

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

Serving Today:

Pastor: Josh Janzen

Pianist: Karen Wiebe

Power point: Christina Lyons

Ushers: Jake & Brandon

Worship Leader: Lori Thimm

Hosts: Brad & Amanda Thimm

Audio: Marv Goossen

Video: Lisa Goossen

Last Sunday Attendance: 70 **Offering:** MCC \$ 2,610; FMC \$650

Today's Offering: FMC **Next Sunday:** Bethel College

Coming Up:

Sunday, Aug 17

9:30 am Adult Sunday School only

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Teacher Resource Workshop

Tuesday, August 19

1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying

Thursday, August 21

7:00 pm Church Board meeting

Sunday, August 17

9:30 am Adult Sunday School

10:30 am Worship/Backpack Blessings

11:30 am Congregation Meeting

August Birthdays:

1: Miles Esau

6: Steph Janzen, Rebekkah Stutzman

7: Mitch Williamson

11: Scarlett & Raelynn Heinz

11: Debbie Keeney

12: Abby Trantham

16: Jerry Reimer, Kathy Thimm

21: Kyle Baade

22: Gentre Esau, Henry VanderSchaaf

27: Pam Kunzman

29: Pat Penner

31: Samuel VanderSchaaf

- 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 may go in the offering plate.
- **Men's Brotherhood Project?** Contact Dan Kunzman or LeRoy Janzen.
- Please **turn off all lights** if you are the **last to leave** the building.
- Visit mennowdc.org to see what's new at Western District Conference.

Address: 6714 W. State Hwy. 4, Beatrice, NE 68310 **Website:** fmcbeatrice.org

Pastors: Josh Janzen; 402-631-3481; pastorjosh@fmcbeatrice.org

Sarah Neher; 507-993-6820; 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

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

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

Please let the office know of **members marriages and births** so it can be put in the bulletin and entered in the church historical book.



Welcome to First Mennonite Church

August 17, 2025

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: Come, let us gather in the presence of God, who calls the unlikely and uplifts the lowly.

P: We come to worship the One who looks with favor on the humble.

L: God calls each of us – like Mary – not because we are powerful, but because we are willing.

P: We come to say yes to God's invitation.

L: Let our souls magnify the Lord, and our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!

P: For God has done great things, and holy is God's name!

Prayer

Hymn: "God is Here Among Us"

VT 62

Confession and Assurance

ALL: Merciful God, we confess that we do not always trust your call. We hesitate to say yes when the path is uncertain. We avoid the lowly places where you dwell. We fail to magnify your name with our lives. Forgive us. Renew in us a spirit of courage, like Mary's, that we may bear Christ into the world with faith and joy. Amen.

L: God's mercy is from generation to generation. Like Mary, we are met with grace. God lifts up the lowly and fills the hungry with good things. Hear and believe the good news: *In Christ, we are forgiven, loved, and called.*

P: Thanks be to God!

Offering Hymn: "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

VT 419

(Offering is for First Mennonite Church)

Scripture: Luke 1:26-38

Sermon: "Here Am I"

Pastor Josh

Hymn: *“My Soul Cries Out”*

VT 412

Sharing and Prayer

Benediction

Sending Song: *“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”*

VT 216

Passing the Peace

Welcome to all worshiping with us here and on YouTube (search for FMCBeatrice). The bulletin is at fmcbeatrice.org under the documents tab.

Pastor Josh concludes his summer sermon series, *Women of the Bible*, today as we reflect on Mary, the mother of Jesus. We have been inspired by the fierce grace and quiet strength found in all the ***Women of the Bible!*** Past services are on our YouTube channel.

“Follow the Peace Path” cards are available by the mailboxes. Ideal for family time at home. 1 per family please.

If you had put an **August-December event** on the 2025 Master Calendar on the safe in the office, which is still missing, please put it on the new calendar pages there again. Thank you!

There will be a **congregation business meeting following worship on August 24 for reelection of Pastor Josh**. Our constitution and bylaws read: *Reelection of pastor. The vote to extend the call of the pastor for another 3-year term may be taken on a Sunday morning prior to or after the Worship Service. (Must be present to vote.)*

Review forms were put in mailboxes and sent as an attachment in the weekly email of the bulletin. They must be **returned by Aug 17 in the box under the mailboxes**.

Congratulations to Doug Penner and Susan Barnard who were married on July 19, 2025 at Dewitt.

WMS has **quilts that need a ride to Newton**. If you are traveling in that direction, please contact Karen Wiebe.

Teacher Resource Workshop- next Sunday, August 17th. Sunday School Teachers are invited to stay after worship for a light lunch, brainstorm ideas for teaching, and learn about resources. There will be time for teachers to plan and create a schedule.

Faith Formation Sunday- August 24th. We will celebrate our children and youth by giving backpack blessings, presenting bibles, and blessing new prayer partners. We encourage children and youth to bring their backpacks!

Welcome Back Peace Club and Prayer Partners! We'll meet on Wednesday, September 10 from 6:30 – 7:30 pm with an activity and snacks (no meal). Please RSVP to Sue Gerber, Barb Thimm, Kathy Casey, or Jane Esau. Hope to see you all there!

New address: Jim & Karen Wiebe, 780 N 22nd St, Apt 2, Beatrice, NE.

In our prayers: (Obituaries are available to read near the mailboxes.)

--The family of **Dorothy Jantzen Luker**, Glendale, AZ who passed away August 2, (age 93). She is the sister of Ernest Jantzen, sister-in-law of Rogena Jantzen. Her service at Trinity Mennonite, Glendale, is Sept 12. A service will be held at FMC with inurnment in FMC cemetery at a later date.
--The family of **Steve Weis**, Raymore, MO, husband of Angie Claassen Weis and son in law of Duane and Doris Claassen. He passed away August 9, (age 65). His service is August 17 at the Methodist Church in Peculiar, MO.

FMC General Fund Summary for July 2025

General Fund Balance 6/30/25	- 14,082.79
July general fund revenue	22,269.54
July expenses*	- 6,748.83
Net revenue for July	15,520.83
General Fund Balance 7/31/25	1,438.04

*Due to the timing of the insurance payment for the AC repairs (we received in July) and the payment of the repairs (made in August) the total expenses for July are approximately \$8,000.00 less than in a normal month. For August, total expenses will likely be about that much higher than normal

Womens & Girls Retreat September 6-7 at Camp Mennoscah. Register at westerndistrictwomeninmission.org.

Ellis Methodist Church Ice Cream Social Sunday, August 17, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Serving BBQ Sandwiches, desserts, ice cream for a free will donation.

The Mennonite Experience in Poland History Tour July 10-21, 2026! It's sponsored by the Mennonite Polish Studies Association with tour leaders Mark Jantzen, John D. Thiesen, and Richard Thiessen and is designed to reacquaint people of Mennonite descent with the country that provided their ancestors with a safe and secure homeland from the 17th - 20th centuries. More information is on the bulletin board and at mla.bethelks.edu/information/mpsa.php.