

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

Serving Today:

Pastor: Josh Janzen
Worship Leader: Rodney Ensz
Live Stream: John Thimm
Ushers: John Regier & Jim Hamm

Pianist: Vicki Hinz-Ensz
Greeters: John & Zella Penner
Audio: Jim Ensz
Hosts: John & Zella Penner

Last Sunday: Offerings: Food Pantry: \$1,640; FMC: \$200;
Stutzmans: \$350; **Attendance:** 97

Offering today: First Mennonite; Christmas Eve: Deacons Fund
Next Sunday: AMBS

Happening this week:

Sunday, December 18
9:30 a.m. Christmas Program Practice
9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Christmas Program

Saturday, Dec 24
6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service of Carols

Sunday, December 25
9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Prelude of Carols
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

December Birthdays

4: Maxson Esau
9: Cara Esau, Vern Jantzen, Bill Thimm
10: Gene Penner
13: Laura Baade, Bill Epp
17: Rogena Jantzen, Wendy Kyser, Christopher Janssen
17: Dick Goertzen
25: Dick Penner

6: Kristin Ruiz
11: Lori Thimm
14: Paula Heinz
20: Ann Reimer, Brett Esau
29: John Penner

-
- Ask an usher for assistance with a **hearing device**.
 - **We collect** Sun Mart receipts, Best Choice labels & used cards/envelopes
 - **Food Pantry:** Please put items in the narthex box or give cash donations to Dolores Jantzen.
 - **Shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)** to support Mother to Mother Ministries with your Amazon purchases!
 - If you would like a **PDF of the church directory** for your phone, please contact the office.
-

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

Pastor: Josh Janzen; 402-228-2052; pastorjosh@fmcbeatrice.org

Church Office: 402-228-2231

Website: [fmcbeatrice.org](https://www.fmcbeatrice.org) **Church email:** office@fmcbeatrice.org

Deacons: Vern Jantzen (402-230-0011), Don Esau (402-223-9210),
Vicki Hinz-Ensz (402-239-4174)



Welcome to First Mennonite Church

December 18, 2022,
4th Sunday in Advent
Christmas Program

Prelude

Vicki Hinz-Ensz

Candle-lighting liturgy

Rodney Ensz

L: We cry out for restoration, we call upon God to give us life.

P: Do not be afraid, says the Lord. I have promised to be with you.

(Lighting of the Advent candles)

L: As we hold fast to God's promise, we light this candle as a sign of our joy.

ALL: Bring your restoration to your people, we pray.

Welcome

Pastor Josh Janzen

Christmas Medley

Mixed Instrumental Ensemble

"O, Holy Night" "Silent Night" "What Child is This?"

(Adapted and arranged by Neal and Henry Trantham)

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

Mixed Instrumental Ensemble

(Adapted and arranged by Neal and Henry Trantham)

"NO TIME FOR CHRISTMAS"

A play created by Valerie Howard

Copyright © 2014 by Valerie Howard. All rights reserved solely by the author.

Scene I

"Go Tell it on the Mountain" (*John W. Work II*) Children's Choir

(Text: African American spiritual, adapt. John W. Work Jr.; Music: African American spiritual, arr. Valeria A. Foster, © 2000 GIA Publications. Used with Permission under One License #A-740029. All rights reserved.)

Scene II

Scene III

“O Come All Ye Faithful” Children’s Choir, Sunday Singers, Ensemble
(Text: John F. Wade, Public Domain; Music: John F. Wade; descant David Willcocks ©1961 Oxford University Press, Oxford. Used with Permission under One License #A-740029. All rights reserved.)

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” Sunday Singers
(Text: Bishop Phillips Brooks; Tune: English tradition, arr. R. Vaughan Williams; descant by Thomas Armstrong. ©Oxford University Press. Used with Permission under One License #A-740029. All rights reserved.)

Scene IV

“God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen” Sunday Singers
(Traditional English Carol. Public Domain.)

Scene V

“The First Noel”
Children’s Choir, Sunday Singers, Abby Trantham, trumpet
(Text and Music: English Tradition. Both Public Domain.)

Sharing & Prayer Pastor Josh Janzen

Sending

Offering for First Mennonite Church

Welcome! We’re glad you’re worshipping with us! 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; under the More tab select Documents. Scroll down to Church docs, minutes and bulletins.

The adult Sunday School class will not meet on the 18th and 25th. Please join us on the 1st when we meet to begin discussing chapter 6 (Intentional Diversity and Inclusion) of the book *Reawakened*. All are welcome to join the discussion even if you haven’t read the book.

Children’s Sunday School will resume on January 8 at 9:30 a.m.

Come at 10:15 a.m. on Christmas Day for an organ prelude of Christmas Carols.

“NO TIME FOR CHRISTMAS”

- a play created by Valerie Howard

Copyright © 2014 by Valerie Howard. All rights reserved solely by the author.

