

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

**Serving Today:** Pastor: Josh Janzen  
Worship Leader: Rodney Ensz Piano: Erin Vanderschaaf  
PowerPoint: Eli Vanderschaaf Audio: Jim Ensz  
Hosts: Don & Judy Jantzen Video: John Thimm  
Children's Story: Erin Vanderschaaf Ushers: Doug & Jake

**Last Sunday's Attendance:** 87 **Offerings:** FMC \$4,772  
**Today's Offering:** WDC **Next Sunday:** FMC and My Coins Count  
**My Coins Count:** \$550.50. John & Lori Thimm will match this.

**Coming Up:**

Sunday, March 9 9:30 am Children, Youth, & Adult Sunday School  
10:30 am Worship with Pastor Sarah preaching  
Tuesday, March 11 1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying  
Wednesday, March 12 6:30 pm Peace Club & Youth Group  
Thursday, March 13 5-8 pm **Quilt Tying Blitz!** Pizza served at 6 pm  
Saturday, March 15 2-6 pm Birthday & Anniv. Party at Josh & Steph's  
Sunday, March 16 9:30 am Adult Sunday School only  
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](http://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](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)

**Church Office:** 402-251-7180 **Email:** [office@fmcbeatrice.org](mailto: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 9, 2025

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: Christ collides with our bias. Who will follow Christ?

**P: We will follow for sure, but we will tell you where to bring down your fire.**

L: Jesus says, "Follow me."

**P: We will follow when our calculations are finished.**

L: Christ collides with our leanings.

**P: For your reign, O God, help us put a hand on your plow and not look back.**

**All: Guide us as we worship you.**

Prayer

Hymn: "Come, Let Us Build a House"

VT 36

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 neighbor as ourself.

**P: We cling to our assumptions and insist that our point of view is the correct one.**

**All: We repent before each other and before you, our loving God. Please help us open our hearts to your love. Help us shake free from our biases and assumptions 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: "Praise, I Will Praise You Lord"** VT 131  
Offering to Western District Conference

### Children's Story

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 10:25-37

**Sermon: "Christ Collides: Breaking Biases"** Pastor Josh

**Hymn: "Jesus Calls Us"** VT 30

### 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](http://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!

**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!

**Easter Lily orders** are due March 19. The price is \$20 without a bow and \$23 with a bow. Forms & envelopes (by the mailboxes) go in Zella'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.

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

Hope Crisis Center **'Put Your Foot Down Against Sexual Assault'** 10K/2 Mile virtual Fun Run/Walk entry forms are available at [hopecrisiscenter.org](http://hopecrisiscenter.org).

**Kids! FMC will pay your fees to attend Camp Menno'scah this summer!** Please register online by April 1 if possible. Put FMC Beatrice on the scholarship line. Let the office know you've registered.

### FMC General Fund Summary February 2025

General Fund Balance 1/31/25	4,173.14
February general fund offerings	10,020.50
February expenses	<u>(20,656.28)</u>
General Fund Balance 2/28/25	(6,462.64)

You're invited! **Holmesville Church of the Brethren** 150<sup>th</sup> Anniv. Celebration. Open House weekend is March 29 & 30. Saturday's open house is from 9-6, with historical displays and refreshments available. A catered meal follows Sunday's 9:30 worship. RSVP for the meal at [holmesvillebrethrenchurch@gmail.com](mailto:holmesvillebrethrenchurch@gmail.com).

**Greetings from Summit Street Church (SSC)! We cordially invite you** to two upcoming events, both will allow us to raise funds for our HVACs that were originally installed in 1997.

**April 10-12** SSC will hold a community garage sale in its parking lot and fellowship hall. If you have items you'd like to donate, please let me know. Otherwise, we'd just like to see you.

**May 04**, at noon, we are hosting 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](mailto:andrewsdungan@gmail.com)

**MONDAYS-IN-LENT**, a 5-week series of ecumenical worship services sponsored by several churches of Beatrice. The series begins on March 10th and continues through April 7. Meet at noon at each church, with a light lunch served at 12:30pm. The free will offering for the luncheon goes to the host's choice, which will be listed in the program.

The host churches and guest homilists are:  
--Mar. 10, St. John Lutheran ELCA, by Rev. Dr. Paixao Baptista  
--Mar. 17, at First Presbyterian, by Rev. Robert Schlismann  
--Mar. 24, at Christ Church Episcopal, by Pastor Doris Martin  
--Mar. 31 at Centenary UMC, by Rev. Dr. Renae Koehler  
--April 7, at First Christian, by Fr. Joseph Faulkner

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

**Fish Fry's every Friday**, March 7 – April 11, 5:30 – 7:00 pm at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 6<sup>th</sup> & 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!

- **Register** sale items online **by March 23**. Instructions and forms are at [www.nebraskamccsale.org](http://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 Loin 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 site. **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: 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](http://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.

### TRAINING TAILORS IN SOUTH SUDAN

The Women's Empowerment Program empowers displaced women by providing tailoring and business skills trainings, along with financial support. Each year, 30 women learn how to design, size and assemble garments, and receive small sewing machines that help them start their own tailoring operations. Additionally, a revolving fund provides seed capital to 50 women each year for starting or expanding small businesses. Annet Wani (left) has completed the trainings and works making children's clothes. "I can take care of myself and send money to my children who live with my mother in a northern Ugandan refugee camp." \$150 buys a sewing machine. Please designate your gift "South Sudan- Food and Livelihoods" to support this project.

### EARLY EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN IN LEBANON

This project, implemented by MCC partner Tahaddi, aims to improve educational outcomes each year for 55 economically and socially at-risk children (ages 3-6) from Hay el Gharbeh, an impoverished informal settlement in southern Beirut. Through a three-year bilingual (English/Arabic) pre-primary education program, children receive the social and academic skills needed for success in formal schooling. In this photo, a third-year student participates in a fun bubbles experiment in summer 2024. \$25 provides classroom supplies for at-risk children. Please designate your gift "Lebanon-Education" to support this project.