

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

**Serving Today:** Pastor: Josh Janzen  
Worship Leader: Kyle Riesen Hosts: Brad & Amanda Thimm  
Piano: Erin Vanderschaaf Power point: Deb Goossen  
Audio: Jim Ensz Video: Pam Kunzman  
Ushers: Jake Janzen, Justin Schardt Children's Story: Grace Tegmeier

**Last Sunday: Attendance:** 103 **Offering:** Food Pantry: \$2505;  
FMC \$500

**Today's Offering:** FMC **Next Sunday:** Western District Conference

**Coming Up:**

Sunday, May 4 9:30 am Children, Youth, Young Adult, &  
Adult Sunday School  
10:30 am Worship  
Tuesday, May 6 1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying  
Wednesday, May 7 6:30 pm Meal and Community Event  
Sunday, May 11 9:30 am Mother's Day Breakfast  
Adult Sunday School  
10:30 am Worship

**May Birthdays**

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

- 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). Her office hours are  
generally Sundays & Tuesdays, 9-12; Wednesdays, 1-8; Fridays 9-2

**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  
May 4, 2025

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: Come, beloved of God, to the shore of grace. Jesus is already here  
– waiting beside the fire, calling you by name.

**P: We come with questions and with quiet, with hearts full of  
wonder and wounds that still ache.**

L: Come with your unfinished stories, your doubts, your hopes. The  
risen Christ meets us not in perfection, but in presence.

**P: We come to see, to hear, to follow.**

L: Come, for breakfast is prepared, and love still calls out: *"Follow  
me."*

**ALL: Let us worship the One who writes the rest of the story.**

Prayer

**Hymn: "Here in this Place"**

VT 10

Confession and Assurance

L: Let us confess the places in our lives that still need healing, the  
pages that feel unfinished, the chapters we try to forget.

**P: Risen Christ,**

**You meet us in our failure, but we often hide from your grace.**

**You call us to follow, but we hesitate, unsure or ashamed.**

**You prepare a place for us at the fire,  
but we struggle to believe we belong.**

**Forgive us for unfinished prayers, unopened hearts,  
and unfollowed paths.**

**Meet us again this day – in the ordinary, in the silence,  
in your Word – and restore us with your love.**

L: Here is the good news:

Jesus does not wait for perfect faith or flawless disciples.  
He comes with bread and fire, grace and truth.

He restores what was broken.  
He redeems what we thought was lost.  
He says again: "Follow me."

**ALL: Thanks be to God – Our story is not over.  
Grace has the final word.**

**Offering Hymn: "Let the Lower Lights Be Burning"** see insert

Offering is for First Mennonite Church

### Children's Story

**"Lessons About Love"** sung by the children

**"Let's Sing A Song About Jesus"** sung by the children

**Scripture Reading: John 21:15-25**

**Sermon: "The Rest of the Story"** Pastor Josh

**Hymn: "You Have Come to the Lakeshore"** VT 283

**Sharing and Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Sending Song: "The Lord Lift You Up"** VT 832

**Passing the Peace**

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**Welcome to those here and those watching on YouTube** (search for FMCBeatrice). The bulletin is at [fmcbeatrice.org](http://fmcbeatrice.org) under the documents tab.

**Attention all Moms of children and youth in Sunday School:** You are invited to **"Muffins and Memories with Mom"** on Sunday, May 11; 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall for Mother's Day. Come join your children in a celebration!

**Join us for our last Community Event of the school year on Wednesday at 6:30!** Celebrate the year with pizza, conversation, and a few games. We will also gather feedback on community events. If you have ideas or suggestions, we'd love to hear them! Thank you all for such enthusiastic participation in our community events this year; we are grateful for the opportunity to spend time together with all age groups in our church community.

**VBS 2025!! May 27-30, 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.**



Let waves of wonder wash over you as you get out into God's creation this summer at VBS! Be inspired by the beauty and majesty of what God has made. At Waves of Wonder VBS, children will explore scriptures in which God provides water for plants and animals. They will visit the wilderness and miraculously receive water from a rock. They will take a boat ride with Jesus and weather a wavy storm and even imagine a new heaven and a new earth where all are invited to receive life-giving water. Through worship and drama, Bible study, art and science explorations, and active games, children will deepen their understanding of the importance of water and be invited to join God in caring for this precious natural resource. **VBS is for children who are Kindergarten eligible through the completion of 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Register online, with the QR code on the bulletin insert, or with registration forms in the narthex. Parental consent forms are required for each child.** Consent forms are attached to the paper forms in the narthex or can be printed off and a photo of the completed form emailed to [office@fmcbeatrice.org](mailto:office@fmcbeatrice.org).

**CampMennoscah.org:** Register online for **Summer Camp!** FMC will pay for your registration and a T-shirt. Put FMC Beatrice in the sponsorship line, then let the church office know you've signed up. Camp is looking for weekly music leaders. Contact them if you can help!

**Summit Street Church (SSC) All are welcome to a Taco Bar on May 04,** at noon at 1220 Summit St. Free-will donation. Proceeds will go towards replacement of our aged HVACs. We hope to see you!



**Support Local Farmers at the Beatrice Farmers Market!**

The PLANT Alliance (Promoting Local Agriculture and Nourishing Traditions) invites you to visit the **Beatrice Farmers Market** every **Thursday from May 15 to October 9, from 4:00 to 6:30 PM** at the corner of **6th and High**. Come support local farmers and bakers, shop for high-quality fresh food, and enjoy fun activities for kids. It's a great way to nourish your family and your community!

# Vacation Bible School At First Mennonite Church

## WAVES OF WONDER

Tuesday-Friday, May 27-30, 8:30 to 11:30

- For kids who are **Kindergarten eligible to 5<sup>th</sup> grade completion**
- Please **register** online at [fmcbeatrice.org](http://fmcbeatrice.org), with forms from the narthex, or with the QR code below, ASAP
- Current **Parental Consent Form** must be completed for each child. (Available on our website or at the church)
- VBS participants and families will have a **roller-skating party with pizza on Friday, May 30, after VBS until 2:00 pm at the Rolla Rena in Beatrice**
- **Donations** of cookies, bars, or cash are needed for snack time
- **VBS Program** is Sunday, June 1, at 10:30 at FMC
- **Offerings** are for the **diaper bank** at Mother to Mother, Beatrice. Our goal is 1,000 larger size diapers (sizes 4, 5, 6, 7, or pullups), 25 packages of **wipes**, and \$3,000 **cash donations** for the week.
- And a **HUGE THANK YOU** to all our **VOLUNTEERS!!** We couldn't do it without **YOU!!**



35 LET THE LOWER LIGHTS BE BURNING P. P. Bliss

P. P. B.

1. Bright-ly beams our Fa-ther's mer-cy From His lighthouse ev - er - more;  
2. Dark the night of sin has set-tled, Loud the an - gry bil-lows roar;  
3. Trim your fee - ble lamp, my brother! Some poor sea - man, tempest-tossed,

But to us He gives the keep-ing Of the lights a - long the shore.  
Ea - ger eyes are watching, long-ing, For the lights a - long the shore.  
Try - ing now to make the har-bor, In the dark-ness may be lost.

CHORUS

Let the low - er lights be burning! Send a gleam a-cross the wave!

Some poor fainting, struggling sea-man You may res - cue, you may save.

Text: Spanish; Music: Cesareo Gabarain, 1979. Both © 1979 Cesareo Gabarain & Ediciones Paulinas (admin. OCP Publications) Reprinted & Streamed with permission under One License A-740029. All rights reserved.