

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

Serving Today: Pastor: Josh Janzen
Worship Leader: Vern Jantzen Hosts: Justin & Linsey Schardt
Piano: Karen Wiebe Power point: Debbie Goossen
Audio: Marv Goossen Video: Lisa Goossen
Kids Story: Grace Tegtmeier
Ushers: Brandon Esau & Rick Brethouwer

Last Sunday: Attendance: 81 **Offering:** FMC: \$5,227
Tech Fund: \$225 MMN: \$300
Today's Offering: Mennonite Mission Network **Next Sunday:** FMC

Coming Up:

Sunday, May 24 9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
Tuesday, May 26-29 8:30-11:30 am Vacation Bible School
Tuesday, May 26 No WMS this week
Sunday, May 31 9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:30 am VBS Program/Worship
Sunday, June 7 10:30 Baptism/Worship at Baade's Pond

May Birthdays

1: Mike Goossen 7: Ann Regier Scheer 9: Justin Schardt
9: Shelton Crawford 10: Elaine Penner 13: Brandon Esau
14: Laura Williamson 15: Jude VanderSchaaf
16: Chris Tegtmeier 19: Dolores Jantzen, Erin VanderSchaaf
23: Alma Reimer 26: Tim Lichti 28: Rick Brethouwer

- Our services are on **YouTube:** www.youtube.com/c/fmcbeatrice
- The **bulletin** is at fmcbeatrice.org under documents.
- If you would like to be on the **Prayer Chain**, see Sue Gerber
- If you use the **nursery**, please clean up after using it. Thanks!
- 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 for the food pantry may be put in the offering plate.
- **Men's Brotherhood Project?** Contact Dan Kunzman or LeRoy Janzen.

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. Her office hours are generally Sundays & Tuesdays, 9-12; Wednesdays, 1-8; Fridays 9-2
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:** Brett Esau (402-520-9100)

Welcome to First Mennonite Church
May 24, 2026 PENTECOST



Welcome

Call to worship

L: Come, people of the Spirit— the wind is stirring, the flame descends.

P: We gather. We watch. We listen. We long to be kindled anew.

L: The fire of God does not remain above us—
it moves from head to heart, from soul to stride.

P: Let the flame fall within us.

**Let us become the fire—alive with the Spirit,
carriers of light in a shadowed world.**

L: This is the day of Pentecost. This is the moment of holy flame.

All: Come, Holy Spirit— Ignite our hearts and blaze within us.

Prayer

Hymn 50: "Spirit, Working in Creation"

Confession

L: Lord God, we gather on this Day of Pentecost, remembering the fire that fell — and confessing that we have sometimes chosen the cold.

P: We have known your Spirit, Lord, and pulled back from the flame.

L: We confess that we have kept our faith at a comfortable distance — in our heads but not our hearts, in our words but not our lives.

**P: We have wanted your warmth without your transformation.
We have sought your comfort but resisted your consuming.**

L: We confess that in the ordinary days, the busy, scattered, ordinary days, we have let the fire go quiet. We have chosen distraction over presence, busyness over prayer, safety over surrender.

**P: Forgive us, Lord, for the calculation in our surrender,
for willing to be consumed, but not entirely.**

L: We confess that we have not always watched for your flames in the faces around us, or listened for your voice through the voices of others. We have walked past burning bushes. We have missed the wind.

**P: Breathe on us again, Holy Spirit.
Kindle in us what fear and busyness have quieted.**

L: Merciful God, we come to you not as those who have it together, but as those who are learning, still learning, what it means to yield.

**All: We lay ourselves before you. Consume what needs consuming.
Transfigure what remains. Make us, by your grace, all flame.**

Assurance of Pardon

L: Hear the good news: the Spirit of God does not abandon those who wander. The fire that fell at Pentecost has not gone out.

God does not wait for our perfection before offering grace

**P: God meets us in our moderation, our half-measures,
our honest *not yet*, and says: *this is exactly where the fire begins.***

L: In the name of Jesus Christ, who baptizes with the Holy Spirit and with fire, you are forgiven, you are loved, and you are not finished becoming.

P: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Offering Hymn 737: “Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

(Offering for Mennonite Mission Network)

Children’s Story

Scripture Readings: Acts 2:1-4 Philippians 4:4-7

Book of Belonging p. 258

Sermon: “Becoming All Flame”

Pastor Josh

Hymn 57: “Holy Spirit, Come with Power”

Special Music by Brett & Caleb Klingenberg

Sharing and Prayer

Benediction

Sending Song 827: “Move In Our Midst”

Passing the Peace

Welcome to all worshiping with us here and on YouTube. For easy access, bookmark this link: www.youtube.com/c/fmcbeatrice and “Like” it and subscribe. The bulletin is at fmcbearice.org under the documents tab.

Vacation Bible School Snacks! Cookies or donations to purchase snacks are requested! Please talk to Kathy Casey if you’d like to donate.

