

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

**Serving Today:**

Pastor: Josh Janzen                      Worship Leader: Katie Jantzen  
PPT: Christina Lyons                      Children's Story: Katie Jantzen  
Pianist: Vicki Hinz-Ensz                      Greeters: Bill & Barb Thimm  
Live Stream: Jane Esau                      Audio: Jim Ensz  
Ushers: John Regier and Bill Thimm                      Hosts: Lynn & Sue Gerber

**Last Sunday:** Offerings: FMC \$4271; WDC \$140

**Attendance:** 84

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

**Happening this week:**

Sunday, March 12	9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship
Tuesday, March 14	1:30 p.m. WMS Quilting & Tying
Wednesday, March 15	6:30 pm Peace Club, JYF
Thursday, March 16	7:00 pm Church Board meeting
Sunday, March 19	9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship

**March Birthdays**

4: Daryl Riesen, Karen Wiebe	8: Kyle Riesen, Darcy Esau
14: Pastor Josh	15: Bev Claassen
16: Rodney Ensz	17: Doug Penner, Stella Ensz
21: Hannah Tegtmeier	24: Roger Claassen
25: Parker Williamson	26: Callan Baade
28: Navy Esau	29: Baker Esau    30: Sue Gerber

- Ask an usher for assistance with a **hearing device**.
- **We collect** Best Choice labels & used cards and 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.
- Please contact Dan Kunzman or LeRoy Janzen if you have a task **Men's Brotherhood** can help with.

**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**

*March 12, 2023*

**Welcome**

Katie Jantzen

**Call to Worship** (based on Psalm 95:6-7)

L: Come, let us bow down in worship.

**P: Let us kneel before the Lord our maker;**

L: for the Lord is our God,

**P: we are the people of God's pasture,**

**ALL: we are the flock under God's care.**

**Prayer**

Katie Jantzen

**Hymn: "All Who Are Thirsty"**

VT 49

**Confession**

L: Lord, we long for living water. We thirst for life. And yet we have drunk deeply of resentment; we have savored self-centeredness. We confess to the Lord...

**(Silent Confession and Prayer)**

L: Today, O God, let us hear your voice.

**All: Give us this living water so we may never thirst again. Amen.**

**Offering to Western District Conference and My Coins Count**

**Offering Hymn: "Blessed Be Your Name"**

VT 637

**Children's Story and Prayer**

Katie Jantzen

**Scripture:** Exodus 17:1-7, John 4:7-15

**Sermon: "Shaped Through Thirst"**

**Testimony (Guiding questions)**

1. I know that you have a story about your longing for God. Could you tell us a bit about it?

2. How did your spiritual thirst come to be satisfied? How much was a result of your hard work, and how much was because of God's providence?
3. How do you experience Jesus daily as your living water?

## Sunday Singers: "Rain Down"

VT 703

## Sharing and Prayer

## Sending

---

**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](http://fmcbeatrice.org); under the More tab select Documents, then Church docs, minutes and bulletins.

**There is no Children's Sunday School today.** Next Sunday we will study Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead (John 11:1-44). *Jesus is the resurrection and the life.*

**The adult Sunday School class** will finish our time with the book Reawakened this week by discussing the conclusion and any final thoughts from the book as a whole. Next week we'll begin discussion (on the introduction) of a new book, Rethinking Life: Embracing the Sacredness of Every Person by Shane Claiborne. All are welcome to join the class! Pick up a book on the table in the Sunday School room downstairs. This recently-released book addresses a number of social justice issues around life and death: war, gun ownership, the death penalty, racial injustice, abortion, poverty, and the environment. Come willing to express, discuss, and learn from differing viewpoints. (Pastor Josh's sermon "Dialogue, Discern, & Dwell" from January 29 could be a good refresher!)

### Easter Lily Order Form

If you would like to purchase an Easter Lily to be used in church on Easter Sunday please fill out and tear off this form and put it in Linsey Schardt's mailbox by Tuesday, March 14 along with payment of \$20. You may take it home after the Easter Service. Please contact Linsey Schardt with questions: 402-802-1368.

Your name:

In Honor/memory of:

**Kids & Young Adults!** Plan now to come to a **work day for ages 2-20** on Saturday, **March 25**, 9 a.m. to noon to enjoy donuts and assemble items for the MCC Sale. We'll work at the workshop just south of Rodney and Shana Ensz's place. Contact Jim Ensz with questions (402-239-0062).

**Church Cleaning is** March 23 (5 pm) and March 24 (8 am) The Building Committee plans to remove the trees on the south side of the cemetery.

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

Congratulations and God's Blessings to **Daryl and Becky Riesen** who were married yesterday, March 11.

**Delegate Volunteers needed!** The **MC USA 2023 Delegate Assembly** is July 7-8 at the Kansas City (Missouri) Convention Center. Three adults and 1 youth can represent FMC. FMC will pay your registration fee. Info is at [mennoniteusa.org](http://mennoniteusa.org). Talk with Church Chair Jerry Reimer if interested.

### Monthly Summary of FMC General Fund February 23:

General Fund beginning balance:	\$ 4,769.96
General Fund Offerings	\$ 11,656.00
Church Maintenance Expense	<u>\$(11,290.03)</u>
General Fund ending balance	\$ 5,125.93

**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](http://mcc.org/earthquake),

**Homestead Harmonizers** 2023 Spring Show, Folk Songs & Sea Shanties is March 25, 7 pm, and March 26 at 2 pm at the Hevelone Center, Beatrice High School. Tickets: \$10 in Advance; \$12 at the Door. 18 & under free.

