

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

Serving Today:

Pastor: Josh Janzen . Worship Leader: Kyle Riesen
Pianist: Erin VanderSchaaf Hosts: Brad & Amanda Thimm
Power point: Deb Goossen Audio: Larry Thimm
Ushers: Brandon Esau & Jim Ensز Video: Henry Trantham
Children's Time: Grace Tegtmeier

Last Sunday Attendance: 92 **Offering:** FMC: \$3,614

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

Coming Up:

Sunday, Nov. 9 9:30 am Youth, Adult Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am JYF/SYF Soup Fundraiser
Tuesday, Nov 11 1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying
Wednesday, Nov 12 6:30 pm Peace Club, SYF, JYF
Nov 13 & 14 Meat Canning in Milford
Sunday, Nov 16 9:30 am Youth & Adult Sunday School
Baptism Class
10:30 am Worship with
Ivan Reimer Dedication

November Birthdays:

2: Immanuel Stutzman 3: Brad Thimm
5: Becky Riesen 14: Ivan Reimer
18: Kathy Casey, Katie Jantzen 24: Linsey Schardt
27: Nathanael Stutzman 29: Lesley Trantham, Aaron Jantzen
30: Don Diller

- **Welcome** to all who are worshiping with us here and on YouTube (search for FMCBeatrice). The bulletin is at fmcbeatrice.org under documents.
- 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 may go in the offering plate.
- **Men's Brotherhood Project?** Contact Dan Kunzman or LeRoy Janzen.
- Last to leave the church? Please **turn off all lights!**
- Visit mennowdc.org to see what's new at Western District Conference.

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-Ensز (402-239-4174), **Church Chair:** Jerry Reimer (402-239-2716)



Welcome to First Mennonite Church

November 9, 2025

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: Come, all you who seek the blessing of Christ – not the easy blessing of comfort or applause, but the deep blessing of truth and transformation.

P: We come to listen for the voice of Jesus – the One who calls the poor in spirit blessed, the One who meets us in our grief, our hunger, our hope.

L: Christ stands at the margins, welcoming the meek, lifting up the merciful, calling for the peacemakers.

P: We come to walk the road of faithfulness – even when it's lonely, even when it costs us.

L: Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.

ALL: We come with joy, rooted in Christ, ready to live the upside-down way of the kingdom.

Prayer

Hymn 10: "Here in This Place"

Confession and Assurance

L: Blessed are the poor in spirit, but we confess that we have chased strength and self-sufficiency.

P: Lord, have mercy. Make us humble and honest.

L: Blessed are those who mourn, but we confess that we have rushed past pain – our own and others'.

P: Christ, have mercy. Teach us to grieve with hope.

L: Blessed are the meek, but we confess that we have chosen control over gentleness.

P: Lord, have mercy. Shape our power into love.

L: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, but we confess our appetite has often dulled with comfort.

P: Christ, have mercy. Rekindle our longing for justice.

L: Blessed are the merciful, but we confess that we withhold mercy – especially from those who hurt us.

P: Lord, have mercy. Soften our hearts again.

L: Blessed are the pure in heart, but we confess that we have been divided in mind and motive.

P: Christ, have mercy. Create in us clean hearts, O God.

L: Blessed are the peacemakers, but we confess that we have chosen silence or blame instead of reconciliation.

P: Lord, have mercy. Make us your instruments of peace.

L: Blessed are the persecuted, but we confess that we have sometimes chosen safety over faithfulness.

P: Christ, have mercy. Give us courage to witness with joy.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

L: People of God, heart the good news: Christ does not call the perfect – he calls the faithful. He does not bless us because we’ve gotten everything right, but because we belong to him.

P: In Christ, we are forgiven. In Christ, we are free. In Christ, we are blessed.

L: So stand tall in grace. Live boldly in love. And rejoice, for great is your reward in heaven.

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Hymn 377: “New Earth, Heavens New”

(Offering is for Western District Conference)

Children’s Story

“Seek Ye First” & “Make a Joyful Noise”

by Peace Club

Scripture: Matthew 5:11-12

Sermon: “Joy at the Margins”

Pastor Josh Janzen

Hymn 392: “The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound”

Sharing and Prayer

Benediction

Hymn 848: “Christ, Be All Around Me”

Passing the Peace

Welcome! We’re glad you’re here and hope to see you again!

