

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

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**Serving Today:**

Pastor: Sarah Neher	Organ: Karen Wiebe
Worship Leader: Katie Jantzen	Audio: Marv Goossen
Hosts: Don & Judy Jantzen	PowerPoint: Debbie Goossen
Ushers: Doug Casey & Bryan Heinz	Video: Henry Trantham

**Last Sunday: Offerings:** FMC \$ 4790

**Attendance:** 97

**Offering today:** MCC **Next Sunday:** FMC

**Happening this week:**

Sunday, June 23	9:30 am Intergenerational Sunday School
	10:30 am Worship
Tuesday, June 25	1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying
Sunday, June 30	9:30 am Adult Sunday School
	10:30 am Worship

**June Birthdays:**

3: Dorothy Zimmerman	4: Missionary Dave Stutzman
8: Neal Trantham	
16: Van Vanderschaaf, Kollyns Hohensee	
20: Gayland Regier	22: Rikki Hohensee
27: Deb Goossen	28: June Diller

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- Ask an usher for assistance with a **hearing device**.
  - **We collect** Best Choice labels & used cards and envelopes.
  - **Food Pantry** items may go in box in the narthex. Cash donations may be given to Dolores Jantzen.
  - Have a project for Men's Brotherhood? Contact Dan Kunzman or LeRoy Janzen.
  - Our service is on <https://www.youtube.com/c/fmcbeatrice> and heard on FM 107.5 in our parking lot. The bulletin is at [fmcbeatrice.org](http://fmcbeatrice.org), under the More tab; select documents; church docs, minutes & bulletins.
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**First Mennonite Church; 6714 W. State Hwy. 4, Beatrice, NE 68310**

**Pastors:** Josh Janzen; 402-228-2052; [pastorjosh@fmcbeatrice.org](mailto:pastorjosh@fmcbeatrice.org)  
Sarah Neher; 507-993-6820; [sarah@fmcbeatrice.org](mailto:sarah@fmcbeatrice.org)

**Church office:** 402-251-7180

**Website:** [fmcbeatrice.org](http://fmcbeatrice.org) **Church email:** [office@fmcbeatrice.org](mailto:office@fmcbeatrice.org)

**Deacons:** Vicki Hinz-Ensz (402-239-4174), Sue Gerber (402-239-8857)  
Don Esau (402-223-9210). **Church Chair:** Jerry Reimer (402-239-2716)



**Welcome to First Mennonite Church**

*June 23, 2024*

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

Leader: Come! Now is the time to worship!

**All: We come to worship God who guides us.**

L: After delivering the Israelites out of bondage, God continued to guide them, giving them commandments to shape and form their life with God and one another.

**All: God guides us as we learn to pattern our lives after the rhythms of God's grace.**

L: Jesus tells a story of a vineyard owner and his tenants who choose violence instead of giving the owner the fruits of the harvest, challenging us to choose—will we reject the Cornerstone or find in Jesus our sure foundation?

**All: God guides us as we learn to pattern our lives after the rhythms of God's grace.**

L: Too often we fall back into the pattern of rejecting what is good for us, forgetting that the life of faith is always about following God who provides for us and loves us.

**All: When we follow God's guidance, we learn to live God's new pattern of life described in the commandments and demonstrated by Christ.**

L: Come! Now is the time to worship!

**All: We come to worship God who guides us for the long haul.**

**Prayer**

**Hymn: "What is This Place!"**

VT 22

**Words of Assurance**

Leader: The weight of your words, your laws, your commandments, and your decrees can become an impossible burden, Lord, if we allow them to overwhelm and crush us. Yet they were meant to be life-giving, vital, and alive—the foundation for our lives, the chief cornerstone of your church, the living temple of

God. Loving God, this is your handiwork. How amazing and wonderful it is!

