

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

**Serving Today:** Pastor: Josh Janzen  
Worship Leader: Kyle Riesen Organist: Karen Wiebe  
Hosts: Brad & Amanda Thimm Video: Jane Esau  
Audio: Van VanderSchaaf PowerPoint: Eli VanderSchaaf  
Ushers: Gayland Regier & Bill Thimm Kid's Time: Erin VanderSchaaf  
**Last Sunday: Attendance:** 66 **Offering:** SheepGate \$ 1.626; FMC \$500  
**Today's Offering:** FMC **Next Week's Offering:** FMC

**Coming Up this Week:**

Sunday, March 1	9:30 am Adult, Kids, Youth Sunday School, Baptism Class
	10:30 am Worship
Tuesday, March 3	1:30 pm WMS
Wednesday, March 4	6:30 pm Community Meal
Thursday, March 5	5:00 pm Church Cleaning
Friday, March 6	8:00 am Church cleaning
Sunday, March 8	9:30 am Adult, Kids, Youth Sunday School, Baptism Class
	10:30 am Worship

**Late February Birthday:** 26 Elijah VanderSchaaf

**March Birthdays**

4: Daryl Riesen, Karen Wiebe	8: Kyle Riesen, Darcy Esau
14: Josh Janzen	15: Bev Claassen
16: Rodney Ensz	17: Doug Penner, Stella Ensz
21: Hannah Tegtmeier	24: Roger Claassen
25: Parker Williamson	26: Callan Baade
28: Navy Esau	29, Baker Esau, Sarah Neher
30: Sue Gerber	

- 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 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:** Don Esau (402-223-9210), Vicki Hinz-Ensz (402-239-4174), Sue Gerber (402-239-8857). **Church Chair:** Brett Esau (402-520-9100)



Welcome to First Mennonite Church  
March 1, 2026  
Second Sunday in Lent

Welcome

**Call to Worship**

**All: We come to worship,**

L: with expectations that may or may not be met;  
with questions that may not be answered;  
and with a longing for clarity that may not come.

**All: We come seeking God,**

L: seeking a taste of truth, seeking a glimpse of divine presence,  
seeking something we can hold onto—even as we are invited into mystery.

**All: We come to journey with Jesus,**

L: who meets us not only in what we understand, but in what unsettles us;  
who shows us love not just in words, but in kneeling, in serving, in doing.

**All: We come to be formed in love,**

L: to receive what we do not fully understand,  
and to practice what we are still learning.

**All: Let us worship God together!**

Prayer

Hymn 7: "Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing"

**Confession & Assurance**

L: Holy One, we admit that we often want faith to be simple and clear.

**P: We want to understand before we act,  
to know before we love, to control before we follow.**

L: Forgive us when we resist your ways, when we push away the messy,  
uncomfortable work of love, and when we forget that transformation  
comes not through knowing alone, but through practicing your love.

**P: We confess that we want certainty over faithfulness,  
explanation over service, and comfort over kneeling to meet the needs  
of others.**

Leader: Friends, hear the good news:

God's love meets us even in our confusion.  
Even when we do not fully understand, even when we stumble or  
hesitate, we are called, washed, and embraced.

**P: In Christ, we are forgiven. We are invited to receive love, to  
participate in love, and to practice it in the world around us.**

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Offering Hymn 540: "Will You Come and Follow Me"**

*Offering for First Mennonite Church*

### Children's Story

### Reader's Theater

**Scripture: John 13:1-17**

**Sermon: "Knowing Enough to Love"**

Pastor Josh

**Hymn 491: "Christ on the Night He was Betrayed"**

### Sharing and Prayer

### Benediction

**Sending Song 813: "Heart with Loving Heart United"**

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

**Interested in Exploring Church Membership?** Are you curious about  
what it means to become a member of our church community? Whether  
you're new here or have been worshipping with us for some time, you're  
warmly invited to explore the next step. I've recently updated our  
membership class, and I would be glad to talk with you about participating.  
The class is a space to learn more about our shared life, values, and mission  
— and to ask questions along the way. There is no pressure or obligation —  
just an open invitation to explore. If you're interested, please reach out to me  
directly so we can connect. --Pastor Josh

If you would like to be on the **Prayer Chain**, talk with Sue Gerber.

## 47<sup>th</sup> Annual NE MCC Sale March 27 & 28

Holthus Convention Center, York, NE.

Auctions are on Friday 6 pm & Saturday 8 am.

### Registration Dates:

- **Pre-Register items online at [nebraskamccsale.org](http://nebraskamccsale.org)** to be included on the website. **Unregistered donations** are still accepted on the day of the sale.
- **March 1, 2026:** deadline to register quilts to be printed in the quilt guide. For help, talk with Becky Riesen(402-239-9363).
- **March 22, 2026:** deadline to register items to list on the website.

### Quilt Registrations should include:

- **Size:** baby, lap, twin, full, queen, king. Width and length measurements also.
- **Description**, including name of the pattern and author's name if it is not your original design.
- **Upload 3 Photos** (at least 250 KB) when registering, one with the full quilt; a corner folded back; and an up-close detail.
- **Print** the final registration page **and pin** it to the quilt for identification at the sale.
- **For quilt registration assistance** talk with Becky Riesen (402-239-9363).

