

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

Serving Today:

Pastor: Josh Janzen Worship Leader: Neal Trantham
PPT: Katie Jantzen Children's Story: Amanda Thimm
Pianists: Kathy Casey and Vicki Hinz-Ensz
Live Stream: Kathy Casey Audio: Doug Casey
Ushers: Brad Thimm & Bryan Heinz Hosts: Don & Judy Jantzen

Last Sunday: Offerings: MTM \$2,245; FMC \$1000

Attendance: 62

Offering today: FMC **Next Sunday:** SheepGate

Happening this week:

Sunday, Feb 19	9:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School and Annual Study Series 1 st session
	10:30 a.m. Worship, 2 nd session
	7 p.m. 3 rd session at Summit Street
Tuesday, Feb 21	1:30 p.m. WMS Quilting & Tying
Wednesday, Feb 22	6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service 6:30 pm Peace Club, JYF

February Birthdays

2: Doug Casey	4: Jim Ensz
7: Bryan Heinz	9: Ross Reimer
11: Bonnie Jantzen	15: Nick Funk, Gerald Jantzen
16: Samantha Tegtmeier	26: Elijah VanderSchaaf

- 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: 402-251-7180

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

Deacons: Don Esau (402-223-9210), Vicki Hinz-Ensz (402-239-4174),
Sue Gerber (402-239-8857)



Welcome to First Mennonite Church

February 19, 2023

Welcome

Neal Trantham

Call to Worship (Beth Merrill Neel, 'Hold Fast to What is Good')

L: We come to you, O God, to thank you for what is good.

P: We come to you, O god, to cry out for what is wrong.

L: We come to you, O God, to ask for help and restoration.

P: We come to you, O god, with aching hearts and glad souls.

ALL: Let us worship God!

Prayer

Neal Trantham

Hymn: "Let's Walk Together"

VT 6

Confession

L: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed.

P: We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves.

L: In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be;

P: that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our, our God.

ALL: Amen

Children's Story

Amanda Thimm

"In Christ Alone"

Sunday Singers

Scripture: John 13:34-35

Sermon: "The Commitment to Wholeness"

Hymn: "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"

VT 778

Sharing and Prayer

Sending

Offering for First Mennonite Church

Welcome! We're glad you're here! 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, then Church docs, minutes and bulletins.

Today, Children's Sunday School will be "*In the Vineyard*" in Matthew 20:1-16, learning "*We can give generously to all*". Next Sunday, they'll study about Sheep and Goats, as found in Matthew 25:31-45, "*When we care for others, we care for Jesus*".

An ASH WEDNESDAY service will be held at 6 p.m. this Wednesday, February 22. The service precedes Peace Club and JYF so they may attend.

This week the **adult Sunday School** class will not meet due to the speaker. Next week we will continue to discuss chapter 9.

New MCC Sale Quilt Update—Online quilt registration is now available. Quilts must be registered and online by March 5, 2023 so they can be printed in the sale guide. Pictures are appreciated as they will be displayed on the website before the sale. Quilts submitted after this date will not be listed in the quilt guides or online, but will still be sold after all cataloged quilts or may be held over for next year's auction. MCC Sale is March 31-April 1! If you need help registering your quilt online, bring it to church March 5 at 9:30 and members of the committee will help you register it.

MY COINS COUNT - save your change and bring it starting Sunday March 5! The kids will be collecting coins each Sunday in March to donate to MCC. If you would like to match the donation for a Sunday, please let a committee member know (Pat & Gene Penner, Dan & Pam Kunzman, Marv & Lisa Goossen).

FMC will again offer **camp scholarships** to Mennonite affiliated Church Camps to youth of First Mennonite to cover the registration fee. Registration for Camp Mennoscah summer camps is now open online. **Please contact the church office to let us know you've registered.**

MCC is supporting people affected by the Feb. 6 earthquake in Turkey and Syria. You may donate by calling (888) 563-4676 or send a check earmarked for "Syria and Turkey earthquake" to MCC, PO Box 500, Akron PA 17501, or online at mcc.org/earthquake,

Annual Study Series TODAY, February 19! Speaker for the three sessions will be Pastor Trey Ferguson, founder of RFX Ministries, a ministry to reach people where they spend the most time: online. The first session is at FMC during Sunday school at **9:30am**. The second session will be at FMC at **10:30 a.m.** with Pastor Trey sharing the message. The final session will be at Summit Street Church at **7 p.m.**



Men's Brotherhood met to reorganize and decided that they will be a loosely organized group without officers. They are available as needed to help with needs that church members have. Please contact Dan Kunzman or LeRoy Janzen if you have a task they can help with.

The **MC USA 2023 Delegate Assembly** is July 7-8 at the Kansas City (Missouri) Convention Center. FMC can send three delegates and one youth delegate. **We're seeking delegate volunteers!** FMC will pay your registration fee. The Assembly will focus on improving the clarity and effectiveness of our policies and structures, as we discern next steps for the national conference. Meet Mennonites from all over the United States and learn how they are living in our Renewed Commitments to follow Jesus, witness to God's peace and experience the transformation of the Holy Spirit. Please talk with Church Chair Jerry Reimer if you're interested.

Church Cleaning will be March 23 beginning at 5 p.m. and March 24 at 8 a.m. In addition to the usual tasks, the Building Committee plans to remove the trees on the south side of the cemetery.

Community Blood Drive Feb 22, noon to 6, Feb 23, 7-1 at Holiday Inn Express. Call 402-269-5460 for an appointment.

Ellis United Methodist Church Pancake meal with sausage and desserts is Sunday, **February 19**, 11am – 1 pm with Free Will donation.

