BETHESDA NEWS
Welcome to Worship!
Sunday, November 22, 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.

WEEKLYCALENDAR

Sunday, November 22	8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet
	9:30 a.m. Worship
	10:40 a.m. Sunday School
Monday, November 23	6:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. MCC Mobile Meat Canner
Tuesday, November 24	6:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. MCC Mobile Meat Canner
	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
Wednesday, November 25	12:00 p.m. Bulletin Announcements Due
	2:30 p.m. Legacy Square
	6:30 p.m. High School Bible Study
	7:00 p.m. Cornerstone – Junior High
	8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
Thursday, November 26	THANKSGIVING
	Church Offices Closed
Friday, November 27	Church Offices Closed
Sunday, November 29	*FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT*
	8:45 a.m. Deacons Meet
	9:30 a.m. Worship
	Message: Pastor Andrea Wall
	Music: Sandra Quiring
	Offering to God
	10:40 a.m. Sunday School

CHURCHFAMILY

Please keep in prayer those with health concerns, grief, or family needs: Rachelle Schweitzer, Elly Siebert (Margie Siebert's granddaughter), Bryan Bechtel, and Olivia Landis (Audrey Janzen's great-niece).

Thank You

Bethesda Family

Thank you for the prayers, cards, texts and visits with Andrew's passing. We have felt the love and prayers from everyone during this difficult time. Please continue to keep us in your prayers as we navigate life without Andrew.

Valerie, Mason, Reese and Maddox Regier
Lela Regier
Earl and Evonne Ediger

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deacon Nominee Preference Vote

Sunday, November 8, 2026, the congregation nominated Bethesda members to fill the terms of Steve Michel and Mark Janzen as members of the Board of Deacons. Steve has served two terms and is not eligible to serve another term. Mark has chosen not to serve another term.

We will hold an affirmation vote on Sunday, December 20 for Jeff Peters and Frank Steckly to serve as our two new deacons. Please keep Jeff and Frank in your prayers.

Longest Night Service



Sunday, December 20: A Longest Night service is a quiet, reflective worship service held during the Advent season. While Christmas is a season of joy and celebration, it can also be a difficult time for those experiencing grief, loneliness, illness, or other challenges. This service offers space to acknowledge those feelings, find comfort in God's presence, and be reminded of the hope and light that Christ brings, even in life's darkest moments. We will be holding a Longest Night Service on Sunday, December 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.



MCC Meat Canner Volunteers Needed

November 23 & 24: The Canner is underway! We canned all day Friday and Saturday and will start up again on Monday at 6:00 a.m. Workers will be needed throughout the day both Monday and Tuesday. We need people to grind meat, make boxes, dry cans, and move cans to the truck. We have jobs for people of all ages, and you can come and go as you please. Please join us for this rewarding and fun project.

Information is posted on the Bethesda Mennonite MCC Meat Canning Facebook page (@BethesdaCanning), on Twitter (@BethesdaMcc) including the work to be done, truck start times, and when assistance is needed. Please

follow, and share. Questions to Jay Dee Janzen, 402-362-0512 or Jason Lewis 402-363-9745.

Tour of Bethesda Minis-TREES

This year during Spirit of Christmas (December 1) and throughout the month of December we are highlighting the ministries of Bethesda by creating a forest of Minis-Trees in the Fellowship Hall. We have volunteers for the following trees. If you are interested in helping move trees from Heritage Park on Sunday, November 29, decorating or adding additional Minis-TREES contact Pastor Andrea.

- Preschool
- Missions and Board of Service and Outreach
- School Kits
- Bethesda Women's Ministries
- Canner
- Angel Tree
- Vacation Bible School (2027 Theme Announced)
- Library
- Music Committee
- Sunday School
- Children's Midweek

Spirit of Christmas at Bethesda



Monday, December 1: We will again be participating in Henderson's Spirit of Christmas night. Please join us for:

- Soup Meal from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. – Free Will Donations will go towards the 2027 Youth Service Project
- Vendors include: Hey Kerri P and Kris Newman's Creations, Creations by DGH (Dee Hanson), Balabans, Ten Thousand Villages, Clara Carroll, CMC Designs and Kaelea Salusberry.
- Bethesda Preschool Krispy Crème Donuts Fundraiser (order ahead)
- Free Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides between Bethesda and Main Street Activities
- Kids Nativity Scavenger Hunt and Crafts
- Tour the Minis-TREES of Bethesda: This year we will have a tour of trees in the fellowship hall. Each tree will be decorated to represent a different ministry of the church. Come and enjoy learning the about the different ways we connect, equip and serve people in the name of Christ. We will even be announcing the 2027 VBS theme!

