

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

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**Serving Today:**

Pastor: Josh Janzen	Worship Leader: Neal Trantham
Piano: Karen Wiebe	Children's Story: Grace Tegtmeier
Live stream: Kathy Casey	Audio: Doug Casey
Greeters: NEEDED	PPT: Katie Jantzen
Ushers: Bill Thimm & Bryan Heinz	Hosts: Don & Judy Jantzen

**Last Sunday: Offerings:** WDC: \$3,320; FMC: \$1,240

**Attendance:** 95

**Offering today:** FMC **Next Sunday:** Mission Partners Stutzman's

**Happening this week:**

Sunday, November 19	9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Adults & Kids 10:30 a.m. Worship
Tuesday, November 21	1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying
Thursday, November 16	THANKSGIVING
Sunday, Nov 26	9:30 a.m. No Children's Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship

**November Birthdays**

2: Clairra Janssen, Immanuel Stutzman	3: Brad Thimm
4: Ernest Jantzen	6: Becky Riesen
11: Darwin Jantzen	18: Kathy Casey, Katie Jantzen
21: Elyse Scherling	24: Linsey Schardt
27: Gail Cross, Nathanael Stutzman	
29: Lesley Trantham, Aaron Jantzen	30: Don Diller

- **Need a hearing device?** Ask an usher for assistance.
- **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.
- **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](http://fmcbeatrice.org); under the More tab select Documents, Church docs, minutes, and bulletins.

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

**Pastor:** Josh Janzen; 402-228-2052; [pastorjosh@fmcbeatrice.org](mailto:pastorjosh@fmcbeatrice.org)

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

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

**Deacons:** Don Esau (402-223-9210), Vicki Hinz-Ensz (402-239-4174), Sue Gerber (402-239-8857)

**Church Chair:** Jerry Reimer (402-239-2716)

**Welcome to First Mennonite Church**

*November 19, 2023*



**Welcome**

Neal Trantham

**Call to Worship** (Jennifer Schrock, adapted )

L: God of all the earth — Take us outside to your holy places.

Take us out beyond our walls,

**P: Out where we can see our neighbors.**

**Out past the garden with its ripe tomatoes and fat watermelons.**

L: Out where flowers bloom yellow and pink and sway in the wind.

Out to the soil we came from and the place where we no longer have words for what we see, but can only say how small we are.

**P: There — out there — bend down, make mud with your spit; smear it on our eyes.**

L: And when the clay cakes and cracks and we turn our faces to your vast world, may we see grace, not despair, and a harvest so plentiful it distresses us.

**Prayer**

**Hymn: "Mountain of God"**

VT 11

**Confession** (Nindy Sasongko, adapted)

L: Holy One, our world is overtaken by our greed for more goods than we need.

**P: We confess our rapacious consumption, obsession with winning, and our undercutting and isolating of the most vulnerable among us.**

L: Renewing Spirit, help your church to be open, in fidelity to the gospel of Jesus, to all possibilities in the coming of the new kinship — the kingdom of God — on earth. Help us to align our ways to sharing, social cohesion, and symbiotic co-living between humans and the rest of creation;

**P: to see creation as a cosmic web of living beings, in which all creatures live in mutual interdependence. Help your church to abide in a harmonious bond between the source of being and all things.**

L: Loving God, help us to see you as the God-in-relation. Open our eyes to the ministry of Jesus, a ministry of care and compassion: To grieve with the poor earth our greed has devoured, to be still, not distracted by a thousand useless things,

**P: To see that earth, sea, sky, and every creature in it have a spiritual capacity to bring us back to you and the harmony of the cosmic dance.**

L: Living God, Help us to live in a dynamic becoming, opening ourselves to this network of relationships and the future. Help us to see that we cannot live without receiving the gifts of others, and also sharing our gifts with them.

