

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

---

**Serving Today:** Pastor: Josh Janzen  
Worship Leader: Vern Jantzen Hosts: Brad & Amanda Thimm  
Piano: Karen Wiebe Power point: Katie Jantzen  
Audio: Jim Ensz Video: Henry Trantham  
Kids Story: Shana Ensz  
Ushers: Lynn Gerber & Rick Brethouwer

**Last Sunday: Attendance:** 93 **Offering:** FMC \$8,715.01  
**Today's Offering:** FMC **Next Sunday:** Mother to Mother

**Coming Up:**

**Easter Sunday, April 5** 9:30 Breakfast; Intergenerational Sunday School; Kids Scavenger Hunt  
10:30 Worship  
Tuesday, April 7 1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying  
5:30 pm Shepherd Grp 1 Warren's Table  
7:00 pm Education council meets  
Wednesday, April 8 6:30 pm Peace Club, SYF, JYF  
Sunday, April 12 9:30 am Sunday School for all  
10:30 am Worship w/ Eric Litwiller;  
of Camp Menno

**April Birthdays**

2: Ella Crawford 5: Sylvia Crawford  
7: Henry Trantham 9: Elsie Riesen  
13: Blake Thimm & Jacob Janzen 13: Anita Reimer  
17: Vicki Hinz-Ensz 20: Sloan Esau

- Our services are on **YouTube:** [www.youtube.com/c/fmcbeatrice](http://www.youtube.com/c/fmcbeatrice)
- The **bulletin** is at [fmcbeatrice.org](http://fmcbeatrice.org) under documents.
- If you would like to be on the **Prayer Chain**, see Sue Gerber
- If you use the **nursery**, please clean up after using it. Thanks!
- Ask an usher for assistance with a **hearing device**.
- **We collect** Best Choice labels & used cards and envelopes.
- **Food Pantry items** go in the box in the narthex. Checks for the food pantry may go in the offering plate.
- **Men's Brotherhood Project?** Contact Dan Kunzman or LeRoy Janzen.

---

**Address:** 6714 W. State Hwy. 4, Beatrice, NE 68310 **Website:** [fmcbeatrice.org](http://fmcbeatrice.org)  
**Pastors:** Josh Janzen; 402-631-3481; [pastorjosh@fmcbeatrice.org](mailto:pastorjosh@fmcbeatrice.org)  
Sarah Neher; 507-993-6820; [sarah@fmcbeatrice.org](mailto:sarah@fmcbeatrice.org). Her office hours are generally Sundays & Tuesdays, 9-12; Wednesdays, 1-8; Fridays 9-2  
**Church Office:** 402-251-7180 **Email:** [office@fmcbeatrice.org](mailto:office@fmcbeatrice.org)  
**Deacons:** Sue Gerber (402-239-8857), Don Esau (402-223-9210), Vicki Hinz-Ensz (402-239-4174), **Church Chair:** Jerry Reimer (402-239-2716)



Welcome to First Mennonite Church  
Easter Sunday - April 5, 2026  
**CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!**

Hymn: "Were You There"

VT 329 vs 1 & 6

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: Listen. Do you hear it?

**P: The sound of joy. Laughter breaking in.**

L: Listen! It sounds like harmony.

**P: Angels singing.**

L: Why are you weeping? For the grief? For the beauty?

**P: Jesus is risen!**

L: Yes! And creation sings it. Yesterday's tears linger, as they must,

**P: but love is stronger than death.**

L: Do you believe this? Listen, Jesus is speaking your name.

**P: Our names—each one.**

L: Like music of the soul. Can you hear it?

**P: It is the sound of resurrection.**

L: Let us worship the Risen One! Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**P: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Prayer

Hymn 346: "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

Hymn 359: "Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

Confession and Assurance

L: O God, we come this morning as those who have known the darkness before the dawn — the long nights of doubt, the heavy stones of grief, the sealed tombs of our own making.

***P: We confess that we have stood outside the empty tomb and seen only loss. We have run toward answers and arrived breathless, only to stand back and wonder.***

L: We confess that we have wanted restoration more than transformation — the familiar more than the new.

***P: We have clung to what was, afraid of what might be. We have grieved what is gone without opening our hands to what is coming.***

L: We confess that we have heard our name spoken and turned away, mistaking the risen Christ for a stranger. We have settled for resuscitation — for the comfort of the known — when God has been inviting us toward resurrection.

***P: We confess that we have let our understanding lag far behind our circumstances, and called our confusion the absence of God.***

L: Gracious God, we have not always stayed at the tomb. We have not always been willing to weep honestly, to search faithfully, or to wait patiently for what we do not yet understand.

***All: Forgive us, Lord. Meet us in our grief. Speak our names in the darkness. And lead us from the tomb into the newness of life you have prepared for us.***

**Sunday Singers: “Sing with all the Saints in Glory”**

*Offering is for First Mennonite Church*

**Sunday Singers: “The Risen Christ”**

**Children’s Story**

**Scripture Reading: John 20:1-18**

**Sermon: “Practice Resurrection”**

**Hymn 333: “Low in the Grave He Lay”**

**Hymn 761: “I Love to Tell the Story”**

**Sharing and Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Sending Song: “Christ Is Alive, and Goes Before Us”**

VT 565

**Passing the Peace**

---

**Welcome** to all worshiping with us here and on YouTube. For easy access, bookmark this link: [www.youtube.com/c/fmcbeatrice](http://www.youtube.com/c/fmcbeatrice) and “Like” it and subscribe. The bulletin is at [fmcbeatrice.org](http://fmcbeatrice.org) under the documents tab.

**Save the date of June 7th for the upcoming baptisms.** The service will be at Baade's Pond. More details to come.

**Thank you** to these members for contributing lilies!

Mary Jane Zimmerman family (2)

Brad & Amanda Thimm and sons in memory of John Layne

Harold & Elaine Penner family

Larry & Kathy Thimm

**Get Out Your Recipes!** FMC would like to publish an updated version of the FMC cookbook incorporating adaptations of modern cooking methods but still focusing on traditional recipes that may be unique to our families and congregation. Please contact Paula Heinz or Debbie Goossen to contribute your recipes. Submissions are not needed immediately but fairly soon.

**Are you missing** a 9x9 cake pan, a white bowl or a plastic lid to a casserole dish? These items have been in the kitchen for a long time. They are on the counter in the fellowship hall, please claim them by April 1.- WMS

**VBS May 26-29! If you haven’t returned your volunteer signup sheet** to Linsey Schardt, please do so. **Online VBS Registration** and 2 parental consent forms are available at [fmcbeatrice.org](http://fmcbeatrice.org). Consent forms must be printed off and sent to FMC or a photo of the completed forms emailed to [office@fmcbeatrice.org](mailto:office@fmcbeatrice.org).

**Eric Litwiller**, Camp Mennoscah's Director of Development, will be here next Sunday to speak during Sunday School and during worship. There will also be a Moment in Mission next Sunday on **Mother to Mother**.

**CampMennoscah.org:** Register online for **Summer Camp!** FMC will pay for your registration and a T-shirt. Put FMC Beatrice in the sponsorship line, then let the church office know you’ve signed up.

Mennonite Disaster Service **MDS Family Program** is in Hesston, KS the weeks of June 14-20, June 21-27, June 28-July 4. Volunteers will have opportunities to assist in projects including building cabinets, toolboxes, assembling MCC kits, and preparing campus for fall students. Visit [www.volunteer.mds.org](http://www.volunteer.mds.org) to learn more.