

BETHESDA MENNONITE CHURCH

HENDERSON, NEBRASKA

Faith Formation Sunday

Sunday, September 7, 2025, 9:30 a.m.

Prelude Laura Steingard, Organist

"Little prelude in F major" – J.S. Bach

"Sing Praise to God" - Portman

"Jesu Joy of man's desiring" – Manz

"Joyful, joyful we adore Thee" – Travis

"How can I keep from singing" – Culli

"Lord I lift your name on high" - Wagner

Welcome & Call to Worship Kara Janzen

* "My Hope is Built" HWB 343
(Children are invited to come forward on stanza 5.)

Children's Focus Pastor Chelsea Vaught

First Graders Receive Bibles

Scarlett Beerer	Stella Chrisman	Hannah Friesen
Kyle Friesen	Archer Makovicka	Landon Siebert

* "This Little Light of Mine (Let it Shine!)" Women's Choir
- Sonny Willis Connie Bechtel, Carrie Bergen, Judy Drews,
Arlyce Friesen, Donna Regier, Lela Reiger
Lindy Siebert, Joy Steckly, Marlene Thieszen
Directed by Pastor Chelsea Vaught
and Accompanied by Laura Steingard

Congregational Prayer Alan Janzen

* "When peace, like a river" HWB 336

Scripture Reading Pastor J Epp

Galatians 5:22-23, John 15:1-11 (NRSV)

Leader: This is the Word of God, for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

Message "Our Center - Joy" Pastor J Epp

* "Blessed assurance"

HWB 332

Litany for Faith Formation Leaders (See back of bulletin)

Announcements Kara Janzen

Offering to God Kara Janzen

Offertory "I Come with Joy" – Martin Laura Steingard, Organist

*Benediction Pastor J Epp

***The Lord bless you and keep you" – John Rutter Women's Choir

** If you are able, you are invited to stand*

All are invited to participate in the Christian education hour
and to stop by the Coffee Spot in the Fellowship Hall.

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s: Monday – Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Phone: 402-723-4562

Email: bethesda@mainstaycomm.net or

treasurer@bethesdamc.org

Website: www.bethesdamc.org

- **When you are unable to attend worship, please join us via...**
 - Radio at KOOL 103.5 FM
 - Livestream at <http://bethesdamc.org/watch-live>
 - Cobalt Cable Channel #3207
- **Hearing Impaired Worshipers:** If you need hearing assistance, feel free to sit in the front center seating to take advantage of our Hearing-Loop system. Williams units are also available in the rear of the sanctuary for your use.
- **When you desire pastoral care outside of office hours, please call:**
 - Pastor Chelsea Vaught: 402-363-7004 (cell) or email chelsea.vaught@bethesdamc.org
 - Pastor J. Epp: 402-366-7475 (cell) or email j.epp@bethesdamc.org
 - Pastor Andrea Wall is currently on sabbatical.
- In addition to assistance from Bethesda pastors and deacons, domestic abuse support services are available to victims. Call (toll-free) 1-877-388-4673, 24 hours/day.

Prayer of Commissioning...

Leader:

God of Creation, you have gifted these men and women with teaching skills, creativity, and curiosity.

We pray you would fill them with the power and compassion of your Holy Spirit. Fill them with energy and insight into your Word, the story of your faithful heart.

Teachers (please stand):

I prayerfully and willingly commit myself to the call and task of teaching. I accept these responsibilities and will do my best to serve you, God, and the congregation while remembering, you have not called us to be perfect. You have called us to be faithful. You have not called us to be all-knowing. You have called us to believe. Grant us wisdom, patience and joy in our preparation and teaching of your Word.

Parents of Infants – High School (please stand):

I prayerfully and willingly commit to nurture my child's faith encouraging them to come to an open confession of Jesus Christ. I will trust in the Holy Spirit as I nurture their faith and my own so that together, we will be enabled to seek, find, and know God.

Congregation:

God of hope, guide each teacher and leader as they study your Word. Strengthen the gifts you have given them, and energize their compassion. Remind us to find ways to support and encourage them throughout the year. May we share in their joy and times of difficulty.

All:

We commit ourselves, each to our part in this joyful task. May your steadfast, faithful, covenant love guide all we do. Amen.

BUT THE FRUIT
OF THE SPIRIT IS

Love
joy peace
Patience
Kindness
Goodness
Faithfulness
Gentleness
& self-control

AGAINST SUCH
THINGS THERE
IS NO LAW.

GALATIANS 5:22

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025