**P: Help us to say “Yes” to your invitation, to friendship with you, with our own spirit, with our neighbors, and with the rest of creation.**

*All: May it be so. Amen.*

**Hymn: “Beauty for Brokenness”** VT 712

**Children’s Story** Grace Tegtmeier

**Scripture: Genesis 1:26-31**

**Sermon: “Peace Toward the New Creation”** Pastor Josh

**Hymn: “We are People of God’s Peace”** VT 797

**Sharing & Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Sending Song: “The Peace of the Earth Be with You”** VT 838

**Offering to First Mennonite Church**

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**Welcome!** We are glad you are here!

**Children’s Sunday School** today learned about the Lord’s Supper and Passover as found in 1 Corin. 11:23-26 and Exodus 12. There will be no Sunday School on November 26 for Thanksgiving break. Practices for the Christmas program (Dec. 17) are at 9:30 a.m. on December 3, 10 and 17.

**The adult Sunday School class** is studying the book *Rethinking Life*. Please join us! Beginning in December, they will study *“Salt & Light”*.

**Deacon nominations** are being accepted through December 10. Please speak with your nominee before giving their name to Chair Jerry Reimer. Of note, Don Esau is eligible for re-election.

**Next Sunday, our offering is in support of our Mission Partners, Dave and Rebekka Stutzman.** We have pledged to support them with \$5000 per year. We hold one offering a year for them. Please plan to help us reach our pledge with your offering next Sunday.

**If you would like to be a part of the mixed instrumental ensemble** playing at the FMC Christmas program, please let Neal Trantham know.

**WMS Comforters need a ride** to Newton. Please contact Doris Claassen (402-239-0111) if you can help with this.

Best Foot Forward 4-H club is having a coat drive! **“Share the Warmth”**. Collecting coats, hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, and snow boots in clean and good condition through December 4. There will be a collection box in the coat rack to put your items.

**WMS Christmas party** Dec 2, 9:30 am. All ladies and young girls invited.

If you would like to **order a poinsettia** to be used in church during Advent, please fill out a form by the mailboxes. They are \$18 and forms are due in Decorating Committee Chair Linsey Schardt’s mailbox **by Dec 3**. You may take your poinsettia home after Christmas services.

FMC will host a **Community Potluck as a late Thanksgiving celebration** on Sunday, December 3 at 5:30 pm at FMC. Please bring food to share and friends! Drinks and table service will be provided.

**Homestead Harmonizers and Beatrice Regional Orchestra** present **“Celebrate the Season”**, Sunday, Dec 3 at 2:00 p.m. at the Hevelone Center. Tickets are \$10 at the door; 18 & under are free.

If you are headed to South Texas this winter, MCC Central States in North Newton, KS has **25 boxes of kits to transport** to a partner in McAllen, TX. Please contact Kate Mast at [katemast@mcc.org](mailto:katemast@mcc.org) with questions or interest.

**Applications for 2024 Camp Mennoscah Summer Camp** are being taken! Summer staff must be 18 years old or older. Paid staff leadership positions are naturalist, crafts leader, lifeguard, grounds/maintenance, music leader, and office/media. Applications accepted until all positions are filled. The 2024 summer season begins June 2 with orientation and ends August 4.

“Advent at Home” resource for families is available for download at mennoniteeducation.org. Click on the resource tab.

**MCC Material Resources Center** in North Newton can distribute kits until they are complete. Needed are: *new* infant onesies/sleepers (6-12 month sizes); *new* bath towels (dark colored, light/medium weight); *new* hand towels (dark colored), men's shirts (sizes XL, 2XL, 3XL -- any color) and men's underwear (2XL, 3XL -- any color). Buy online and ship to MCC (121 E. 30<sup>th</sup> St, North Newton, KS 67117).

Tom and Marlene Swartzendruber of Shickley will be celebrating their **50th Wedding Anniversary!** The public is invited to a reception held in their honor on Saturday, November 25 at the Shickley Community Center from 2-5pm. Cards may also be sent to them at PO Box 71, Shickley NE 68436.

### First Mennonite Church General Fund Summary

	<u>Oct 1</u>	<u>Oct 31</u>
General Fund beginning balance	8,737.55	4,235.87
General Fund offerings	12,462.00	13,510.00
Church expenses	<u>(16,963.68)</u>	<u>(10,878.62)</u>
General fund ending balance	\$4,235.87	\$6,867.25