The Philippines trip participants will present a program of sharing this afternoon, at 4:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Safe Congregation Policy Development…

The delegates at the Mennonite Church USA 2013 convention in Phoenix affirmed a resolution entitled “Protecting and Nurturing our Children and Youth” which encourages congregations to take steps to create an environment that is safe. We at Bethesda have been working at this for the past couple of years. While we wish it was unnecessary to have something like this in place, we also know that it is important for everyone’s protection. More information will be coming in a specially called congregational meeting on Sunday, September 8 at 7:00 p.m. The plan will be explained and you will have opportunity for questions and discussion.

Thank you Bethesda: “Thanks so much for the generous gift certificate you gave from Linton’s Garden Center in Elkhart on the last Sunday I was with you. I combined that with another gift certificate from our couples group, [which I received] at the death of my mother. We had fun selecting a figurine of St. Francis of Assisi feeding birds that were sitting on his hands and bowl. He is well known for his care of the creatures of creation. My mother enjoyed sitting by the hour watching the birds coming to the feeders outside the windows in her later years. It sits on our screened in porch and reminds us of the care of God for the birds and all of creation. I have many good memories of my short time among you. Blessings as you continue serving God in Henderson.” – Betty Kauffman

Through the month of August, Sunday morning worship services will be held in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee and cookies will be served prior to the services. Did you know we serve 28 dozen cookies each Sunday during the summer when we meet in the Fellowship Hall? Volunteers are needed to serve coffee as well as bring cookies or bars. Individuals serving coffee throughout the year enjoy a break through the summer months, so please keep that in mind when you sign up on the east bulletin board. Thank you for your service!
WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, August 11
8:50 A.M. Deacons
8:55-9:15 A.M. Prayer Time
9:30 A.M. Worship Service/Fellowship Hall
10:40 A.M. Sunday School
11:45 A.M. CC/Tech Upgrade Lunch/Meeting
4:00 P.M. Philippines Sharing

MONDAY, August 12
11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Swimnastics

TUESDAY, August 13
8:30 A.M. Staff Meeting
7:00 P.M. Board of Deacons
8:00 P.M. Sunday School Committee

WEDNESDAY, August 14
11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Swimnastics
12:00 P.M. Bulletin Announcements Due

THURSDAY, August 15
11:45 Swimnastics Luncheon

FRIDAY, August 16
10:00 A.M. Bethesda Women’s Ministry Executive Committee

Please send your bulletin announcements to the office by noon on Wednesday to expedite the printing of the bulletin. If emailing, please send to Carrie Bergen at bmcoffice@mainstaycomm.net.

Next Sunday, August 18, 2013
Sermon – Pastor Sherm Kauffman
Offering – Central Plains Mennonite Conference
Pianist – Sandra Quiring
Pray for those among us who have health concerns, grief or family needs.

**Hospitalized:**
Dianne Buller  
Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska

**Prayers:**
Kara Buller  
Brian Thieszen, Grand Junction, Colorado

**Death:** Sympathy is extended to Audrey and Paul Janzen following the death of their sister-in-law Phyllis (Roy) Friesen. Roy’s address is 2103 28th Avenue Greeley, Colorado 80634.

**Special Prayer Request:**
Flora Mae, foster daughter of Dr. Sam and Sherri Evans, has fallen and broken her weak leg again. She is in need of specialized surgery in the United States. A special fund has been established for this surgery under REACH International. If you wish to contribute to this fund, write your check to Bethesda and mark it for the Flora Mae Fund. If you have questions, please contact E. James Friesen.

**Pastoral Search Prayer Support**
Please join us for prayer each Sunday morning as we seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit in our search for a new lead pastor. We gather in the northwest adult classroom, across from the Preschool, at 8:55 a.m. and dismiss by 9:15 a.m. We need your prayer support as we continue our search.

~Pastoral Search Committee

**The Prayer Board**, located near the church office, is a place to post prayers that come to the office. If you wish to have a prayer matter posted, please call the church office, Pastor Jim Voth or email him at jim@mainstaycomm.net. These may be prayers of praise, thanksgiving or intercession. If you wish to post a prayer for someone other than yourself, please request their permission. Thank you.

Pray for the **Bethel College** administration, faculty, staff and coaches as they gather for the annual “First Supper” together and as they welcome Bethel’s fall student-athletes.

Pray for the **Hesston College** community during opening weekend. Pray that new students will feel at home and pray for parents as they separate from their children. Ask God to bless the efforts of the faculty and staff.
Coming Events….

