



Welcome to First Mennonite Church
December 29, 2024
Keeping Promises: "Who Sees It?"

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: As we worship today, God, we ask this of you:

P: Wipe pride from our hearts, that we might truly love one another. Rinse conceit from our eyes that we might see one another as you see.

L: We rest in your promises and wait for you.

P: Calm and quiet, we trust in you.

L: Open our hearts,

ALL: that we might let go of all that separates us from you and one another.

Prayer

Hymn: "Come, Let us All Unite to Sing "

VT 7

Candle Lighting

Reader 1: Have you heard the news?

Jesus, the promised Messiah has come!

Reader 2: I have heard the Good News!

God is with us; Jesus is here!

(the Christ candle is lit)

All: Let us shout it aloud for everyone to hear! Come join us on this journey, as we live out the Good News of Christ!

Offering Hymn: "To Us a Child of Hope is Born"

VT 259

Offering to First Mennonite Church General Fund

Children's Story

Scripture Reading: *Luke 2:22=38*

Sermon: “*Seeing and Believing*” Pastor Josh

Hymn: “*Hark! The Glad Sound*” VT 217

Sharing and Prayer

Benediction

Sending Song: “*Go Tell it on the Mountain*” VT 252

Passing the Peace

Welcome! Glad you're here! Our services can be found on YouTube. Search for FMC Beatrice. We hope to see you again soon!

Our Advent theme is “*Together on the Journey – Keeping Promises: Who Sees It?*” God is faithful in keeping promises on the journey, but unless we are keenly attuned, we may not recognize promises fulfilled. Even as we wait, we can be assured that God is active in working out the plan of restoring and healing. May we have the eyes to see God's active presence, and may we have a voice to share what we have seen. On the altar, we light the Christ Candle. A mirror is behind it, symbolizing our focus on *having eyes to see* what God is doing in our midst, according to God's faithful promises.

Children's Sunday School will resume on January 5, at 9:30 a.m.

Attention! The last person to leave church should check to see that all the lights are turned off. Please and Thank You.

Annual committee/council reports are needed by December 30.

Please inform the office of any changes in address, phone numbers, or emails before the 2025 Directory is printed in early January.

Annual reports will be in mailboxes by Jan 5 for the Jan 8 meeting.

You may call **Pastor Josh at 402-631-3481**. The 402-228-2052 number will be disconnected. An email will be sent when this happens in about 2 weeks.

New Year's Eve worship with Communion begins at 6:00 p.m. Dec. 31.

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

Serving Today: Pastor: Josh Janzen
Worship Leader: Vern Jantzen Children's Story: Kathy Casey
Pianists: Kathy Thimm & Kathy Casey Video: Jane Esau
PowerPoint: Katie Jantzen Audio: Marv Goossen
Hosts: John & Zella Penner Ushers: Doug Casey, Bryan Heinz

Last Sunday's Attendance: 141

Last Sunday's Offering:

Today's Offering: FMC There is no **New Year's Eve Offering**

January 5 Offering: First Mennonite Church

Happening this week:

Sunday, Dec 29 9:30 am Community Time
9:50 am Adult Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
Tuesday, Dec 31 6:00 pm New Year's Eve Communion Service
Sunday, January 5 9:30 am Community Time & Children's Sunday School
9:50 am Adult Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
Tuesday, January 7 1:30 pm WMS Quilting & tying

Late December Birthdays

25: Dick Penner 29: John Penner

Early January Birthdays

2: Christina Lyons 6: Ryan Hohensee
7: Barb Thimm 8: Doris Claassen
9: Jim Wiebe 10: Jan Reimer
11: Beckett Heinz 14: John Regier

- Ask an usher for assistance with a **hearing device**.
 - **We collect** Best Choice labels & used cards and envelopes.
 - **Food Pantry** items may go in the box in the narthex. Cash donations may be given to Dolores Jantzen.
 - Have a project for Men's Brotherhood? Contact Dan Kunzman or LeRoy Janzen.
 - Our service is on <https://www.youtube.com/c/fmcbeatrice> and heard on FM 107.5 in our parking lot. The bulletin is at fmcbeatrice.org, under the More tab; select documents; church docs, minutes & bulletins.
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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

Church Office: 402-251-7180 **Email:** office@fmcbeatrice.org

Deacons: Vicki Hinz-Ensz (402-239-4174), Sue Gerber (402-239-8857),
Don Esau (402-223-9210); **Church Chair:** Jerry Reimer (402-239-2716)