

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

Serving Today: Speaker: Dan Kunzman
Worship Leader: Vern Jantzen Piano: CD
PowerPoint: Lori Thimm Audio: Jim Ensz
Hosts: Don & Judy Jantzen Video: John Thimm
Children's Story: Deb Goossen Ushers: Doug & Jake

Last Sunday's Attendance: 67 **Offering:** FMC \$2,555
Today's Offering: MMN **Next Sunday:** FMC and My Coins Count
My Coins Count: \$557.83 Matched by Gene & Pat Penner
and Marv & Lisa Goossen

Coming Up:

Sunday, March 23 9:30 am Children, Youth & Adult Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
Tuesday, March 25 1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying
7:00 pm Church Board meeting
Wednesday, March 26 6:30 pm Peace Club, Youth Group Games,
Young Adult Bible Study
Thursday, March 27 4:00 pm Packing of NE MCC Sale items
Friday, March 28 Nebraska MCC Sale
Saturday, March 29 Nebraska MCC Sale
Sunday, March 30 9:30 am Children, Youth & Adult Sunday School
10:30 am Worship

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 23, 2025

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: As we worship, Christ collides with our priorities.

P: We gather and pause from the important busyness of our lives.

L: Jesus reveals the depth of God's purposes.

P: Help us come to our senses by your Spirit.

All: For your reign, O God, help us celebrate being found as we worship you.

Prayer

Hymn: "God is Here Among Us"

VT 62

Confession and Assurance

All: Loving and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you.

L: We have not loved you with all our thoughts, words, and actions.

P: We have sinned through what we have chosen to do and what we have chosen to neglect.

L: We have not fully accepted your love for us. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

P: We prioritize the wrong things and the wrong people.

All: We repent before each other and before you, our loving God. Please help us open our hearts to your love. Help us bring our priorities in line with yours so we may better share your peace in your world, rejoicing in your name. Amen.

L: Now hear these **Words of Assurance:** God tells us that we are created in God's image. God created us for relationship with God and each other. In this, we know that God will never break our relationship. God's steadfast love endures forever.

Offering Hymn: "New Earth, Heavens New"

VT 377

Offering to Mennonite Mission Network

Children's Story

Scripture Reading: Matthew 22:29-40

Faith Story

Dan Kunzman

Hymn: "Gentle Shepherd, Come and Lead Us"

VT 718

Sharing and Prayer

Benediction

Sending Song: "Christ Has No Body Here but Ours"

VT 568

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.

Pastor Sarah's office hours are shifting to accommodate childcare. Her new scheduled hours are Sundays 9-12, Tuesday mornings 9-12, Wednesdays 1-8, and Fridays 9-2. Her hours are subject to shift depending on other meetings and events.

Save the Date! April 27 for an FMC Youth Group Fundraising Lunch here.

Safe Sanctuary Training- After the youth fundraiser at noon, on April 27, we will have Safe Sanctuary training. Annual training is required for all adults and youth in the congregation who are involved in care and activities for infants, children, youth, and handicapped individuals, including volunteers and employees. The training is encouraged for all congregants!

"Kids Meet Christ" is the new grant-funded worship initiative from Western District Conference. **You are invited** to celebrate the launch of the program and learn more on Saturday, May 3 from 11-3 at First Mennonite Church, Newton, KS. Debbie Goossen is attending. **If you would like to attend, please contact Debbie.** Participants will receive a kit of ready-to-use materials for children in worship! This is for anyone (pastors, Sunday School teachers, etc.) who's passionate about children's faith.

All items for the NE MCC Sale must be at FMC by 4 pm March 27.

A VBS volunteer sign up sheet is in your mailbox. We are asking mom's, dad's, grandma's, grandpa's and everyone in between to consider helping during VBS May 27 to the 30. Please return to Lori Thimm by April 13.
- Lori Thimm, Linsey Schardt and. Laura Williamson, VBS Committee

A Huge Thank You to all who helped clean the church and grounds!

