

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

Serving Today:

Pastor: Josh Janzen Pianist: Erin VanderSchaaf
Worship Leader: Brandon Esau Greeter: Kathy Casey
PPT: Lori Thimm Children's Story:
Live Stream: Pam Kunzman Audio: Jim Ensz
Ushers: Kent Hohensee, Kyle Riesen Hosts: John & Zella Penner
Last Sunday: Offerings: FMC \$400; Stutzman's \$2,200; WDC \$350
MDS \$2,495 Attendance: 107

Offering today: FMC **Next week:** Western District Conference

Happening this week:

Sunday, January 15 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for All
 10:30 a.m. Worship
Tuesday, January 17 1:30 p.m. WMS Quilting & Tying
Thursday, January 19 6 p.m. Worship Council
 7 p.m. Church Board meeting
Sunday, January 22 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for All

January Birthdays

2: Christina Lyons 6: Ryan Hohensee
7: Barb Thimm 8: Hannah Kunzman, Doris Claassen
9: Jim Wiebe 10: Jan Reimer
11: Beckett Heinz 14: John Regier
15: Clara Trantham 17: Ron Janzen
19: Kent Hohensee
20: Terri Jantzen 21: Robbyn Hohensee
26: Don Esau, John Thimm 29: Randall Ensz

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



Welcome to First Mennonite Church

January 15, 2023

Welcome

Brandon Esau

Call to Worship (adapted from Hebrews 4:14-16)

L: Since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.

P: For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet he did not sin.

L: Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

ALL: Come, Let us worship the Lord!

Prayer

Brandon Esau

Hymn: "Lord, Listen to Your Children"

VT 682

Confession and Assurance

Adapted, Beth Merrill Neel, "*Hold Fast to What is Good*"

L: The act of confessing our sin is not simply a recitation of our faults and wrongs, but also an opportunity to receive God's mercy and share in that abundant grace. Confident of God's love for us, let us offer our prayers, first in silence.

Silent Prayer

L: Gracious and Loving God, open our hearts so that we are able to admit to you the fullness of our lives – that which is beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful and hateful.

P: We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do.

We love with condition.

We judge and condemn.

We cast the first stone, and keep the logs in our own eyes.

We do not turn to You as the source of our healing.

Forgive us, we pray. Forgive our sin, and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. Amen

Assurance of Forgiveness

L: Friends in Christ, know this: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting, and I remind you of this surpassing grace – in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen

Children's Story

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

Sunday Singers

Scripture: Genesis 14:17-20, Hebrews 7:1-3, 15-22, 26-28

Sermon: "The Faithful High Priest: Melchizedek and Jesus"

Hymn: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

VT 628

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.

Children's Sunday School today studied about two Builders in Matthew 7:24-29. (*We can build faith on a strong foundation.*) Next Sunday they will learn of the Mustard Seed and Yeast as found in Matthew 13:31-35. (*God's kingdom grows.*) The **Children's Choir will sing** on Jan. 22.

All are welcome to join the **adult Sunday School** class as we resume discussions prompted by the book "Reawakened" by Glen Guyton. This week we're discussing intentional diversity and inclusion in our church (chapter 6).

MCC Sale – It's time to get ready for the MCC Relief Sale in Aurora March 31-April 1! This year the deadline for registering quilts is February 17, 2023. 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. Details were distributed in mailboxes last week.

Newly elected and those going off the **Church Board** are asked to attend the Church Board meeting on Thursday, January 19 at 7 p.m. in the church basement.

Worship Council and Decorating Committee will meet at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 19. Previous and newly elected members should attend.

Pastor Josh is beginning a **four week series** this Sunday entitled "**I Wonder**". He will explore and answer wonderings/questions submitted by congregation members regarding anything Biblical. Plan to be here for this interesting series!

Nuts are still available. Contact Karen Wiebe if you are interested.

The **Pictorial Directory Committee** of Dolores Jantzen & Zella Penner asks 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** seeks donations to fulfill our 2nd semester pledges for the college students. Donations can be given to Mike Goossen.

Maggie Boyce is recovering at the Good Samaritan Home following her hospitalization before she returns to the PEO Home.

Pastor James (Jim) Frederick Schrag, 78, passed away Saturday, January 8 in North Newton, KS. He served as the first Executive Director of Mennonite Church USA, helping guide the merger that created the denomination as it is today. A service is planned for 11 a.m. on Friday, January 13 at First Mennonite Church, Newton, KS.

A thoughtful conversation about poverty in our community will take place on Wed, Feb 8 from 9-noon at the Beatrice Public Library. Come to hear about the work currently being done, the current state of poverty in our community, and share your own observations. If you would like to attend or have questions, please contact Katie Jantzen.