. Mennonite Cemetery

In the event of inclement weather, services will be cancelled.

Please note, no glass containers or gravel please. Flowers and other arrangements may be left at the cemetery for 10 days following Memorial Day. Any items left after June 4, 2026, will be disposed of.



Help Us Celebrate Connie & Bryan Bechtel's 40th Wedding Anniversary

Saturday, June 6: On June 6, 2026 Connie and Bryan Bechtel will celebrate 40 years of marriage – what an incredible milestone and testimony of faith, love and service!

For over four decades, Connie and Bryan have faithfully served God through our church, while selflessly caring for their family, friends and anyone in need. Time and again, they have put others before themselves.

This year, we have a special opportunity to celebrate them by serving them.

We are organizing a church family workday at their farm to help tackle projects that have been set aside due to health needs and their many acts of service to others. This is our chance to come together, bless them, and show our appreciation in a meaningful, hands-on way.

How You Can Help:

- Join us for the farm workday June 6th! (With more details and time coming in future weeks.)
- Bring tools, equipment, or simply willing hands.
- Pray for Connie and Bryan as they continue to walk faithfully with the Lord.

Let's rally together as a church family to honor this amazing couple and the legacy they are building.

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." – Galatians 6:9

If you're able to help or would like more information, please reach out to Hillary and Logan Bechtel. Let's show up BIG for Connie and Bryan!

Summer Music

The Music Committee is starting to plan for summer music! If you'd like to sing or play an instrument for special music, or if you have ideas of people we should invite, let us know. As of now we only have four Sunday's to fill! We'd love to hear from you and will follow up!

— Kelsey Bergen, Joy Steckly, Dale Steingard, Pastor Chelsea



Powered Down

May 28-29: The power in the entire education wing of the church will be turned off for repair work on Thursday, May 28 and Friday, May 29. Vacation Bible School volunteers take special note as VBS is the next week.

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.

Listening For the Spirit of Jesus Workshop

May 29-31: Please join Bellwood Mennonite Church for a workshop with Meghan Larissa Good entitled, *Listening For the Spirit of Jesus*. The interactive gathering will be held on May 29-31. The tentative schedule is as follows: Friday, May 29: 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.; Saturday, May 30: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.; 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.; Sunday, May 31: Sunday morning worship at 10:00 a.m. There is no charge for registration and attendees are responsible for meals and lodging.



Meal Train

A Meal Train has been set up for Brandon and Amaly Friesen to help out by taking some of the cooking off of their plates after the birth of their daughter Mallory Kay! Sign up now at <https://mealtrain.com/me49ok> to bring a meal as a sign of love and support.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

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.

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.



YOUTH MINISTRIES

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

MISSIONS LOCAL/GLOBAL



Hello Support Team!

Home Assignment Schedule

Our school year ends on May 23 -- we will wrap up here and leave for America on May 27!

We'd love to see you, update you on ministry, and catch up!

To be best organized, we've made a calendar that you can see when we are available and schedule a meeting (of course contacting us directly is ok too)

<https://calendly.com/regiers/regier-support-meeting>

We will be in Henderson with family until June 13. Then in **Omaha from June 14-22.**

Sunday, June 21 we will have an open-house style event at Providence Church in Omaha between services and after second service! Come enjoy some Thai coffee and tea and hear/see more about our ministry.

If you are in or near **Henderson**, contact us directly by email / facebook messenger / messenger (J: +66931346729 K: +66931346724) to schedule a meeting **June 24 - June 30!**

Sunday, June 28 we will have an event at Bethesda Church in the evening -- come join us for Thai treats and a ministry update!

Thank you for your prayers and support!

GIVINGATTENDANCE

Sunday, May 10, Worship Attendance: 261

Sunday, May 10, Sunday School Attendance: 103


Worship Offering: May 10, 2026

Bethesda General Operating Receipts	\$6,569.00
Sunday School Offering	\$40.00
Total Sunday Offering	\$6,609.00

Diane Harrison Memorials: \$678.00



ROME

PAUL AND THE
UNDERGROUND
CHURCH 

When in Rome,
do what the Romans do...



**Come to Vacation Bible School
at Bethesda Mennonite Church**

June 1-5

Step back in time and explore the life of the apostle Paul and the underground church.

Participate in a Bible-times marketplace, sing catchy songs, play teamwork building games, and dig into Roman eats. Visit Paul while he's under house arrest.

To register go online at bethesdamc.org and click on the VBS Sign Up Form Button.

Register before May 10 to make sure your child gets the correct size t-shirt.

John 14:15-31

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

Spirit of truth
commands
remind
loves
give
see

Holy Spirit
believe
Father
leave
send

counselor
orphans
Jesus
lives
home

troubled
afraid
peace
world
obey

teaching
hearts
teach
away
keep

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

"Knowing the Mind of Christ"

Pastor Chelsea Vaught

John 14:16-17, 26

1 Corinthians 2:10-16 (NRSV)