

W E L C O M E

We are happy you could join us today!
Please feel free to have a cup of coffee from the Coffee Spot!

*"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."*

Bethesda Mennonite Church

www.bethesdamc.org

February 4, 2018

Annual Meeting

Bethesda's Annual Congregational Meeting will be held immediately following today's worship service. There will be no adult, junior high or high school Sunday school. Preschool through grade 6 will have Sunday School as usual. The noon meal will serve as a fundraiser for this year's youth service trips or conference attendance in future years. Extra annual meeting booklets are available on the table outside the church office or from an usher.

Church Email List

Are you interested in being on an email list to receive important updates, news, or prayer requests from Bethesda? If so, go to our website at www.bethesdamc.org to sign up. Go to the HOME tab and click EMAIL SIGN-UP. Fill in your name and email address and click SUBMIT to be added. If you have any questions or need help filling out the form, please call the church office.

You can nurture your children's faith at home this Lent and Easter with family worship. Find a free, downloadable guide at www.anabaptistfaithformation.org. For use between March 1 and April 16 (Easter Sunday), it includes a daily Bible reading, short litany, songs, hands-on activities and questions to ponder together.

Mennonite Central Committee Annual Meeting

Everyone is invited to join the board and staff of Mennonite Central Committee Central States for our annual meeting on Friday, February 23 at 10:30 a.m. at the MCC Center, 121 E. 30th, North Newton, KS 67117.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, February 4

- 8:45 a.m. Deacon Prayer Time
- 9:30 a.m. Worship/Deacon Installation
- 10:40 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting
- 10:40 a.m. Children's Sunday School
- 12:00 p.m. Youth Fundraiser Meal

MONDAY, February 5

- 7:00 p.m. BWM January/February Birthday Celebration

TUESDAY, February 6

- 8:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Bethesda Women's Ministries

WEDNESDAY, February 7

- 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study (The Upper Room)
- 12:00 p.m. Bulletin Announcements Due
- 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. Midweek
- 7:00 p.m. CORNERSTONE
- 7:00 p.m. Powerhouse
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, February 8

- 8:30 a.m. Bethesda Care Team

SATURDAY, February 10

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study at Perks

Next SUNDAY, February 11, 2018

- 9:30 a.m. Worship
- Message – Les Horning, Eastern Mennonite Seminary
- Offering – Central Plains Mennonite Conference
- Pianist – Marilyn Kroeker
- Special Music – Powerhouse

CHURCH FAMILY

Please pray for those with health concerns, grief or family needs.

Prayer Requests

Caleb Friesen (son of Rick/Brittany Friesen)	Children's Hospital, Omaha
Bryan Bechtel	
Effie Kroeker	Henderson Care Center
Etta Jean Janzen	Henderson Hospital
Geraldine Peters	York Hospital

Church Membership Class

For anyone interested in church membership at Bethesda, a membership class is being planned to meet during the Sunday school hour beginning mid-February. If you are interested, please feel free to contact one of the pastors.

Pastor Jim

Lenten Prayers Series

Theme: Trumpets, Tears, and Ashes – A Series on Habakkuk

Habakkuk is a bit of a strange book. While it is introduced as a prophecy or oracle, the book contains no explicit message to Israel from God. Instead it recounts a conversation between the prophet and God. The conversation begins with lament. Where the law is paralyzed, where sin has infected the world, there is no justice; there is no shalom, no peace, no wholeness, no flourishing, no delight. Habakkuk's prayer is the prayer of those who fervently pray for peace, only to experience war; those who pray for healing beside a loved one's sickbed, only to be confronted by death; those who pray for a spouse's love to be renewed, only to experience betrayal and abuse. Habakkuk's prayer is our prayer.

Library Books

Tons of new books in the library!!!! Well actually, just A ton. Well, ok, it's right around 1,800 pounds. Come check 'em out!

Brent Swartzendruber, Librarian

ACROSS THE STREET & AROUND THE WORLD

Nebraska MCC Sale

March 23-24, 2018

The **Nebraska MCC Sale Board** is in urgent need of someone to fill the Publicity position for the upcoming 2018 sale. If you can help, please contact Brent Buller at 402-366-7730.