Just the Facts, Ma’am
Bethesda Mennonite Church announces Mission:Possible, a new Wednesday night program for children in grades preschool-6th grade. Our theme is “Finding your place in God’s plan.” Kids will learn about their place in God’s plan through games, skits, Bible verses, and music. It will be held each Wednesday night from 7-8 p.m. starting August 28. All children of the church and community are invited to join in the fun as our agents learn their Bible facts and how those facts can help them in their daily lives.

...and only the facts

Weekday Christian Education Committee is looking for volunteers to help with midweek which will begin on August 28. We are adopting a heavily bible based curriculum from Bethel Mennonite Church in Mountain Lake, Minnesota. It will be a different format than what we have done for the past several years and we are excited about it! If anyone is willing to share on Wednesday nights about mission or service work they have experienced, please contact Tara Maltsberger at 620-205-9463 or email her at tmaltsb@mainstaycomm.net if you are interested.

Engage the Mystery! Advent worship planners, you have a special opportunity to learn about the Advent 2013 Leader materials from those who wrote them! Join us at Manson Mennonite Church on Saturday, September 7, from 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. for Engaging the Mystery. Cost is $25.00 per person.

MCC is requesting more School Kits so we are asking for your assistance in sewing the bags. There are several hundred bags cut and ready to sew, located in a box outside the church office. The bags need to be completed before we can pack kits, so to all who can help us, thank you. Instructions are included for those of you who have never sewed a bag before. If you have any questions, please call Adeline Huebert or Lindy Siebert.
Save the Date!
September 21 & 22, 2013
Swan Lake Christian Camp - Viborg, South Dakota

A weekend retreat just for women?
How fun would it be to spend a weekend at Swan Lake Camp with your friends? Just ask your children!

This retreat will feature TWO special speakers (review the August Visitor for more information on them) as well as free time to spend as you prefer: taking part in a ‘special feature’ or craft, enjoying nature on your own or sneaking in a much needed nap! The theme for the weekend is “Power Made Perfect; How’s a Woman to Live?”

Registration forms are available on the Bethesda Women’s Ministries bulletin board or on the church website at www.bethesdamc.org.

The August Bethesda Women’s Ministry Birthday Celebration will be held on Monday, August 26, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Hostess for the evening is Arylis Huebert. If you have an August birthday, please sign up on the east bulletin board.

It’s been a wonderful summer at the local swimming pool for ladies swimnastics, sponsored by BWM! There are only 2 sessions left, Monday and Wednesday, August 12 and 14.

All women who have attended swimnastics this summer are invited to attend a luncheon at the Dutch Kitchen on Thursday, August 15, at 11:45 a.m. The menu is a chicken salad croissant, fruit salad and peach cobbler. The cost is $9.00, plus drink, tax and tip. Sign up by August 11 at the pool or contact Kathy Friesen at 402-723-4245.
Mennonite Women USA is proud to announce a completely redesigned website that features the following:

- Easier navigation around the site
- Newly launched blog Mennonite Women Voices
- Beautiful images
- Stronger focus on the organization's logo
- A site search

We're thankful to the design firm, NADA GLOBAL for answering our call for a re-visioning of our web presence. We believe this new website fully aligns with our vision which invites women across generations, cultures, and places to share and honor our stories, care for each other, and express our prophetic voice boldly as we seek to follow Christ. Visit our new site today at mwusa.org.

Women, do you ever feel stuck? Stuck in sadness, stuck in trying to seem perfect, or stuck in something you can't even name? God has a plan for these stuck spaces inside of us, the places we feel broken. We have to go to Him. The Women's Bible Study will be led this fall (September and October) by Kara Janzen on Thursday mornings. We will be using the book *Stuck*, by Jennie Allen. *Stuck* is a journey to take an honest look at the fight going on inside us, leading us to the God who has a plan to restore it; to restore us. If you are interested in joining, please call Kara at 402-723-5683.

Preschool News

Bethesda Preschool still has several spots available for the 2013/2014 school year! If you have a child between the ages of 3 and 5 or know someone who does, please consider the Bethesda Preschool! Class schedule is as follows:

- 3/4 year old class is Tuesday/Thursday from 8:30-11:30 a.m.
- 4/5 year old class is Tuesday/Thursday from 12:15-3:15 p.m.
- Pre-K class is Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 8:30-11:30 a.m.

I am also looking for any kid-loving, big-hearted adults who may have prior experience with young children for volunteers! Hours can be in the classroom helping with projects, preparing projects for future use, or assisting on field trips. Just let me know what you are interested in helping with and I will find the perfect spot for you! You must fill out a felony misdemeanor statement in order to help. Thank you!

