

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

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**Serving Today:**

Pastor: Josh Janzen                      Piano: Vicki Hinz-Ensz  
Worship Leader: Erin Vanderschaaf      Audio: Marv Goossen  
Children's Story: Erin Vanderschaaf      Hosts: Don & Judy Jantzen  
PPT: Katie Jantzen  
Ushers: Bryan Heinz & Doug Casey      Video: Jane Esau

**Last Sunday: Offerings:** FMC: \$ 4,012;

From Edna Ensz Memorial Fund for Sarah's office furniture: \$900

**Attendance:** 69

**Offering today:** WDC    **Next Sunday:** FMC

**Happening this week:**

Sunday, March 3                      9:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School only  
   9:30 a.m. Listening Sessions with WDC  
   10:45 a.m. Worship with Communion  
Tuesday, March 5                      1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying  
Wednesday, March 6                      6:30 pm Peace Club, JYF, SYF  
Sunday, March 10                      9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Adults & Kids  
   10:30 a.m. Worship

**March Birthdays**

4: Daryl Riesen, Karen Wiebe                      8: Kyle Riesen, Darcy Esau  
14: Pastor Josh    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

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- Ask an usher for assistance with a **hearing device**.
  - **We collect** Best Choice labels & used cards and envelopes.
  - **Food Pantry:** Please put items in the narthex box or give cash donations to Dolores Jantzen.
  - If you have **food for Scott** Jantzen, please call Lori Thimm: 402-239-3511.
  - **Men's Brotherhood** project? Contact Dan Kunzman or LeRoy Janzen
  - Our 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](http://fmcbeatrice.org); under the More tab select Documents, Church docs, minutes, and bulletins.

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

**Pastors:** Josh Janzen; 402-228-2052; [pastorjosh@fmcbeatrice.org](mailto:pastorjosh@fmcbeatrice.org)  
Sarah Neher; 507-993-6820; [sarah@fmcbeatrice.org](mailto:sarah@fmcbeatrice.org)

**Church office:** 402-251-7180

**Website:** [fmcbeatrice.org](http://fmcbeatrice.org)    **Church email:** [office@fmcbeatrice.org](mailto: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)

**Welcome to First Mennonite Church**

*March 10, 2024*



**Welcome**

Erin Vanderschaaf

**Call to Worship**

L: Give thanks to God, for God is good!

**P: God's love endures forever.**

L: Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story.

**P: God's love endures forever.**

L: We may make careless choices and lose our way.

**P: God's love endures forever.**

L: We call out to God when we are in trouble.

**P: God's love endures forever.**

L: God rescues us from our anxieties and fears.

**P: God's love endures forever.**

L: God gather us in, from the east and the west, from the north and the south.

**ALL: For God's unfailing love, we give thanks to the Creator of all that is good.**

**Prayer**

**Hymn: "Wonderful Grace of Jesus"**

VT 170

**Communal Prayer**

L: Merciful God, we forget that you are the light of the world.

**P: Forgive us for our short memories.**

L: Remind us that you are rich in mercy.

**P: when we wander away from you.**

L: Loving God, convict us of your immense love

**P: that shines brightly on us.**

**ALL: Merciful God, light of the world, we come seeking new life in you.**

**Children's Story**

Hymn: *"The Love of God"* VT 162

Scripture readings: John 3:14-21

Sermon: *"The Way of Mercy"*

Hymn: *"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"* VT 156

Sharing & Prayer

Benediction

Sending Song: *"Go Now in Peace, Worship Continues"* VT 829

Offering to Western District Conference

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**Welcome!** We are glad you are here! We hope to see you again soon! If you can't make it in person, the service is available to watch on our YouTube channel and the bulletin is available at [fmcbearice.org](http://fmcbearice.org).

**No Children's Sunday School today.** Next Sunday children will learn that Jesus came to be our Savior (Matt.21:1-11).

**Donations of SINGLE FLAT TWIN SHEETS** to Women Mission Society, would be appreciated. They are used for backs of Comforts that we tie and send to MCC for Relief. MCC likes the darker colors, Navy, Black, Gray, Tan. Again, its Single Flat Twin Sheets, You may leave them on the counter in the kitchen downstairs. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. WMS.

**Church Cleaning!** Thursday, March 21, 5 pm and Friday, March 22, 8 am..

**The adult Sunday School** uses Salt & Light stand-alone lessons Join us at 9:30 a.m. in the room at the bottom of the stairs when you can!

