

BETHESDA NEWS

Welcome to Worship!

July 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:

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

BMC Faith Formation Website: www.bmcfaithformation.com

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.

WEEKLYCALENDAR

<i>Sunday, July 26</i>	SLCC 5 th & 6 th Grade Camp 2, Viborg, S.D. 8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:40 a.m. Sunday School
<i>Monday, July 27</i>	SLCC 5 th & 6 th Grade Camp 2, Viborg, S.D.
<i>Tuesday, July 28</i>	SLCC 5 th & 6 th Grade Camp 2, Viborg, S.D. 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Summer Sewing
<i>Wednesday, July 29</i>	SLCC 5 th & 6 th Grade Camp 2, Viborg, S.D. 12:00 p.m. Bulletin Announcements Due
<i>Thursday, July 30</i>	SLCC 5 th & 6 th Grade Camp 2, Viborg, S.D.
<i>Friday, July 31</i>	SLCC 5 th & 6 th Grade Camp 2, Viborg, S.D. Church Offices Closed
<i>Sunday, August 2</i>	8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet 9:30 a.m. Worship Message: Pastor J Epp Music: Sandra Quiring Offering to God 10:40 a.m. Sunday School CPMC Reporting

CHURCHFAMILY

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

Rachelle Schweitzer, Bryan Bechtel, Alton Friesen, Elly Siebert (Margie Siebert's granddaughter), Kevin Vaught and Nora Aycok (Lisa Friesen's sister).

Birth

A son, Brooker Lee, was born on July 2, 2026 to Jordan and Mackenzie (Miller) Heinrichs of Henderson. Local grandparents are Joel and Connie Heinrichs of Henderson and Andy and Lori Miller. Great-grandparents are Lee Thiessen and Elvera Epp of Henderson. Please remember to keep this new family of three in your prayers.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Office Hours

Kerri, the Secretary, will be on vacation starting August 5 through August 19 or thereabouts. Bev Quiring will be filling in at the office and will be available

to assist you from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 5; Monday, August 10; Wednesday, August 12 and Monday, August 17.

END OF SUMMER COOKOUT

Sunday, August 16: Bethesda Mennonite Church will be hosting an End of Summer Cookout on Sunday, August 16 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Come and join in for a delicious meal, games, and fellowship. The meal will be served on the church patio and is free for all and all are welcome!



CPMC Annual Meeting Reporting and Statement Sharing

Eleven representatives from Bethesda recently attended the Central Plains Mennonite Conference annual meeting in Mountain Lake, Minnesota. During the opening delegate session, the Board of Deacons presented a congregational statement describing our four-year discernment journey and reflecting the hopes and concerns expressed during the recent Bethesda Bible Series. Copies of the statement are available outside the church office.

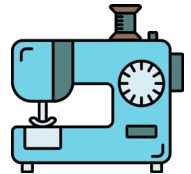
We invite everyone to join us during the Sunday School hour on **Sunday, August 2** for a conference update and conversation about the statement.

Our statement was received with appreciation for its honesty, thoughtfulness, and respectful spirit. Please continue to pray for Bethesda, the Central Plains Conference Board, and Conference Minister Nathan Luitjens as we continue to seek God's wisdom and remain in conversation together.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Summer Craft & Sewing Days

Tuesday, July 28: Every Tuesday in the month of July from 1 to 5 p.m. we will have a craft and sewing day to get projects ready for BWM and the MCC Sale. We will be cutting and sewing backings, piecing and sewing quilt tops, making School Kit Bags and working on Quiet Books. That's where the non-sewers can plug in. So invite your friends and let's work to get ready for our Winter Sewing Days.



BWM Banquet



Tuesday, August 4: Attention Ladies, it's time to get your tickets for our annual BWM Banquet. The banquet will be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2026 starting at 5:30 p.m. and will be catered by the Dutch Kitchen. Bonnie Kucera will be our featured speaker.

