

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

**Serving Today:**

Worship Leader: Rodney Ensz          Sermon: Pastor Ruth Harder  
Piano & Deacon: Vicki Hinz-Ensz      Children's Story: Neal Trantham  
Live stream: Henry Trantham          Audio: Marv Goossen  
Greeters: Duane & Doris Claassen      PPT: Debbie Goossen  
Ushers: Brad Thimm & Kent Hohensee   Hosts: John & Zella Penner

**Last Sunday: Offerings:** Bethel College: \$2,641; FMC \$100

**Attendance:** 93

**Offering today:** First Mennonite Church; **Offering next Sunday:** WDC

**Happening this week:**

Sunday, Sept 3          9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School  
                                  10:30 am Worship with Pastor Ruth Harder  
                                  Regier – Neher wedding  
Monday, Sept 4        LABOR DAY  
Tuesday, Sept 5       1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying  
Wednesday, Sept 6   6:30 pm JYF/SYF at Regier's (supper & games)  
                                  6:30-7:30 pm Peace Club at church  
Saturday, Sept 9      1:10 pm Stained Glass Window Tour at FMC  
Sunday, Sept 10       9:30 Sunday School for all ages  
                                  10:30 am Worship with Communion  
                                  11:30 am Special Congregational meeting

**September Birthdays**

3: Dan Crawford                      4: Liana Stutzman  
5: Norm Reimer, Margaret Boyce   6: Asha Jantzen  
12: Graham Schardt                 15: Anders Baade  
16: Betty Esau  
18: Judy Jantzen, Kylie Scherling, Denise Jantzen  
20: Jim Hamm, Kari Janssen        23: Shana Ensz  
24: LeRoy Janzen                      26: Marcia Regier, Lori Crawford  
30: Tony Tegmeier

- 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.
- **Men's Brotherhood** project? Contact Dan Kunzman or LeRoy Janzen

**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)

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



**Welcome to First Mennonite Church**

September 3, 2023

Welcome

Rodney Ensz

**Call to Worship**

VT 855

L: To worship is to stand in awe under a heaven of stars,  
**P: before a flower, a leaf in sunlight, or a grain of sand.**

L: To worship is to be silent, receptive, before a tree astir  
with the wind, or the passing shadow of a cloud.

**P: To worship is to work with dedication and with skill;  
it is to pause from work and listen to a strain of music.**

L: To worship is to sing with the singing beauty of the  
earth;

**P: it is to listen through a storm to the still small voice  
within.**

**ALL: Worship is the mystery within us reaching out to the  
Mystery beyond.**

Prayer

VT 956

**Hymn: "All People That on Earth Do Dwell"**

VT 5

**Confession**

L: Our lives are cluttered, O Christ, by too many things and too  
much to do.

**P: We are driven by the need to succeed and distracted by our  
service.**

L: We have often lost our way.

**ALL: Forgive us. Let us, like Mary, find the one thing that is  
needed and sit at your feet. Amen.**

**Assurance:**

L: Hear the words of Jesus: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I  
give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your  
hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

Hymn: *"The Church of Christ, in Every Age"* VT 395

Children's Story: *"Jesus is..."* Neal Trantham

Sermon: *"Who do you say I am?"* Pastor Ruth Harder  
Based on Matthew 16:13-16; Mark 8:27-29  
Luke 9:18-20; Mark 14:61-62

Hymn: *"Holy Presence, Holy Teacher"* VT 531

Sharing & Prayer Vicki Hinz-Ensz

Sending and Benediction Pastor Ruth Harder

### Offering to First Mennonite Church

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**Welcome!** We are glad you are 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.

**Welcome to Pastor Ruth Harder** of Rainbow Mennonite Church, Kansas City, KS. Ruth began as pastor at Rainbow in September 2013. Ruth is a 2007 Masters of Divinity graduate of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary and a 2001 graduate of Bethel College. Ruth is married to Jesse Graber, who is a high school art teacher. Prior to coming to Rainbow, Ruth served at LaSalle Street Church in Chicago and Bethel College Mennonite Church in North Newton, KS. Thank you, Ruth, for your message today!

