

BETHESDA NEWS

Welcome to Worship!

October 5, 2025

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:

Pastor Chelsea Vaught: 402-363-7004

Pastor J Epp: 402-366-7475

Currently on sabbatical.

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

<i>Sunday, October 5</i>	Bethel College Fall Fest 8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet 9:30 a.m. Worship with Communion 10:30 a.m. Deacon Affirmation Vote 10:40 a.m. Sunday School
<i>Monday, October 6</i>	9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study - CANCELLED
<i>Tuesday, October 7</i>	9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 7:00 p.m. Preschool Committee 7:00 p.m. BWM Women in Mission Night 7:30 p.m. Board of Deacons and Pastors - Board of Deacons and Pastors will not meet in October
<i>Wednesday, October 8</i>	12:00 p.m. Bulletin Announcements Due 6:30 p.m. High School Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Cornerstone 7:00 p.m. Midweek 8:00 p.m. Messiah Rehearsal 9:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Church Offices Closed
<i>Friday, October 10</i>	
<i>Sunday, October 12</i>	8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet 9:30 a.m. Worship Message: Pastor Chelsea Vaught Music: Pastor Chelsea Vaught, Organist; Chancel Choir 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, Shirley Thayer, Lisa Friesen, Hester and Rafael Heide, Bryan Bechtel, Adeline Huebert and the Family of Rick Vaught.

Full Time Ministry Connection: Randy Huebert – Fellowship of Christian Athletes Representative

Death

Pastor Chelsea’s father, Rick Vaught, passed away on Tuesday, September 30 in Henderson. A funeral service will be held on Monday, October 6 at 10:30 a.m. at Bethesda Mennonite Church, with burial at 2:00 p.m. at Zastrow

Cemetery near Cordova, Nebraska. Visitation will be held on Sunday, October 5 from 1:00 to 9:00 p.m. with family present from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Please keep Pastor Chelsea and her mom Cheryl in your prayers at this time as they grieve the loss of Rick.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deacon Affirmation

The terms of Kara Janzen and Norm Yoder as members on the Board of Deacons will expire in February. Both Kara and Norm have indicated that they are willing to serve another term. Today, Sunday, October 5, 2025, the Deacon Affirmation Vote will take place for them both following worship.

School Kit Night

Sunday, November 9: School kit bags are sewn and the supplies are ready so mark your calendars now, School Kit Assembly Night will take place on Sunday, November 9. Stay tuned for more details.



Messiah Chorus Rehearsals

Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.: Messiah Chorus rehearsals are currently underway. All rehearsals will be from 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. each Wednesday until the performance. Chancel Choir rehearsal will follow from 9:00 - 9:30 p.m. The Messiah performance will take place on Sunday, December 14 at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome to join us!

Postpartum & Dragons Story Concert

Sunday, October 26: Join Erin Sams on Sunday, October 26 at 2:00 p.m. , as she presents her Master's level Biblical Storytelling Showcase! After the 90 minute concert, there will be an optional talk-back session to ask questions, share experiences and explore the themes further. Due to the themes, this concert is for mature audiences. NO childcare will be provided. The concert will take place at Aurora United Methodist Church and will also be Live Streamed at "Aurora UMC-Nebraska" YouTube Channel. Light refreshments will be served.



Potlucks Are Back!

Sunday, October 12: Sunday Potlucks are back but with a change of schedule. Potlucks will now be held on the second Sunday of each month, still at 12:00 p.m. One will be held today, Sunday, October 12, so please join us in the Fellowship Hall following the Sunday School Hour.

Women's Bible Study

Monday, October 6: Due to the funeral service of Rick Vaught the Women's Bible Study will not meet on Monday, October 6. We will meet again at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, October 13 in the old choir room and the final Bible Study will now be held on Monday, October 27. All are welcome!



October is Pastor Appreciation Month

Pastor Appreciation Month is a time set aside each year to honor and give thanks for our pastors who give, care, and serve us and our community in remarkable ways! If you need a few pastor appreciation ideas we're here to help!

- Invite your pastor to your home for a meal.
- Gift cards for coffee, restaurants, grocery store, sporting events, bookstore, hobbies, or pastimes.
- Share your season tickets.
- Treat the pastor's spouse.
- Write a personal thank you letter or card.
- Offer to babysit while the pastor and spouse have date night.
- Drop off a homemade dessert.
- Pray for your pastor daily.

Garden Produce Sharing Table

If you have extra garden produce you would like to share, there is a table located outside of the Fellowship Hall where you are welcome to either give or take!

BETHESDA WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

October Women in Mission

Tuesday, October 7: Our October Women in Mission Night will be about books. We all read. We all read different kinds of subjects. Some of us read fiction, others nonfiction, or periodicals.

Bring your favorites with you on the first Tuesday, October 7, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. We will have a round table discussion about our favorites. More than one favorite, that's okay. The more the better the discussion. We look forward to hearing about what you read.



BOARD OF EDUCATION

Child Protection Forms

IMPORTANT REMINDER To all parents of youth participating in Midweek, Cornerstone, High School Bible Study, Sunday School... basically everyone. Make sure to go on bethesdamc.org and fill out the Child/Youth Trip & Permission Waiver Form (which can be found under the CHILD PROTECTION tab). Midweek parents have until October 10 to fill theirs out in order for us to have your child, or children's, most up to date information on file.

