

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

**Serving Today:** Pastor: Josh Janzen  
Worship Leader: Jerry Reimer Pianist: Erin VanderSchaaf  
Hosts: Brad & Amanda Thimm Power point: Lori Thimm  
Audio: Jim Ensز Video: John Thimm  
Ushers: Doug Casey & Gayland Regier Kids Time: Erin VanderSchaaf

**Last Sunday Attendance:** 109 **Offering:** Food Pantry \$3,598; FMC \$500  
**Today's Offering:** FMC **Christmas Eve:** Deacons Fund  
**Next Sunday:** AMBS

**Coming Up this Week:**

Sunday, Dec 21 9:30 am Adult Sunday School  
10:30 am 4th Sunday of Advent Worship  
Wednesday, Dec 24 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Service  
Sunday, Dec 28 9:30 am Adult Sunday School  
10:30 am Worship

**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, Dick Goertzen  
20: Ann Reimer, Brett Esau 25: Dick Penner  
29: John Penner

\*You can find our services on YouTube (search for FMCBeatrice).

The bulletin is at [fmcbeatrice.org](http://fmcbeatrice.org) under documents.

\*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 go in the offering plate.

\***Men's Brotherhood Project?** Contact Dan Kunzman or LeRoy Janzen.

\*Last to leave the church? Please **turn off all lights!**

**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)

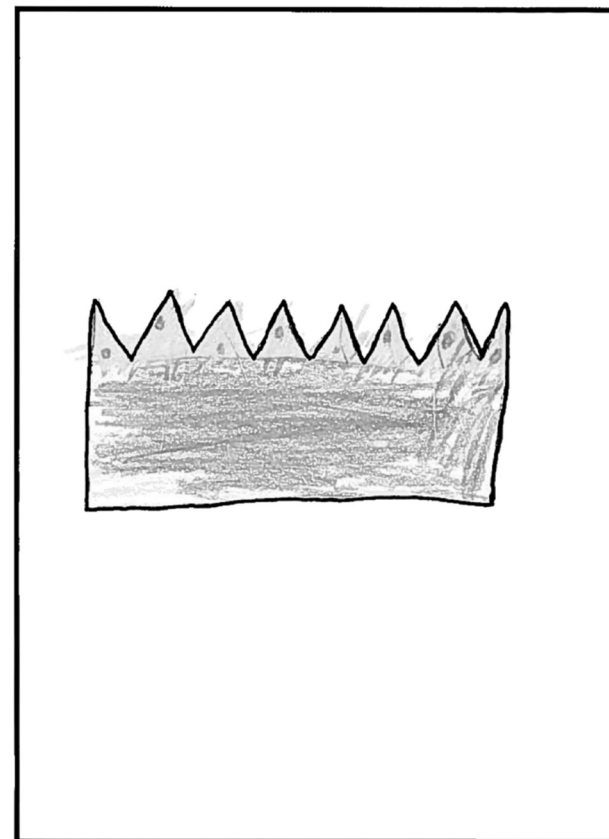
**Deacons:** Sue Gerber (402-239-8857), Don Esau (402-223-9210),

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



Welcome to First Mennonite Church  
Fourth Sunday in Advent  
December 21, 2025

*Be Amazed!*



Artist Gentre Esau

## Welcome

### Call to Worship

L: In the beginning was love, and love was with God, and love was God.

**P: We gather in awe and amazement,  
watching and waiting for Love to come down.**

L: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

**P: We wait with hope,  
longing for the gentle light of love to fill the world.**

L: The Word became flesh and lived among us, full of grace and truth.

**P: We have seen his glory, Love embodied among us.**

L: Come, let us worship the God who moves among us,  
the Christ who draws near, the Spirit who shines in our hearts.

***ALL: The Light is coming!***

***We tremble in excitement and uncertainty.***

***Watching, waiting, for Love to be born.***

### Prayer

**Hymn 241: "O Come, All Ye Faithful!"**

### Advent Candle Lighting

VanderSchaaf Family

Reader 1: We have been wandering in the long, dark night, looking into the vastness, looking for even a glimmer of light, to usher in your love.

Reader 2: Come, Love of the world. Come amaze us.

***P: May your love dispel the darkness and reveal your path of grace and mercy, inviting us to journey with you.***

**Responding Hymn 211: "Hope Is a Candle" Verse 1-4**

### Children's Story

**Offering Hymn 243: "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"** (offering for FMC)

**Scripture: John 1:1-18**

**Sermon: "Be Amazed: Love Comes Down"**

Pastor Josh

**Hymn 258: "Love Has Come"**

### Sharing and Prayer

### Benediction

**Sending Song Hymn 240: "Joy to the World"**

### Passing the Peace

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**WMS has extra nuts to sell:** Pecans \$13, English Walnuts \$8.50, Black Walnuts \$10.50. Contact Lori Thimm, 402-239-3611.

**Karen Wiebe will play a prelude of Christmas music** on Christmas Eve beginning at 4:45.

**Children's Sunday School** is on winter break and resumes on January 4, at 9:30 a.m.

**Please inform the office of any changes** in address, phone numbers, or emails before the 2026 Directory is printed in January.

**The Annual Meeting** is January 7 at 7 p.m. If you have an agenda item, please speak to Jerry Reimer.

**Deacon Nominations!** Please talk to the nominee before speaking to Jerry Reimer to nominate. (Of note, Sue Gerber is eligible for re-election.)

Parents, caregivers, and grandparents are invited to join a **book study of Woven by Meredith Miller**, facilitated by Western District Conference. The book explores how to nurture healthy faith in children. The group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month from 7:30–8:30 p.m., beginning January 13 and concluding April 7. If you are interested, please talk with Pastor Sarah.

**Community Food Pantry struggles to keep shelves full** this time of year with additional community family needs. Please consider donating food, hygiene items, or money to them.

**MCC's Great Winter Warm-up!** From January to March, the goal is 10,000 comforters to help spread warmth, joy and comfort to people around the world.