

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

Serving Today:

Pastor: Josh Janzen Worship Leader: Brandon Esau
PPT: Debbie Goossen Children's Story: Jim Ensz
Pianist: Jan Reimer Greeters: Bill & Barb Thimm
Live Stream: Lisa Goossen Audio: Jim Ensz
Ushers: John Regier and Bill Thimm Hosts: John & Zella Penner

Last Sunday: Offerings: WDC \$1865; FMC \$1575; MMN \$ 300.

Attendance: 70

Offering today: Mennonite Mission Network **Next Sunday:** FMC

Happening this week:

Sunday, March 26	9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship with Dedication of Baker Esau
Tuesday, March 28	1:30 p.m. WMS Quilting & Tying
Wednesday, March 29	6:30 pm Peace Club, JYF
Thursday, March 30	Noon: Deadline for NE MCC Sale items to be here
Friday & Saturday	NE MCC Sale
Sunday, April 2	9:30 a.m. Sunday School 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 30: Sue Gerber

- 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 would like a **PDF of the church directory** for your phone, please contact the office.
- Please contact Dan Kunzman or LeRoy Janzen if you have a task **Men's Brotherhood** can help with.

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

Pastor: Josh Janzen; 402-228-2052; pastorjosh@fmcbeatrice.org

Church Office: 402-251-7180

Website: fmcbeatrice.org **Church email:** office@fmcbeatrice.org

Deacons: Don Esau (402-223-9210), Vicki Hinz-Ensz (402-239-4174),
Sue Gerber (402-239-8857)



Welcome to First Mennonite Church

March 26, 2023

Welcome

Brandon Esau

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 130)

L: Out of the depths we cry to you.

P: O Lord, hear our cry.

L: If you kept a record of sins, who would stand a chance?

P: O Lord, hear our cry.

L: But with you there is forgiveness.

ALL: We wait for you, O Lord. We hope in your word.

Blessed be your name.

Prayer

Brandon Esau

Hymn: "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

VT 182

Confession

L: Lord, our lives are dry bones. We are cruel in our words and indifferent in our actions. We confess to the Lord....

(Silent Confession and Prayer)

L: Breathe on us, Lord. Put your Spirit within us and make us alive.

All: We place our hope in you. Amen.

Offering to Mennonite Mission Network and My Coins Count

Offering Hymn: "Blessed Be Your Name"

VT 637

Child Dedication of Baker Hamilton Esau

Introduction

Prayer

Parental Sharing

Parental & Family Covenants

Congregation Covenant

All: As members of your congregation, we are the Christian community into which Baker has been born.

Your children are our children. We celebrate the gift of family, and with joy we commit ourselves, to share in your and Baker's nurture and well-being. We will support—by our words and example—your efforts to provide a loving and caring home, where trust in God grows, and Christ's way is chosen. We pray that our shared life and witness will help make your task as parents both joyful and fruitful and that you can continue to grow in faithfulness as a family.

Act of Consecration

Congregational Blessing

L: First Mennonite Church, this is Baker.

P: *The Lord bless you and keep you!*

Children's Story and Prayer

Jim Ensz

Scripture: John 11:17-27, 32-35, 38-45

Sermon: "Called to Life"

Testimony (Guiding questions)

1. Have you ever experienced dryness or hopelessness in your life? Could you tell us some details about that experience?
2. How did God enter your situation and make a shift from dryness to abundance?
3. If there is no "dead end" in the lives of those who put their trust in God, then, from your experience, how does God help us make a U-turn?

Hymn: "New Earth, Heavens New"

VT 377

Sharing and Prayer

Sending

Welcome! We're glad you're here! The 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; under the More tab select Documents, then Church docs, minutes and bulletins.

Today, Children's Sunday School will hear how *Jesus welcomes an extravagant love*, as in John 12:1-8, Mary anointing Jesus. Next Sunday, Palm Sunday, they will hear about Jesus as a servant, the last supper and His death. The Children's Choir will sing during worship next Sunday.