Donations for the quilt auction should be entered online via www.nebraskamccsale.org before March 1. If you need assistance with registration or delivery of your quilt auction donations, please contact Wendy Janzen at 402-723-5440 or 402-366-2927. **NEW THIS YEAR: ALL quilt donations need to be delivered to Bethesda by March 10.** You may drop them off by the church office. We plan to organize and photograph all entries prior to the sale so photos can be put on the website.

Bethesda is responsible for providing 150 boxes of colored pencils for MCC school kits. Colored pencils should be boxes of 12 only please and may be left in the basket outside the church office.

Valentine's Banquet

Swan Lake Christian Camp is hosting a Valentine's Banquet on February 11, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. with music and a home cooked meal. There is no cost, but a free will donation will be taken. All proceeds support our youth camping program. Reservations are required by February 9 and can be made by calling 605-326-5690 or by email at campoffice@myslcc.com.

Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship Series – February 23-25, 2018

“Before the Unthinkable Happens: Confronting our Role in Injustice”

Hesston College will host this year's AVDS with Dr. Drew G.I. Hart, theology professor at Messiah College and author of *Trouble I've Seen: Changing the Way the Church Views Racism*. For more information and to register, visit www.hesston.edu/avds.

Annual Study Series Beatrice, Nebraska

The Mennonite churches of Beatrice invite you to join them, March 18-19, 2108, for their Annual Study Series featuring Brad Roth, author of *God's Country: Faith, Hope, and the Future of the Rural Church*. Check out the insert for times and locations for each session.

YOUTH

For junior high and high school calendars visit the Bethesda Faith Formation page at www.bmcfaitform.com.

Love in Action Blog: Check out the blog that offers activities for the month to help us grow in love: www.bmcfaitform.com/love-in-action.

The youth will be serving the Annual Meeting meal today, Sunday, February 4. Youth are needed to help set up during the Sunday School hour, serve and clean up.

We are also in need of donations of grapes, 9x13 cakes and 14 pounds of hamburger. Sign-up sheets for food donations are in the Powerhouse room. Grapes and cakes need to be brought to the church kitchen before 9:30 a.m. If you would be willing to donate ground beef, please call Tammy (Justin) Ott at 402-366-6917 as beef will need to be prepared prior to Sunday.

CORNERSTONE will meet Wednesday, February 7 at 7:00 p.m. for small groups. We will have another "Amazing Race" challenge. Remember to bring your Bible!

Powerhouse will meet Wednesday, February 7 to prepare for worship Sunday, February 11.

A 2018 youth Catechism class will begin February 11 with a parent/student meeting in the Powerhouse room during the Sunday school hour. All high schoolers are invited to join the year-long class to explore what it means to be a follower of Jesus and to be baptized into the membership of the church. Contact Pastor Andrea with any questions.

Youth Summer Trips

We were informed this past week that we have received a placement with Mennonite Disaster Service for the youth service trip this summer. The dates will be July 29-August 4 in Victoria County, Texas. Letters with more information will be coming. There are a limited number of spots for this trip so please contact Pastor Andrea before February 11 if you are interested in attending. We will also be offering an opportunity to attend Youth Escape July 20-22, a youth event of Central Plains Mennonite Conference.

