

BETHESDA NEWS

Welcome to Worship!

August 2, 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

Pastor Chelsea Vaught: 402-363-7004

Pastor J Epp: 402-366-7475

andrea@mainstaycomm.net

chelsea.vaught@bethesdamc.org

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

Sunday, August 2

8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet
9:30 a.m. Worship
10:40 a.m. Sunday School/CPMC Reporting

Tuesday, August 4

9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
5:30 p.m. BWM Annual Banquet
7:00 p.m. Preschool Committee

Wednesday, August 5

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Bev Quiring
Covering the Office
12:00 p.m. Bulletin Announcements Due

Friday, August 7

Church Offices Closed

Sunday, August 9

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
12:00 p.m. Potluck

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), Bill Batson (Darrel Thiesen's brother-in-law), Nora Aycock (Lisa Friesen's sister), the Chad Wall Family and the Kevin Vaught Family.

Death

Kevin V. Vaught, 65, of Aurora passed away on Friday, July 24, 2026. Left to cherish Kevin's memory are his wife, Kimberly Ann; sons, Blake and Kyla Vaught of Omaha and Chase and Madalyn Vaught of Aurora; grandchildren, James, Violet, Paige and Adrienne; sister, Nancy and Curt Friesen of Henderson; brothers, Bradley and Kimberly Vaught of Grand Island, Todd and Chris Vaught of Aurora, David K. and Virginia of Libby, Mont.; sister-in-law, Cheryl Vaught of Henderson; parents-in-law, Don and Jody Dailey of Kearney; sister-in-law, Tammy and Jim Purdum of Thedford; brother-in-law, Dennis Daily of Mullen and many nieces, nephews and cousins. Kevin was the uncle of Pastor Chelsea Vaught.

Celebration of Life services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, August 11, 2026 at Bethesda Mennonite Church in Henderson. The family would like to request that everyone come in their favorite island or Hawaiian shirt. Kevin has been cremated so there will be no viewing, however, you may sign the guest

book on Monday, August 10, 2026 from 1:00 – 9:00 p.m. and his family will greet friends and neighbors from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. that same day, all at Metz Mortuary in Henderson. In lieu of flowers or plants, memorials may be directed to his family for later designation.

Please remember to keep the family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of Kevin.

Death

Chad Alan Wall, 63, of Lincoln passed away on July 14, 2026. Left to cherish his memory are his father, Marlowe and Shari Wall of York; brother, Brett and Marnie Wall of Dana Point, Calif.; sister, Traci and Brian Bruckner of Wayne and nephew, Sam Bruckner of Golden, Colo. Chad was also the nephew of Blaine and Karren Friesen and Don and Teresa Wall.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, August 22, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. at Bethesda Mennonite Church in Henderson. Donations in Chad's memory can be made to the Nebraska Humane Society of Omaha.

Please remember to keep the family in your prayers as they continue to mourn the loss of Chad.

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.

Following services this morning all adult Sunday School classes will meet together in the Fellowship Hall 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

BWM Banquet



Tuesday, August 4: The annual BWM 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 the 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.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

3rd & 4th Graders attend Swan Lake Christian Camp

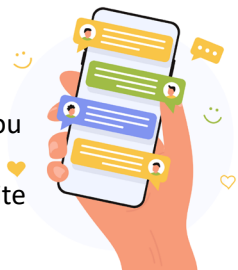
Trent Vap (Camp Counselor), Kayden Siebert, Cadence Epp, Annistyn van den Berg, Lucia Solis-Huebert, Kayleigh Lewis, Mackenzie Boyd, and Emmie Schlautman attended Swan Lake Christian Camp 3rd and 4th Grade Camp in Viborg, S.D. July,



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!

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.

New Sunday School Classes

Sunday, September 6: New Sunday School classes will begin Sunday, September 6. Instilling a deeper understanding and love for God and His teachings in our children and youth is a rewarding task . If you are feeling called to teach, contact Tara Maltsberger (620-205-9463) or Melissa Goertzen (402-366-2147).

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.

NURSERY CARE

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



GIVINGATTENDANCE

Sunday, July 26, Worship Attendance: 152
Sunday, July 26, Sunday School Attendance: 66

Worship Offering: July 26, 2026

Bethesda General Operating Receipts	\$8,134.00
Sunday School Offering	\$187.00
Total Sunday Offering	\$8,321.00

Marie Janzen Memorials:
Bethesda: \$325.00
Mennonite Central Committee: \$1,410.00

