W E L C O M E

We are happy you could join us today!
“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
March 25, 2018

EASTER SERVICES

Passover Seder
Midweek children and their families are invited to a Passover Seder! This will be an abbreviated, kid friendly version of the remembrance celebration of God’s deliverance of the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt. The evening will consist of light snacks, games and singing that will engage all from preschool through adults. Our celebration will take place a day early on Maundy Thursday, March 29, as we do not want to interfere with Easter travel plans. The Seder will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Bethesda Fellowship Hall and will end at 8:00 p.m. Each person attending will need to bring a pillow (a small pillow such as a throw pillow will do just fine.) This is going to be an experience to remember for your family. If you plan to attend and have not registered, please contact Erin today. There will be no Midweek Wednesday, March 28.

The Final Lent services were observed on March 21.

Donations of Easter lilies are needed to decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 1. Gold foil with white ribbon is preferred. Lilies should be brought to the church on Saturday, March 31. Please notify the office no later than noon on Wednesday, March 28, if donating in memory or honor of a loved one

Maundy Thursday Communion will be held on Thursday, March 29, at 8:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary (note location change).

Everyone is invited to a Good Friday Hymn Sing at the Heritage Park Country Church at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, March 30.
**THIS WEEK AT BETHESDA**

**SUNDAY, March 25**
- 8:45 a.m. Deacon Prayer Time
- 9:30 a.m. Worship
- 10:40 a.m. Sunday School/Catechism/Membership Class
- 12:00 p.m. Potluck
- 7:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study @ Jeff & Tami Peters’ home

**MONDAY, March 26**
- 8:00 a.m. MCC Sale Clean-up (Aurora Fairgrounds)
- 8:00 p.m. Church Council

**TUESDAY, March 27**
- 8:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. BWM Sewing & Project Day

**WEDNESDAY, March 28**
- 9:30 a.m. Women’s Bible Study (The Upper Room)
- 12:00 p.m. Bulletin Announcements Due
- 7:00 p.m. Women’s Bible Study (Narthex)
- 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
  - NO Midweek
- 7:00 p.m. CORNERSTONE
- 7:00 p.m. Powerhouse
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

**THURSDAY, March 29**
- 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Passover Meal for Pre-K – Grade 6 & Families
- 8:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service in Sanctuary

**FRIDAY, March 30**
- 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Hymn Sing (Heritage Park Church)

**SATURDAY, March 31**
- 7:00 a.m. Men’s Bible Study at Perks
Next SUNDAY, April 1, 2018
Easter Sunday
9:30 a.m. Worship / Message – Pastor Seth Miller
Offering – Local Church
Organist – Laura Steingard / Special Music – Chancel Choir

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

Sympathy
Sympathy is extended to Dianna and Don Kliewer in the death of Dianna’s father, Melvin Brunkhorst, on March 17, 2018 in Grand Island.

Wedding
Marc and Kelli Peters announce the approaching marriage of their daughter, Marli, to Tim Kulhanek, son of James and Marilee Kulhanek on Saturday, March 31, 2018. Please pray for this couple as they begin their new life together.

Midweek Service Project Night
The last night of Midweek, service project night, will be held Wednesday, April 4 at 7:00 p.m. Following the service project, we will have root beer floats - be sure to join us!

It’s Vacation Bible School Time Again!
Volunteers are needed for Bethesda’s June 4-8, 2018 Vacation Bible School. We will be traveling to Babylon with Daniel to witness his courage during captivity. Individuals who would like to volunteer may sign up online. Go to www.bethesdamc.org. Under the HOME screen, click Vacation Bible School, then click the link to volunteer. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Erin Sams at 515-729-2130 or JoAnn Friesen at 402-723-4949. Children's VBS registration will open April 29.
**MCC SALE CLEAN-UP:** Volunteers are needed to help clean-up following the MCC sale on Monday, March 26 at 8:00 a.m.

**Congregational Service Murals:**
Please take time to enjoy the Congregational Service Murals created by the Midweek K-6th graders. Each child chose the space and service that most stood out to them following a Congregational Service Walk through the building. Murals are displayed in their respective areas. After this morning, drawings will be added to the children’s Faith Journals.