FINANCIALS

Worship Offering Sunday, January 28, 2018

Worship Attendance – 250

Sunday School Attendance – 121

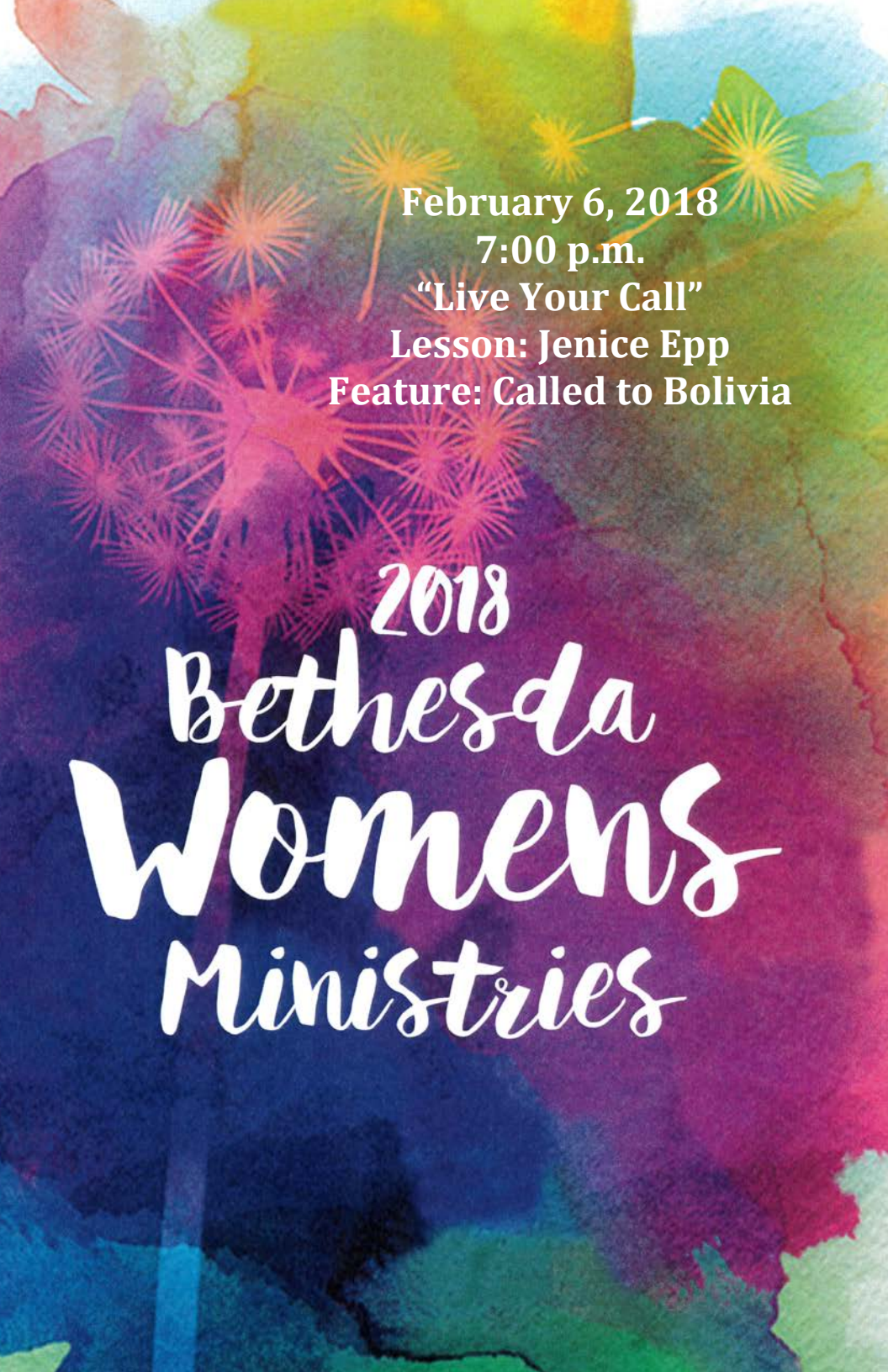
Swan Lake Christian Camp	\$200.00
Benevolent Fund	\$150.00
Bethesda General Operating Receipts	\$10,227.00
Total Worship Offering.....	\$10,577.00
Sunday School Offering	\$138.50
Total Sunday Morning Offering	\$10,715.50
Bethesda Bible Series	\$701.00

BETHESDA WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

All women with birthdays in January or February are invited to the Bethesda Women's Ministries January/February birthday party on Monday, February 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Crossroads Coffee House. Hosts for the evenings are Florence Friesen and Cindy Quiring. Please sign up on the east bulletin board if you plan to attend.

Save the Date – Nebraska Mennonite Women Retreat

The Nebraska Mennonite Women/Mennonite Church USA women's retreat at the Leadership Center, Aurora, Nebraska, will take place March 3-4. The retreat will feature a *Sister Care* Seminar, "Equipping Women for Caring Ministry" with speakers Carolyn Heggen and Rhoda Keener. Check the Bethesda Women's Ministries board for more information about Sister Care and registration forms. Registrations are due by February 15.



February 6, 2018
7:00 p.m.
"Live Your Call"
Lesson: Jenice Epp
Feature: Called to Bolivia

2018
Bethesda
WOMENS
Ministries