Cast:

<i>PJ McIntyre:</i>	Clara Trantham
<i>Robbie McIntyre:</i>	Eli VanderSchaaf
<i>Miss Baldwin:</i>	Kollyns Hohensee
<i>Daniel:</i>	Riley Schardt
<i>Lucy:</i>	Rikki Hohensee
<i>Kid #1:</i>	Miles Esau
<i>Mr. McIntyre:</i>	Brendan Thimm
<i>Kid #2:</i>	Graham Schardt
<i>Chrissy:</i>	Sloan Esau
<i>Kid #3:</i>	Anders Baade
<i>Stage assistants:</i>	Abby Trantham, Jude VanderSchaaf

Children’s Choir: Maxson Esau, Beckett Heinz, Ryan Hohensee, Blake Thimm, Betsy Baade, Stella Ensz, Samuel VanderSchaaf, Piper Heinz, Navy Heinz, Denise Jantzen

Mixed Ensemble: Katie Jantzen, Josh Janzen, Steph Janzen, Pam Kunzman, Abby Trantham, Clara Trantham, Henry Trantham, Neal Trantham, Erin VanderSchaaf, Sylvia Cross, Rikki Hohensee

Ensemble Arrangements: Henry Trantham

Sunday Singers: Kathy Casey, Doug Casey, Doris Claassen, Duane Claassen, Jane Esau, Brandon Esau, Pam Kunzman, Gayland Regier, Jerry Reimer, Barb Thimm, Erin VanderSchaaf, Dorothy Zimmerman

Accompanist: Vicki Hinz-Ensz

Thank you to you all for sharing your talents and for the hours of preparation you’ve put in to bring us this special Christmas program.

The nuts are here! There are some extras! Contact Karen Wiebe if you are interested in some.

It's time for a new **pictorial church directory!** Our photography dates are Monday, Jan 30 and Tuesday, Jan 31. A flyer is in your mailbox with all the details! **Sign up online or in person** in the church office with Zella following worship on December and January Sundays.

The **Pictorial Directory Committee** of Dolores Jantzen & Zella Penner ask you to share any photos you have of church activities that you think are suitable for use in our new pictorial directory. (Photos of Sunday school, 2022 VBS, Christmas program practice, camp, MDS work, MCC sale, Burwood Bookstore, church picnic, and whatever FMC is involved in) Submit them to the church office by email or hard copy. Thanks!

We have pledged as a church to support our Mission Partners, David & Rebekkah Stutzman, with \$5000 annually. At this time, **we are short about \$2,000** in offerings to meet that commitment. If you wish to contribute to this, please put your offering in the plate, marked for our Mission Partners. Thank you.

The **tuition committee** is seeking donations to fulfill our 2nd semester pledges for the college students. Donations can be given to Mike Goossen.

If you have any items for the **Annual meeting agenda**, please talk with Dorothy Zimmerman.

Committee reports are due in the office for the church's Annual Report.

Thank you to Don & June Diller for the donation of their piano to use in the church basement. The Diller's organ was donated to Samaritan Springs for their use. Their piano was donated to FMC basement. The old basement piano was donated to someone who will use it for a recycled project. Thank you to Rodney Ensz, Brad Thimm, Brett Esau and Brandon Esau for moving everything around.

Pastor Josh and Steph will hold a **Christmas Party for JYF and SYF** on Wednesday, December 28 from 6 p.m. to midnight at the church.

You are invited to a Las Posadas with St. John's Lutheran Church and their Spanish speaking friends (newcomers) on Thursday, December 22. Meet at St. John's at 5 p.m. for caroling followed by a pinata and potluck supper at the church.

Please join us on **Christmas Eve for a Service of Carols** and the **New Year's Eve Communion Service**, both at 6 p.m.



Thank you to Ann Reimer, Dick Goertzen family (in memory of Arylis), and the Decorating Committee for the beautiful poinsettias shared with the congregation for Christmas! You may take your poinsettia home following the service on Christmas Day.

The **Missions, Peace, and Service Committee** is thankful for the generosity of congregation members for their time, talents, and donations to help the newcomers.

Please review the church directory contact information for you and your family members. If there are changes in address, phone numbers, or email addresses, please let the office know.

Beatrice Community Blood Drive Wednesday, December 28, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Conference Center. Call 402-269-5460 for appointments. Free T-shirt for donors while quantities last.

Community Food Pantry Ingathering is ongoing through November and December. Please drop off food, paper products, or personal hygiene items, at the pantry at St. John's Church. Cash donations also appreciated.

Registration is open for **KNOW JESUS**, an overnight retreat for 6th - 8th graders on February 4 - 5 at Hesston College! At **KNOW JESUS**, students can learn more about their Anabaptist roots through worship, service, and interactive activities. Registration or questions: melissahlandis@gmail.com

You are invited to celebrate our mother, **Marj Epp's 95th birthday on Sunday, December 18 at an Open House** from 2-4 p.m. at Summit Street Church, 12th & Summit, Beatrice. Her birthday is December 3. If you are unable to attend, she would enjoy receiving cards and your prayers. Her address is Marj Epp, Apt 2, 2300 Lincoln St, Beatrice, NE 68310. – Jeanette (Don Jr.), Roger, Beth, Robert, Curt and families



⁶And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. ⁷And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. – Luke 2:6-7 KJV

*Wishing you and yours a
Blessed Christmas!*