The Adult Sunday School will begin discussion on Chapter 1 of the book *Rethinking Life: Embracing the Sacredness of Every Person* by Shane Claiborne. Please pick up a copy in the Sunday School room downstairs and join us.

Maundy Thursday Soup Supper

There will be a soup meal in the Church basement as part of our Maundy Thursday Worship Service on April 6 at 6:00pm. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Narthex if you can bring soup and/or bread to share. Worship Council appreciates your help. On that evening, there will be a time for foot washing before the meal. There will be a short service in the Sanctuary following the meal with Scripture readings to honor Good Friday. If you have any questions please reach out to Amanda Thimm, Neal Trantham, or Kathy Casey. Thank you.

The Burwood Bookstore would like to thank the Men's Brotherhood, specifically Doug Casey, for building six double sided bookshelves. Pastor Josh and Ross Reimer helped with the finish work. These shelves are much sturdier and accommodate our larger books.

Peace Club Members and Prayer Partners will meet for their final time this session on Wednesday, April 5 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. for pizza supper and games. RSVP Regrets only to Judy Jantzen.

Please return the **VBS volunteer forms** from your mailbox to Darcy Esau by April 2. Thank you!

The Burwood Bookstore would like to thank the Men's Brotherhood, specifically Doug Casey, for building six double side bookshelves. Pastor Josh and Ross Reimer helped with the finish work. These shelves are much sturdier and accommodate our larger books.

We extend our sympathy to Marj Epp at the death of her brother, Franklin Damrow, and to Doug and Kathy Casey at the death of Kathy's sister Donna's husband, Gary Fox. Please keep them in your prayers.

WANTED! Baseball Gear! If you have any baseball gear taking up space at home, donations are being taken for the new arrivals to play this spring and summer. You can put in on the floor under the mailboxes. Thanks! (Questions? Contact Dan Kunzman.)

FMC is offering **camp scholarships** to Mennonite affiliated Church Camps to youth of First Mennonite to cover the registration fee. Online registration for Camp Mennoscah summer camps is open. **Please contact the church office to let us know you've registered.**

Delegate Volunteers needed! The **MC USA 2023 Delegate Assembly** is July 7-8 at the Kansas City (Missouri) Convention Center. Three adults and 1 youth can represent FMC. FMC will pay your registration fee. Info is at mennoniteusa.org. Talk with Church Chair Jerry Reimer if interested.

Climate Summit for Youth and Young Adults on July 7 will address how climate change has created a spiritual and human crisis. Experts in climate change, spiritual activism and social justice will explore ways that youth and young adults ages 14-25 can put their faith to work to address this crisis. In the Kansas City Convention Center from 9-5. Register at mennonitetusa.org. (\$45, includes lunch) Youth sponsors are welcome to attend.

Homestead Harmonizers 2023 Spring Show, Folk Songs & Sea Shanties is March 25, 7 pm, and March 26 at 2 pm at the Hevelone Center, Beatrice High School. Tickets: \$10 in Advance; \$12 at the Door. 18 & under free.

CAMP MENNOSCAH NEWS (campmennoscah.org; 620-297-3290)

- **Men and Boys Retreat** March 31-April 2
- **Kitchen staff and nurses** needed for camps June 4 -July 28.
- **Youth Summer Camp Registration** is open!

NEBRASKA MENNONITE 2023 RELIEF SALE

March 31, 4:00 p.m. and April 1, 8:30 a.m.

All proceeds benefit MCC to meet emergency needs throughout the world.

MCC My Coins Count: Thank you to all who donated to my coins count last week! \$247.37 was collected. Thank you to Jim & Vicki Ensz and Larry & Kathy Thimm for matching the March 19 offering! If you would like to match the collection for one of the Sundays in March, please let Gene & Pat Penner or Marv & Lisa Goossen know.

MCC Auction Items: You may register your auction items at <https://www.nebraskamccsale.org/register> and bring them to the church. If you prefer, you may register your item by filling out and attaching the paper registration form found in your church mailbox. **The deadline to bring your items to the church is Noon on Thursday, March 30.**

COFFEE BOOTH Serving coffee, flavored coffee, Iced coffee, & hot cocoa.

