

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

Serving Today:

Pastor: Josh Janzen	Worship Leader: Brandon Esau
Pianist: Vicki Hinz-Ensz	Hosts: Don & Judy Jantzen
Power point: Katie Jantzen	Audio: Van VanderSchaaf
Ushers: Gayland & Jake	Video: Jane Esau
Children's Time: Jane Esau	

Last Sunday Attendance: 80 **Offering:** FMC \$ 8,552; Tech \$225;
Meat Canning: \$1,250

Today's Offering: Food Pantry **Next Sunday:** FMC

Coming Up:

Sunday, Oct 26	9:30 am Youth & Adult Sunday School & Baptism Class
	10:30 am Worship
Tuesday, Oct 28	1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying
Wed October 29	6:30 pm Peace Club, JYF meet
	6:30 pm SYF Serve @ Burwood Books
Saturday, Oct 31	1:30 pm Memorial Service for Dorothy (Jantzen) Luker
Sunday, Nov 2	9:30 am Youth & Adult Sunday School
	10:30 am Worship-Remembrance Sunday

Late October Birthdays:

23: Boston Crawford	25: Betsy Baade
29: Brendan Thimm	30: Lynn Gerber
31: Duane Claassen	

Early November Birthdays:

2: Immanuel Stutzman	3: Brad Thimm
5: Becky Riesen	14: Ivan Reimer

- **Welcome** to all who are worshipping 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-Ensz (402-239-4174), **Church Chair:** Jerry Reimer (402-239-2716)



Welcome to First Mennonite Church

October 26, 2025

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: Come, people of God, gather to hear the words of Jesus:

P: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God"

L: Not those who avoid conflict, but those who waded into it with love.

P: Not those who settle for silence, but those who speak truth in grace.

L: Let us come to be shaped by the Spirit of Christ –

P: The One who makes peace through justice, mercy, and sacrifice.

ALL: Let us worship the God who calls us to be bridge-builders, truth-tellers, and beloved children.

Prayer

Hymn: "Let's Walk Together "

VT 6

Confession and Assurance

L: God of peace, we confess that we often prefer quiet over truth.

P: We avoid hard conversations. We stay silent when we should speak.

L: You call us to be peacemakers – bold, honest, and loving.

P: But we have been passive in the face of injustice, and slow to reconcile with those we've wronged.

L: Forgive us, O God. Disrupt our comfort and awaken our courage.

P: Form us into your likeness. Make us agents of your healing.

L: Hear the good news: Christ himself is our peace. Through the cross, God has reconciled us and broken down every dividing wall.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, made whole, and called children of God.

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Offering Hymn: "Jesus, Help us Live in Peace"

(Offering is for Community Food Pantry)

VT 719

Children's Story

Scripture: Matthew 5:9

Message: *"Making Peace"*

Pastor Josh Janzen

Hymn: *"Put Peace into Each Other's Hands"*

VT 485

Sharing and Prayer

Benediction

Sending Song: *"Go Now in Peace, Worship Continues"*

VT 829

Passing the Peace

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

A Step Toward Reconciliation

This week, take one step toward peace. Maybe it's with someone you're estranged from, or in a broken relationship. One step: a prayer, a phone call, a note, a conversation, or even choosing to stop telling the same bitter story. Or maybe God nudges you toward public peacemaking: speaking up for someone ignored, crossing a line of difference, joining community healing work. Peacemaking begins small, but it always begins with a step. And you never step alone — Christ goes with you.

Youth Soup Fundraiser- SAVE THE DATE! 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 **Nomination Suggestions are due today**. Please put your nomination sheet in the marked box in the narthex.

Thank You for your donations of items to sell, your bidding, your treats, and your attendance at the **Mini-Auction** last Sunday. The total raised through your support is \$22,304! – MCC Mini Auction Committee

Meat Canning dates are Thursday & Friday, Nov 13 & 14 in Milford. You are encouraged to help with this project with labor or monetary donations. Chicken meat is close to \$1.85 a pound, meaning an extra \$10,000 is needed to can our usual amount. Donations may be put in the offering plate.

Pastor Sarah will be away and unavailable October 31–November 4 for her brother's wedding and a family reunion.

Fall Sermon Series: *Backwards Blessings*. We are journeying through Jesus' Beatitudes in Matthew 5 under the theme *Backwards Blessings*. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus turns the world's values upside down, calling the poor, the grieving, the meek, the merciful, and the peacemakers "blessed." Each week we'll discover how Jesus' *Backwards Blessings* can shape our faith and invite us into a new way of seeing and living.

A Memorial service will be held Saturday, October 31 at 1:30 pm for Dorothy (Jantzen) Luker of Glendale, AZ. Dorothy is the sister of Ernest and Gerald Jantzen and passed away Aug 2, 2025. Inurnment will be in the First Mennonite Cemetery at 1:00 p.m. All are invited to attend.

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.

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.

Mennonite Disaster Service has provided the library with two new books in *Celebration of 75 years of Building Hope*.

"Mended: A Story of Hope" is a vibrant and engaging book that captures the emotions of disaster survivors and ultimately, the joy of rebuilding. It is a delightful read for children of all ages.

"Many Hands, Being Good Neighbors in Times of Disaster" is a visually rich collection of stories and photographs documenting the experiences of volunteers and disaster survivors over the past two decades. It celebrates the simple yet profound acts of service that bring communities together in times of crisis.

Wednesday evening Community Event. Our second FMC Community Event is **Wednesday, November 5, 6:30 pm.** We will again eat a meal together, have a short “gratitude” activity, but mostly visit and enjoy time together. We invite **all age groups** to come; the evening is very informal and provides an opportunity to enjoy each other's company and catch up with each other. Approximately 60 people attended in October.

Ways to help support our Wednesday Community Event

Ø Help set up tables and chairs (9 tables with 8 chairs). *We will do this following church on the last Sunday of the month.*

Ø Donate toward the cost of food (a basket will be available the evening of the event, or you can put a donation in the offering plate with a memo indicating for the Wednesday Community Event)

Ø Contact Vicki Hinz-Ensz or Lori Thimm if you would like to help prep the meal (this would mostly involve picking up items/supplies needed for the meals)

Ø Pray for our community events

Ø Come join in!

Trunk or Treat at Summit Street Church: We would love to have some FMC folk bring their trunks for Trunk or Treat on October 31, from 5-7 pm. Decorate your trunk, dress up (or not!) and join the fun handing out treats with us at 1220 Summit Street. Free hot dogs, popcorn, & drinks!

Community Events:

Kiwanis Pancake Feed to benefit the many children's programs in our community Sunday, Nov 2, 7:30 am-1 pm at Veteran's Club, 701 Dorsey, \$10 adults; \$5 ages 4-12; 3 & under eat free.

The Community Food Pantry is humbly asking you to consider supporting them in this season of giving. 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 members for the Board of Directors. If you are considering serving in this way, please talk with Dolores Jantzen, FMC's representative at the Pantry.

Ellis Methodist Church Soup Luncheon November 2, 11 am-1 pm. Free will donation for soups, sandwiches, pies & desserts.

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.

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