

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

Serving Today: Pastor Josh Janzen Worship Leader: Rodney Ensz
Hosts: Brad & Amanda Thimm Power Point: Eli VanderSchaaf
Piano: Vicki Hinz-Ensz Audio: Jim Ensz
Video: Jane Esau Ushers: Gayland Regier & Brandon Esau
Children's Story: Erin Vanderschaaf
Last Sunday: Attendance: 91 **Offering:** FMC \$5,950; WDC \$1,688;
Camp Mennoscah \$300

Today's Offering: FMC **Next Sunday:** Camp Mennoscah
Coming Up:
Sunday, Sept 20 9:30 am Children's & Adult Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
Tuesday, Sept 22 1:30 pm WMS Quilting & Tying
7:00 pm Educational Council
Wed, Sept 23 6:30 pm Peace Club, JYF
SYF serve @ Mother2Mother
Sunday, Sept 27 9:30 am Children's & Adult Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
5:00 pm Church Picnic @ Chautauqua Park

September Birthdays:

3: Dan Crawford	4: Liana Stutzman
5: Norm Reimer, Margaret Boyce	6: Asha Jantzen
12: Graham Schardt	15: Anders Baade
18: Judy Jantzen, Denise Jantzen	20: Jim Hamm
23: Shana Ensz	24: LeRoy Janzen
26: Lori Craawford, Marcia Regier	30: Tony Tegtmeier

- 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 in the offering plate.
- **Men's Brotherhood Project?** Contact Dan Kunzman.
- **Farmer's Market**, Thursday's 4-6:30 pm, 6th & High Streets
- **Our Daily Bread devotion books (free)** available by the mailboxes.

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
September 20, 2026



Welcome and Call to Worship

L: Sing to the Lord, for he has planted a vineyard.

P: He cleared the ground. He built the wall. He dug the winepress.

L: He asked for nothing but fruit, the fruit of justice, the fruit of righteousness.

P: He is patient with the tenants. He sends servant after servant, asking only for what is owed.

L: Today he sends his own Son into the vineyard.

P: Let us listen as if the owner himself were standing here.

L: Come, people of the vineyard!

All: We gather to hear the truth about whose ground we stand on, and whose harvest this was always meant to be. Let us worship the Lord of the vineyard.

Prayer

Hymn 4: "Christ is Our Cornerstone"

Confession

L: Lord of the vineyard, you planted us on good ground, cleared of stones, walled and watched over, tended before we ever arrived to tend it ourselves.

P: But we have acted like owners instead of tenants.

L: You have been patient with us, servant after servant, chance after chance.

P: And we have grown used to your patience, and mistaken it for permission.

L: You gave us the gospel, the Word, the table, the body of Christ.

P: And too often we have treated the receiving itself as the fruit, as if showing up were the same as bearing anything at all.

L: Forgive us, Lord, not only for dramatic rebellion,

P: but for the slow, ordinary way we forget there is an owner at all.

Assurance

L: Hear the good news hidden inside this hard parable: the stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. The Son who was thrown out of the vineyard and killed

P: is the very foundation on which God is building something new.

L: You are invited, today, to become the tenants who give the owner what the harvest was always for the vineyard is still standing. The invitation still has your name on it.

All: Thanks be to God, whose patience is not weakness, but mercy with room to grow. Amen.

Offering Hymn 122: "Sing to the God of Harvest"

Children's Story

Scripture: Matthew 21:33-44

Sermon: "Whose Vineyard is this?"

Hymn 745: "God, Whose Giving"

Sharing and Prayer

Benediction

Sending Song 841: "As You Go Out from Here" (twice through)

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 fmcbeatrice.org under the documents tab.

A congregational meeting was held last Sunday, Sept 13 after worship to **review and discuss the proposed changes to FMC's Constitution and Bylaws**. There were no additional suggestions or comments received at the meeting. A vote to approve the changes will be held at the January 13, 2027 annual meeting. If you have any concerns with the proposed changes, please bring them to a member of the Review Committee by November 1, 2026: Pastor Josh, John Penner, Brett Esau, and Dorothy Zimmerman.

WMS would **appreciate donations of single size flat sheets** for the back of the comforters. The preferred colors are dark brown, tan (not too light), navy blue or black. They can be left on the counter in the basement. Thank You!

The **Church Picnic** is next Sunday, Sept 27, 5:00 p.m. at the Chautauqua Park Tabernacle. plates, cups, knives, forks & spoons, and napkins will be provided. Hope to see you there!

If you work with FMC minors or vulnerable adults, **Safe Church Forms are due today**. Check your email for links to 2 training videos, Abuse Prevention Covenant & Volunteer Registration. Signed forms go in Pastor Sarah's mailbox. Find paper copy forms by the mailboxes. Thanks!

Thank you for taking part in MCC School Kit Challenge! We exceeded our goal of 30,000 and packed 46,481 kits!

Meat Canning at the Milford Fire Hall, November 17 & 18, 2026. Set-up is Monday, Nov 16. Co-coordinators of the project, Kim and Sheila Eberspacher & Dave and Deb Welsch will turn the role over to **new co-coordinators Brandon and Ashley Roth & TJ and Tiff Reynolds**. Send offerings to Milford Menn Church, 920 3rd St, Milford, 68405. Contact info for the new coordinators is: Ashley Roth: [402-984-1919](tel:402-984-1919); ashleyolin@hotmail.com Tiff Reynolds: 402-641-6178; Tiffreynoldsins@gmail.co

Bethel College Fall Fest is October 17! **BCWA** welcomes donations of homemade goodies and craft items to sell at the Market in the Round in the Luyken Fine Arts Center. **Camp Mennoscah will have a booth at Fall Fest** through mid-afternoon with a silent auction for a Camp Mennoscah tee shirt (tied) comforter. You can meet Camp's new Development Director Timothy Schrag there!

Shriners Children's will hold a free screening clinic for children's orthopedic conditions on Wednesday, Sept 23, 4-7 pm at Beatrice Orthopedic & Sports Medicine at Beatrice Community Hospital, Entrance A. Sponsored by Blue Valley Shrine Club. Walk-ins are welcome or call 402-806-0441 for an appointment. A poster is on the bulletin board.

Conscientious Objection webinar, **Tuesday, Oct 6 at 7 p.m.** Register at mcc.org/co-today. Questions: beckyteiwes@mcc.org

FMC General Fund Summary for August, 2026

Balance 7/31/2026	\$ 12,451.36
August revenue	\$16,333.97
August expenses	(17,120.52)
Net Income (loss) for August	<u>-786.55</u>
General Fund Balance 8/30/26	\$ 11,664.81