

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

Serving Today:

Pastor: Josh Janzen	Piano: Kathy C. & Erin V.
Worship Leader: Katie Jantzen	Audio: Doug Casey
Children's Story: Katie Jantzen	Hosts: John & Zella Penner
Ushers: Bryan Heinz & Doug Casey	Video: Jane Esau

Last Sunday: Offerings: FMC: \$ 500; Tuition Fund: \$150; WDC \$2,190

Attendance: 79

Offering today: FMC **Next Sunday:** MMN

Happening this week:

Sunday, March 17	9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Adults & Kids 10:30 a.m. Worship
Tuesday, March 19	1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying
Wednesday, March 20	6:30 pm Peace Club, JYF, SYF
Thursday, March 21	5:00 pm Church Cleaning
Friday, March 22	8:00 am Church Cleaning
Sunday, March 24	9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Adults & Kids 10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday 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, Sarah Neher
30: Sue Gerber	

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- 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.
 - If you have **food for Scott** Jantzen, please call Lori Thimm: 402-239-3511.
 - **Men's Brotherhood** project? Contact Dan Kunzman or LeRoy Janzen
 - Our 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, Church docs, minutes, and bulletins.

First Mennonite Church; 6714 W. State Hwy. 4, Beatrice, NE 68310

Pastors: Josh Janzen; 402-228-2052; pastorjosh@fmcbeatrice.org
Sarah Neher; 507-993-6820; sarah@fmcbeatrice.org

Church office: 402-251-7180

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

March 17, 2024

Welcome

Katie Jantzen

Call to Worship (*based on Jeremiah 31:31–34; John 12:20–33*)

L: “The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel. No longer will they teach their neighbors, or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord!’ because they will all know me, from the least to the greatest.”

P: This new covenant is being offered to us.

L: “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.”

P: Death must come before resurrection. A seed fallen to the soil and broken open can become life for many.

**All: This new covenant is being offered to us:
to lay down our life and follow.**

L: The life-giving ways of God placed within our minds and written on our hearts, where we are forgiven and our sins remembered no more, where we are God's people and God is our God.

Prayer

Hymn: “Jesus Calls Us”

VT 30

Prayer of Confession (*adapted from Psalm 51*)

L: O God, we gather before you, seeking your mercy.
Hear us, we pray.

P: We confess that we sin against you.

L: O God, wash us, make us clean, create in us a new spirit.

P: Stay close to us, restore us to your truth.

**All: So that we can cry out with joy,
cleansed in your abundant mercy.**

Children's Story

"Lessons about Love", "P-E-A-C-E"

Peace Club

Scripture readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34, John 12: 20-26

Sermon: "The Coming New Covenant"

Hymn: *"Jesus Be the Center"*

VT 584

Sharing & Prayer

Benediction

Sending Song: *"Christ, Be All around Me"*

VT 848

Offering to First Mennonite Church

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

Children's Sunday School today: Sunday children will learn that Jesus came to be our Savior (Matt.21:1-11). Next Sunday is Palm Sunday and we'll study Matthew 21:1-11, Jesus came to be our Savior.

Donations of FLAT TWIN SHEETS to Women Mission Society, would be appreciated. They are used for backs of Comforts that we tie and send to MCC for Relief. MCC likes the darker colors, Navy, Black, Gray, Tan. You may leave them on the counter in the kitchen. Thank you very much- WMS.

Church Cleaning! Thursday, March 21, 5 pm and Friday, March 22, 8 am.

The adult Sunday School uses Salt & Light stand-alone lessons Join us at 9:30 a.m. in the room at the bottom of the stairs when you can!

Tuition Fund pledges/donations: Thank you for your tuition fund donations for Clair Janssen at Bethel College. Approximately \$1300 is still needed to meet our second semester pledge of \$4500. Donations may be put in the offering plate, marked "tuition pledge".

Camp Mennoscah: We will put the dam back in on March 24 at 2pm. Everyone is welcome to help or watch. **Youth!** First Mennonite will again pay your registration to attend Camp and pay for a souvenir T-shirt! Register online and then let the FMC office know you've registered.

The Faith Formation survey is now open! Scan the QR code or enter <https://forms.gle/ayHmGLf3spZPZXhg8>



There are hard copies of the survey by the mail boxes. Return completed copies to Pastor Sarah's mailbox. Please complete the survey by **March 17th**. The survey will be used to gather information about the congregation's values, the faith topics to prioritize, and the activities that support faith development. The results will be used to help develop programming across generations. The Survey will be followed with opportunities for conversation in April. If you have questions, please reach out to Pastor Sarah.

A combined **Maundy Thursday and Good Friday gathering** will be held on Thursday, March 28 at 6:00 pm. We will have fellowship in the basement including optional foot/hand washing, a shared meal, and communion. A short worship service will follow in the sanctuary. The meal will include soups and bread. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for those willing to provide food. Food will need to be at church between 5:30 and 5:45 pm.

