

Follow Jesus; Mature in Faith; Carry the Good News  
At First Mennonite Church

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**Serving Today:**

Worship Leader: Kyle Riesen

Piano: Vicki Ensz

Audio: Jim Ensz

Kids Story: Christina Lyons

Ushers: Lynn Gerber & Rick Brethouwer

Pastor: Josh Janzen

Hosts: Gayland & Marci Regier

Power point: Katie Jantzen

Video: Henry Trantham

**Last Sunday: Attendance:** 82      **Offering:** Mother to Mother \$2,888

First Mennonite \$3,850

**Today's Offering:** First Mennonite      **Next Sunday:** Food Pantry

**Coming Up:**

Sunday, April 19

9:30 am Sunday School for all

10:30 am Worship

Tuesday, April 21

1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying

7:00 pm Church Board meets

Wednesday, April 22

6:30 pm Peace Club, SYF, JYF

Saturday, April 25

Regier/Scheer Wedding

Sunday, April 26

9:30 am Sunday School for all

10:30 am Worship

**April Birthdays**

2: Ella Crawford

5: Sylvia Crawford

7: Henry Trantham

9: Elsie Riesen

13: Blake Thimm & Jacob Janzen

16: Anita Reimer

17: Vicki Hinz-Ensz

20: Sloan Esau

- Our services are on **YouTube:** [www.youtube.com/c/fmcbeatrice](http://www.youtube.com/c/fmcbeatrice)
- The **bulletin** is at [fmcbeatrice.org](http://fmcbeatrice.org) under documents.
- If you would like to be on the **Prayer Chain**, see Sue Gerber
- If you use the **nursery**, please clean up after using it. Thanks!
- Ask an usher for assistance with a **hearing device**.
- **We collect** Best Choice labels & used cards and envelopes.
- **Food Pantry items** go in the box in the narthex. Checks for the food pantry may be put in the offering plate.
- **Men's Brotherhood Project?** Contact Dan Kunzman or LeRoy Janzen.

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**Address:** 6714 W. State Hwy. 4, Beatrice, NE 68310 **Website:** [fmcbeatrice.org](http://fmcbeatrice.org)

**Pastors:** Josh Janzen; 402-631-3481; [pastorjosh@fmcbeatrice.org](mailto:pastorjosh@fmcbeatrice.org)

Sarah Neher; 507-993-6820; [sarah@fmcbeatrice.org](mailto:sarah@fmcbeatrice.org). Her office hours are generally Sundays & Tuesdays, 9-12; Wednesdays, 1-8; Fridays 9-2

**Church Office:** 402-251-7180 **Email:** [office@fmcbeatrice.org](mailto:office@fmcbeatrice.org)

**Deacons:** Sue Gerber (402-239-8857), Don Esau (402-223-9210),

Vicki Hinz-Ensz (402-239-4174), **Church Chair:** Jerry Reimer (402-239-2716)



## Welcome to First Mennonite Church

April 19, 2026

### Welcome

#### Call to Worship

L: We gather this morning on the other side of the tomb.

**P: The stone has been rolled away. The grave is empty. Christ is risen.**

L: Death did its worst. It took him down. It sealed him in.

**P: But God had the final word. And that word was life.**

L: We come today not with a wish or a theory —

**P: We come with a witness. He has been raised. We have staked our lives on it.**

L: So we gather not in mourning, but in defiance.

**P: Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?**

L: Come, let us worship the God, who gives us the victory

**All: Christ is risen. He is risen indeed.**

#### Prayer

#### Hymn 359: "Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

#### Confession and Assurance

L: Lord, we confess that we have not lived as Easter people.

**P: We have let fear have the last word when you have spoken life.**

L: We have carried our burdens as though the tomb were still sealed,

**P: as though the stone had not been rolled away, as though nothing had changed.**

L: We have doubted your power in our private griefs,

**P: treating death and loss as though they were stronger than your promise.**

L: We have grown comfortable with a faith that costs us little,

**P: when you have called us to stand firm in a resurrection that changes everything.**

L: We have forgotten the hinge

**P: and built our lives on lesser things.**

L: Merciful God, forgive us.