### Meals:

**Friday evening options (4-7 p.m.):** Windsor Loin/BBQ Chicken meal (\$15), Pork sandwiches

**Saturday breakfast 7:00a–9:00 a.m.**

**Saturday lunch options (11-1 p.m.):** Verenika meal (\$15), taco meal, & Pork sandwiches

**Bethel College Choir** will perform on Friday at 5:30 pm and through the day on Saturday.

**Signup sheets** are on the bulletin board for pies, bread, and jams.

**\*\*Sale Items must be at First Mennonite by Thursday, March 26 at 4:00 p.m. for transport.**

**Thank you! Committee Members, Larry & Kathy Thimm,**

*Daryl & Becky Riesen, Mike and Debbie Goossen*

**Just a reminder!** This Wednesday, March 4, is our **next Wednesday Community Meal** at 6:30 pm. If it works for you to help put up 8 tables and chairs today after church for the meal, that would be helpful. Hope to see you Wednesday evening.

**Church Cleaning** is this week! Thursday, March 5, 5 pm. & Friday, March 6, 8 am. (with semmel). Please bring a covered dish for Thursday's evening meal. Outdoor cleanup projects will take place if we have enough help.

**Easter Lily** order forms are by the mailboxes: \$21 without a bow, and \$24 with a bow. Please put order forms in Paula Heinz' mailbox by noon March 8. You may take your lily home on Easter Sunday.

**"My Coins Count"** collections March 1, 8, 15, & 22. If you'd like to match a Sunday please contact the Committee. (Larry & Kathy Thimm, Daryl & Becky Riesen, Mike and Debbie Goossen) Jim & Vicki Ensz will match March 1 collections.

**VBS!** Mark your calendars for a fun, faith-filled week at VBS Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>- Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Details & registration info coming soon.

2027 marks **150 years of our Mennonite congregation in Beatrice**. As we think back on our history, we'd like to write down the stories of our church. What are some of the important events, people, or projects that have impacted our church in the past 50 years? In what ways has our church been involved in the community locally, nationally, or internationally in the past 50 years? Send your ideas for research topics to Katie Jantzen at [k\\_jantzen@hotmail.com](mailto:k_jantzen@hotmail.com).

**Lent 2026.** Many of the Lenten readings this season echo the intensity of Holy Week, and the theme of ***Dwelling in Dissonance***, where we are called to spend time reflecting on John's Holy Week passages. Each Sunday, one more of the six candles on the communion table will be extinguished, representing the discordance with present life and with Holy Week in Jesus' time. This season, may we be able to see the tension between how things are and how we want them to be. Additionally, there is a small table and candles in the window by the cross at the front of the sanctuary; please feel free to turn on a candle before each service to represent specific prayers and laments as we move through this Lenten season.

**Week 1: Love and grief; Week 2: Obvious and Hidden**

**NE MCC Sale:** MCC requests **Hygiene Kit** items of medium weight & size **hand towels** (no light colors) & individually wrapped bars of **soap**. Please place them in the can in the narthex through March 25. **\*\*FMC is to provide 13 pies, 8 loaves of bread and 3 jars of jam or jelly.** Sign up on the bulletin board.

**\*\*If you plan to stay overnight in York, book your room soon!**

**\*\*Bethel College Choir** will perform on Friday at 5:30 pm and through the day on Saturday.

The Tri County-Meridian **Legion Baseball Soup Luncheon** fundraiser is today, March 1, 11-1 pm at the Plymouth Community Center. Free Will donation.

**MCC Central States Annual Meeting** 9:30 am Saturday, March 7. To attend via Zoom, email [tinascrag@mcc.org](mailto:tinascrag@mcc.org) for a link.

**St. Joseph's Friday Fish Fries:** Feb. 27, March 6, 13, & 20, 5:30-7:00pm, in the Parish Center at 6th & High Street. Enter at the northeast school doors. Fried & baked fish, sides, and deserts. \$12 per adult, \$6 kids 4-10 (under 4 eat free), \$40 max price per family. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council 1723.

**Homestead Harmonizers** Spring Show, ***America's 250<sup>th</sup>***, is March 21 at 7 pm and Sunday, March 22 at 2 pm. At the Hevelone Center at Beatrice High School. The Quartet *Daily Special* will also perform. Tickets: \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. 18 & under are free.

**Tri County 2026 Blue & Gold Gala** is Saturday, March 21, 5-10 pm at the Plymouth Community Center. Use the QR code on the flyer on the bulletin board to register and pay only or send payment to the school office. Questions? Call Shana Ensz at 402-806-1946.

**"Bridges Out of Poverty"** workshop will be April 8, 8:30-11:30 am at the Beatrice Public Library. Registration is required (so a required book is available for you) by emailing [pastordorismartin@gmail.com](mailto:pastordorismartin@gmail.com). The Bridges training is a community framework that helps people better understand how economic status shapes experiences, decision-making, and access to resources and how communities can respond more effectively and compassionately. Facilitated by Georgann Roth of Food Bank of Lincoln, presented by CASA of Gage County and Beatrice Ministerial Association.