Bonnie won Best of Show at the Nebraska State Fair in 1994 and 2000. She was also juried into Houston's

International Quilt Festival and the American Quilt Society's Show in Paducah, Ky. She is active in the Lincoln Quilters Guild, the Lincoln Modern Quilt Guild, and volunteers at the International Quilt Museum in Lincoln. She also served as the past president and member of the Nimble Thimble Quilt Guild in Aurora.

Tickets are \$18.00 and will be on sale starting Tuesday, July 7 through the end of July at the church office. Please pay with a check or cash.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

3rd & 4th Graders attend Swan Lake Christian Camp

Trent Vap (Camp Counselor), Kayden Siebert, Cadence Epp, Annistyn van den Berg, Lucia Solis-Huebert, Kayleigh Lewis, Mackenzie Boyd, and Emmie Schlautman attended Swan Lake Christian Camp 3rd and 4th Grade Camp in Viborg, S.D. July, 6-9. A special thanks to MacKenzie's grandma Lin Friesen who not only stopped to snap a pic at the sign but spent the week at camp cooking!



Wednesday Night Meals

The new year of high school youth group isn't too far away. For those interested in helping provide a meal for the youth on Wednesday nights please contact Ashley Buller at 402-710-2434.

Calling All College Students

Your Bethesda family wants to stay in contact with you as you head off to college. You are encouraged to fill out the College Student Contact Form which can be found on the church website bethesdamc.org where you can scroll down until you find "Quick Links" and then click on the "College Student Contact Form" button.

It will help us to have your most current contact information and you might even get some goodies sent to you during finals week.

NURSERY CARE

AVAILABLE FOR CHILDREN AGES 3 & UNDER
DURING THE SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR



GIVING ATTENDANCE

Sunday, July 19, Worship Attendance: 203

Sunday, July 19, Sunday School Attendance: 67

Worship Offering: July 19, 2026

Bethesda General Operating Receipts	\$9,175.00
Sunday School Offering	\$121.00
Total Sunday Offering	\$9,296.00

MISSIONS LOCAL/GLOBAL

MCC Webinar

Tuesday, July 28: Mennonite Central Committee is hosting a MCC webinar titled "Welcoming the Stranger: Stories of Faith, Immigration and Hope" on Tuesday, July 28 starting at 1:00 p.m. The webinar runs one hour and 15 minutes.

In this webinar, we will share stories from three churches and leaders who are putting faith into action — welcoming and supporting immigrants, facing challenges in their communities, and building congregations that respond with compassion and courage.

Speaking from a variety of perspectives across Anabaptist traditions, we'll talk about themes like faith in action, ministry with immigrant communities, lessons learned, and practical ways churches can respond to the reality's immigrant families are facing today.

Register today for this event, mcc.org/welcoming-stranger or contact abrahamdiazalonso@mcc.org with any questions.

A Home Away From Home

The International Students Club at Bethel College is asking for help to welcome international students to Bethel by providing them with essential items that are difficult or impossible to bring in their luggage. The club has created a registry of these items, to be included in welcome baskets to help students feel cared for and at home from the moment they arrive. View the registry [here](#). Purchased items can be shipped to: **Bethel College**, 300 E. 27th St., North Newton, KS 67117, **ATTN: Karin Kaufman Wall, International Students Club Adviser**. (Items may also be dropped off at Leisy House, 24th St. & College Ave., North Newton, the advancement and alumni offices, Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Please mark any purchased items on the gift registry so we can keep track of what is still needed.) **If you would prefer to give financially, donations may be made to Bethel College with "International Students Fund" in the memo line.**

For the Fruit of All Creation

1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will be done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For the gifts to ev - ery na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will be done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de -
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con -

sleep - ing, fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 spair - ing, in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will be done.
 found us, most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

SERMON REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What weeds in my life are draining my relationship with Christ?

Are there habits or attitudes in my life that are draining the resources of my own life or congregation instead of helping God's good crop grow?

What is one step I can take this week to follow Jesus more faithfully and shine like the sun?