Share our **[Facebook page, Nebraska Mennonite Relief Sale](#)**

MCC Auction Food and Windsor Loin Sign-up Sheets: There are sign-up sheets on the bulletin board for Bread (8), Jam/Jelly (3), and Pies -no cream pies (16) for the auction, and for help with the Windsor Loin Dinner.

Quilts may still be registered but will not be included in the auction book.

MCC HYGIENE KITS: if you would like to help with the kits, please place items from the list in a ziplock bag and put it in the black bin on the FMC auction table. Contents are:

- 1 adult-size toothbrush (in manufacturer's packaging),
- 1 Large wrapped Bar Bath Soap
- 1 Nail Clipper (good quality),
- 1 Hand Towel (medium weight, dark or bright color, size approx. 16" x 26",
- 1 Wide-toothed comb (6-8")

FOOD!

Friday Evening 4-7 p.m. serving Sloppy Joes, hotdogs, beans, chips & cookies. Gluten-free items will be available.

Saturday Breakfast 7-9 am, Pancakes eggs and sausage.

Saturday Lunch 11-1:30 pm, Verenika, BBQ Chicken, Windsor Loin

AUCTION TIMES:

Friday 7-8 pm Farr Building Auction, selling items such as meats, crafts, tools, home décor and much more.

Saturday, 8:30 am Farr Building general auction begins

9:00 am Quilt auction begins in the Commercial Building

10:00 am Art auction begins in the Farr Building, followed by general auction.

11:00 am Children's Auction in the Commercial building

12:00 pm Quilt auction resumes in the Commercial Building

12:30 pm Catalogued quilts sell auction

The Kids Corner will be open on Saturday only, with various activities for the younger salegoers.

Market Place will have Cheese, dried fruits, nuts, Frozen pork products & Baked goods., Please make your favorite baked goods to donate.

Order T-Shirts online at www.nebraskamccsale.org. Shirts ordered **after March 21 will be delivered at a later date.**

You can help!

Thursday, morning March 30, 8:30 to set up for the sale.

Help to distribute items to the booths Thursday and Friday.

Help is needed to catch bids during the auctions.

Lent 2023

With our Ash Wednesday service this past week, we as the church have now entered the season of Lent. In the Lenten Season we begin to focus more on the life, teachings, and passion of Jesus as we journey alongside him to the cross on Good Friday and celebrate his resurrection on Easter Sunday. Our sermon theme for Lent is three-fold. Created in the image of God, Shaped by Jesus, Called by the Spirit. Each Sunday of Lent, we will explore different ways in which we have been created, shaped, and called.

As a part of this, you may notice that the cross is draped with different colors of cloth. The colors were chosen to reflect the theme for each Sunday: red for testing/temptation, orange for new birth (sunrise), blue for water, yellow for light, green for life, purple for worship and Palm Sunday, black for Good Friday. As we progress through Lent, each Sunday a layer of cloth will be removed to reveal more of what is underneath. This serves as a visual reminder of what we are moving towards through each week of Lent.

FMC Lenten art exhibit

Each and every person of FMC is hereby invited (maybe even challenged) to create a piece of art (painting, craft, sculpture, etc.) connected to one of the Lenten or Easter worship themes for this year. Over the season participants can let pastor Josh know what they would like to contribute. Art should be brought to the church before Maundy Thursday, April 6, so the exhibit can be prepared. The plan is to have the art gallery in place and open April 6 through Easter Sunday April 9. I want to also give special encouragement to children and youth to contribute your artwork. The hope is to have all ages of our church community represented. Contact Pastor Josh if you have any questions, or if you have artwork to contribute!

Alzheimer's Support Group at Beatrice Senior Center, 101 N 25th St

- 2nd Tuesday of every month, 2 p.m.
- Hosted by Whispering Winds Cottage, LLC, Phone: 402-228-6354
- Dates for 2023
 - April 11
 - May 9
 - June 13
 - July 11
 - August 8
 - September 12
 - October 10
 - November 14
 - December 12