Thank you for supporting Chris and Grace Tegtmeier during Chris's recovery from transplant Feb 9. He is away from home for another week, barring any complications! Prayers are invited for Chris and his donor Zach. There's a box in the narthex for cards. If you would like to contribute to care packages, gift cards for Chris & his mother, or meals for Grace and family, see the **sign-up sheet** on the bulletin board. Questions? Contact Shana Ensz, 402-806-1946. -Friends of Grace & Chris & Shepherd Group 4. Chris & Grace's address: 72245 574th Ave, Plymouth, NE 68424

Prayer Partners are invited to join Peace Club for their final meeting March 27, 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Supper provided.

FMC's LENTEN DECORATIONS: There are 2 displays where items have been added each week.

Feb. 18 – The burlap and feet represents our journey and God leading us.

Feb 25 – A cross was added symbolizing we need to look within ourselves to where we have allowed hatred and violence to enter in.

March 3 – A scroll with the Ten Commandments to remind us that when the world pulls us in different directions, to look to God and the path He leads us.

March 10 – A candle is added for God's shining light.

March 17 - For a seed to produce anything, it has to die before it will grow. We are like that seed. God wants us to surrender.

If you have **food for Scott Jantzen**, please call Lori Thimm: 402-239-3511.

MCC SALE UPDATES:

- To register your items, go to <https://www.nebraskamccsale.org>:
 - Click on 2024 Relief Sale
 - Register Items
 - Scroll to bottom of page and pick your category (Quilt, General, Art, Kids Auction)
 - After you click on your category, scroll to the bottom and click Get Started
 - Fill out the form, browse to your pictures – you can add 4 pictures
 - After you submit your form, scroll down and click on Print Registration Form
 - Attach Registration Form to your item and bring it to church.
 - Deadline to register an item is March 17 if you want it on the website, or March 31. Anything we bring to the auction that is not registered by the 31st will need to be entered at the sale.
- This year all meals will be in the Commercial building (Quilt building). This is a change and we are working out the details now.
- The Ag Building will be the location for the Quilt Auction. The Pork Sandwiches will be sold there.
- Kid's Auction items will be there as well.
- **ORDER A T-SHIRT at [nebraskamccsale.org](https://stores.middlecreekprinting.com/mcc/all-items). The link is at <https://stores.middlecreekprinting.com/mcc/all-items>**
The store will be open through March 24.
- As in years past, please donate baked goods for the Market Place. *A signup sheet is on the bulletin board.*
- Please bring your Hygiene Kits to our church prior to April 4.
- A Doll House will be sold during the Art Auction. The doll house measures 33"x36"x19"

Hope to see you all at the

45th Nebraska MCC Relief Sale on April 5-6, 2024

The Homestead Harmonizers presents it's 2024 Spring Show, "**Luck of the Irish**" Saturday, March 16, 7 p.m. and Sunday, March 17, 2 p.m. Special guest is the group "The Newfangled Tour". Tickets are \$10 for adults in advance, \$12 at the door. 18 and under are free. Performance is at the Hevelone Center for Performing Arts, Beatrice High School.

Mayor's Prayer Breakfast Wednesday, March 27 at the Holiday Inn Banquet room. Breakfast will be served starting at 6:00 a.m. with the program beginning at 7:00 a.m. Pastor Josh will offer devotions. The keynote speaker is Trev Alberts, UNL Director of Athletics. Contact Tracy Crawford for tickets. Casual dress encouraged.

Red Cross Blood Drive Wednesday, March 20, noon to 6 pm and Thursday, March 21, 7 am to 1 pm at Holiday Inn Conference Center. Call 402-269-5460 to schedule.

The YMCA has some spots left in the **free cancer survivor program**. Contact Rachael Bauman at 402-223-5266 for more information.

MCC Material Resources Center in North Newton critically low on inventory: You can help with the following needs: new infant sleepers (6-12 month); bath towels (dark colored, light-medium weight); laundry soap (Fels Naptha or Zote brands); shampoo (20 oz min) and spiral notebooks (70 sheets). Buy online and ship to MCC (121 E. 30th St, North Newton, KS 67117). Questions? Call 316.283.2720. Kit contents list is at mcc.org/kits.

"A Goodly Heritage: A Musical Drama Sharing a History of the Swiss Volhynian Mennonites" will be performed on March 23 at 7 pm and March 24 at 2 p.m. at Eden Mennonite Church as part of the 150th Celebration of Swiss Volhynian Mennonites and many other groups came to the US in 1874 from Volhynia, Russia. Written and directed by Jenny Schrag.

Another event as a part of the 150th anniversary celebration, is a **Genealogy Research Seminar** to be presented on Monday, March 18 at 10am and 6pm at the Pine Village Wellness Center in Moundridge, Kansas and Tuesday, April 16 at 6:30pm at the new Newton Library, 223 East 7th Street in Newton, Kansas.(This session will also be live streamed on the Newton Library Facebook page.) The presentation is free and open to all.

Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum Heritage Dinner, April 5, 6:30 pm, at Tabor Mennonite Church. This event will be recorded, but not live-streamed. Contact the museum by April 1 (620.367.8200 or email goesselmuseum@gmail.com) to reserve your tickets for the Low German sausage meal catered by Goessel Grocery & Deli. Prices are \$75 per person, ages 12 and under are \$15, and first-time attenders are \$40.