**Hymn: “All Creatures, Worship God Most High”** VT 81, vs 1,5,7

**Scripture: Exodus 20:4-6**

**Sermon** Pastor Sarah

**Responding to the Sermon**

**Hymn: “O God, We Read the Holy Law”** VT 571

**Sharing and Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Sending Song: “The Lord Lift You Up”** VT 832

**Offering to Mennonite Central Committete**

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**Welcome!** We are glad you are here! We hope to see you again soon! Our service is live streamed on YouTube. Search Fmcbeatrice.

**Join us for Summer Intergenerational Sunday School** on June 23, July 14 & 28, and August 11. The Education Council would love to offer a light breakfast on the mornings we have Intergenerational Sunday School. If you would be willing to bring light refreshments for about 40 people, there is a **sign-up on the bulletin board** in the narthex.

If you missed **Safe Church Training** (previously called Safe Sanctuary) there is an online option to make it up. Please watch the training video and sign the Memo of Understanding. Don't hesitate to contact Pastor Sarah with questions. Video: <https://youtu.be/dGr8r5j60wY>  
Memo of Understanding: <https://forms.gle/1u2akGFQHfbGtJvP7>

**Homestead Harmonizers** will be leading our worship service on July 7. A **potluck meal** will follow for the singers, spouses and our congregation. Drinks and table service will be provided. Bring a dish or two to share! There will be 30-60 additional guests from the Harmonizers and spouses attending.

**Western District Conference Annual Assembly** is August 2-4. **Childcare help is needed** for those who are under age 3. If you are interested in

helping, there is a sign-up on the bulletin board in the narthex. Please contact Pastor Sarah if you have any questions!

**WDC Annual Assembly at FMC August 2-4.** Assembly theme is “In Community We Transform” (Romans 12). Please find all the details in the bulletin insert. **Delegate sessions** are Saturday, Aug 3. Talk to Jerry Reimer if you'd like to **be one of FMC's 7 delegates**. Pastor Sarah Neher will lead a session of the faith formation track Saturday, August 3 at Summit Street Church. Worship services on Friday evening and Sunday morning are at FMC. **Registration is now open at [mennowdc.org](https://mennowdc.org)**. More information on the assembly was included in last Sunday's bulletin insert. If you missed it, there are copies below the mailboxes and on the bulletin board. **Register at <https://mennowdc.org>**.

The current balance in the **Camp Fund** is \$343.00. We have six youth attending Camp Mennoscah this summer. We will **need approximately \$1,300.00** to pay for these registrations. If you would like to donate to this fund, you may put your check in the collection plate, marked “Camp Fund”.

**First Mennonite Church General Fund Summary – May 2024**

General Fund Balance 4/30/24	\$ (2,412.28)
May general fund offerings	13,705.00
May Expenses	(13,465.80)
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General Fund Balance 5/31/24	(2,173.08)

**The Church Picnic** will be September 15 at Chautauqua Tabernacle. More information will be in the bulletin closer to the date.

**Nebraska Mennonite Relief Sale 2024 Financial Summary** submitted by Tom Swartzendruber: The total income was \$199,477.06. The total expenses were \$36,405.68, showing a net income of \$163,071.38. The full report is posted on the bulletin board.

The **Gage County Historical Society and Museum** invites you to --  
- **“Big Blue Reservation: Struggles and Hopes of the Otoe-Missouria Tribe”**, on display through September 30. There are videos every Saturday at 11:00 am at the Museum presented by the National Parks Service.  
-- **At the Library**, July 11, August 15, & Aug 29, at 6 p.m., speakers will give insight into the lives of the Plains Tribes:  
- **150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Elijah Filley Stone Barn** July 13-14 at the barn with demonstrations, food, stage performances, outdoor church service, etc. More information is on the bulletin board.

**150th Year Celebration of Coming to America: August 23-25, 2024** at Eden Mennonite Church. Ag demonstrations, Swiss Mennonite historians, storytelling, music and Swiss Mennonite foods. See their website [swissmennonites.org](https://swissmennonites.org) for all the information.



