

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

January 8, 2012

Prelude

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Look! A bright light from above!

People: The spirit of God is descending.

Leader: Coming in the form of a star,

People: Coming in the form of a dove.

Leader: Bringing peace to the earth,

People: Bringing justice to the people.

Leader: Come, let us go to the river,

People: Let us wade in the water.

Leader: Led by God's Servant,

People: As disciples of the Child of Promise,

All: As sons and daughters of God's new creation.

Hymns: *"How brightly beams the morning star" #222 HWB

*"Awake, awake, fling off the night" #448 HWB

"Down along Chicago Avenue" (bulletin insert)

--a newly composed song by Bret Hesla

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9

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

Children's time: presentation of bibles to Simone Gingerich-Boberg
and Tona Ratigan Green

Song: "Wade in the water" #446 HWB

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:4-11

Sermon: "Baptism as Radical Newness"

Hymn: "New earth, heavens new" #299 HWB

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Leader: God of mercy,

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.

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:** "I sing with exultation" #438 HWB

***Benediction**

***Passing the Peace / Postlude**

Community Time

10:40 a.m. Fellowship time

11:00 a.m. Christian ed. classes for all ages. Visitors welcome. Adult ed. class: "The Heart of Mennonite Worship," led by Gregg Richardson, in the education wing chapel.

Noon Potluck – basement fellowship hall

TODAY: Epiphany / Baptism of Jesus

Worship leader: Chris Jones

Sermon: Phil Stoltzfus

Song Leader: Gregg Richardson

Piano: Sandra Westby

Ushers: Barb Beers, Rhonda Martin

Shoveling: Hermann Weinlick

Nursery: Shelly Hendricks & Tyler Zabriskie

Fellowship buddy: Jenny Wandersee

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.

NEXT SUNDAY: On Suffering and Faith (II Corinthians 4:7-11)

Worship leader: Chris Jones

Sermon: Helen Wells O'Brien

Song Leader: Phil Stoltzfus

Piano: Adam Nafziger

Ushers: Shawn Helmeke & Darrell Martin

Shoveling: volunteer needed

Nursery: Marybeth Luing & Heather Wengard

Fellowship: Andi Kuenning & Dan Leisen

Fellowship buddy: Beth or Gregg Richardson

Helen Wells O'Brien is staff chaplain for Regions Hospital and Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare. She is a former member of FMC and founding pastor of St. Paul Mennonite Fellowship.

January 1: Attendance: 36

Offering: \$1,123

Faith Mennonite Church
Pastor: Joetta Schlabach (on sabbatical)
Ministry Staff: Phil Stoltzfus
Sabbatical Pastoral Care: Donna Stucky
Deacons: Aryn Baxter, Shelly Hendricks
Donna Minter, Neil Okerlund, Beth Richardson

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FMC office hours: January 9-13

Pastoral Care: Mon 1-3

Ministry Staff: Mon 10-5; Wed 1:45-7; Thurs 10-5

Email all bulletin items before Wednesday evening to:

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

Adult ed. in January, “The Heart of Mennonite Worship,” will be a four-part series organized by the Worship Commission. We will explore five “vital rhythms” of Mennonite worship as: 1) our response to a loving God, 2) rooted in, and shaped by, scripture, 3) creating a new community, uniting believers as the body of Christ, 4) forming us a followers of Jesus, and 5) intimately connected with life. Today’s theme: “Why do we gather for worship?”

The 2012 potluck schedule has been distributed in mailboxes and posted in the members area on the church website. As in previous years, individuals and households have been assigned a Sunday to be part of a potluck team. If you are unable to participate on the Sunday for which you are assigned, please trade with someone. Not all, but most, households have been included. Questions? Contact Alisa Bardo-Martinson.

In the bulletin we have begun listing the “**fellowship buddy**” for each Sunday. This person will be providing a kids activity in the front during fellowship time.

Church Meetings and Events

The Tuesday text studies are suspended during the pastor’s sabbatical

January 11 – 2011 Annual Reports due

January 11 – Church Council, 7 p.m., chapel

January 11 – FMC Crafters, 7 p.m., library

January 12 – Deacon Commission, 9:15 a.m., Nafziger home

January 18 – Worship Commission, 6:30 p.m., church office

January 18 – Missions & Service Commission, 7:00 p.m., chapel

January 20-22 – FMC Women’s Retreat

February 5 – 2012 Annual Meeting

Isaiah 42:1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.
Thus says God, the Lord,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
I am the Lord, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.
See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Mark 1:4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

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.*

Announcements

Today, 3 p.m., "Remembrance of Life for Victims of Gun Violence" at the Church of the Ascension, 1723 Bryant Ave. N., Mpls. This event is part of a national remembrance of gun violence victims, falling on the one-year anniversary of the shooting of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords in Tucson, AZ. For more info, see: www.protectmn.org.

Monday, Jan. 9, 7:30 p.m., One Voice Mixed Chorus "Brave Souls and Dreamers" concert, in collaboration with the St. Francis High School Concert Choir, Carlson Foley Performing Arts Center, 3325 Bridge Street, St. Francis, MN (free). Featuring music inspired by the words of peacemakers from around the globe. See: www.ovmc.org –*Joan Wing*

Soup Group is an opportunity for our church community to share meals together on a regular basis. A simple meal of soup and bread is provided:

- **Tuesday, Jan. 10**, Matthew & Shelly Hendricks home, RSVP by Monday.

Please **sign up on the sheet in the back** to host a future soup group.

Saturday, Jan. 14, 2:00-5:00 p.m. in the **FMC Fellowship Hall**, San Francisco author Mark Scandrette will hold a **workshop sponsored by Missio Dei: "The Jesus DoJo Workshop: Creating Shared paths for Spiritual Formation & Compassionate Action."** Mark will teach from his extensive experience leading groups in shared experiments and practices. Participants will be invited to explore the role of embodied practice in the life & teachings of Jesus, connect shared practices with a vision for life in God's kingdom, identify areas of life and issues in our world that you would like to address through a shared experiment, and commit to doing the experiment over the next 30 days. A copy of Mark's new book, *Practicing the Way of Jesus*, is included with \$20 registration fee. Register at: <http://jesusdojompls.eventbrite.com>. –*Mark Van Steenwyk*

A **new online FMC events calendar** is now publicly accessible under "Events and News" on the church website: www.faithmennonite.org. The calendar gives color-coded listings for:

- FMC-sponsored meetings and events,
- FMC office and pastoral care hours, and
- events in the broader community.

Contact the office with items to add on an ongoing basis. An **updated online church directory** is available in the password-protected members area of the website. This is the go-to list for the most current email addresses and contact info. –*Phil Stoltzfus*

2012 wall calendars from Christian Peacemaker Teams are available on the back literature shelf.