

# BETHESDA NEWS

## Welcome to Worship!

### May 24, 2026

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#### 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**

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## MINISTRY TEAM

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)

Pastor J Epp: 402-366-7475

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

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## CONTACT US

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)

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## 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, May 24</i>	<i>PENTECOST</i> 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 3
<i>Monday, May 25</i>	<i>MEMORIAL DAY – Church Offices Closed</i> Youth Group Service Trip to San Angelo, 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
<i>Tuesday, May 26</i>	Youth Group Service Trip to San Angelo, Texas Margaret Hiebner Memorial Service 9:45 a.m. Burial at the Bethesda Cemetery 10:30 a.m. Memorial Service at Bethesda with lunch following
<i>Wednesday, May 27</i>	Youth Group Service Trip to San Angelo, Texas 12:00 p.m. Bulletin Announcements Due
<i>Thursday, May 28</i>	Youth Group Service Trip to San Angelo, Texas <i>REMINDER:</i> Power will be off in the Ed Wing
<i>Friday, May 29</i>	Youth Group Service Trip to San Angelo, Texas <i>REMINDER:</i> Power will be off in the Ed Wing Church Offices Closed
<i>Saturday, May 30</i>	Youth Group Service Trip to San Angelo, Texas Harlan & Roine Peters Memorial Service 9:45 a.m. Burial at the Mennonite Cemetery 10:30 a.m. Service at Bethesda with lunch following
<i>Sunday, May 31</i>	8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet 9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion Message: Pastor J Epp Music: Sandra Quiring/Joy Steckley Offering to God 10:40 a.m. Sunday School 10:40 a.m. Adult Group Sunday School Series – Week 4
<i>Monday, June 1</i>	8:30 – 11:30 a.m. Vacation Bible School

# CHURCHFAMILY

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

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

## Death

Margaret Hiebner, 73, passed away on Monday, May 18, 2026 in Henderson. She is survived by her husband Arlin; children, Charles and Jen Hiebner, Madison and Sophia of Lincoln, James and Sandrine Hiebner and Wesley of Metz, France and Keith and Anne Hiebner of Goshen, Ind.; nine siblings and their families and three brothers-in-law and their families.

Graveside services will be held at 9:45 a.m. on Tuesday, May 26, 2026 in the Bethesda Cemetery, followed by a Memorial Service at 10:30 a.m. at the Bethesda Mennonite Church in Henderson. Visitation will be held from 1:00 – 9:00 p.m. on Monday, May 26 with the family greeting friends from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Metz Mortuary in Henderson.

Please remember to keep Margaret's family in your prayers.

## 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

My family and I are grateful to God and friends who so generously donated to the Memorial Fund for Roger Friesen! The Mennonite Heritage Park received \$2,385. MDS Cabinet Shop received \$1,130. Roger would be thankful and humbled to be so honored. May God be praised and may many people be blessed by these gifts.

Thank You,  
Kathy Friesen

# 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 difficulties

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Thank You

The Board of Business would like to thank Mark Friesen for his service as church Sexton. Mark has done a wonderful job with keeping the new graves in straight rows and keeping records up to date, we thank him for his years of service!

Board of Business

Erik Friesen, Jeff Peters, Marc Peters,  
Mark Dick, Marv Quiring, Mike Friesen

### Cemetery Sexton

Effective June 1, 2026 Marc Peters will take over as the new Head Sexton for the Bethesda Mennonite Church Cemetery. Mark Friesen will continue to assist when needed, but moving forward, all contact regarding cemetery procedures should be communicated through Marc Peters. His phone number is 402.694.9127.

### 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 40<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup>! (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!



### **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.

### **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



### **Meal Train**

A Meal Train has been set up for Brandon and Amaly Friesen following the birth of their daughter Mallory Kay! Sign up now at <https://mealtrain.com/me49ok> to bring a meal as a sign of

**Meal Train®** love and support.

### **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.



## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

### 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](http://bethesdamc.org).

If you are interested in helping with VBS please fill out the 2026 VBS Volunteers form on the [bethesdamc.org](http://bethesdamc.org) website or visit with committee members Taylor Chrisman, Lisa Peters, Brie Steingard, Joy Friesen or Lindy Siebert.



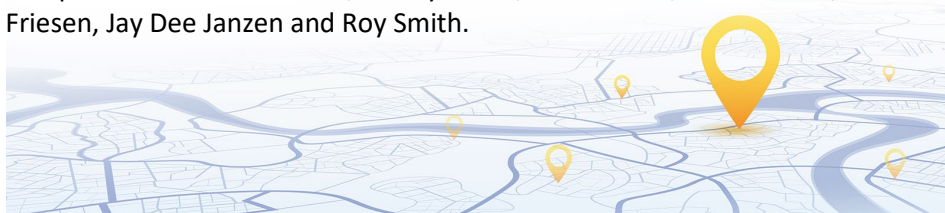
# YOUTH MINISTRIES

## Youth Service Trip

Please be in prayer for the following youth and sponsors as they travel to San Angelo, Texas to help with flood relief with Mennonite Disaster Service, Monday, May 25 through Saturday, May 30. Mark your calendars to hear the stories from the trip on Sunday, June 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Youth: Amanda Goertzen, Isabelle Buller, Mary Dente, Willabelle Panko, Hallie Tessman, Maddie Janzen, VaNessa Vap, Braden Janzen, Jonathan Friesen, Luke Janzen, Samuel Friesen, Carter Peters and Waylon Tessman.

Sponsors: Connie Bechtel, Ashley Buller, Kara Janzen, Andrea Wall, Kevin Friesen, Jay Dee Janzen and Roy Smith.



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

# GIVING ATTENDANCE

Sunday, May 17, Worship Attendance: 186

Sunday, May 17, Sunday School Attendance: 81

Worship Offering: May 17, 2026

Bethesda General Operating Receipts	\$5,663.00
Sunday School Offering	\$80.00
<b>Total Sunday Offering</b>	<b>\$5,743.00</b>

## MISSIONS LOCAL/GLOBAL



### Hello Support Team!

#### Home Assignment Schedule

We are excited to be leaving 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!*

# 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](http://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

# The Day of Pentecost

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Acts 2:4 (NIV)

Based on Acts 2:1-21



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

SPEAK  
SOUND  
FILLED

LANGUAGE  
OTHER  
WIND

PENTECOST  
HOLY  
FIRE

HEAVEN  
SPIRIT  
TONGUES

BLOWING  
HEAR  
AMAZED

# 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**

## **"Letting the Spirit Lead"**

**Pastor J Epp**

**Acts 1:6-8, 2:1-13, 2:42-47 (NRSV)**