February 19, 2:00 p.m., Holmesville Church of the Brethren hosts John Snyder as he shares photos and stories of his 2015 visit to Chernihiv, Ukraine. He will also give updates of what is happening in Chernihiv today. The Snyder Family Singers will lead music. Ukrainian desserts will be served, and a free will offering to support relief efforts and ministry of the Chernihiv Church of the Brethren.

Camp Mennoscah (campmennoscah.org; 620-297-3290)

- Spring **Scrapbook and Craft Retreat** March 10-12 and March 17-19. Registration now! \$175 per person.
- **Summer Youth Camp Registration** is open.
- **Youth Volunteer Weekend is March 24-25!** Youth Grades 6-12 are invited. Focus: worship and service. Register online or call.

FMC Newcomer Ministry Update

It has been since last June that we have been involved in the newcomer ministry. We began by assisting to provide groceries and some basic needs to newcomers in our community. It has been exciting to see how determined and self-sufficient they have become. The greatest gift has been to see the close friendships that have developed – our lives have been richly blessed.

- 16 new mattresses and frames have been delivered, plus numerous donated beds/mattresses
- Applied for and received 2 beds from the Presbyterian Bed Ministry (for youth – ages up to 18)
- WMS continues to provide comforters for the newcomers
- A wonderful first birthday party for Yaris and Santiago's daughter, Ainara, was held at St. John's basement recently. A gathering where we could enjoy each other's company.
- An opportunity for newcomers to sing together on Sunday afternoons at St. Johns (Erin Blake, from St. John's uses Spanish songs from the hymnal that they sing from)
- We continue to work with other churches and community organizations to coordinate support and activities
- Provide rides to Immigration Center in Omaha for newcomers to attend their assigned check-ins/hearings
- Nita Nickel from WDC met with us to offer input/ideas as we move forward

Ways you can help:

- Pray for the newcomers in Beatrice
- Volunteer to take them to the Coat Closet at First Christian Church (hours for the coat closet are M-Thur; 9 am to noon)
- New idea: Kathy Linsenmeyer occasionally gets a call from a family that will be having an estate sale and offer to have someone come pick out some items that could be used by newcomers (pots/pans, dinnerware, cookware, microwave, etc). Kathy would like a contact she could call when this occurs and could go to the house and pick out needed items (a list would be created that you could use when going into the home)
- Volunteer to drive to Immigration Center in Omaha when needed
- Donate to the 'Immigration Fund' – there continues to be a need to purchase new mattresses (you can put the money in the offering; designate it for Immigration Fund)

“Lent at Home 2023” resource from MEA

“Created in the Image of God, Shaped By Jesus” is the theme of the Lent at Home 2023 worship guide, now available from Mennonite Education Agency (MEA). Using the theme developed for *Leader* magazine, the guide weaves weekly and daily Scriptures with worship rituals, prayers, activities, and background information to help individuals and households of all ages prepare for the season of Lent.

We are human beings. That is both wondrous and complicated! This year's Lenten journey is all about discovering what it means to be fully human. The journey is shaped by communion with our Creator, a closer walk with the ultimate human, Jesus, and sensitivity to the breath of God, the Holy Spirit. At the heart of this journey is a question. “How can we be and become the kind of humans God created us to be?” We are created to be in community with God, ourselves, others, and all of creation. Being human means that we are gifted with an innate sense of connection to God, to other creatures, to nature, and to the inner workings of our own selves. The writers of this year's *Leader* magazine materials have woven Lenten scriptures together to lead us into greater authenticity as human beings. And these Lent at Home materials, which complement the *Leader* worship resource, are designed to help you discover your human self - with all your wonder and complexity.

What is Lent? Lent prepares us for Easter, as Advent prepares us for Christmas. It is a time to:

- Focus on the life and teachings of Jesus.
- Clean out our lives and make room for hearing and responding to Jesus' call to us.
- Think about our response to the call to follow.
- Confess what stands in our way of responding to God's call.
- Practice humility, confessing our human limitations and our need for God.
- Come into alignment with the call of Jesus.
- Make space for God to lift us up!

Lent is when we walk with Jesus all the way to the cross.

The guide may be downloaded on the Mennonite Education Agency (MEA) website, <https://www.mennoniteeducation.org/Resources/Pages/Lent-at-Home.aspx>. A few hard copies are available in the narthex or you can contact the office for a copy.

Our Ash Wednesday service is February 22 at 6 p.m.

Building Community, the upcoming Youth Worker

Appreciation and Resourcing event. This event is for adult volunteers who work with youth (sponsors, Sunday School teachers) as a way to say "Thanks!" and as an opportunity to help resource them and connect them with others who also work with youth.

Building Community

What: A Youth Worker Appreciation and Resourcing event, sponsored by South Central and Western District Conference Youth Ministry.

When: Sunday, February 26, from 4:00-6:30pm

Where: Online and In-person at Whitestone Mennonite Church, Hesston KS

Why: Because building community matters, and how we do it matters.

For those meeting online: We'll be exploring the topic from 4:00 to about 5:45. During that time, you are invited to have available whatever kind of munchies you enjoy! We will reimburse you \$10/person to encourage you to bring something for you to enjoy while we meet. We plan to conclude the online meeting at 5:45.

For those meeting in-person: In addition to meeting from 4:00-5:45, at 5:45 we plan to have a supper catered by El Cerrito. Please let us know any food sensitivities we should be aware of.

Please contact Sue Gerber if you are interested in attending the appreciation and resourcing event at Whitestone or online.