

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

January 9, 2011

Prelude

Call to Worship

Leader: We gather to worship together, different people, different lives, different histories,

People: yet all children of the same Parent, created lovingly by the Source of all life!

L: We gather to reconnect with one another, different people, different lives, different histories,

P: yet all disciples of one Teacher, Jesus, the Word made flesh, dwelling among us.

L: We gather with different joys and sorrows, different people, different lives, different histories,

P: yet one people with one God, one faith, one baptism.

All: Let us open ourselves to the presence of God at work in us, among us, and through us.

-by Rev. Leslie Penrose, UCC Immigration Worship Resources

***Hymns:** “Come let us all unite to sing” #12 HWB
“This is a story full of love” #315 HWB

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 12

Children’s gathering song: “Come and see” #20 HWB

Children’s time: “When we move” – The Zabriskie Family

Song: “We are marching in the light of God – Siyahamba”

Gospel Reading: Hebrews 11: 8-10; 13-16

Sermon: “Our migrant ancestors”

Hymn: “Abraham journeyed to a new country” (*insert; vv. 1, 2, 5*)

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.

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:** “The peace of the earth be with you” #77 STJ

***Benediction**

***Passing the Peace / Postlude**

Community Time

- 10:45 **Fellowship time**

- 11:00 **Children’s Singing Time & classes**

- 11:00 **Adult education forum – fellowship hall**

“Emancipation: A Path to Immigrant Liberation.” La Asamblea de Derechos Civiles (The Civil Rights Assembly) will lead us in an action-oriented forum. 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.

- noon: **Potluck Meal in the fellowship hall**

TODAY: Immigration: The biblical story

Worship leader: Richard Westby

Sermon: Joetta Schlabach

Song Leader: Adam Nafziger

Piano: Melissa Falb

Drums: Matthew Thomas

Ushers: Rachel Hoskins & Mike Okerstrom

Nursery: Shelly Hendricks & Barb Beers

NEXT SUNDAY: Martin Luther King, Jr. remembrance

Worship leader: Kathleen & Sophia Harder

Sermon: Kathleen Remund

Song Leader: Phil Stoltzfus

Piano: Sandra Westby

Ushers: Darrell Martin & Paula Okerstrom

Nursery: Susan Weinlick & Laurie Kaufman

Snow shoveling: Thaine Dirks

Fellowship: Joan Kreider & 1 volunteer 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.

January 2: Attendance: 83

Offering: \$1,144

HWB: Hymnal Worship Book STJ: Sing the Journey

**Please stand if you are able*

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 10-14

Pastor: Mon 1-4; Wed 11-4; 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.

Twin Cities MCC Relief Sale organization will be having its annual meeting on Saturday, January 15, 2011 from 10:00 – noon, at Valley Community Presbyterian Church at 3100 Lilac Dr, Golden Valley 55422. Receive the 2010 Sale financial report, offer feedback, ideas and suggestions for 2011. Help forward this message to your contacts within the Mennonite community and to sale supporters. Meeting needs providers of treats for Saturday morning. For questions or directions, see Teresa Wasick or Glenn Geissinger.

January Birthday Brunch – Saturday, Jan. 22, 10-11:30 a.m. If you or a family member has a birthday in January, Pastor Joetta invites you to a birthday brunch at her home. (This invitation is for whole families and significant others, not just the birthday person.) Please RSVP on the sign-up sheet in the fellowship area or email Joetta.

Church Meetings and Events

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

January 11 –Lectionary discussion group, 8:30 a.m., Trotter’s, corner of Cleveland and Marshall, SP

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

Genesis 12:1-16

Now the LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.[...] Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, 'To your offspring I will give this land.' So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD. And Abram journeyed on by stages towards the Negeb.

Now there was a famine in the land. So Abram went down to Egypt to reside there as an alien, for the famine was severe in the land. When he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, 'I know well that you are a woman beautiful in appearance; and when the Egyptians see you, they will say, "This is his wife"; then they will kill me, but they will let you live. Say you are my sister, so that it may go well with me because of you, and that my life may be spared on your account.' When Abram entered Egypt the Egyptians saw that the woman was very beautiful. When the officials of Pharaoh saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh. And the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house. And for her sake he dealt well with Abram; and he had sheep, oxen, male donkeys, male and female slaves, female donkeys, and camels.

Hebrews 11: 8-10; 13-16

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ...

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to

(continued other side)

return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, God has prepared a city for them. ...

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

Missing Hymnals and Sing the Journey We seem to be missing a few copies of the blue *Hymnal Worship Book* and the green *Sing the Journey*. If you have borrowed a copy we would appreciate having it returned to church so that we have adequate pew copies. **If you would like to purchase a copy for use at home**, the church office will be glad to place an order. The cost of the hymnal is \$14.95 and the Sing the Journey is \$9.95 (plus shipping). Please email the church office faithmc@faithmennonite.org and specify the book(s) you would like to purchase.

Save the date! September 24-25 has been set as the celebration weekend for the 50th Anniversary of Faith Mennonite Church. Many additional activities will be ongoing through 2011. Details will follow.

Adult Education Series for January "Immigrants Among Us"

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.