### CAMP MENNOSCAH NEWS ([campmennoscah.org](http://campmennoscah.org); 620-297-3290)

- **Youth Volunteer Weekend**, March 24-25
- **The Dam** goes in today, 2:30 pm
- **Kitchen staff and nurses** needed for camps June 4 -July 28.
- **Youth Summer Camp Registration** is open!

**Nebraska Mennonite Relief Sale  
March 31-April 1 2023**

**Friday Evening meal**, serving Sloppy Joes, hotdogs, beans, chips & cookies. Gluten-free items will be available.

**Saturday breakfast** Pancakes eggs and sausage. Serving 7-9  
Verenika Meal, BBQ Chicken, Windsor Loin meals Serving 11-1:00

The Kids Corner will be open on Saturday only,  
with various activities for the younger salegoers.

**Market Place** will have Cheese, dried fruits, nuts, Frozen pork products & Baked goods., Please make your favorite baked goods to donate.

**Go to [www.nebraskamccsale.org](http://www.nebraskamccsale.org) to Register items by March 26,**  
Did you know we raised over \$6,000,000 in 43 years!

**Golf Tournament will be held at the York Country Club, on August 12, 2023.**

**Make a Hygiene Kit** We will be collecting Hygiene Kits for MCC  
Contents: 1 adult -size toothbrush (in manufacturer's packaging)  
1 Large Bar Bath Soap (in wrapper)  
1 Nail Clipper (good quality)  
1 Hand Towel (medium weight, dark or bright color size approx, 16 x 26 in 1 Wide-toothed comb (6-8 in) Place items in a plastic bag.

**T-Shirts will soon be available for online purchase at [www.nebraskamccsale.org](http://www.nebraskamccsale.org) . Shirts purchased before the deadline will be available for pick up at the Sale March 31- April 1.** Shirts ordered after the deadline will have to pay a shipping fee.

Check out our **Facebook page, Nebraska Mennonite Relief Sale**  
Like posts to spread the message about the upcoming Sale.

**COFFEE BOOTH** Try our Coffee booth for your morning boost.  
regular coffee, flavored coffee, Iced coffee, and hot cocoa.

**How can you help...** Thursday, morning March 30, 8:30 to set up for the sale.

Help to distribute items to the booths Thursday and Friday.

Help is needed to catch bids during the auction. .

Sale starts March 31, 4:00 PM Meal served 4-7 PM

Saturday April 1, Breakfast 7-9 AM Auction begins 8:30 AM

Noon meals 11:00-1:00. **See you all at the sale**

**NE MCC Sale: March 31-April 1**

**MCC My Coins Count:** Thank you to all who donated to my coins count last week! The total amount collected was \$194.20. Thank you to John & Lori Thimm and Daryl Riesen for matching the March 5 offering! If you would like to match the collection for one of the Sundays in March, please let Gene & Pat Penner or Marv & Lisa Goossen know.

**MCC Auction Items:** You may begin registering your auction items at <https://www.nebraskamccsale.org/register> and bringing your items to the church. If you prefer, you may register your item by filling out and attaching the paper registration form found in your church mailbox. The deadline to bring your items to the church is Noon on Thursday, March 30.

**MCC Auction Sign-up Sheets:** There are sign-up sheets on the bulletin board for making Bread (8), Jam/Jelly (3), and Pies -no cream pies (16) for the auction, and sign-up for helping with the Windsor Loin Dinner.

If you have a quilt that was not registered, you may still register it, but it will not be part of the booklet.

**MCC HYGIENE KITS:** if you would like to contribute towards the hygiene kits, please bring the ingredients listed below and put them in the black bin by the auction items. The Schardt Shepherd Group will put the kits together on March 26.

Contents are:

- 1 adult-size toothbrush (in manufacturer's packaging)
- 1 Large Bar Bath Soap (in wrapper)
- 1 Nail Clipper (good quality)
- 1 Hand Towel (medium weight, dark or bright color, size approx. 16" x 26")
- 1 Wide-toothed comb (6-8")

Place items in a plastic bag and leave the bags with the other auction items at the church.

## **Easter Lily Order Form**

If you would like to purchase an Easter Lily to be used in church on Easter Sunday please fill out and tear off this form and put it in Linsey Schardt's mailbox by Tuesday, March 14 along with payment of \$20. You may take it home after the Easter Service. Please contact Linsey Schardt with questions: 402-802-1368.

Your name:

In Honor/memory of:

## **Lent 2023**

With our Ash Wednesday service this past week, we as the church have now entered the season of Lent. In the Lenten Season we begin to focus more on the life, teachings, and passion of Jesus as we journey alongside him to the cross on Good Friday and celebrate his resurrection on Easter Sunday. Our sermon theme for Lent is three-fold. Created in the image of God, Shaped by Jesus, Called by the Spirit. Each Sunday of Lent, we will explore different ways in which we have been created, shaped, and called.

As a part of this, you may notice that the cross is draped with different colors of cloth. The colors were chosen to reflect the theme for each Sunday: red for testing/temptation, orange for new birth (sunrise), blue for water, yellow for light, green for life, purple for worship and Palm Sunday, black for Good Friday. As we progress through Lent, each Sunday a layer of cloth will be removed to reveal more of what is underneath. This serves as a visual reminder of what we are moving towards through each week of Lent.

## **FMC Lenten art exhibit**

Each and every person of FMC is hereby invited (maybe even challenged) to create a piece of art (painting, craft, sculpture, etc.) connected to one of the Lenten or Easter worship themes for this year. Over the season participants can let pastor Josh know what they would like to contribute. Art should be brought to the church before Maundy Thursday, April 6, so the exhibit can be prepared. The plan is to have the art gallery in place and open April 6 through Easter Sunday April 9. I want to also give special encouragement to children and youth to contribute your artwork. The hope is to have all ages of our church community represented. Contact Pastor Josh if you have any questions, or if you have artwork to contribute!