

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

Serving Today:

Pastor: Josh Janzen	Pianist: Erin Vanderschaaf
Worship Leader: Brett Esau	Greeters: John & Zella Penner
PPT: Debbie Goossen	Children's Story: Jane Esau
Live Stream: Kathy Casey	Audio: Doug Casey
Ushers: John Regier & Jim Hamm	Hosts: Pat Penner & Elsie Riesen

Last Sunday: Offerings: FMC: \$6,445; Tuition Fund: \$300;
Food Pantry, \$600

Attendance: 92

Offering today: Food Pantry; Next Sunday: First Mennonite

Happening this week:

Sunday, December 11	9:30 a.m. Christmas Program Practice 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship, 3 rd Sunday in Advent
Sunday, December 18	9:30 a.m. Christmas Program Practice 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Christmas Program

December Birthdays

4: Maxson Esau	6: Kristin Ruiz
9: Cara Esau, Vern Jantzen, Bill Thimm	
10: Gene Penner	11: Lori Thimm
13: Laura Baade, Bill Epp	14: Paula Heinz
17: Rogena Jantzen, Wendy Kyser, Christopher Janssen	
17: Dick Goertzen	20: Ann Reimer, Brett Esau
25: Dick Penner	29: John Penner

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- Ask an usher for assistance with a **hearing device**.
 - **We collect** Sun Mart receipts, Best Choice labels & used cards/envelopes
 - **Food Pantry:** Please put items in the narthex box or give cash donations to Dolores Jantzen.
 - **Shop at smile.amazon.com** to support Mother to Mother Ministries with your Amazon purchases!
 - If you would like a **PDF of the church directory** for your phone, please contact the office.

First Mennonite Church; 6714 W. State Hwy. 4, Beatrice, NE 68310

Pastor: Josh Janzen; 402-228-2052; pastorjosh@fmcbeatrice.org

Church Office: 402-228-2231

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

Deacons: Vern Jantzen (402-230-0011), Don Esau (402-223-9210), Vicki Hinz-Ensz (402-239-4174)



Welcome to First Mennonite Church

December 11, 2022,
3rd Sunday in Advent

Welcome

Brett Esau

Call to Worship

L: Look, I am sending my messenger, go tell what you have seen!

P: God's awesome wonders fill the earth, the lost are found, the blind receive sight, the deaf hear, the lame walk, the poor are preached in, and those who are dead in spirit receive new life.

L: I this what you were expecting to see?

P: Blessed are they who trust in the Lord!

L: For his yoke is easy, his burdens are light.

ALL: Great is thy faithfulness!

Prayer

Brett Esau

Hymn: "What is this Place"

VT 22

L: Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is soon.

P: Tell what you hear and see: even now, like water in the desert, we see God's action all around.

(Lighting of the Advent candles)

L: As we gather strength, we light this candle as a sign of your love made visible among us.

P: Bring your restoration to your people, we pray.

Hymn: "O Come, O Come Immanuel" verses 1, 5, and 7 VT 210

Children's Story

Jane Esau

Sunday Singers: "Helpless and Hungry/What Child is This"

Scripture: Isaiah 35:1-10; Matthew 11:2-11

Sermon: "We have Seen and Heard"

Pastor Josh

Hymn: "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

VT 419

Sharing and Prayer

Sending

Offering for Community Food Pantry

Welcome! We're glad you're worshipping with us. The service is available at <https://www.youtube.com/c/fmcbeatrice> and on FM 107.5 in our parking lot. To follow along in the bulletin, visit our website fmcbeatrice.org; under the More tab select Documents. Scroll down to Church docs, minutes and bulletins.

Christmas program practices will be held Dec 4, 11, and 18 from 9:30 to 10:20 a.m. "*No Time For Christmas*," will be presented by the FMC instrumental ensemble, Sunday Singers, & Children on December 18th at 10:30. Sunday School children are asked to attend the practices.

The adult Sunday School will be discussing chapter 5 (Intentional Discipleship and Faith Formation) of the book *Reawakened* this week. You're welcome to join the discussion even if you haven't read the book. We also have an extra copy of the book if you'd like one.

The nuts are here! There are some extras! Contact Karen Wiebe if you are interested in some.

We have pledged as a church to support our Mission Partners, David & Rebekkah Stutzman, with \$5000 annually. At this time, we are short about \$2,300 in offerings for that commitment. If you wish to contribute to this, please put your offering in the plate, marked for our Mission Partners.

Save the Date! It's time for a new **pictorial church directory!** Our photography dates are Monday, Jan 30 and Tuesday, Jan 31. A flyer is in your mailbox with all the details! Signup can be online or in person in the church office with Zella following worship on December and January Sundays, beginning today.

The **Pictorial Directory Committee** of Dolores Jantzen & Zella Penner ask you to share any photos you have of church activities that you think are suitable for use in our new pictorial directory. (Photos of Sunday school, 2022 VBS, Christmas program practice, camp, MDS work, MCC sale, Burwood Bookstore, church picnic, and whatever FMC is involved in) Submit them to the church office by email or hard copy. Thanks!

The tuition committee is seeking donations to fulfill our 2nd semester pledges for the college students. Donations can be given to Mike Goossen.

If you have any items for the **Annual meeting agenda**, please talk with Dorothy Zimmerman.

MDS work is being done in McAllen, TX on the La Posada Project through December 20. If you can help or have questions, please contact Marv Goossen (402-520-1609) or Jim Ensz (402-239-0062). Groups are scheduled to go throughout the first two weeks of December.

FMC member Luigi (Luis) Gonzalez of Beatrice passed away on December 3 due to a stroke. Our prayers are with his family. We are unaware of a service at this time.

Committee reports are due in the office for the church's Annual Report

Please review the church directory contact information for you and your family members. If there are changes in address, phone numbers, or email addresses, please let the office know.

Thank you to Don & June Diller for the donation of their piano to use in the church basement. The old basement piano is available free of charge for anyone who wants it. (You move it!) If you are interested in this, please talk to Jane Esau, Amanda Thimm, or Neal Trantham. Don and June also **have an electric organ that needs a home. It's free for the taking.**

You are invited to celebrate our mother, **Marj Epp's 95th birthday on Sunday, December 18 at an Open House** from 2-4 p.m. at Summit Street Church, 12th & Summit, Beatrice. Her birthday is December 3. If you are unable to attend, she would enjoy receiving cards and your prayers. Her address is Marj Epp, Apt 2, 2300 Lincoln St, Beatrice, NE 68310. – Jeanette (Don Jr.), Roger, Beth, Robert, Curt and families

Community Food Pantry Ingathering is ongoing through November and December. Please drop off food, paper products, or personal hygiene items, at the pantry at St. John's Church. Cash donations also appreciated.

Registration is open for **KNOW JESUS**, an overnight retreat for 6th - 8th graders on February 4 - 5 at Hesston College! At Know Jesus, students can learn more about their Anabaptist roots through worship, service, and interactive activities. We will be raising funds for Numana prior to Know Jesus and then packaging meals during the retreat. Registration or questions: melissahlandis@gmail.com

Christmas Eve Service of Carols 6 p.m.
New Year's Eve Communion Service 6 p.m.
