

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

January 2, 2011 - Epiphany

Prelude

Call to Worship

Leader: Arise, shine! For your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

**People: Grace was given to us to bring the news
of the boundless riches of Christ,**

L: and to make everyone see the mystery
hidden for ages in God who created all things,

**P: so that, through the Church, the wisdom of God
in its rich variety might now be made known to rulers
and authorities in the heavens and in the earth.**

*Hymns: "Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies" #216 HWB
"Bright and Glorious is the Sky" #219 HWB (vv. 1, 2, 4, 5)

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Children's gathering song: "Come and see" #20 HWB

Children's time: "The fullness of Time" – Chris Jones

Song: "Hail the Blessed Morn" #221 HWB

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

Experiences of epiphany in 2010: Karen Wiebe, Mark Kaufman,
Rachel Hoskins

Instrumental Response "Hearth Song Lullaby and Prayer" by Marybeth Luing

Sharing at the Table in Communion

We will proceed down the center aisle to receive communion and return by the side aisles. The bread is gluten free. The cup is grape juice. All who have made a public commitment to follow Christ and share in the life of Christ's body are invited to the table. Children may come to receive a grape and blessing. During this time anyone may light a candle on the front table to acknowledge experiences of God's light in the past year and/or as an invitation for the light of Christ to lead in the year ahead.

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Leader: We pray (give thanks) to the Holy One,

People: Hear our prayer.

Congregational Prayer

Our Father/Mother in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. (cont.)

HWB: Hymnal Worship Book STJ: Sing the Journey

**Please stand if you are able*

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. AMEN

Offering & Offertory

Announcements (please give in writing to worship leader)

Introduction of guests

***Sending hymn:** "Worship the Lord in the Beauty" #220 HWB (vv. 1-2)

***Benediction**

***Passing the Peace / Postlude**

Community Time

- 10:45 **Fellowship time**

- 11:00 **Children's Singing Time**

- 11:10 **Education classes for children;** extended fellowship for adults

TODAY: Epiphany

Worship Leader: Joetta Schlabach

Organ: David Mayou **Flute:** Marybeth Luing & Jenny Wandersee

Ushers: Nikki Nafziger & Darrell Martin

Nursery: Marcia Sigglekow & Hermann Weinlick and 1 *volunteer*
needed (Meagan will be gone)

Fellowship: 2 *volunteers needed*

NEXT SUNDAY: Immigration: The biblical story (Genesis 12)

Sermon: Joetta Schlabach

Song Leader: Adam Nafziger **Piano:** Melissa Falb

Ushers: Rachel Hoskins & Mike Okerstrom

Nursery: Shelly Hendricks & Barb Beers

Snow shoveling: Laurie Kaufman

Fellowship: 2 *volunteers needed*

A staffed nursery for toddlers and children up to age 5 is located in the education wing. Please ask an usher if you wish to be guided to the nursery.

December 26: Attendance: 75 Offering: \$3,435 Designated: \$4,000

Faith Mennonite Church

Pastor: Joetta Schlabach

Ministry Staff Person: Kathleen Remund

Deacons: Aryn Baxter, Kami Blackwell Kinney

Neil Okerlund, Beth Richardson, Hermann Weinlick

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FMC OFFICE HOURS: Jan 3-7

Pastor: Mon 1-4; Wed 9-4; Thurs 10-1; Friday 9-noon. Tuesday is a study day. Joetta is open to receiving phone calls at home on Mon. and Wed. evening from 7- 8:30 p.m.

Ministry Staff Person: Monday 1-3 p.m., Friday 9-Noon.

Office Assistant, Julie Cross: Tues, Weds & Thurs 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Email all bulletin items before Wednesday evening to:

faithmc@faithmennonite.org. Bulletin is finalized and printed on Thursday.

TODAY, 2:30-3:00 p.m. is the monthly **Interfaith Immigration witness**, held at the **Ramsey Co. Detention Center, 425 Grove St. in St. Paul.**

Save the Date for Spring MDS Trip: Years after Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast, there is still a surprising amount of rebuilding to be done. The tentative date for our spring trip to help Mennonite Disaster Service is **April 3-8**. We do not yet know whether we will be in New Orleans or a different city. Transportation will be decided by the group that goes. We need to know whether we have enough people from Faith, or whether we should open the trip to other congregations. Please contact Melissa Hochstetler if you are interested.

Church Meetings and Events

January 4 – NO Lectionary discussion group this week.

January 9 – All church potluck, noon

January 10 – Missions & Service Commission Meeting, 7 p.m.

January 12 – Deacon's Commission, 9 a.m., Richardson's

January 12 – Church Council, 7 p.m., chapel

January 19 – Annual Reports due to church office

January 22 – January Birthday Brunch, 10 a.m., Schlabach's

January 26 – FMC-Missio Dei Potluck, 6:30 p.m., fellowship hall

February 13 – Annual Congregational Meeting

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
 and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
 For darkness shall cover the earth,
 and thick darkness the peoples;
 but the Lord will arise upon you,
 and his glory will appear over you.
 Nations shall come to your light,
 and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
 Lift up your eyes and look around;
 they all gather together, they come to you;
 your sons shall come from far away,
 and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
 Then you shall see and be radiant;
 your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
 because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
 the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
 A multitude of camels shall cover you,
 the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
 all those from Sheba shall come.
 They shall bring gold and frankincense,
 and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."'
 Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

L: For the Word of God in Scripture,
 For the Word of God within us,
 For the Word of God among us,

All: *Thanks be to God.*

Adult Education Series for January
"Immigrants Among Us"

Through the concerted efforts of Dick Westby, Ry Siggelkow, Gregg Richardson and Pierre Gingrich-Boberg, Faith Mennonite will sponsor a series of educational forums on immigration beginning January 9. We hope for broad participation and are also publicizing the series to the wider community.

January 9: La Asamblea de Derechos Civiles (The Civil Rights Assembly) will lead us in an action-oriented forum entitled "Emancipation: A Path to Immigrant Liberation." La Asamblea is a faith-based, non-profit organization that works to organize immigrant congregations and their allies towards the transformation of individuals, communities and the immigration system.

January 16: Advocate and Faith Mennonite member Hillary Richardson will describe the ways current immigration law can hurt vulnerable individuals and families.

January 23: "Voices from the Southern Border," will feature Gabe Schlabach and Valerie Ong talking about their experiences on the U.S./Mexico border. They will be joined by Francisco Segovia, director of Waite House, examining why people leave their homes in Mexico and Central America to come to the U.S.

January 30: Joetta Schlabach will lead a discussion about Mennonite positions and advocacy on behalf of immigrants. She will share some of the conversation and controversy related to the question of holding the 2013 Mennonite Church USA convention in Phoenix.

Announcements

From Mennonite Mission Network: Gretchen and Keith Kingsley of Mennonite Mission Network are preparing to leave the Argentine Chaco in April, after living among indigenous people there for the past 13 years. Pray for them in this time of transition, and pray that God would call others to walk alongside Christian brothers and sisters in the Chaco.

Please note **sign-up sheets** for **Snow Shoveling** and **Fellowship Time hosting** on the back table of the Fellowship Area in the back of the Sanctuary. **Two volunteers** are needed for each per week/Sunday.

In preparation for **FMC's 50th Anniversary**, plans are underway to grace the sanctuary with a special quilt. Church wide participation is sought as members are asked to consider what they might contribute. January will bring additional details. - *Arlene Geissinger & Sandra Westby*