The Fall Sermon Series: *Backwards Blessings*, on the Beatitudes concludes today with Matthew 5:11-12 and the sermon “Joy at the Margins”

Backwards Gratitude

Practice gratitude by looking backward — not only at what felt good, but at what grew you. Make a “backwards blessings” inventory: a season of grief where you felt God’s comfort, a time of rejection that clarified your values, a moment when you chose peace over pride, a costly act of justice that showed you God’s presence. This practice doesn’t romanticize suffering, but it reclaims it. It says: *This pain will not be wasted. Christ was there too.*

Youth Soup Fundraiser Today, November 9th after church the youth will host a soup lunch to raise money for trips to Snow Camp at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp and a service weekend.

The Mixed Instrumental Ensemble will be playing the prelude for the Christmas program on December 14. We are looking for anyone that might be interested in joining the group (young or old - with middle school to early high school level music). Please get in touch with Neal Trantham by Nov 9.

All ladies and girls are invited to **the WMS Christmas Brunch** on Saturday, December 6, 2025 at 11:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall at First Mennonite Church. We are very excited to have Cassie Klingenberg share with us.

Don’t know German? Our church banner “Nun danket alle Gott” means “Now thank we all our God.”

Meat Canning is Nov 13 & 14 in Milford. You are asked to help with this project with labor or monetary donations. Donations may be put in the offering plate.

Your words of inspiration can make a difference! **Kent Hohensee could use your support and encouragement.** He has been fully engaged in his rehabilitation sessions at Madonna and showing incredible resilience and progress! Let’s not let him lose his momentum. A sign-up sheet has been hung in the narthex to send him your motivational video message. Your message can be text to 402-239-8632.

Sock and Underwear Drive through November 26 by Mother to Mother. Donations of **new** children's socks and underwear through size 7/8 can be dropped off at Mother to Mother/Burwood Books.

Operation Christmas Child Boxes are ready to be picked up & packed!

- 1). An adhesive label is provided to place on top of your box. Be sure to indicate the gender & age group that you are packing for.
- 2). Fill with gifts- select a medium to large "wow" item. For example, a deflated soccer ball with a pump or a stuffed animal. Then, fill with other small toys, school supplies & personal care items (note the items to not include- see pamphlet inside your box)
- 3) There is a suggested \$10 donation to cover processing fees & shipping. You can pay online using the QR code or simply put \$10 in the box. Use a large rubber band to secure and do not tape it shut.
- 4) Boxes must be returned to the church by **November 16th**

If you have any questions, please contact Linsey Schardt or Lori Thimm. We thank you for demonstrating God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world.

Community Events:

Beatrice Farmers Market's Fall Farmers Market & Brunch Buffet is on Sunday, November 23, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Vintage Venue. Admission to the indoor farmers market is free. You can also purchase a ticket for the local food brunch buffet. Support local farmers, bakers, and makers while celebrating the fall harvest!

St. Paul's Lutheran School & Child Care's 2nd Annual Blessings of the Harvest Dinner and Auction is Saturday, Nov 22 at the Vintage Venue. Tickets are \$50 per person, of which \$25 is tax deductible. Tickets are available at St. Paul's School & Church or through Vicki Frerking in FMC's church office.

Attention! We need your help for the month of November! With the government shut down and lots of people affected by food shortages we would love for you all to **join us in donating to the local food pantry!** Their shelves are becoming empty and without a lot of resources to refill! We are asking that you donate directly to them or bring items to FMC for delivery! Things needed are pizza crust mix, pizza sauce, saltines, snack crackers, syrup, taco shells, taco seasoning, tomato juice, hamburger helper, tuna helper, chicken helper, pop tarts, variety chunky soup, ramen, jelly, canned chicken, canned tuna, and peanut butter! Also, money donations to the pantry are welcome! They have seen an average of 43 new clients each month since January, proof that the need in our community is growing. They are also **seeking new Board of Directors members**. If you would consider serving in this way, please talk with Dolores Jantzen, FMC's representative at the Pantry.

***If your children use the nursery, please remind them to pick up after!*