

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

Serving Today:

Pastor: Josh Janzen Piano: Vicki and Erin
Worship Leader: Erin Vanderschaaf Audio: Larry Thimm
Hosts: John & Zella Penner PowerPoint: Katie Jantzen
Ushers: Bill Thimm & Jim Ensz Video: Lisa Goossen
Children's Story and Teacher Appreciation: Debbie Goossen

Last Sunday: Offerings: Mother to Mother \$575; FMC \$3370
Tech Fund: \$200; Food Pantry: \$200

Attendance: 104

Offering today: Community Food Pantry **Next Sunday:** FMC

Happening this week:

Sunday, April 28 9:30 am Adult & Kids Sunday School
 10:30 am Worship with Teacher Appreciation.
 Noon: Faith Formation Conversations
Tuesday, April 30 1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying
Sunday, May 5 9:30 am Adult & Kids Sunday School
 10:30 am Worship
 Noon: Youth Fiesta Fundraiser

May Birthdays:

1: Mike Goossen 6: Jeremy Fast
7: Ann Regier 9: Shelton Crawford, Justin Schardt
10: Elaine Penner 13: Brandon Esau
14: Laura Williamson 15: Jude Vanderschaaf
16: Chris Tegtmeier 19: Dolores Jantzen, Erin Vanderschaaf
23: Alma Reimer 28: Rick Brethouwer

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- Ask an usher for assistance with a **hearing device**.
 - **We collect** Best Choice labels & used cards and envelopes.
 - **Food Pantry** items may go in box in the narthex. Cash donations may be given to Dolores Jantzen.
 - Have a project for Men's Brotherhood? Contact Dan Kunzman or LeRoy Janzen.
 - Our service is on <https://www.youtube.com/c/fmcbeatrice> and heard on FM 107.5 in our parking lot. The bulletin is at fmcbeatrice.org, under the More tab; select documents; church docs, minutes & bulletins.
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First Mennonite Church; 6714 W. State Hwy. 4, Beatrice, NE 68310

Pastors: Josh Janzen; 402-228-2052; pastorjosh@fmcbeatrice.org
Sarah Neher; 507-993-6820; sarah@fmcbeatrice.org

Church office: 402-251-7180

Website: fmcbeatrice.org **Church email:** office@fmcbeatrice.org

Deacons: Vicki Hinz-Ensz (402-239-4174), Sue Gerber (402-239-8857)

Don Esau (402-223-9210). **Church Chair:** Jerry Reimer (402-239-2716)



Welcome to First Mennonite Church

April 28, 2024

Welcome

-Worship Leader Erin Vanderschaaf

Call to Worship

L: Beloved, let us love one another,

P: Because love is from God;

L: Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

P: Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

L: God's love was revealed among us in this way:

P: God sent the only Son into the world so that we might live through Christ.

L: By this we know that we abide in God and God in us,

P: Because God has given us the Spirit.

L: Let us love one another and join in worship of our God,

P: For God is love.

Prayer

Hymn: "Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing"

VT 7

Prayer of Confession

L: Awesome God, we confess that we have allowed fear to rule our lives. We have allowed fear to keep us from loving our neighbors who are different than us.

P: We have allowed fear to close our doors, our hearts, our minds.

L: But You are Perfect Love, and You cast out all fear.

P: Help us to let go of what holds us back and to be open to Your Spirit, to love freely, and to love deeply.

L: We know that our hearts may be broken, but help us anyway to love those most in need, the most vulnerable,

P: and guide us into ways of love and care that help heal our brokenness.

All: In the name of Christ, the One who laid down his life for us because he loved us so much, we pray all things. Amen.

Blessing and Assurance

L: We come together with grateful hearts, remembering all that Christ has done for us, and knowing we can never repay that kind of love, except in how we love one another. So share God's love. Share God's peace. Share God's joy, and know that same love, peace, and joy in your own heart. You are forgiven, loved, and restored. Amen.

Children's Story and Teacher Appreciation

Hymn: *"The Love of God"*

VT 162

Scripture: 1 John 4: 7-21

Sermon: "Perfect and Messy Love"

Hymn: *"Jesus Christ Is Love Divine"*

VT 749

Sharing and Prayer

Benediction

Sending song: *"Rain Down"*

VT 703

Offering to Community Food Pantry

Welcome! We are glad you are here! We hope to see you again soon! Our service is live streamed on YouTube. Search Fmcbeatrice.

Children in Sunday School today will study the Golden Calf (Exodus 32:1-35) -*When you have to wait, remember what's true.* Next Sunday they'll study Luke 2:25-35, Simeon waits for the Messiah - *God is with you while you wait.*

The adult Sunday School uses Salt & Light stand-alone lessons. Join us at 9:30 a.m. in the room at the bottom of the stairs when you can!

Youth FIESTA Fundraiser!— Come hungry and in a festive mood **next Sunday, May 5th** after church! The youth are hosting a **FIESTA** including a taco bar and piñata for the children and young at heart! A free will donation will be collected to support youth events and their trip to MCUSA convention in 2025!

