

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

January 15, 2012

Prelude

*Call to Worship

Leader: Merciful God,

your love for us makes us bold to join our prayers
with all who need your help

We bring our prayers to you

For those who suffer pain;

For those who struggle with limits of body and soul;

For those who are satisfied with less than the life

for which they were created;

People: Come, Redeeming God,

take all these sufferings upon yourself and transform them.

Be merciful also to us,

So that we might enter the sufferings of others

And become agents of your healing love.

*Hymns: "Guide me, O thou great Jehovah" #582 HWB

"Rain down" #49 STJ

New Testament Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:7-11

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

Children's time

*Song: "In your sickness, your sufferings" #585 HWB

Reading: "Suffering and Faith" – Martin Luther King, Jr.

Sermon: "On Suffering and Faith"

Hymn: "Precious Lord, take my hand" #575 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 want Jesus to walk with me" #439 HWB

*Benediction

Leader: May God bless you and keep you.

**People: May the very face of God shine on you
and be gracious to you.**

Leader: May God's presence embrace and give you peace.

People: Amen.

*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," in the education wing chapel.

TODAY: MLK Day—Suffering and Faith

Greeter: Shelly Hendricks **Ushers:** Shawn Helmeke & Darrell Martin

Worship leader: Chris Semanchin Jones **Sermon:** Helen Wells O'Brien

Song Leader: Phil Stoltzfus **Piano:** Adam Nafziger

Nursery: Marybeth Luing & Heather Wengerd

Fellowship: Andi Kuenning & Dan Leisen

Fellowship buddy: Beth/Gregg Richardson **Shoveling:** Andy Martinson

Helen Wells O'Brien serves as a staff chaplain for Regions Hospital and Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare, with a focus on providing spiritual care to patients and their families who are living with life-limiting conditions or who have experienced traumatic injury. She is a former member of Faith Mennonite Church and founding pastor of St. Paul Mennonite Fellowship. She enjoys being the mother of two adult sons (Joseph and Daniel) and a daughter-in-law. Her restorative activities include hiking, cross-country skiing, bicycling, canoeing, traveling with husband John, and working in her garden.

NEXT SUNDAY:

Greeter: Neil Okerlund **Ushers:** Nikki Fitch Nafziger & Rhonda Martin

Worship leader: Chris Semanchin Jones **Sermon:** Mark Van Steenwyck

Song Leader: Hermann Weinlick **Piano:** Melissa Falb

Nursery: Laurie Kaufman & Cleta Roth **Fellowship:** volunteers needed

Fellowship buddy: Hermann Weinlick **Shoveling:** volunteer needed

Mark Van Steenwyck is pastor of Missio Dei community in Minneapolis.

HWB: Hymnal Worship Book STJ: Sing the Journey

*Please stand if you are able

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.

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

2720 East 22nd Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406 Ph: 612-375-9483
E: faithmc@faithmennonite.org Web: www.faithmennonite.org

FMC office hours: January 16-20

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.

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| January 8: | Attendance: 95 | Offering: \$2,239 |
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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.

Church Meetings and Events

January 18 – Sustainability Team, 5:00 p.m., chapel

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 & brunch

2 Corinthians 4:7-11

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus’ sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh.

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

Women of Faith: **FMC Women’s Retreat** is **Friday, Jan. 20 through Sunday, Jan. 22** in Lindstrom, MN. Come for an evening or a single day if you can't come for the weekend. If you do plan to come, we need women to sign up for one meal. If you are interested in carpooling to the retreat, a **sign up sheet will be at the back table** in church for carpooling and meals. Please let us know so we can plan! Email Beth Richardson with your plans/questions. –*Paula Okerstrom*

Saturday, Jan. 21, 1– 4 p.m., meeting of the **Minnesota Arms Spending Alternatives Project** (MN ASAP) in the **FMC fellowship hall**. MN ASAP is a citizen initiative using a simple resolution process to build political support to shift federal spending priorities from war to meeting essential needs. FMC has endorsed the ASAP resolution.

The next **Soup Group** is **Friday, January 27** (none will be held on Thursday, Jan. 19). Soup group is a weekly opportunity to build community over a simple meal of soup and bread. Anyone is welcome to host and attend. Meals can be at someone’s home, or at church. If you would like to attend a soup group, you can find the information in the weekly bulletin, FMC Midweek Update, or FMC online events calendar, along with information on how to RSVP. Our usual schedule is 1st Monday, 2nd Tuesday, 3rd Thursday, and 4th Friday. Thursday soup groups are held at Dan and Terry Gerber's home. **The open dates for hosting are:** 2/14, 2/16, 2/24, 3/5, 3/15, 3/23, 4/2, 4/10, 4/19, 4/27, 5/1, 5/7, 5/17, 5/25. **If you are interested in hosting** on one of these dates, either by preparing the food and/or providing the location, **please sign the sheet in the foyer or contact Aryn Baxter.**

Do you want to start off the new year with some free clothes? Come to a **clothing exchange at Kristin Green's house on Jan. 29, 4 p.m.** with your old clothes, and leave with new-to-you clothes! Free! Come if you have a little or a lot, there will be plenty. Leave what you don't want, Kristin will deliver leftovers to a thrift store. Men's, women's, and children's clothes welcome! (Men, women, and children welcome too.)

From Central Plains conference: **2012 Congregational Leaders Workshop.** Church leaders, put this date on your calendar! On **Saturday, Feb. 25**, plan to attend "The Paradox of Power: Biblical Foundations of Authority," a workshop with **J. Nelson Kraybill** at Manson Mennonite Church, Manson, Iowa. Participants in the workshop will learn how to become more effective leadership teams for their congregations.

Joetta writes: *"Just a quick note to say that we (Gerald's UST group of 13 students and I) arrived safely in Guatemala City. We've had many immersion experiences, including standing at the rim of the large garbage landfill where the city's poorest make a living by recycling and scrounging for food and then going across town to an upscale mall where a pair of jeans can cost \$100, and visiting the colonial city and former capitol, Antigua. We are staying at CASAS, an education program for groups such as ours, housed at Semilla, the Central American Anabaptist Seminary. We were greeted warmly by the seminary dean Rafael Escobar with whom we were acquainted during our MCC days in the 1980s. It's good to see familiar faces! Blessings, Joetta*

Saturday, Jan. 21 at 7 p.m. and **Sunday, Jan. 22** at 3:30 p.m., **One Voice Mixed Chorus**, Minnesota's GLBTA chorus, announces its inspirational **Brave Souls & Dreamers concert**, featuring music by Bob Dylan, Holly Near, Stephen Sondheim and the premiere of "Brave Souls & Dreamers" by Robert Seeley, celebrating the lives of visionary leaders and peacemakers from around the globe who have challenged prejudice and violence. Hopkins High School Auditorium, 2400 Lindberg Drive, Minnetonka. For ticket information visit www.ovmc.org or call 651-298-1954. Cost: \$18-\$25; \$10 seniors and students. –*Joan Wing*

New on the **FMC website, www.faithmennonite.org** –

- **FMC Events Calendar.** View upcoming church events, office hours, and community events of interest. Click the forward arrow to view future months in 2012.

- **FMC Building Use Calendar.** Plan ahead for room reservations in our building.

To add an upcoming event or meeting in 2012 to the online calendars, email the church office, at: faithmc@faithmennonite.org.