The Parable of the Weeds

When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. Mathew 28:26 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Matthew 13:24-29



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

SOW
WHEAT
PARABLE

FIELD
ENEMY
HEAVEN

GOOD
PULL
BURN

UPROOT
KINGDOM
GROW

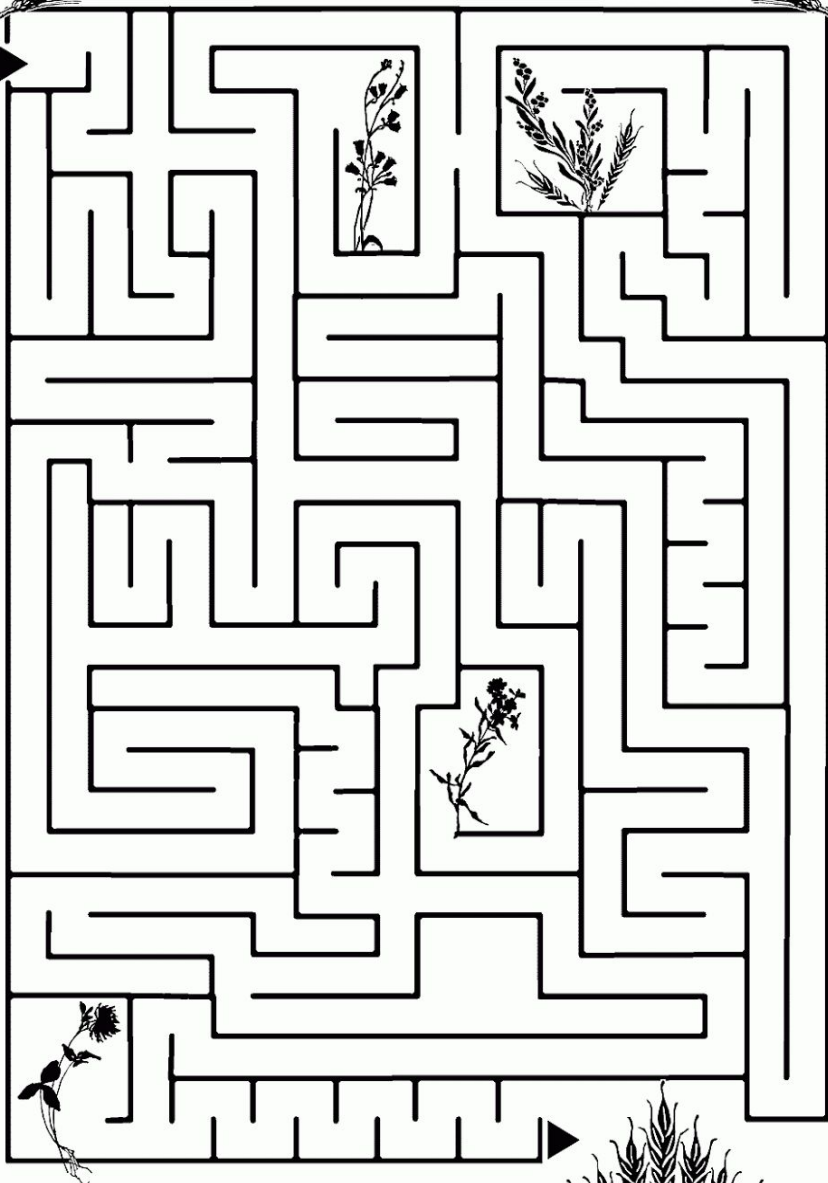
HARVEST
SEED
WEEDS

Parable

The Wheat and the Weeds

Help the owner of the field separate the wheat from the weeds.