MISSIONSLOCAL/GLOBAL

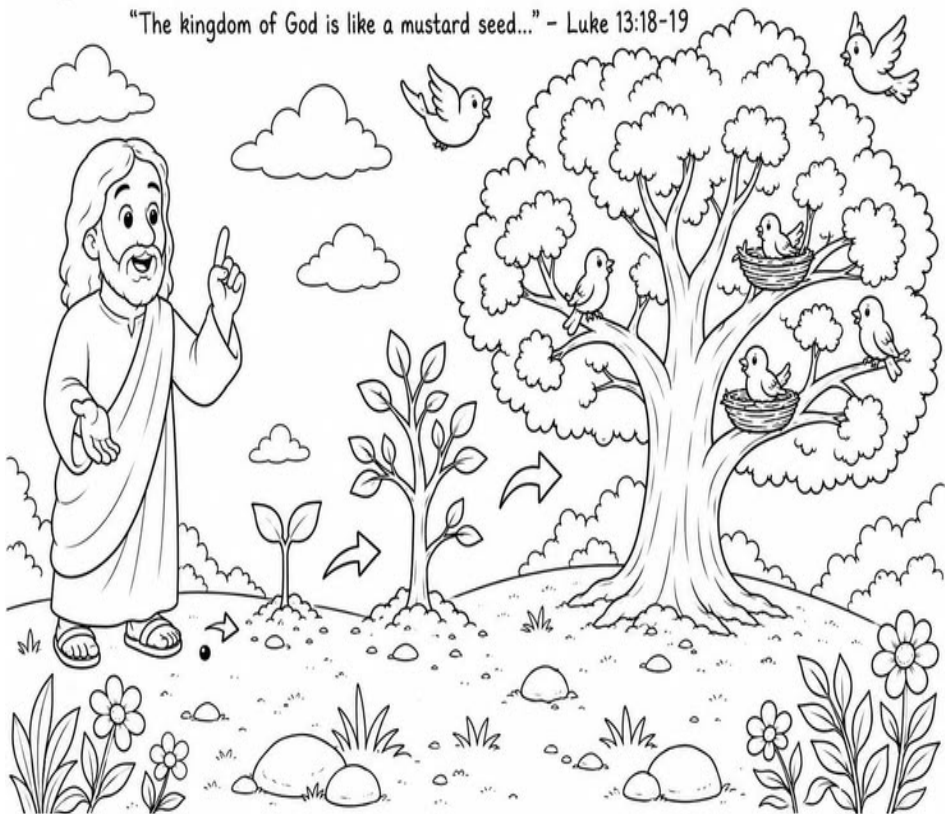
A Home Away From Home

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.**

THE PARABLE OF THE MUSTARD SEED

"The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed..." - Luke 13:18-19



SERMONREFLECTIONQUESTIONS

Where might God be asking you to plant a "mustard seed" of faith?

Are you discouraged because you don't yet see visible results from your ministry?

How is the "yeast" of the gospel transforming your own heart?

In what ways can our congregation become a place of refuge for neighbors, strangers, and those seeking Christ?

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

Again he said, "What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade."
Mark 4:30-32 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Mark 4:30-32



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

BIRDS
JESUS
STORY

SHADE
GARDEN
GROUND

NEST
PLANTED
SEED

MUSTARD
LARGEST
SMALLEST

BRANCHES
PLANTS
KINGDOM

The Mustard-Seed

Help the bird get to the top of the tree.

FINISH



START

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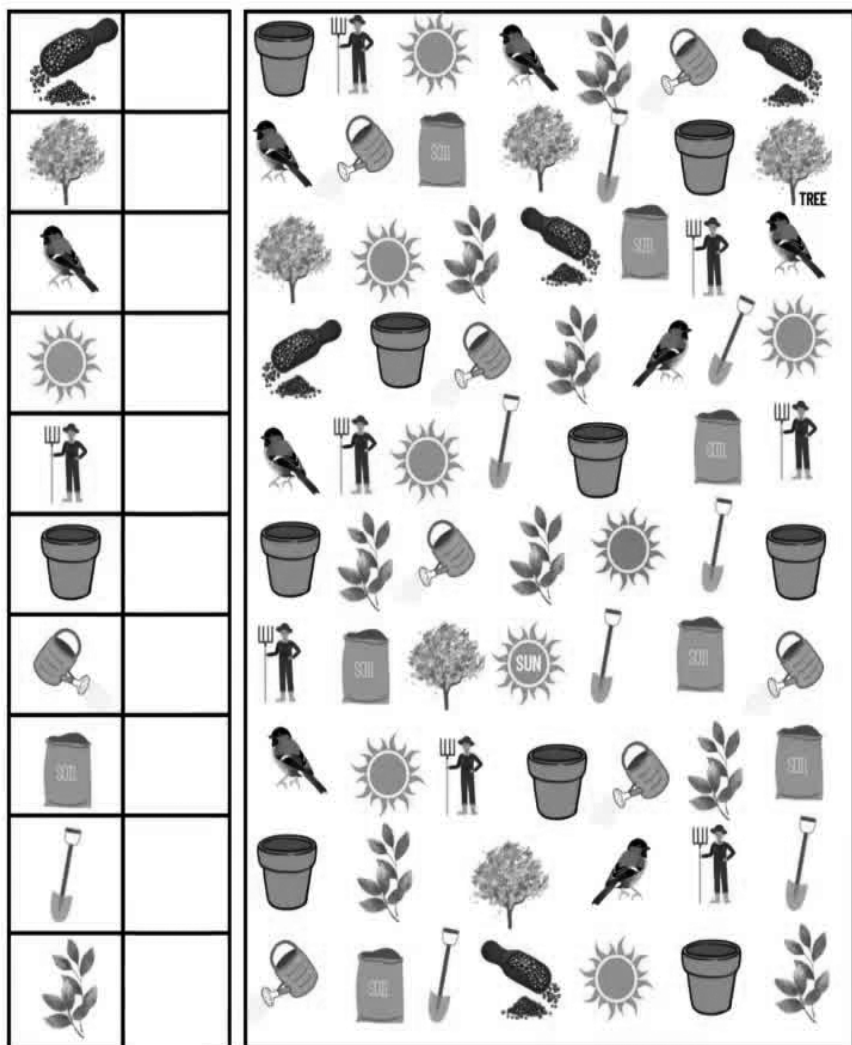
Jesus said that the Kingdom of Heaven was like a mustard seed. A mustard seed is the smallest of seeds, but when a man planted that seed in the ground it grew into a great tree. That mustard tree made a safe place for all the birds to come, rest and build nests. Let Jesus plant a seed of love in your heart which can grow and touch others.

Bible I Spy

The Mustard Seed



1. Write the number beside the icon on the grid.
2. Can you find the words "TREE" and "SUN"?



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

"The Parable of the Mustard Seed"

Pastor J Epp

Matthew 13:31-35 (NRSV)