Start the Party! Celebrate the Good News at Vacation Bible School!

When: Tuesday - Friday, May 28-31, 8:30 – 11:30 am

Who: Kindergarten eligible to 5th grade completion.

How: Register online at www.fmcbeatrice.org by May 8. Fill out the parental consent form too and send it to church. (Printed copies available in church.)

Volunteer helper forms are available by the mailboxes. If you haven't turned yours in yet, we'll still take it! --VBS Committee, Jane, Erin, Linsey

The **VBS Decorating Committee** asks you to donate any leftover party supplies you may have at home. You can put them in a box in the kitchen. (streamers, balloons, favors, plastic table cloths, etc.)

The Education Council wishes **to thank everyone** that helps with the Faith Formation programming for our children and young people. "Thanks a Latte for all of your dedication and hard work.

"Faith Formation Conversations

In a continued effort to gather information about the congregations' values and needs regarding faith formation there will be four opportunities to gather for conversation. We will discuss hopes for your growing faith, how the congregation can support your hopes, how the community plays a role, and your current faith practice. The Education Council will also share some preliminary findings from the survey. These conversations are for congregants of all ages and life stages and are kid friendly.

Remaining Conversation Date:

Sunday, April 28, 12:00 (light lunch provided)

Please email (sarah@fmcbeatrice.org) or text (507.993.6820) Pastor Sarah to sign up for a slot. You can also sign up on her office door.

Faith Formation Survey

The Education Council is still accepting survey responses. We have only received 28 and would like a bigger sample size. You can take the survey as an individual rather than representing your whole family. If you have questions you can reach out to Pastor Josh or Pastor Sarah. Hard copies are available by the mailboxes and can be returned to Pastor Sarah's mailbox. You can also fill it out online at: <https://tinyurl.com/39fzvtha>

Safe Sanctuary training will be held May 19th at 9:30. All VBS volunteers, prayer partners, Sunday school teachers, and youth sponsors are required to be trained annually. We encourage all congregants to attend to keep our church safe. There will be an online option for those who cannot attend.

Summer Sunday School: An intergenerational Sunday School option will be offered twice a month this summer. Save the dates of June 9th & 23rd, July 14 & 28, and August 11. More details to come.

Delegates needed for WDC Annual Assembly at First Mennonite Church August 2-4. Pastors Josh and Sarah are on the WDC Planning Committee for this. We are allowed to have 8 voting delegates for the Assembly. Would be nice to have 8 delegates since it's at FMC. The delegate sessions will take place on Saturday.

FMC Youth: Register online for Camp Mennoscah, order a T-shirt, then let FMC office know you're registered so we can pay your camp fees.

2024 MCC Golf Tournament Saturday, June 22, 9:00 a.m. Tee Time start at Indian Trails Country Club, Beemer, NE. 2-person scramble, \$140 per team. Cart & lunch included. Sign up by June 12 please.

Beatrice Regional Orchestra Concert Sunday, April 28, 2 pm at the Hevelone Center, Beatrice High School. Admission \$10; students free.

Area churches are working together to assist newcomers who've recently arrived in our community in setting up their home with donations of clean furniture in good condition, especially kitchen (dining) table and chairs; dressers or chest of drawers; nightstands; end tables; occasional chairs, double and queen mattresses, headboards and frames, small sofas in good condition. If you have furniture to donate or questions, please call or text Connie Harmon 402-239-2215 or Vicki Hinz-Ensz 402-239-4174. **Housewares** such as dinnerware, silverware, pots and pans, cooking utensils, (no towels) and small appliances are also needed. Please contact Brenda Carnes if you have these items. 402-223-9423.

Community Players invites you to "Godspell: The Sources and the Scriptures" with the Rev. Dr. Jimmy Shelbourn and the cast of Community Players'. The entertaining and educational program is Friday, May 10 at 7 p.m. at the theatre at 412 Ella Street, Beatrice and is **free to the public**. All are welcome! "Godspell" will be presented at Community Players beginning June 7 and will run for two weekends. More information is available at beatricecommunityplayers.com.

"A Century of Mennonite Quilts" at the Wellness Center at Pine Village by Moundridge celebrates the 150th anniversary of Mennonites arriving in the US. All are welcome on Saturday, May 4, 9:00 to 4:00 & Sunday, May 5, 1:00 to 4:00 to a display of 50+ quilts representing 110 years of Mennonite art expressed through quilts each decade from 1920- 2020.--Kathy Goering

May 26-31: MCC Restorative Justice Peace Camp for young adults 18-30 (Chicago, Illinois) - This peace camp will dive into creative ways to implement justice in local communities. Learning from experienced restorative justice practitioners in Chicago, we will witness incredible ways that transformation is possible through restorative justice. Register today! mcc.org/events/restorative-justice-peace-camp

YOUTH FUNDRAISER!

Sunday, May 5

12 PM

TACO BAR & PINATA

for children and the young at heart!

A free will donation will be collected to support youth events and their trip to MCUSA Convention in 2025!