**FROM WDC:** Join us for **WDC Annual Assembly!** It's not just for church leaders! It's for everybody! August 2-4, 2024 at First Mennonite Church, Beatrice, NE we'll worship, work, eat yummy local food, enjoy a Family Festival for all ages, connect with new & old friends, experience faith formation for all ages, and have many choices of great workshops. We hope you'll agree Annual Assembly is a great place to learn about and grow in faith in Christ in Anabaptist community, care for the broader church, and worship our God of love and justice with God's

people in Western District Conference!

**Assembly Theme: "In Community We Transform."** We will explore Romans 12, asking what authentic Anabaptist Christian community looks and sounds like. How are we called to be transformed as followers of Jesus today? As we hear the concerns and joys of all of us in Western District Conference, we will explore what it means to respond to one another and the world with God's mercy, justice, and love.

**Two Tracks:** This year we'll have two different "tracks" going on at the same time. The Delegate Track is for those who are sent to Assembly as church representatives to help make decisions on behalf of our conference. The Faith Formation Track is for everybody else (except kids 3 and under) at Summit Street Church in town. Sarah Neher, Associate Pastor of Faith Formation and others will lead adults, youth, and school aged kids in a fun, creative multigenerational faith formation experience. She will also begin with an introduction for adults as to how we can do intergenerational faith formation well in our own congregations. Then there will be fun things—music, bible stories, art, and more—to do together with all ages. Vans will transport people who need it.

**Family Festival!** Saturday evening will be full of fun for all ages. There will be carnival-style games outside under tents provided by our ministry partners and homemade ice cream to enjoy. Cards and board games inside.

**Church Delegates** - This year's **Delegate Session** on Saturday, Aug 3, will be hybrid (both in-person & Virtual). Each virtual delegate will need to have the ability to join via Zoom on their own (not shared) device. On-site delegate work will be shared with virtual delegates via special conferencing technology.

**All in attendance must register and pay** the registration fee. In-Person Registration is all-inclusive (except for housing)! Your adult

registration of \$100 includes Saturday lunch, BBQ supper and snacks, as well as access to workshops, worship and the delegate session or intergenerational faith formation. (If you are a credentialed minister or minister's immediate family, it includes Friday afternoon snacks, too.) **Again, all who attend must register.** There are scholarships available for those with limited resources.

**Virtual Registration** of \$40 each gives you access to all worship services, virtual or hybrid workshops, and the delegate sessions with Spanish and English interpretation. If your congregation plans to host a "watch party" with everyone joining on one device, please consider sending a group donation (suggestion: \$300/group). (Each virtual delegate must join on their own device.) Thank you.

For more assembly information visit: <https://mennowdc.org/2024-annual-assembly/>

**REGISTRATION is now OPEN!**  
**The Registration deadline is July 21!**  
**Register at <https://mennowdc.org>.**

**Mini Blitz at MCC!** Come tie, trim, or bind comforters at the MCC Material Resource Center in North Newton on Friday, July 12 from 9-5 and Saturday, July 13 from 8-2. Bring a snack to share and a sack lunch/supper. Drinks will be provided. Beginners are welcome!

**MCC Material Resources Center in North Newton critically low on inventory:** An MCC kit cannot be distributed until each item for the kit is assembled, but some supplies in the Material Resources Center are so low that kits cannot be processed for shipping. You can help by filling the following needs: new infant sleepers (6-12 month sizes); hand towels (dark colored); bar soap; bath towels (dark colored, light to medium weight); wide toothed combs (6-8 inches long); laundry soap (such as Fels Naptha or Zote brands); and shampoo (20 oz min). Buy online and ship it to MCC or bring items to MCC in North Newton (121 E. 30th St, North Newton, KS 67117). Questions are always welcome, please contact [brociamueller@mcc.org](mailto:brociamueller@mcc.org) or 316.836.5045. A full list of MCC kit contents can be found at [mcc.org/kits](https://mcc.org/kits).