

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

Serving Today: Pastor: Sarah Neher Reimer
Worship Leader: Brett Esai Piano: Vicki Hinz-Ensz
PowerPoint: Katie Jantzen Audio: Larry Thimm
Hosts: Brad & Amanda Thimm Video: John Thimm
Children's Story: Erin Vanderschaaf Ushers: Doug & Jake

Last Sunday's Attendance: 70 **Offerings:** SheepGate \$2071; FMC \$225
Today's Offering: FMC **Next Sunday:** Western District Conference

Coming Up:

Sunday, March 2 9:30 am Children, Youth, Young Adult,
& Adult Sunday School
10:30 am Worship with Pastor Sarah preaching
Tuesday, March 4 1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying
Wednesday, March 5 6:30 pm Community Meal- All invited to come!
7:00 pm **Ash Wednesday** Service
Sunday, March 9 9:30 am Children, Youth & Adult Sunday School
10:30 am Worship

Early March Birthdays

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

- 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 go in the offering.
- **Men's Brotherhood Project?** Contact Dan Kunzman or LeRoy Janzen.
- **Our service is viewed** at <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.
- Please **turn off all lights** if you are the **last to leave** the building. Thanks!

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: 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
March 2, 2025

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: Prepare the way of the Lord! Straighten the crooked paths!

P: A shoot shall come out from Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

L: The Spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

P: Nations will rejoice, for God's kingdom has come near.

Prayer

Hymn: "Holy Spirit, Come with Power"

VT 57

Confession

Holy One, the flurry of motion and money consumes our vision and clogs our ears. Though we lack your spirit of wisdom and understanding, of counsel and might, we long to know and love you. Refresh us and fill us with your Spirit as the waters fill the sea. Amen.

Offering Hymn: "In the Bulb There is a Flower"

VT 670

Offering to FMC

Children's Story

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 10:33-34; 11:1-2; 12:1-3

Sermon: "The Hope in Destruction"

Pastor Sarah

Hymn: "The Lord is My Light"

VT 437

Sharing and Prayer

Benediction

Passing the Peace

Welcome! We're glad you're here and hope to see you again! Our services are on YouTube. Search for FMC Beatrice. The bulletin is on our website: fmcbeatrice.org under the documents tab.

QUILT-TYING BLITZ! Thursday, March 13, 5 pm–8 pm at FMC. Pizza to be served at 6 p.m. Come for the fun! No special skills are needed to tie quilts.



Community Event this Wednesday, March 5! We'll have a meal at 6:30 pm downstairs. All are invited to come! Our **Ash Wednesday** service will follow at 7:00 pm

You're Invited! Pastor Josh and Stephanie invite you to a Come & Go Celebration at our home on Saturday, March 15, from 2:00 to 6:00 PM! We're **celebrating Josh's 30th birthday** and **our 5th wedding anniversary**, and we'd love for you to stop by for fellowship, refreshments, and fun. Come as you are and stay as long as you'd like! We're grateful for our church family and would love to celebrate with you!



If you'd like to **order an Easter Lily** to share in church, orders are due March 19. The price is \$20 without a bow and \$23 with a bow. Forms and envelopes are by the mailboxes. Please put orders in Zella Penner's mailbox.

Church Cleaning Dates are March 20, 5 pm & March 21, 8 am (with Semmel)! We'll do some cemetery cleanup that day too if we have help.



Kids! FMC will pay your fees to attend Camp Mennoscah this summer! Please register online and let the office know you've registered. Please register by April 1 if possible and put First Mennonite, Beatrice in the scholarship field.

Save the Date! April 27 for a FMC Youth Group Fundraising Lunch here. The youth will be raising money to attend the MC USA Assembly in July.

Please pray for MCC Appalachia Build Staff as they partner with churches for temporary sheltering following catastrophic flooding in Kentucky and West Virginia. Learn more and support MCC's efforts at mcc.org/donate-appalachia and mcc.org/appalachia-build

Official Meeting Notice of the MC USA Delegate Assembly, July 11, 2025 at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, North Carolina.. FMC can send **2 delegates plus 1 youth delegate**.

Homestead Harmonizers will present the 2025 Spring Show, *The Crooners- Songs of Sinatra and Crosby* on Saturday, March 22 at 7 pm and Sunday, March 23, at 2 p.m. Special guest performers are the Storm Front. The show is at the Hevelone Center at Beatrice High School. Advance adult tickets are \$10; at the door \$12. 18 and under are free.