**Narthex Update**
The Narthex continues to serve as an important space of welcome for the church. It has been included in the sanctuary renovation. A Narthex design group made up of Pastors Andrea, Seth and Jim, Cindy Friesen, Kerri Pankratz, and Mike Wall is working on graphic design, furnishings and art for the Narthex that will reflect the mission and vision of the church. Be watching for upcoming additions.

**Check the East Bulletin Board**
Update from Dan and Sylvia Rogers with Mission Aviation Fellowship.

**The Henderson Child Development Center** is looking for a gently used or new play structure. If you are able to meet this need, please contact Brad Janzen at 402-710-2779. Thanks!

**March is Severe Weather Preparedness Month**
It’s that time of year again where uncertain weather, severe thunderstorms, and tornados are common. Knowing what to do during an emergency is an important part of being prepared and may make all the difference when seconds count. Please take time to review the Bethesda Mennonite Church Tornado Preparedness Map located in the back flap of the Hymnal of Worship Book and be familiar with where to exit should it become necessary to evacuate the sanctuary.
YOUTH

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

**Catechism** will meet this morning, March 25 from 10:40 a.m. until noon.

**High School Bible Study** will meet this evening at 7:30 p.m. at Jeff and Tami Peters’ home.

**CORNERSTONE** (junior high) will meet Wednesday, March 28 in The Upper Room at 7:00 p.m. for our final race challenge. Bring your Bibles, you will need them to win a prize!

**Powerhouse** (high school) will meet in small groups for our Love in Action night at 7:00 p.m. in the Crossroads Coffee House.

**Catechism Reminder:** We will be participating in the Maundy Thursday service this Thursday, March 29 as readers. Please plan to arrive at 7:30 p.m. The service will begin at 8:00 p.m.

FINANCIALS

**Worship Offering Sunday, March 18, 2018**
Worship Attendance – 311
Sunday School Attendance – 106
Central Plains Mennonite Conference ........................................ $3,783.00
Dayspring Ministries – Thailand .............................................. $100.00
Facility Renovation Fund and Parking Lot .............................. $150.00
MCC School Kits ................................................................. $70.00
Bethesda General Operating Receipts ..................................... $5,100.00
Total Worship Offering ......................................................... $9,203.00
Sunday School Offering ....................................................... $143.96
Total Sunday Morning Offering ............................................. $9,346.96
Bethesda Mennonite Women Banquet
On April 30, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., Bethesda Women's Ministry will be sponsoring its 9th Annual Celebrate Women's Event with a catered meal, special music and speaker Sharon Kennel, talking on "Master Gardening." Tickets are $13.00 and may be purchased from the church office, during office hours, April 4-23. Paid reservations are due April 23. We will also have tickets available at our April 3 meeting. Invite a friend or neighbor to join you.

Save the Date
MCC Work Day in Newton will be April 17. More details to follow.

Henderson Health Care Services will host a second informational meeting on March 27 at the Henderson MB Church at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will update the community on the recently approved construction of a new long-term care facility to be located north of the current facility. The new facility will provide 40 resident rooms, a large activity room, library, therapy room, large living rooms with fireplaces and small, more private dining. Construction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2018 and be completed by the spring of 2019.

Lunch & Learn at MCC with Joanna Shenk!
Join us on Thursday, April 5 from noon to 1:00 p.m. at MCC in North Newton, Kansas, to hear Joanna share about her new book, “The Movement Makes Us Human an Interview with Dr. Vincent Harding on Mennonites, Vietnam and MLK.” Lunch will be provided by Mojo’s Coffee Bar. Please RSVP for lunch by April 3. You may also join this event virtually, on any computer or device. For more information, visit mcc.org/lunch-learn. Questions or to RSVP: 316-283-2720 or patsydirksen@mcc.org.
Sewing & Project Day
March 27, 2018
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Devotions: “Receive”
by Kathy Friesen
Menu: Lasagna and French Bread