**P: Remind us of what we have received. Remind us of where we stand.**

L: Hear the good news — the same gospel handed down from the beginning: Christ died for our sins.

**P: According to the Scriptures.**

L: He was buried.

**P: The tomb was real. The death was real.**

L: He was raised on the third day.

**P: The tomb is empty. Death is defeated.**

L: He appeared — to Peter, to the Twelve, to hundreds of witnesses, to Paul

**P: and he appears to us now, in word and worship, in community and prayer.**

L: Because Christ has been raised, your sins are forgiven. You are not still in them. You do not stand condemned. The sting has been drawn. People of God — in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Offering Hymn 332: “In Christ Alone”** (offering to First Mennonite)

## Children’s Story

**Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-8**

**Sermon: “The Hinge of Everything”**

Pastor Josh

**Hymn 340: “Lift Your Glad Voices”**

**Sharing and Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Sending Song 812: “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”**

**Passing the Peace**

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**Welcome** to all worshiping with us here and on YouTube. For easy access, bookmark this link: [www.youtube.com/c/fmcbeatrice](http://www.youtube.com/c/fmcbeatrice) and “Like” it and subscribe. The bulletin is at [fmcbeatrice.org](http://fmcbeatrice.org) under the documents tab.

**Save the date of June 7th for the upcoming baptisms.** The service will be at Baade's Pond. More details to come.

As part of the Sesquicentennial celebration, an **updated version of the FMC cookbook** is in the making! Get your recipes to Paula Heinz or Debbie Goossen. Recipes that are FMC family favorites and possibly “*unique to our Mennonite heritage*” (with modern cooking method adaptations if needed) are what we’re looking for!

**VBS registration is open at [fmcbeatrice.org](http://fmcbeatrice.org)!** A consent form is available there for you to print off and get back to Linsey Schardt. Registration/consent forms are also near the mailboxes. Kids are encouraged to invite a friend or a family to join the fun! Please register by May 6!

**Congratulations to Christina Lyons!** She was awarded the 2026 Beatrice Educational Foundation’s “*Friend of Education*” award! Christina is director of the Gage County MAPS Coalition and Coordinator of Juvenile Diversion Services, working closely with youth and families to build stronger futures. She also serves as the TEAMMATES coordinator for Beatrice. Thanks for all you do for the youth of our community, Christina!

A reminder! The offerings taken on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month are for First Mennonite’s General Operating Fund. The offerings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays are for organizations FMC helps support. **If your offering is intended for FMC’s general fund and but is given on the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, please put FMC in the memo line.** If nothing is specified on your check, it will be designated for the other organization listed for that Sunday.

Plan to stay after the service on May 3 for the **Youth Taco Fundraiser!**

The April **Church Board meeting** has been moved to this Tuesday, April 21 at 7 p.m.

**CampMennoscah.org:** Register online for **Summer Camp!** FMC will pay for your registration and a T-shirt. Put FMC Beatrice as your sponsor, then let the church office know you’ve signed up.

**MCC Golf Signup:** It's time to signup for the MCC Golf Tournament held at the Centura Hills Golf Club in Cairo, NE on May 16th. It's a 2 Person Scramble with Cart, Lunch, Awards, and Flag Prizes included. Look for the poster in your church or at [facebook.com/NebraskaMCCGolf](https://facebook.com/NebraskaMCCGolf) for details. Email [NebraskaMCCGolf@gmail.com](mailto:NebraskaMCCGolf@gmail.com) or contact Glen at 402-560-7818 via voice or text to sign your team up. Signup prior to May 8 is preferred.

**On the bulletin board:**

Sole to Soul Shoe Give Away April 25, 9-noon  
Hope Crisis Center Annual Put Your Foot Down Run/Walk  
Whispering Acres Horse Camp, May 30



**VBS REGISTRATION IS  
NOW OPEN!**

Please register by May 6th!

**Invite a friend or  
family! We will have a  
gift for every child  
that invites someone  
and their friend.**



All children need a completed parental and transportation consent form. Find them online or printed by the mailboxes. Return completed forms to Linsey Schart's mailbox.



**Vacation Bible School is May 26-29, 8:30 am – 11:30 am  
for children kindergarten eligible through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.**