

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

Serving Today:

Pastor: Josh Janzen	Organ: Karen Wiebe
Worship Leader: Katie Jantzen	Audio: Jim Ensz
Hosts: Gayland & Marci Regier	PowerPoint: Debbie Goossen
Ushers: Justin Schardt & Daryl Riesen	Video: Wendy Kyser
Children's Story: Neal Trantham	

Last Sunday: Offerings: FMC \$ 1350; Food Pantry \$ 1591

Attendance: 79

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

Happening this week:

Sunday, May 5	9:30 am Adult & Kids Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Noon: Youth Fiesta Fundraiser
Tuesday, May 7	1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying
Sunday, May 12	9:30 am Kids SS with Moms & Muffins! 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship

May Birthdays:

1: Mike Goossen	6: Jeremy Fast
7: Ann Regier	9: Shelton Crawford, Justin Schardt
10: Elaine Penner	13: Brandon Esau
14: Laura Williamson	15: Jude Vanderschaaf
16: Chris Tegtmeyer	19: Dolores Jantzen, Erin Vanderschaaf
23: Alma Reimer	28: Rick Brethouwer

- 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, under the More tab; select documents; church docs, minutes & 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

May 5, 2024

Welcome

-Worship Leader Katie Jantzen

Call to Worship

L: We come with joy to this celebration of God's love!

P: Open our hearts, Lord, to receive your love.

L: We come with hope to this witness to God's power!

P: Challenge and encourage our spirits to serve you, Lord.

L: We come with a willingness to proclaim God's presence to all.

P: We thank God for this invitation to worship, witness and serve.

ALL: Amen.

Prayer

Hymn: "Let's Walk Together"

VT 6

Prayer of Confession

L: Easter is such a wonderful season, Lord. Hope springs anew in our hearts. As the earth is being refreshed by the warmth of spring, so we have been refreshed and made new by the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P: But you have called us to go into the valley, to those who need to hear of your love and to feel your caring presence.

L: In his words of hope, Jesus prepared his disciples to be witnesses.

P: We have heard these words before, but far too often, we have turned our backs to this message.

L: We don't quite believe that we are capable of actually living our whole lives in your love. So we act in ways that are often neglectful and hurtful of others.

P: We take more time pampering ourselves than we do helping other people. It is easier to justify our selfish desires than it is to witness to your transforming love.

L: Stop us in our tracks, O Lord. Turn us around. Help us to face our weakness and your forgiving grace.

All: Heal us of our sins and place us again on the paths of peace. We ask this in Jesus' name. AMEN.

Blessing and Assurance

L: The commandment that we have from Christ Jesus is that we love one another, treating each other as beloved brothers and sisters. Abide in God's eternal love. Let its power and joy penetrate your hearts and spirits, preparing you for new growth in the Spirit. AMEN

Children's Story

Hymn: *"Put Peace into Each Other's Hands"* VT 485

Scripture: John 15:9-17

Sermon: *"The Challenge of Love"* Pastor Josh

Hymn: *"Here I am Lord"* VT 545

Sharing and Prayer

Benediction

Sending song: *"The Lord Lift You Up"* VT 832

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 Fmcbeatrice.

Youth FIESTA Fundraiser!— Come hungry and in a festive mood after church today! The youth are hosting a **FIESTA** including a taco bar and piñata for the children and young at heart! A free will donation will be collected to support youth events and their trip to 2025 MCUSA convention!

Start the Party! Celebrate the Good News at Vacation Bible School!

When: Tuesday - Friday, May 28-31, 8:30 – 11:30 am

Who: Kindergarten eligible to 5th grade completion.

How: Register online at www.fmcbeatrice.org by May 8. Fill out the parental consent form too and send it to church. (Printed copies available in church.)

Volunteer helper forms are available by the mailboxes. If you haven't turned yours in yet, we'll still take it! --VBS Committee, Jane, Erin, Linsey

FMC Youth: Register online for Camp Mennoscah, order a T-shirt, then let FMC office know you're registered so we can pay your camp fees.

The **VBS Decorating Committee** asks you to donate any leftover party supplies you may have at home. You can put them in a box in the kitchen. (streamers, balloons, favors, plastic tablecloths, etc.)

Children in Sunday School today will study Luke 2:25-35, Simeon waits for the Messiah - *God is with you while you wait*. This is our last lesson for this session. On May 12, Mother's Day, children will have Muffins with Moms, organized by the dads! May 19 will be a end of school play day.

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!

Pastors Josh and Sarah will be participating in the Beatrice High School Baccalaureate on Wednesday, May 15 at the School Fine Arts Auditorium.

Faith Formation Survey: The Education Council is still accepting survey responses. We have received a limited number and would like a bigger sample size. Please take the survey as an individual rather than a whole family. If you have questions, you can reach out to Pastor Josh or Pastor Sarah. Hard copies are available by the mailboxes and can be returned to Pastor Sarah's mailbox. Also available at: <https://tinyurl.com/39fzvtha>

Safe Sanctuary training is May 19th at 9:30. All VBS volunteers, prayer partners, Sunday school teachers, and youth sponsors are required to be trained annually. We encourage all congregants to attend to keep our church safe. There will be an online option for those who cannot attend.

Summer Sunday School: Intergenerational Sunday School will be held twice a month on June 9th & 23rd, July 14 & 28, and August 11. More details to come.

Delegates wanted for WDC Annual Assembly at First Mennonite Church August 2-4. Pastors Josh and Sarah are on the WDC Planning Committee for this. We are allowed to have 8 voting delegates for the Assembly. It would be nice to have 8 delegates since it's at FMC. The delegate sessions are on Saturday.

2024 MCC Golf Tournament Saturday, June 22, 9:00 a.m. Tee Time start at Indian Trails Country Club, Beemer, NE. 2-person scramble, \$140 per team. Cart & lunch included. Sign up by June 12 please.

Wanted. Donations of furniture or houseware items in good condition to assist the newcomers in Beatrice, please call Vicki Hinz-Ensz.

Community Players invites you to "Godspell: The Sources and the Scriptures" Friday, May 10 at 7 p.m. (free admittance) and weekends of June 7 and 14. More info is at beatricecommunityplayers.com.

YOUTH FUNDRAISER!

Sunday, May 5

12 PM



TACO BAR & PINATA

for children and the young at heart!

A free will donation will be collected to support youth events and their trip to MCUSA Convention in 2025!

VBS REGISTRATION IS OPEN
on our website: fmcbeatrice.org!
PLEASE SIGN UP BY MAY !



Invite family and friends from the community!
If you bring a friend, your name will be entered into a drawing for a special prize!

Registration is available here: [VBS Registration](#)



All children need a completed parental content form.
They can be found [here](#)
or printed copies are available by the church mailboxes. Return completed forms to Pastor Sarah's mailbox.