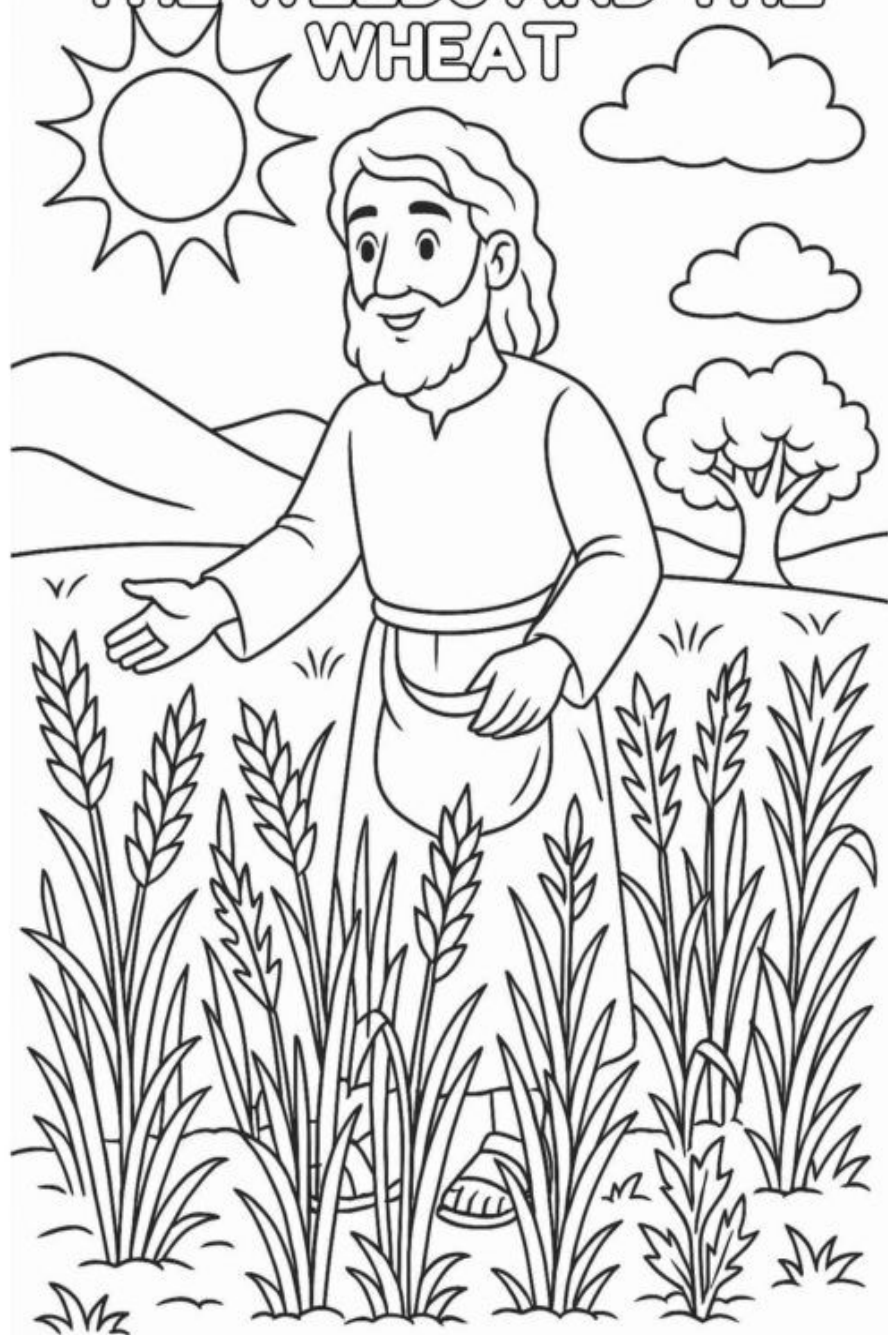
START



Jesus said that the Kingdom of God was like a man who sowed his field with quality wheat seed. While he was sleeping his enemy crept in and sowed weeds. Rather than risk hurting the wheat he chose to let them grow together until harvest time. Then the reapers gathered the weeds to be burned and gathered the wheat into the barn.



THE WEEDS AND THE WHEAT



MATTHEW 13:24-30

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:

- ☐ Children’s Programs
- ☐ Youth Programs
- ☐ Bible Studies
- ☐ Choirs
- ☐ Serving
- ☐ Baptism
- ☐ Membership
- ☐ 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:

- ☐ Elementary School
- ☐ High School
- ☐ Adult
- ☐ Junior High
- ☐ College

Comments/Bulletin Announcement...

MESSAGENOTES

"Shine Like the Sun"

Pastor Chelsea Vaught

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

(NRSV)