Camp Mennoscah: Men & Boys Retreat is April 4-6, 2025. Register for this and **Summer Camp** now! FMC will pay registration for FMC children to attend Summer Camp. Register by April 1 if possible. Sponsorship: FMC

Mother To Mother is having a **Mother's Brunch fundraiser** on Saturday, May 3, 2025, at 11:00 AM at Vintage Venue in Beatrice. We are looking for corporate or individual sponsorships. If you are interested please contact Lori Thimm or Josh Janzen. Individual tickets will go on sale in April.

You're invited! **Holmesville Church of the Brethren's** 150th Anniv. Celebration weekend is March 29 & 30. Saturday's open house, 9-6, has historical displays and refreshments available. Worship on Sunday is 9:30 am. A catered meal follows. RSVP: holmesvillebrethrenchurch@gmail.com.

Greetings from Summit Street Church (SSC)! We invite you to two upcoming events, both will help us raise funds for our 28-year-old HVACs. **April 10-12**, SSC Community Garage Sale in our parking lot & fellowship hall. If you have items to donate, let us know. We hope to see you! **May 04**, at noon, we'll host a Taco Bar. A free-will offering will be accepted. All are welcome. If you have questions, please call Pastor Andrew at 402-320-8759 or andrewsdungan@gmail.com

MONDAYS-IN-LENT is a weekly series of ecumenical worship services at several churches of Beatrice. The series is March 10th - April 7. Worship is at noon at each church, with a light lunch at 12:30 pm. The free-will offering for the luncheon goes to the host's choice. The remaining host churches are: --March 24, Christ Church Episcopal, by Pastor Doris Martin
--March 31 at Centenary UMC, by Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler
--April 7, at First Christian, by Fr. Joseph Faulkner

Homestead Harmonizers 2025 Spring Show, *The Crooners- Songs of Sinatra and Crosby* is today at 2 p.m. at the Hevelone Center. Special guest performers are *The Storm Front*. \$12; 18 and under are free.

Pancake Feed: Ellis Methodist Church, March 30, 11-1. Free Will donation.

Fish Fry's every Friday, March 7 – April 11, 5:30 – 7:00 pm at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 6th & High. (Enter at NE School Doors). Baked & fried fish, sides, desserts & drinks \$12 Adults, \$6 kids 4-10, families \$40 max.

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

- **TODAY is the last day to register items online!** 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. **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. Following the “*My Coins Count 30 Days of Giving Calendar*” can help you 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 displaced families due to 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 Sale Room Reservations:** You may still be able to book rooms at the Hampton Inn and Holiday Inn Express in York. Both are very close to the sale site.
 - Hampton Inn: 402-362-0222. 2 queens \$149; 1 Queen \$139.
 - Holiday Inn Express: 402-745-6272. 2 queens \$140.

**--Committee Members: Marv & Lisa Goossen,
Larry & Kathy Thimm, Daryl & Becky Riesen**

*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.

NE MCC Auction Schedule: Thursday and Friday, March 28 & 29

Thursday, 4 pm: FMC Committee will be at FMC loading items for the sale.

Friday: 10-6 pm: Donation Check-In

4-7 pm Evening Meal: Walking Tacos; Pork Sandwiches

4-8 pm Booths Open

6-8 pm Friday Night Auction

Saturday: 7-9 am Pancake Breakfast

8-10 am Donation Check-In

8-4 pm Booths Open

8-4:30 pm Main Auction

11-noon Kid’s Auction

11-1 pm Noon Meals: Verenika; Windsor Loins;
BBP Chicken; Pork Sandwiches

**Auction Times may vary

**A surplus (leftover food) auction will follow the main auction with packaged leftovers from the meals as well as unsold booth items.

Items typically sold: Handmade quilts, Home Décor, Themed Baskets, Handcrafted items, Fine Art, tools, furniture, toys, and more.

For more information go to www.NebraskaMCC sale.org.