You're invited to join **Holmesville Church of the Brethren** as they celebrate their 150th birthday with an open house weekend on March 29 & 30. Saturday from 9-6, pictures of past events, people, and activities will be displayed; coffee, pie, and finger food will be available. On Sunday, worship is at 9:30. The noon meal will be catered. Please RSVP for the meal by emailing holmesvillebrethrenchurch@gmail.com. A tour of church-related sites in Gage County will be available both days upon request through the church email.

Mennonite Mission Network still has spaces available on our transformative **Just Peace Pilgrimages** this summer and fall. *Racial Justice Pilgrimage to South Africa* and *Racial Justice Pilgrimage Exploring the Underground Railroad* are just two of the pilgrimages available. Visit mennonitemission.net/serve to see more and register.

2025 VBS is May 27 – May 30

Intentional faith formation experiences, such as **Vacation Bible School**, help children grow in their understanding of God's love for them. Faith formation is a lifelong process of developing a relationship with God. This relationship is nurtured within family and faith communities. Make plans to attend VBS! Online registration will be available soon.



The 2025 NE MCC Sale is March 28-29 at a new location: The Holthus Convention Center, York, NE!

- **Register** sale items online **by March 23**. Instructions and forms are at www.nebraskamccsale.org. After you submit your registration online, scroll down and click Print Registration Form. Attach the form to your item. If you'd like help registering items, fill out the paper registration forms on the display tables beginning March 16. Becky Riesen (402-239-9363) will then register information from the paper forms online. All items must be at FMC by Thursday, March 27 at 4 p.m. so the committee can load them for transport to the sale.
- **My Coins Count** collections are March 2, 9, 16, and 23. A "**My Coins Count 30 Days of Giving Calendar**" is in your mailbox. Follow the calendar and save your coins (and \$ bills!). Let the Committee know if you want to **match any Sunday's collection**.
- **MCC Kit Collection: We're collecting NEW** baby sleepers and onesies, sizes 6-12 months, in the narthex for MCC kits. The onesies and sleepers are part of the Infant Care Kits given to families who have been displaced by conflict or disaster. Last year MCC shipped 8,641 Infant Care Kits to Malawi, South Sudan, Ukraine, and Zambia. The onesies and sleepers are needed to complete the kits being assembled in Newton. More information about Infant Care Kits is at MCC.org. All items must be new.
- Please sign up to **help with** serving, setup, and/or cleanup for the **Windsor Loins Dinner** on the sheet on the bulletin board.
- Please sign up on the bulletin board to **bring pies, bread and jam or jelly**.
- **NE MCC Room Reservations:** Blocks of rooms are being held until March 8 at the Hampton Inn and Holiday Inn Express in York. Both are very close to the sale. **Mention NE MCC Relief Sale when making reservations.**
 - Hampton Inn: 402-362-0222. 2 queens \$149; 1 Queen \$139.
 - Holiday Inn Express: 402-745-6272. 2 queens \$140.

**--Committee Members: Larry & Kathy Thimm,
Daryl & Becky Riesen, Mike & Debbie Goossen**

*Nebraska Mennonite Relief Sale
is a 501(c)(3) tax-deductible
charitable organization



Nebraska
Mennonite Relief Sale

MCC Blessing Bids for 2025

Looking for giving options? MCC Blessing Bids allow you to donate online. Visit mcc.org/donate; designations can be noted in the "comments and instructions" box that is part of the online donation form. MCC follows Christ's example of love and compassion by responding to basic human needs and working for peace and justice. MCC works in 45 countries, partnering to respond to disasters, provide food, water, health, and education, and promote peace where conflict divides.

EMPOWERING FARMERS AND UNITING NEIGHBORS IN

RWANDA: Peace and Development Network (PDN) and other Rwandan organizations train farmers in conservation agriculture through farmer field schools. Each farmer trained in turn trains five other local farmers. Farmers receive a female goat or sheep to get manure and to make money for other basic family needs, such as their children's education. If that animal has offspring, they share the firstborn with a neighbor and can keep or sell the rest. \$40 buys one goat or one sheep. \$80 buys two animals for two farmers. Please designate your gift "Rwanda-Food and Livelihoods" to Rwanda to support this project. <https://mcc.org/our-stories/when-communi>

Farming Tools for Women in Chad: MCC partner Bureau d'Appui aux Organisations de Base (BAOBAB) works with farmers to increase crop yields in southwest Chad and raise healthy livestock, which has helped farmers diversify their income and better cope with unpredictable growing seasons. Two to three households share farming tools such as watering cans, hoes, shovels, rakes, wheelbarrows and sprayers. In the photo to the left, female participants learn to transplant cabbage and various peppers. Women working with BAOBAB are able to earn enough money daily to provide for their families. This program supports 280 families. \$64 provides a set of farming tools for two to three families to share. Designate your gift "Chad-Food and Livelihoods" to support this project.