

BETHESDA NEWS

Welcome to Worship!

May 31, 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

<i>Sunday, May 31</i>	8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet 9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion 10:40 a.m. Sunday School 10:40 a.m. Adult Sunday School Series – Week 4
<i>Monday, June 1</i>	Swan Lake Christian Camp – 3 rd & 4 th Grade 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School 2:30 p.m. Communion at Legacy Square 7:30 p.m. Board of Deacons & Pastors meet
<i>Tuesday, June 2</i>	Swan Lake Christian Camp – 3 rd & 4 th Grade 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School
<i>Wednesday, June 3</i>	Swan Lake Christian Camp – 3 rd & 4 th Grade 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School 12:00 p.m. Bulletin Announcements Due
<i>Thursday, June 4</i>	Swan Lake Christian Day Camp 1 – Ages 5 – 2nd Grade 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School
<i>Friday, June 5</i>	Swan Lake Christian Day Camp 2 – Ages 5 – 2nd Grade 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School 12:00 p.m. Vacation Bible School Community Meal
<i>Sunday, June 7</i>	VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SUNDAY Swan Lake Christian Camp – 7 th & 8 th Grade Camp 1 8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet 9:30 a.m. Worship Message: Pastor Andrea Wall Music: Marilyn Kroeker/VBS Band & Kids Offering to God VBS Open House NO Sunday School

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), Mike Harrison, Alton Friesen and the Margaret Hiebner family.

Harlan & Roine Peters Memorial Service

A memorial service in memory of Harlan and Roine Peters was held on Saturday, May 30. Burial took place at 9:45 a.m. at the Mennonite Cemetery (Buller) and services were 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?

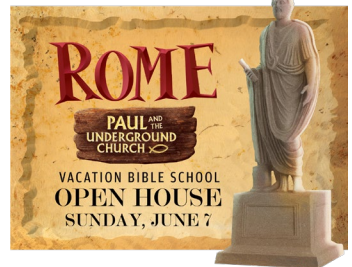
Week 3: What spiritual practices form us into Christ's body, the church?

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Sunday School Classes June 7

June 7: There will be no Sunday School classes on Sunday, June 7, 2026 due to Vacation Bible School Open House. All are invited to come and experience "Rome: Paul and the Underground Church" and see what the kids have been up to all week.



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.

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 five Sunday's to fill!** We'd love to hear from you and will follow up!

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



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 tomorrow morning!

Travel back in time starting tomorrow through Friday at Bethesda Mennonite Church. Each day from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., kids will 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! 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 – 2nd Grade): June 4 5th & 6th Grade 1: June 28 – July 2

Day Camp 2 (Age 5 – 2nd Grade): June 5
Day Camp 3 (Age 5 – 2nd Grade): July 10
3rd & 4th Grade 1: June 1-3
3rd & 4th Grade 2: July 6-9

5th & 6th Grade 2: July 26-31
7th & 8th Grade 1: June 7-12
7th & 8th Grade 2: July 12-17
9th – 12th Grade: June 21-26

3rd & 4th Graders attend Swan Lake Christian Camp

Just a reminder for parents, there is a form on the church website that should be filled out if your child plans to attend Swan Lake Christian Camp this summer. At bethesdamc.org under the menu you will find a “Ministries” listing, give it a click and you will then see the Swan Lake Christian Camp heading and the form can be found there. And if your driving kids to camp, snap a group photo at the camp sign... for the bulletin and I have Faith Journals to fill.



Reserving the Church Van



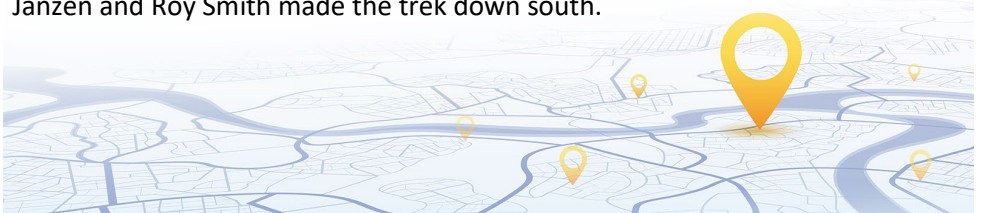
As a reminder, the church van is available for transporting kids to and from Swan Lake Christian Camp this summer. Forms for the driver and passengers need to be filled out and are available on the church website (bethesdamc.org) under the ‘Child Protection’ tab and then click on the ‘Driving History/Record Release Form’ under ‘Volunteer Forms’. Contact Kerri at the Church

Office by emailing bethesda@mainstaycomm.net or texting 402.366.0977 to reserve the church van.

Youth Service Trip Sharing

Mark your calendars for June 14 at 7:30 p.m. when you can hear stories from the Youth Service Trip to San Angelo, Texas. The group spent the week working with the Mennonite Disaster Service on flood relief.

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 and sponsors Connie Bechtel, Ashley Buller, Kara Janzen, Andrea Wall, Kevin Friesen, Jay Dee Janzen and Roy Smith made the trek down south.



GIVING ATTENDANCE

Sunday, May 24, Worship Attendance: 168

Sunday, May 24, Sunday School Attendance: 65

Worship Offering: May 24, 2026

Bethesda General Operating Receipts	\$6,325.00
Sunday School Offering	\$151.00
Total Sunday Offering	\$6,476.00



Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)
F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
3 "Will you let the blind-ed see if I but call your name?
4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
Will you set the pris-oners free and nev - er be the same?
Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (F#m7) (G) (Asus) (A)
Gm7 Am7 B^b Csus C




Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F



will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

ROME

PAUL AND THE UNDERGROUND CHURCH 



Acts 15

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

circumcision
 Holy Ghost
 Preached
 Barnabas
 Grace
 Paul

Dissension
 Multitude
 Audience
 Letters
 Silas

Confirming
 Purifying
 Prophets
 Antioch
 Saved

Contention
 Pharisees
 Apostles
 Gospel
 Acts

One Accord
 Jerusalem
 Gentiles
 Moses
 Mark

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 Centrality of Jesus"

Pastor J Epp

Acts 15:8, 12 (NRSV)