**No Children's Sunday School** this Sunday. Join us next Sunday, Sept 10 when we hold a combined event with Grandparents for Grandparents Day.

**The adult Sunday School class** will resume studying the book *Rethinking Life*. On September 3<sup>rd</sup> we'll review the chapters we covered in the spring. On September 10<sup>th</sup> we'll discuss chapter 8.

**JYF and SYF will meet Wednesday**, Sept 6 at 6:30 at Marcia & Gayland Regier's home (25762 SW 45<sup>th</sup> Rd, Beatrice) for supper and games.

**The Decorating Committee** invites you to share fresh flowers from your garden to decorate the church this summer.

**A Special Congregational Meeting will be held September 10, 2023** after church, (approximately 11:30 a.m.) to vote on the possibility of adding a part time Faith Formation Associate Pastor at FMC. ***The final revised copy of the 'Job Description for Associate pastor of Faith Formation' is in your mailbox.*** The revisions to the job description reflect the input from the round table discussion; addressing some of the questions and concerns. The church board reviewed and approved the attached job description. **Please contact a church board member if you have any questions or concerns before the vote on September 10.**



**Congratulations to John Regier and Sarah Neher** who will be married at FMC later today! May God richly bless your marriage.

**Pastor Josh is out of the office** until Sept 8. If you need pastoral care, please contact a Deacon listed on the back page of the bulletin.

**BigGiveGage.org:** September 14! 24 hours of generosity! Be sure to look at the participating organizations including Mother to Mother, Sewing for Babies, Community Food Pantry, Gage County Ag Society, & Sheepgate.

### Upcoming:

**\*Communion: September 10, 2023**

**\*FMC Church Picnic** September 24, 5 pm at Chautauqua Park Tabernacle

**\*FMC Mini-Auction:** October 22, we will gather at 5:30 and begin the auction at 6:00 p.m. in the church basement.

**\*MCC Meat Canning** November 2 & 3 at Milford (a week earlier than usual)

### From Camp Mennoscah:

--**WDC Women in Mission Women's & Girls Retreat** Sept. 9-10.

--**75th Anniversary & Annual Meeting date changed to** September 24.

1 pm activities for all. 5 pm meal. 6 pm annual meeting. 7 pm Talent Show.

--Among the 155 **dedicated volunteers and staff** this summer were **Claire Janssen, Abigail Trantham and Chris Riesen**. Thank you!

--We welcomed 383 campers this summer to share faith & fun!

**Orphan Grain Train Fish Feed Today!** Sunday, Sept 3, 11 – 1 pm. First Trinity Lutheran Church, west Highway 4. Fish, potatoes, onions, salads, desserts, drinks. Carry out available. Free will donation.

**Gage County Historical Society Tour of Stained Glass Windows!** Saturday, Sept 9, 1-5 pm. Five churches will be toured. To register call 402-228-1679 by Sept 6. Cost \$25 members, \$30 non-members. **FMC will be toured** with Vern Jantzen as the guide. See the bulletin board.

*Los Companeros* invites you to a  
Multi-Cultural Celebration Dinner!

Join us as we promote community and build relationships with other cultures in Beatrice.

Sunday, September 10, 5-7:30 pm  
St. John Lutheran Church, 701 6<sup>th</sup> St.

What is *Los Companeros*?

An organization consisting of several local Christian churches and other organizations whose mission is to walk with, welcome, and support newly arrived immigrants and refugees in Beatrice with basic needs as they become part of our community.

The dinner is free but please RSVP by calling 402-223-5268.

Opportunity to donate to help *Los Companeros* in their efforts to help the immigrants/refugees settle in our community will be available at the event.

Supplemental funds for the dinner provided by Thrivent.