Due to scheduling the Faith and Life Bookstore will not be able to attend, but we are looking forward to them joining us again the future.



Guatemala Service Trip

In March of 2027, Amanda Goertzen and Hillary Bechtel will be traveling to Guatemala! They are traveling with members from the Augusta United Methodist Church in Augusta, Kan. Hillary has family connections within this church which has created the opportunity to travel and work alongside them in ministry to God. They will be working with the Stove Builders of Guatemala to bring safe cooking into the homes of Mayan people.

The project:

Stove Builders of Guatemala is a community-driven project that trains local people to construct fuel-efficient, smoke-free masonry cookstoves for impoverished Mayan families, using locally sourced materials and labor. Founded in 2011 after a 2009 visit by members of First United Methodist Church in Wichita, Kan. the project was inspired by the health risks posed by cooking over open fires in windowless kitchens. It partners with trained Guatemalan builders, to teach others, ensuring the program continues after volunteer teams leave.

Key features of the stoves include:

- Built from local materials (cement blocks, bricks, 6" cement pipe) to support the local economy.
- Fuel-efficient: use less wood than open fires, reducing deforestation and household fuel costs.
- Smoke-free cooking: vented design keeps fire off the ground and smoke out of the home.
- Community involvement: each family contributes $20, moves materials, and helps on build day.

Raffle to Help Raise Funds

Over the coming weeks, Amanda and Hillary are planning some opportunities to raise funds for this mission trip. They will be holding a raffle which will end on Monday, November 23 and will award two winners with 15 lbs. of ground beef ($100.00 value) EACH. That means **TWO** individuals will go home with 15 lbs. of ground beef to stock their deep freezes for the winter months ahead!

Tickets will be sold until November 23 for $15.00 each or you can buy three tickets for $35.00. Tickets will be available for purchase in the church office from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Hillary and Amanda would greatly appreciate the support and prayers of the congregation! If you are interested in donating toward their service trip please contact Hillary Bechtel at 309-569-0471.

Buy your Krispy Kreme donuts today!



The Bethesda Preschool Students and Committee are once again selling Krispy Kreme donuts and bags of coffee! Malaina needs some new classroom shelves to replace some that are showing too much wear and tear. There is an order form and envelope for money located on the table outside the church office. You may also pay at pick up time. Orders are open until November 22nd and

donuts will be available for pick up on Monday, December 1 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. during the Spirit of Christmas in the Fellowship Hall. The preschool greatly appreciates your continued support!

CHRISTMAS Poinsettias

Poinsettias will be used to decorate the sanctuary Sunday, December 20 through Thursday, December 24. Please have them delivered no sooner than Thursday, December 17. If you will be donating in honor of a loved one, please let the church office know by calling 402.723.4562 or emailing bethesda@mainstaycomm.net.



CHILDREN&YOUTH MINISTRIES

Fall Midweek

FALL MID WEEK

Wednesday, November 25:

High School: We will meet at 6:30 p.m.

Junior High Midweek: Will meet in the Upper Room at 7:00 p.m.

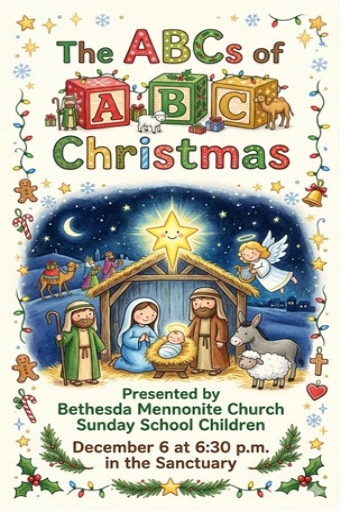
Join the Text List: If you or your youth would like to be on the contact list to be notified each week about when, where and what we are doing for Midweek please contact Kerri in the office with your cell phone number and email to join the list.

Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 6: It's time to start Practicing for the Children's Christmas Program planned for Sunday, December 6 at Bethesda. This year the kids will be presenting "The ABCs of Christmas".

Practices will be held during the Sunday School hour and there will also be a run-through in the church sanctuary on Saturday, December 5 from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Please have your children there a little early and plan to stay if possible.

All children can wear nice church clothes to the program and all families will need to bring two dozen cookies to the church kitchen by 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 6. The program



will start at 6:30 p.m. and will be followed by a cookie and punch social in the Fellowship Hall. The Project Offering will once again be Hygiene Kits. Kids were given letters to bring home with all the details.

Parent and Volunteer Forms

For the safety of our children, it is very important that parents and any volunteers fill out our child protection forms that are available online. There are three separate forms to be filled out: Child/Youth Trip Permission Waiver Form; Volunteer For Children/Youth; Driving History/Record Release Form. Please scan the QR codes below to get to the forms in order to fill them out online. Or go to the church website at bethesdamc.org and click on "Child Protection" in the menu.

Child/Youth Trip Permission Waiver

Volunteer for Children/Youth

Driving History/ Record Release

GIVINGATTENDANCE

Sunday, November 15, 2026 Worship Attendance: 190
Sunday, November 15, 2026, Sunday School Attendance: 90
Worship Offering: November 15, 2026

Bethesda General Operating Receipts	**$7,587.00**
Sunday School Offering	**$226.00**
Total Sunday Offering	**$7,813.00**

Bethesda Operating Fund
January 1 through November 10, 2026

2026 – Approved Annual Operating Budget	**$1,163,268**
Bethesda Income	**$591,351**
**We have received 50.84% of our approved budget.	
Operating Expenses	**$851,344**
** We have spent 73.19% of our approved budget.	
Income Minus Expenses	**-$259,993**

Andrew Regier Memorial
Eye on Grace Foundation: $930.30

CHRISTMAS

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



Thursday, November 26	THANKSGIVING – Church Offices Closed
Sunday, November 29	***First Sunday of Advent*** 9:30 a.m. Worship Service
Sunday, November 29 –	Minis-TREES set up (Sunday evening – Tuesday at 3:00 p.m.)
Tuesday, December 1	4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Spirit of Christmas Youth Fundraiser Meal – Fellowship Hall 4:00 – 7:30 p.m. Vendors, Kids Scavenger Hunt, Bethesda Minis-TREES – Fellowship Hall 5:00 – 7:30 p.m. Carriage rides between Bethesda and Main Street
Saturday, December 5	10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal - Sanctuary
Sunday, December 6	***Second Sunday of Advent*** 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 6:30 p.m. Children's Christmas Program *Cookie Social to follow.*
Sunday, December 13	***Third Sunday of Advent*** 9:30 a.m. Worship Service
Sunday, December 20	***Fourth Sunday of Advent*** 9:30 a.m. Worship Service featuring the music of A*Men 7:00 p.m. Longest Night Service *Poinsettias will be used to decorate the sanctuary Sunday, December 20 through Thursday, December 24. Please have them delivered no sooner than Thursday, December 17. If you will be donating in honor of a loved one, please let the church office know.*
Thursday, December 24	7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
Friday, December 25	9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Community Pancake Feed
Sunday, January 3	9:30 a.m. Epiphany Sunday – New Year's Communion

Unto the Least of These

"The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' " Matthew 25:40 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 25:31-46 (NIV)



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

CLOTHED	SHEPHERD	HUNGRY	KING	STRANGER
LEAST	BLESSED	THRONE	SICK	EAT
GLORY	LIFE	ANGELS	DRINK	THIRSTY
BROTHERS	FATHER	ETERNAL	PRISON	COME

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 Way of Compassion"

Pastor J Epp

Matthew 25:31-46 (NRSV)