

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

Serving Today:

Hosts: Justin & Linsey Schardt

Power point: Christina Lyons

Audio: Larry Thimm

Ushers: Lynn Gerber & Brandon Esau

Pastor: Josh Janzen

Piano: Erin VanderSchaaf

Video: Jane Esau

Last Sunday: Attendance: 79 **Offering:** FMC \$4,819.87

Back Packs: \$50

Today's Offering: Mennonite Central Committee **Next Sunday:** FMC

Coming Up:

Sunday, August 9

9:30 am Adult Bible Class

10:30 am Worship with MMN's

Marisa Smucker

Tuesday, August 11

1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying

Sunday, August 16

9:30 am Adult Bible Class

9:30 am Sunday School Planning

10:30 am Faith Formation Sunday

Backpack Blessings; Bibles distributed

August Birthdays:

1: Miles Esau

6: Steph Janzen, Rebekkah Stutzman

7: Mitch Williamson

11: Debbie Keeney, Scarlett & Raelynn Heinz

12: Abby Trantham

16: Jerry Reimer, Kathy Thimm

21: Kyle Baade

22: Gentre Esau, Henry VanderSchaaf

27: Pam Kunzman

29: Pat Penner

31: Samuel VanderSchaaf

- Our services are on **YouTube:** www.youtube.com/c/fmcbeatrice
- The **bulletin** is at 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 be put in the offering plate.
- **Men's Brotherhood Project?** Contact Dan Kunzman or LeRoy Janzen.
- **Farmer's Market**, Thursday's 4-6:30 pm, 6th & High Streets

Address: 6714 W. State Hwy. 4, Beatrice, NE 68310 **Website:** fmcbeatrice.org

Pastors: Josh Janzen; 402-631-3481; pastorjosh@fmcbeatrice.org

Sarah Neher; 507-993-6820; 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

Deacons: Sue Gerber (402-239-8857), Don Esau (402-223-9210),

Vicki Hinz-Ensz (402-239-4174), **Church Chair:** Brett Esau (402-520-9100)

Welcome to First Mennonite Church
August 9, 2026



Welcome and Call to Worship (VT 862 adapted)

L: O Lord God, on this day we come to worship. You who open doors and dismantle barriers, open our hearts to praise you,

P: that we might live the full truth of who we are, that we might live as neighbors and friends, no longer strangers and enemies;

L: Open our hearts to the transforming power of your love, that we might forgive and reconcile, making peace and learning war no more,

P: that we might be your people, one body in one Spirit, to tell your grace to all the world.

All: Come, let us worship the One who walked among us as brother and friend.

Prayer

Hymn 11: "Mountain of God"

Confession and Assurance

L: Sovereign God, we confess that we are more like the nations of Psalm 2 than we'd like to admit.

P: We rage against your rule when it costs us something. We plot our own kingdoms, chase our own comfort, and resist the peace you offer because it asks us to lay down our pride.

L: We confess, too, that we are the city Jesus wept over. You have come near to us again and again, and there have been days we did not recognize what makes for peace. We have been distracted by lesser things while you drew close, longing to gather us in.

P: Forgive us, Lord, for our rebellion, and for our blindness. Turn our hearts toward the peace you keep offering.

Assurance of Pardon

L: Hear the good news: the laughter of God in Psalm 2 is not scorn, it is the confidence of a Father who will not let rebellion have the final word. He did not send armies to crush us. He sent a Son who wept over the city that would crucify him, and who died anyway, so that raging enemies could become beloved children.

P: This is the King we serve: strong enough to rule the nations, tender enough to weep for us.

L: In Christ, you are forgiven. Take refuge in him and be glad! Amen.

Offering Hymn 209: "We Dream of a Turning"

(Offering for Mennonite Central Committee)

Scripture: Luke 19:41-42; Psalm 2

Sermon: “The Things that Make for Peace” Marisa Smucker

Hymn 409: “For We are Strangers No More”

Sharing and Prayer

Benediction

Sending Song 485: “Put Peace into each Other’s Hands”

Passing the Peace

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

Welcome to Marisa Smucker, Executive Director of Mennonite Mission Network, joining us today for Adult Sunday School and Worship. **Thank you, Marisa**, for sharing about Mennonite Mission Network’s various programs and many ways to connect and serve.

August 16th is Faith Formation Sunday. All children and youth are invited to bring their backpacks for a blessing to start the year! Bibles will be given to children entering kindergarten and third grade.

Sunday School Planning: All Sunday School teachers are invited to a breakfast and planning session for the fall on August 16, at 9:30 in the fellowship hall!

Safe Church Policy: For the last year and a half a committee has been working to update and expand our Safe Church Policy to cover adults and create a protocol if there is ever an allegation of abuse involving children or adults. There are two opportunities to learn about the policy. We hope everyone in the congregation will attend!

- **August 23rd**, following the worship service: an overview of the policy highlighting the changes and additions.
- **August 30th**, following the worship service: required training for all adults who work with youth.

Ellis Methodist Church Ice Cream Social TODAY, August 9, 4-6 pm. Free Will Donation. BBQ Sandwiches, chips, ice cream, dessert

Wynn Goering, Interim President of Bethel College, will be with us on August 23. Plan to attend Sunday School and Worship that day as he shares what’s happening at Bethel College.

It’s school kit season which means thousands of kit bags are needed to hold the school supplies and serve as backpacks for the recipients. The MCC Material Resources Center in North Newton is running critically low on these sewn bags. If you can sew bags, MCC will add the strings to tie them. Please contact Brocia Mueller at brociamueller@mcc.org for instructions and questions. 30,000 school kits for 30,000 children by August 31!

Kids Meet Christ event!

Talashia Keim Yoder, pastor at College Mennonite Church, Goshen, IN will guide all ages in exploring worship that engages everyone on Saturday, September 12, 9:30-2:30 pm at First Mennonite Church, Hutchinson, KS.

Register at mennowdc.org under the Kids Meet Christ tab.



Support the future of **local transit services** for the elderly and disabled run by Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging! **Trivia Night** is August 27 at 7 p.m. at the Community center in Pickrell. Entry fee is \$100 per team with 6-person max. Free will donation Nacho Bar available. Call 402-223-1376 after Aug 13 to reserve a spot for your team! Held in conjunction with Big Give Gage for transit services.

In September at FMC: Sept 2, 6:30, Community Meal
Sept 9, 6:30 pm JYF & SYF meet
Sept 13, Sunday School begins; 11:30 Congregational meeting
Sept 27, 5 pm Church Picnic

For news from Mennonite organizations, visit www.mennonitemission.net; www.mennoniteusa.org; www.mcc.org; www.mennowdc.org; www.amb.edu; www.mennonitemen.org; www.mennonitewomenusa.org; and www.mds.org.