**Tuition Fund pledges/donations:** Thank you for your tuition fund donations for Clairra Janssen at Bethel College. We're still trying to meet our second semester pledge of \$4500. Donations may be put in the offering plate, marked "tuition pledge".

**Youth!** First Mennonite will again pay your registration to attend a Mennonite Church Camp (think **Camp Mennoscah!**) and pay for a souvenir T-shirt! Register online and then let the FMC office know you've registered.

If you have **food for Scott** Jantzen, please call Lori Thimm: 402-239-3511.

**The Faith Formation survey is now open!** Scan the QR code or enter <https://forms.gle/ayHmGLf3spZPZXhq8> There are hard



copies of the survey by the mail boxes. Return completed copies to Pastor Sarah's mailbox. Please complete the survey by **March 17th**. The survey will be used to gather information about the congregation's values, the faith topics to prioritize, and the activities that support faith development. The results will be used to help develop programming across generations. The Survey will be followed with opportunities for conversation in April. If you have questions, please reach out to Pastor Sarah.

**WANTED: Musicians** for the FMC Mixed Instrumental Ensemble to play for Good Friday and/or Easter services. All instruments are welcome; music is upper-middle school level of difficulty. If interested, please let Neal know by March 11.

A combined **Maundy Thursday and Good Friday gathering** will be held on Thursday, March 28 at 6:00 pm. We will have fellowship in the basement including optional foot/hand washing, a shared meal, and communion. A short worship service will follow in the sanctuary. The meal will include soups and bread. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for those willing to provide food. Food will need to be at church between 5:30 and 5:45 pm.

#### First Mennonite Church General Fund Summary

General fund balance 1/31/24	\$ (2,483.05)
Feb General fund offerings	15,331.00
Feb Church expenses	<u>(13,186.29)</u>
General Fund Balance 2/29/24	\$ (338.34)

**Thank you for supporting Chris and Grace Tegtmeier during Chris's recovery from transplant Feb 9.** He is away from home for six weeks of recovery with his mother Beth. Prayers are invited for Chris and his donor Zach. There's a box in the narthex for cards. If you would like to contribute to care packages, gift cards for Chris & his mother, or meals for Grace and family, see the **sign-up sheet** on the bulletin board. Questions? Contact Shana Ensz, 402-806-1946. -Friends of Grace & Chris & Shepherd Group 4. Chris & Grace's address: 72245 574th Ave, Plymouth, NE 68424

**Prayer Partners are invited to join Peace Club** for their final meeting March 27, 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Supper provided.

**Prayer request for Gerald and Rogena Jantzen:** Rogena lost her brother, Arlo Friesen, age 79, on Tuesday, March 5 during surgery at St. Elizabeth Hospital. Services for Arlo were Saturday, March 9 at Monroe, E Free Church, Phillips, NE.

## MCC SALE UPDATES:

- To register your items, go to <https://www.nebraskamccsale.org>:
  - Click on 2024 Relief Sale
  - Register Items
  - Scroll to bottom of page and pick your category (Quilt, General, Art, Kids Auction)
  - After you click on your category, scroll to the bottom and click Get Started
  - Fill out the form, browse to your pictures – you can add 4 pictures
  - After you submit your form, scroll down and click on Print Registration Form
  - Attach Registration Form to your item and bring it to church.
  - Deadline to register an item is March 17 if you want it on the website, or March 31. Anything we bring to the auction that is not registered by the 31<sup>st</sup> will need to be entered at the sale.
- This year all meals will be in the Commercial building (Quilt building). This is a change and we are working out the details now.
- The Ag Building will be the location for the Quilt Auction. The Pork Sandwiches will be sold there.
- Kid's Auction items will be there as well.
- ORDER A T-SHIRT at [nebraskamccsale.org](https://www.nebraskamccsale.org). The link should be posted soon.
- As in years past, please donate baked goods for the Market Place.
- Please bring your Hygiene Kits to our church prior to April 4.
- A Doll House will be sold during the Art Auction. The doll house measures 33"x36"x19"

**FMC's LENTEN DECORATIONS:** There are 2 displays where items have been added each week.

**Feb. 18** – The burlap and feet represents our journey and God leading us.

**Feb 25** – A cross was added symbolizing we need to look within ourselves to where we have allowed hatred and violence to enter in.