If you are a volunteer/teacher fill out the Volunteer for Children/Youth form. This includes all teachers, nursery workers, youth leaders, etc.

If you will be driving children/youth to any type of event fill out the Driving History Record Release form.

If you are a parent of a child please fill out the Trip Permission - Youth Permission/Waiver form. This is for any child/youth attending any Bethesda Mennonite Church activity. One per child please.



Volunteer Forms

FRIENDLY REMINDER: Teachers please fill out volunteer forms online. Scan this code or go to the website and select all the appropriate forms (children/youth for each child in your household, volunteer if you teach, driver if you transport).

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Wednesday Night Meals

The new year of high school youth group is underway. For those interested in helping provide a meal to the youth on Wednesday nights please contact Ashley Buller at 402-710-2434.



New Library Books

'Women Who Risk', by Tom and JoAnn Doyle, "Women Who Risk" is a collection of riveting real-life stories that takes you deep in the heart of the Muslim world. Despite enormous risks to themselves, these former Muslim women are new followers of Jesus and are influencing their families and bringing others to faith in Christ.

'The Prince of Egypt', for children explores the story of Moses and helps answer questions children may have regarding God and faith such as what makes Moses a great hero, what miracles happen in the story and how did Moses find out he was not born to Egyptian royalty but rather to Hebrew slaves. The questions in the back of the book help lead a family discussion and invites children to ask their own.

Both books can be found in the "New Arrival" section located in the North hallway outside the Fellowship Hall.

MISSIONS LOCAL/GLOBAL



Swan Lake Christian Camp September Newsletter

As I was beginning to put this newsletter together, I came across a note that I had written back in 2021, just as the Covid-19 year was beginning to fade. It still applies to me as I try to provide leadership here at the camp.

I was speaking with a church denominational leader about the financial uncertainty of this past year. Informally, he spoke with area pastors about their level of fear or anxiety about meeting their respective budgets. Those

with higher anxiety ended the year in a deficit position while those who believed that Jesus Christ was more than able to handle their financial situations and continued to preach a message of hope in Christ not only met their budgets, but were unanimously in a better position than last year. This past year, I have been squarely on the fence, at times feeling much anxiety as groups continued to cancel and other times feeling that God was doing something miraculous here at camp. In the end, God showed his faithfulness yet again. I ask each of you to retrieve a stone from the middle of this past year and pile them in a manner that will cause you and your children to remember the stories of God miraculous faithfulness. Then, when time blurs the details, we can look back and know with confidence that we serve a good Lord.

The most important message that I can share with you is that Jesus loves you so much that he lived the life that he wants each of us to live, he died the death that each of us deserve, and that he rose again to demonstrate his authority and he is asking each of us to trust him. I see time after time the evidence of lives lived in the fullness of that trust. At the camp, I am often involved in messy situations, whether it be maintenance issues or the lives of people that I come in contact with. In these situations, where I don't see a clear path that leads to bliss, my desire is to imitate Jesus, seek wisdom and trust that he knows what is best. This is a process that I don't always do well. I certainly hope that in those situations that I repent quickly so that I don't need to continue in the mire. I believe that the mindset to trust keeps our focus on what is important and eternal.

I want you to know that the camp is doing well, often in spite of its director. I believe that it is doing well because the hearts of our board of directors and our staff seek constantly to follow Jesus. I see his hand in so many daily occurrences and I look for him in each of our guests. Praise God for his continued blessing and thank you for your continued prayers.

- Jerry Kroeker
Director,
Swan Lake Christian Camp

To read the remainder of the SLCC September newsletter go to this link:
<https://myslcc.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/September-newsletter-2025.pdf>

MCC is hiring a Transformative Justice Program Coordinator

MCC is hiring a Transformative Justice Program Coordinator to advance MCC Central States's work on transformative and restorative justice, addressing mass incarceration, supporting justice-impacted people, and promoting change through education, capacity building, program

development, and advocacy. This full-time position is offered in these locations: the MCC office in North Newton, KS or remotely in: Kansas, Texas, Colorado, Montana, Minnesota, New Mexico, or Oklahoma. View the full job description and apply online at mcc.org/cs-tjp-coordinator by October 17. Questions? Contact roxyreyes@mcc.org.

GIVINGATTENDANCE

Sunday, September 28, Worship Attendance: 215

Sunday, September 28, Sunday School Attendance: 103

Worship Offering: September 28, 2025

Bethesda General Operating Receipts	\$10,160.00
Sunday School Offering	\$140.00
Total Sunday Offering	\$10,300.00

Bethesda Operating Fund	
January 1 through September, 2025	
2025 -- Approved Annual Operating Budget	1,059,046
Bethesda Income	590,539
** We have received 55.76% of our approved budget.	
Operating Expenses	716,061
** We have spent 67.61% of our approved budget.	
Income Minus Expense	-125,522

This Little Light of Mine

1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

oh, oh,

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

oh,

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,

oh,

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Goodness

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

Understanding
Fairness
Humanity
Sympathy
Respect
Value

Differences
Sacrifice
Kindness
Believe
Humble
Love

Acceptance
Tolerance
Patience
Charity
Worthy

Compassion
Goodness
Shareing
Empathy
Smile

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

"No. Focus. Do. Goodness."

Pastor J Epp

**Matthew 5:14-16, Ephesians 5:8-10,
Micah 6:8 (NRSV)**