

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

**Serving Today:** Pastor: Josh Janzen  
Worship Leader: Brett Esau Pianist: Karen Wiebe  
PowerPoint: Symantha Janzen Audio: Larry Thimm  
Hosts: Don & Judy Jantzen Video: Henry Trantham  
Ushers: Jim Ensz, Bill Thimm Children's Story: Kathy Casey  
**New Year's Eve Attendance:** 34 **Dec 29 Attendance:** 57  
**Dec 29 Offering:** FMC General Fund: \$3,762  
**Today's Offering:** FMC  
**Jan 12 Offering:** MDS

**Coming Up:**

Sunday, Jan 5 9:30 am Sunday School for all ages  
10:30 am Worship  
Tuesday, Jan 7 1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying  
Wednesday, Jan 8 7:00 pm Annual Congregational Meeting  
Sunday, Jan 12 9:30 am Sunday School for all ages  
10:30 am Worship  
Tuesday, Jan 14 1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying  
6:00 pm Education Council meets with old  
and new members  
Wednesday, Jan 16 6:30 pm Community Event and meal  
**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  
15: Clara Trantham 17: Ron Janzen  
19: Kent Hohensee 21: Robbyn Hohensee  
26: Don Esau, John Thimm 29: Randall Ensz

- 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](http://fmcbeatrice.org), under the **More** tab; select documents; church docs, minutes & bulletins.

**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)

**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  
January 5, 2025  
Epiphany

*Nurturing Faith: From Whom Do We Learn?*

Welcome

Call to Worship (based on Luke 2:41-52)

L: Jesus, grant that we may learn from you as long as we live,

**P: that we would mature in wisdom and years.**

L: Just as you listened and questioned, grant us humility

**P: that we would sit among the teachers.**

L: We look to you, Emmanuel.

**ALL: Jesus, teach us how to learn.**

Prayer

Hymn: "Come Away from Rush and Hurry"

VT 9

Candle Lighting

Reader 1: We never stop facing opportunities to learn.

Reader 2: We learn through successes and achievements; we learn through mistakes and failures.

Reader 1: In our learning, we can also mentor others and model wisdom along the way.

*(Christ candle is lit)*

**All: Like a tree, may we grow in faith and wisdom with roots spreading deep to provide grounding, and rings of growth showing our continued learning.**

Offering Hymn: "What Child is This"

VT 267

Offering to First Mennonite Church General Fund

Children's Story

**Scripture Readings: Luke 2:41-52**

**Sermon: "Like A Tree"**

Pastor Josh

**Hymn: "God of Grace and God of Glory"**

VT 716

**Sharing and Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Sending Song: "Go, My Children"**

VT 830

**Passing the Peace**

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**Welcome!** Glad you're here! Community Time with Coffee is at 9:30 downstairs, followed by Adult Bible Study. Our services can be found on YouTube. Search for FMC Beatrice. We hope to see you again soon!

**Our Advent theme has been "Together on the Journey".** Each week we learned something about our faith journey with symbols on the altar changing weekly to help us remember. Our weekly themes?

- **Between a Rock and a Hard Place:** *How to continue on?*
- **Opening Hearts:** *What Do We Ask For?*
- **Anointing for Justice:** *Who belongs?*
- **Embodying God's Spirit:** *Who Lends a Hand?*
- **Keeping Promises:** *Who sees it?*

**Today we celebrate Epiphany** with the theme of

- **Nurturing Faith:** *From Whom Do We Learn?*

God provides spaces for us to ask questions: God provides mentors and teachers along our way to help us grow in wisdom and faith.

*Where do we go to learn and be challenged? How do we nurture growth in others?*

**Children's Sunday School** resumes today at 9:30 a.m.

**Pastor Josh's phone number will be changing later this month.** It will be 402-631-3481. The 402-228-2052 will be disconnected. You will receive an email when that happens but in the meantime, you can begin using his 3481 number.

**Please inform the office of any changes in address, phone numbers, or emails by January 8 to be included in the 2025 Church Directory.**

**The annual congregational meeting is this Wednesday,** January 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. You'll find the 2024 Annual Report with the meeting agenda and election slate in your mailbox.

Mark your calendar to attend the **first Community Event of 2025** on Wednesday, January 15 at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Bring an appetite!

**Education Council** will meet on Tuesday, January 14 at 6:00 pm. Members going off and members coming on should attend this meeting at FMC.

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

***The "I Wonder?" sermon series returns in January!*** As in the past, this is your chance to ask the questions, wonderings, doubts, and struggles you have about God, faith, Jesus, the Bible, and anything and everything in between. You put your name to the question or leave it anonymous. Send me an email or text or leave a note in my office and I'll do my best to preach on it! -Pastor Josh

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**Anabaptism at Five Hundred: Hymn Festival** Sunday, January 19, 2025, 3:00 pm, at Hesston Mennonite Church. This event will celebrate 500 years of Anabaptists and the release of the *Anabaptist Community Bible*. The public is invited to this celebration involving singers from surrounding churches and audience participation singing hymns, led by Russell Adrian and Karen Unruh. The core of the program will be a historical narrative by Ken Rodgers tracing important hymns and texts from the past five centuries.



The **2025 WDC Annual Assembly** will be Aug 8-9, 2025 at Hesston Mennonite Church, Hesston, KS. Along with others around the globe, next year at Assembly we plan to celebrate 500 years of Anabaptism.

March 28-29, 2025  
Holthus Convention  
Center, York, NE



Nebraska  
**Mennonite Relief Sale**