

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

Serving Today:

Pastor: Roger Neufeld Smith Worship Leader: Brett Esau
Pianist: Vicki Hinz-Ensz Children's Story: Christina Lyons
PPT: Lori Thimm Live stream: John Thimm
Hosts: Pat Penner & Elsie Riesen Audio: Jim Ensz
Ushers: Kent Hohensee & Kyle Riesen

Last Sunday Offerings: WDC \$2,330; Tech Fund \$200; MTMM \$600;
Cemetery Fund \$200; Pastors Housing Fund \$250; FMC \$1,190

Last Sunday Attendance: 91

Happening this week:

Sunday, July 17 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all
 10:30 a.m. Worship
Tuesday, July 19 1:30 p.m. WMS Quilting and Tying
Thursday, July 21 6 p.m. Education Council
 7 p.m. Church Board meeting
Sunday, July 24 9:30 a.m. Sunday School,
 10:30 a.m. Worship

July Birthdays

7: Tracy Crawford 11: Dan Kunzman
13: Marv Goossen, Larry Thimm
14: Maria DeBloc, Mary Jane Zimmerman
15: Alexandra Goossen 18: Amanda Thimm
22: Zella Penner 25: Marjorie Epp
28: Lisa Goossen 29: Eli Scherling

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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 donations:** Please put them 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!

Please contact the following with concerns or questions:

- **Special Needs: Deacons** Vern Jantzen (402-230-0011), Don Esau (402-223-9210), Vicki Hinz-Ensz (402-239-4174)
- **Church related concerns:** Chair Dorothy Zimmerman (402-239-9437)
- **Bulletin items:** Vicki Frerking (402-239-5312 or the church phone/email)
- **Prayer Requests:** Pastor Roger, 785-220-1968 or rogerneufeldsmith@gmail.com

First Mennonite Church; 6714 W. State Hwy. 4, Beatrice, NE 68310
Church office: 402-228-2231; Website: fmcbeatrice.org
Church email: fmcbeatrice@hotmail.com;



Welcome to First Mennonite Church
July 17, 2022

Welcome

Brett Esau

A Call to Worship (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13; Amos 5:18-24)

L: Are you awake? Are you alert?

P: Christ is coming into our lives in a new way.

L: Are you watching the signs?

Are you interpreting what is happening today?

P: Christ is coming into our lives in a new way.

L: Do you see opportunities for ministry?

Do you see the poor, the homeless, the hungry, the needy?

P: Christ is coming into our lives in a new way.

L: Come, let us worship and let us work in the kingdom of God.

P: Christ has extended the invitation;

Let us work together in the kingdom of God on earth.

-Rev. Mindi, on her [Rev-o-lution](#) blog

Prayer

Brett Esau

Hymn: "God of the Bible"

VT 420, verses 1-3

Old Testament Reading: Proverbs 8:1-20

NT page 725

Children's Story

Christina Lyons

Sunday Singers: "Far, Far Away/I Will Arise"

VT 300

Affirmation of Faith:

L: We believe in the kingdom of God,

P: the kingdom Jesus said has come near to us.

L: We believe the kingdom is like a mustard seed,

P: growing into magnificence for the greening of the world.

L: We believe the kingdom is like yeast,

P: expanding into enough bread for the world.

L: We believe the kingdom of God is like a treasure;
P: discovered and purchased with joy and thanksgiving.

L: We believe in the kingdom of God,
the kingdom Jesus said has come near to us;

**P: where the meek and the poor, the merciful and the hungry,
rejoice with the angels of God.**

— Original written by Bruce Prewer and posted on [Bruce Prewer's Home Page](#) website. Modified by RNS.

New Testament Reading: Matthew 13:10-17 NT page 16

Sermon: "Mysterious Parables"

Hymn: "You Are Salt for the Earth" VT 297

Sharing and Prayer

Blessing

Offering for First Mennonite Church in the narthex

Go to <https://www.youtube.com/c/fmcbeatrice> for a **live stream** of the service. The service is also available on FM 107.5 in our parking lot.

Join us for Sunday School this summer! All generations meet together at 9:30 a.m. for informal sessions to connect through social time, encounter God's Word through a Bible Story, explore the story further through activities and games, and close with prayer.

Pastor Josh Janzen will begin his pastoral work at FMC on Monday, August 29. He will be installed on September 4. We will welcome him and his wife Stephanie at the Church Picnic on Sunday, September 11 at 5 p.m. at the Chautauqua Tabernacle.

A Farewell for Pastor Roger will be held on Sunday, August 21 with a potluck noon meal following worship.

WANTED! In Person or Virtual Delegates for the WDC Annual Assembly July 29-31 at Camp Copass, TX. Please talk to Dorothy Zimmerman if you are interested. You can travel in a van leaving from North Newton, KS.

To Give Away! Oak credenzas in Sunday School Room 31 are available for the taking until July 23. Any left at that time will be taken to Habitat for Humanity Restore. There are also **electronic items** downstairs on a table to be given away. They will be available until July 23. After that, they will be taken to an electronic recycling facility.

WMS is in need of new flat twin sheets to use as backing for tied quilts. If you can supply any, please put them on the west counter in the kitchen.

Please find a Tuition Fund Pledge sheet in your mailbox. It explains how the fund works and gives the dates the pledges are due if you participate. Clairra Janssen currently uses the Tuition Fund to attend Bethel College.

This week! Now that the Special Session of the Delegate Assembly is over, and the resolutions have passed, you may have questions about what it all means. Join Mennonite Church USA Executive Board and staff members for the **"Special Session of the Delegate Assembly: What now?" webinar**, July 18 at 6 p.m. CDT for answers. Register here: mennoniteusa.org/webinar-whats-next

MCC School Kit season is right around the corner! MCC is working to fulfill requests for school kits from partner organizations in Jordan, Ukraine, Malawi, Syria, Iraq, and Haiti.

-MCC in North Newton has a large supply of pink erasers, so feel free to skip erasers and they'll be added when the kit is checked at MCC.

-The pencil sharpeners need to be metal, not plastic.

-You can find the directions for school kits at mcc.org, or reach out to Kate at katemast@mcc.org or 316.283.2720 with any questions.

If you are interested in **assisting the immigrant families in Beatrice** get established, please see the information on the bulletin board. Put your name under the household/month you want to bring groceries. There is an envelope below the sign-up sheet with additional information. You need not speak Spanish to deliver the drop off of some of the suggested groceries. Please give Jim Ensz a call (402-239-0062) if you have questions. Thank you for all you've done to help welcome the newcomers to our community.

Register for MCC's July 26th, 3pm CDT webinar: **Creative Housing Solutions for Refugees & Asylum Seekers.** When refugees and asylum seekers first arrive in the United States, they need a safe place to call home. The affordable housing crisis has greatly impacted this. Learn about different ways the faith community is offering creative housing solutions.

Your donations to help send FMC young people to camp may be put in the offering plate, marked **"FMC Camp Fund"**.