Vacation Bible School “Kingdom Quest” is almost here!

Get ready for a fun week filled with adventure and faith!

Tuesday, May 26- Friday, May 29 from 8:30-11:30 AM
Be sure to join us for the VBS Program Sunday, May 31st.

VBS Offerings are for the Community Food Pantry. Each day we will track our progress with fun updates & incentives to see how close we are to our goal. Each item donated = 1 point. Every \$1 donated = 2 points. If we reach our goal, Pastor Josh has agreed to take on a **HOT SAUCE CHALLENGE!** 🌶️💧 **Suggested items to bring:** taco shells/seasoning, soups, peanut butter/jelly, pop tarts, pancake mix/syrup, cereal, ramen noodles, pizza crust mix/sauce, graham/saltine crackers, hamburger/tuna helper, canned juices, toilet paper, laundry soap, bars of soap, shampoo.

Baptisms will take place on June 7th, 10:30 am, at the Baade’s farm. Please bring a chair and dress for the outdoors. There will be a walk to the pond during the service for the baptisms. Alternative transportation will be available for those who need it.

Do you have a **favorite Bible verse** you would love to hear preached on? **My summer sermon series** is focused on favorite Bible verses, exploring what those beloved verses mean in the context of the whole chapter and story of Scripture. Submit your verse suggestions during the next weeks and into the summer! You can email, text, call, or write them down and place them in the offering plate. I look forward to hearing what Scripture has been meaningful to you. - Pastor Josh

7 FMC Youth are registered to attend Mennonite Camps this summer. FMC pays for kids’ registration and a T-shirt. **If you’d like to contribute to the Camp Fund, please put Camp Fund on the memo line.**

We want to thank everyone who sent us so many helpful things in the last months since my surgery: delicious food, cards, visits, great thoughts and prayers. My voice is not normal yet but I have finished my voice therapy. It has all been much more involved than we expected but we want to thank you all for all you have done to help me. It has been so helpful. Thank you so much. – Duane & Doris Claassen

Beatrice Farmer’s Market: Thursdays, thru October 8, 4-6:30 pm, 6th & High St.

Diapers size 3,4,& 5, and wipes for NE Early Childhood Development may be left in the box in the coat closet. Questions? Talk to Shana Ens.

FMC General Fund Summary for April 2026

Balance 3/31/2026	\$ 3,665.73
April revenue	26,538.00
April expenses	<u>(16,748.29)</u>
Net Income for April	9,789.71
General Fund Balance 4/30/2026	\$ 13,455.44

Constitutional changes necessary for Safe Church Policy: A congregational meeting will be held on **September 13, 2026** following worship to review the changes needed to the Constitution and/or Bylaw's to adopt the new Safe Church Policy. A review of updates needed in other areas of the Constitution and/or Bylaw's (being done by a committee headed by Pastor Josh) will also be available that day. The congregation will not vote on acceptance of these changes at this meeting but will receive and can review the changes before the acceptance vote at the January 2027 annual meeting.

Join 'United Women in Faith' at Centenary UMC June 4 at 9:30 a.m. (Meal is \$10). Program is "Back to the Beach:" A Century of Fashion. RSVP by noon June 2nd to centenaryumc29@gmail.com or 402-223-3424.

As Chairman of the Mission Peace and Service Council, Throughout the year, I will feature a Sharing Time "Mission Moment" or brief notes in the bulletin. Today's note is from Marisa Smucker, Executive Director of the Mennonite Mission Network (MMN). At the end of her note she lists the MMN service opportunities. If you are interested in these opportunities, visit their website at: www.mennonitemission.net. – Dorothy Zimmerman



Is service for you or for me?

When people prepare for a service or mission trip, especially for a short period of time, they often focus on the "me" part of that trip. What do I pack? What will the schedule look like? What do I want to accomplish while I'm there? If it is a new experience, they may worry about culture and customs. Even when committing to a longer stay, the focus remains on the "me" part — "What will I do?" "How can I use my skills and talents to make a difference?"

But how often do we pause and consider the power of just being there? Of learning from others, letting them show us who they are, and allowing them to teach us and guide us? In my experience learning to live in Costa Rica — my birth country — as an adult, local women proudly told me, "¡Tenemos que enseñarte a ser Tica!" (We need to teach you to be Tica!*) In that moment, my attitude shifted from figuring things out on my own to opening myself to their guidance and friendship. This kind of mutual learning lies at the heart of Mennonite Mission Network's approach to mission and service. We call it mutuality — a togetherness in which each one of us is giving and receiving. Each of us brings something unique to mission or service.

Our service programs — **international mission, Just Peace Pilgrimages, Mennonite Voluntary Service, Service Adventure, SOOP and Youth Venture** — create space to learn from and serve one another.

-----by Marisa Smucker, Executive Director Mennonite Mission Network