**March 3** – A scroll with the Ten Commandments to remind us that when the world pulls us in different directions, to look to God and the path He leads us.

**March 10** – A candle is added for God's shining light.



**Mother To Mother's** newest outreach, the **Youth-To-Youth Center**, a free rec center focused on middle school aged youth, opens March 20th. Spring semester hours are Wednesdays from 2-5p.m. and Sundays from 4-7p.m. in the basement of the city auditorium across from the middle school. The entrance is on the south side of the city building, down the steps. There will be a variety of video games, tabletop games, board games, & concessions - all supervised by caring adults. An **Open House** for the public (with a free will donation dessert bar) is on Sunday, March 10th, from 2-4 p.m.

**Mayor's Prayer Breakfast** Wednesday, March 27 at the Holiday Inn Banquet room. Breakfast will be served starting at 6:00 a.m. with the program beginning at 7:00 a.m. Pastor Josh will offer devotions. The keynote speaker is Trev Alberts, UNL Director of Athletics. Contact Tracy Crawford for tickets. Casual dress encouraged.

**The Homestead Harmonizers** presents it's 2024 Spring Show, "**Luck of the Irish**" Saturday, March 16, 7 p.m. and Sunday, March 17, 2 p.m. Special guest is the group "The Newfangled Tour". Tickets are \$10 for adults in advance, \$12 at the door. 18 and under are free. Performance is at the Hevelone Center for Performing Arts, Beatrice High School.

**MCC Material Resources Center in North Newton critically low on inventory:** You can help with the following needs: new infant sleepers (6-12 month); bath towels (dark colored, light-medium weight); laundry soap ( Fels Naptha or Zote brands); shampoo (20 oz min) and spiral notebooks (70 sheets). Buy online and ship to MCC (121 E. 30<sup>th</sup> St, North Newton, KS 67117). Questions? contact [brociamueller@mcc.org](mailto:brociamueller@mcc.org) or 316.283.2720. Kit contents list is at [mcc.org/kits](https://mcc.org/kits).

Hope to see you all at the 45th Nebraska MCC Relief Sale on April 5-6, 2024

**“A Goodly Heritage:** A Musical Drama Sharing a History of the Swiss Volhynian Mennonites” will be performed on March 23 at 7 pm and March 24 at 2 p.m. at Eden Mennonite Church as part of the 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration of Swiss Volhynian Mennonites and many other groups came to the US in 1874 from Volhynia, Russia. Written and directed by Jenny Schrag.

Another event as a part of the 150th anniversary celebrating the Swiss Volhynian Mennonites and many other groups coming to the U.S. in 1874. Jerry Juhnke is presenting a **Seminar on researching your genealogy.** The presentation is free and open to all. The seminar will be presented on three occasions: Monday, March 18 at 10am and 6pm at the Pine Village Wellness Center in Moundridge, Kansas and Tuesday, April 16 at 6:30pm at the new Newton Library, 223 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street (on the east side of Military Park) in Newton, Kansas. The Newton Library session will also be live streamed on the Newton Library Facebook page.

**Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum Heritage Dinner,** April 5, 6:30 pm, at Tabor Mennonite Church, after which Mayleen Thiesen Vinson will share an entertaining and insightful portrayal of Fru Schmidt’s dilemma—what to pack for her family? Each adult ticketholder was allowed to pack 27 cubic feet of baggage and freight. Consider that the Schmidts have ten children! Would you have packed a waffle iron, an anvil, or corncobs? Come find out! This event will be recorded, but not live-streamed. Contact the museum by April 1 (620.367.8200 or email [goesselmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:goesselmuseum@gmail.com)) to reserve your tickets for the Low German sausage meal catered by Goessel Grocery & Deli. Prices are \$75 per person, ages 12 and under are \$15, and first-time attenders are \$40.

**COMING! Commemorating 500 Years of Anabaptism in Zurich + Swiss Alps 9-Day Tour in May 2025.** Tour sites: Lake Geneva, Murren – the Swiss mountain village accessed by cable car, and Mennonite heritage in Bern and the Emmental Valley. On May 29 we will join Anabaptists from around the world in Zurich in worship and celebration of the 500 Year beginning of Anabaptism. Details and registration coming soon. Preview the tour at [www.tourwithweldon.com](http://www.tourwithweldon.com) To join the “Interested List” contact Weldon Martens at [weldon.martens@gmail.com](mailto:weldon.martens@gmail.com) / 402-202-9276.