Please contact Kori Lewis: Preschool Director/Teacher for more information at bethesdapreschoolers@gmail.com.
YOUTH

Powerhouse Kick Off
High school youth will be kicking off the school year with a **Mustache Bash on Wednesday, August 21 at 7:00 p.m.** Please come and bring a dress up item for the photo booth. The following week, there will be a competition between the junior high and high school for the most creative picture. Come for food, fun, and find out more about this year! Bring a friend!

Should I release my information?
The "No Child Left Behind Act" requires our local schools to release your high schooler's name, address and phone number to military and college recruiters. As parents, you have the ability to request that this information not be released. If your child is considering being a conscientious objector to war (CO), you can fill out a form at your school office to maintain the confidentiality of your child's records. Contact your school for this release form. As a CO, this kind of documentation is important to have in the event of a draft.

Also, if you have an 18 year old, they will be required to register for the draft. If your child is interested in registering as a CO, you will need to know how to indicate that on your registration form. You may pick up a brochure in the church office, contact Pastor Andrea or visit the Central Plains Mennonite Conference website at: http://www.centeronconscience.org/images/stories/pdf/shouldiregister.pdf.

College Students...
Bethesda would like to stay in contact with you when you leave for college. Please give us your new address. You will find green college address forms in one of the baskets located at the Coffee Spot or outside the church office. Thank you!
Those attending Swan Lake Christian Camp for Junior High Camp were: Ethan Hall, Ellie Steingard, Leslie Braun and Brooke Weisheit. Jaylen Peters served as counselor and Whitney Steingard, Abigail Bechtel and Leah Friesen served on the staff this summer.

FINANCIALS

Worship Offering Last Sunday, August 4, 2013
Worship Attendance – 305
Sunday School Attendance – 100

Temporary Holding Accounts
MC – USA- Missions /Service................................................................. $4,718.00
Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary........................................... 100.00
Menno Village – Japan ...................................................................... 200.00
Dayspring – Congo ........................................................................... 250.00
Dayspring – Thailand ........................................................................ 200.00
Grace Children’s Home ..................................................................... 20.00
Reach International – Sam/Sherrri Evans......................................... 150.00
Reach – Flora Mae Fund .................................................................. 300.00
Ashland Fellowship ........................................................................... 500.00
Mennonite Central Committee School Kits ....................................... 50.00
Sunday School Offering ................................................................... 212.00
General Operating Receipts ................................................................. 2,535.00

Total Worship Offering .................................................................... $9,235.00

Bethesda Operating Fund: January 1 – August 6, 2013

Approved Operating Budget – through August 6, 2013. $382,404.00
Offering Receipts – through August 6, 2013 $282,998.00
**We have received 73% of our Approved Budget.
Operating Expenses – through August 6, 2013 $338,980.00
**We have spent 89% of our Approved Budget.
How can we be silent

1. How can we be silent when we know our God is near, bringing
   light to those in darkness, to the worthless, endless worth?
2. How can we be silent when our God has conquered death, stretching
   out his arms to suffer so that we might have new life?
3. How can we be silent as we turn our eyes away and ignoring
   those the poor and broken who lie bleeding in the street?
4. How can we be silent, not give praise with all our hearts, for Christ
   Jesus is our Savior and compassion is our king?
5. How can we be silent when our souls are filled with awe at the
   beauty of creation and the mercy of our Lord?

1. How can we be silent when we are the voice of Christ, speaking
   justice to the nations, breathing love to all the earth?
2. How can we be silent when we know that Jesus rose, and will
   come again in glory, ending suffering and strife?
3. How can we be silent when we’re called to heal and serve in the
   image of Lord Jesus, who has stooped to wash our feet?
4. How can we be silent when God gave us life to be vibrant
   instruments of worship, made to laugh and dance and sing?
5. How can we be silent when we yearn to sing new songs? In our
   hearts a fire is burning and it will not be ignored!

Refrain* 1. Ab Bb Cm  
2. Ab Bb Cm Cm  
3. Ab Bb Cm Cm  

None can stop the Spirit burning now inside us. We will shape the
Cm Fm7 Gm7 AbM7 Bbadd9 Cm Gm7 C2

future. We will not be silent!

*May be sung as a canon.

Text: Michael Mahler
Music: Michael Mahler
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The Lord lift you up

E A B
The Lord lift you up, the Lord take your
E E7 A B7
hand, the Lord lead you forth, and cause you to
C# C#7 F#m7 B7
stand, secure in God's word, seeking God's
C#m C#m F#m B7
face, abounding in love, abiding in

1 E Final E
grace. The grace.

*Original title
Text: Patricia I. Shelly
Music: Patricia I. Shelly; arranged by Dennis Friesen-Carper
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