

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

January 31, 2010

“Unless you become as a child...”

Prelude

Welcome

*Call to Worship

- 1: Come and worship.
- 2: Come and worship.
- 3: Come and worship.
- 1: If you're short or tall
- 3: Big or small
- 2: Young or mature
- 3: Messy or pure
- 1: Hot or cool
- 2: Depressed or secure

All: Come and worship.

- 2: God is waiting.
- 1: God is hoping.
- 3: God is loving.

All: Come. Come and worship.

***Hymns:** “Here in this place” #6 HWB, vv. 1, 2, 4
“Lord of our growing years” #479 HWB

Old Testament reading: Proverbs 3:1-6 #826 HWB

Children's gathering hymn: “Come and see” #20 HWB

Children's time “Blessing the babies”

Hymn: “Child of blessing, child of promise” #620 HWB

Gospel reading: Mark 9: 33-37; 10:13-16

Sharing: Noah & Cori Skogerboe

Gospel reading: Luke 2:21-35; 39-40

Sharing: Ry & Marcia Siggelkow

Words of dedication and blessing for Esther Wulf Skogerboe and Aleida Marian Siggelkow

Congregational commitment: #791 HWB

Hymn: “Lord, we bring to you our children” #90 STJ

Congregational Sharing

HWB: Hymnal Worship Book STJ: Sing the Journey

**Please stand if you are able*

Congregational Prayer

Our Father 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 and Offertory

Announcements (*please give in writing to the pastor or worship leader*)

Introduction of Guests

***Sending Hymn:** “O God, who gives us life and breath” #483 HWB

***Benediction**

***Passing the Peace / Postlude**

Community Time

- **Fellowship time –10:45-11:10 a.m.**

- **Children's singing – 11 a.m.** Education wing chapel

- **Christian education – 11:15-noon — Navigating the Healing of Trauma with STAR** (Strategies for Trauma Awareness and Resilience)

Donna Minter will give a presentation that she is preparing for the Augsburg College Nobel Peace Prize Forum in March

TODAY: Parent/child Dedications

Worship Leader: Joetta Schlabach **Sermon:** Sharing by parents

Song leader: Pierre Gingerich-Boberg **Piano:** Sandra Westby

Nursery volunteers: Karen Wiebe & Gerald Schlabach

Fellowship: Arlene Holdeman & Cindy Bjork

This morning we will dedicate parents and new babies: Noah & Cori Skogerboe and Esther Wulf and Ry & Marcia Siggelkow and Aleida Marian.

NEXT SUNDAY: Hearing Jesus' Call (Luke 5:1-11) / Communion

Sermon: Joetta Schlabach

Song leader: Gregg Richardson **Piano:** Melissa Falb

Nursery volunteers: Shelly Hendricks & Annette Semanchin-Jones

Fellowship: Annual Meeting Meal

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

**Deacons: Kami Blackwell Kinney, Cleta Roth Gingerich
Neil Okerlund, Beth Richardson, Hermann Weinlick**

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FMC OFFICE HOURS: February 1-5

Pastor: Mon 10-2; Wed & Thurs 9-4. Tuesday is a study day. On Friday Joetta will travel to Manson, IA, to meet with the Unity Task Group of Central Plains Conference. Joetta is open to receiving phone calls on Monday and Wednesday evening from 7-8:30 p.m.

Office Assistant: Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Email all bulletin items before Wednesday evening to:

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

Jan 24: Attendance: 90 Offering: \$2,240 designated \$280

Annual meeting & fellowship meal – Feb 7 Katie Hochstedler and others will provide the meal as a fund-raiser for the MDS trip at the end of March. The meal will include vegetarian soup, bread and cookies/bars.

Church Meetings and Events

Feb 2 – Lectionary Discussion Group (Luke 9:28-36), 8:30 a.m., Trotter's,
Corner of Marshall & Cleveland, SP

February 7 – Annual Congregational Meeting w/ lunch fundraiser

February 13 – Birthday brunch, 9:30-11:30, Schlabach's

February 16 – Missions & Service, 6 p.m., FMC Chapel

February 17 – Deacons Commission, 9:30 a.m., Richardson's

February 20 – Council & Commissions Retreat, 9-noon, FMC

Adult Christian Education

The following four Adult Christian Education classes will be offered this winter/spring. Church Membership Exploration, offered as a mini-course, will meet on February 14, 21, and 28. The other three courses will meet on 10 Sundays from February 14 – April 25.

Church Membership Exploration (Feb 14, 21, 28) This three-week series is intended for people who have been attending Faith Mennonite Church and would like to consider becoming a member. Participants will have a chance to share with each other the faith commitments that draw them into a faith community, learn more about the history of Faith Mennonite Church, and review the *Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective*. Led by Pastor Joetta and the deacons.

Making the Connection: Parents and Children, Church and Home Parents, do you ever wonder what your child is learning in Sunday School? Do you spend a frustrating ride home from church trying to get her to share what her lesson was about? To strengthen the connection between church and home, we will be offering an adult education class that focuses on the same weekly theme and scripture passage that your child is covering. This will enable the possibility of having meaningful family faith conversations and at-home application of weekly biblical themes. The *Gather 'Round* curriculum is designed to nurture people of all ages, in order that they may become followers of Jesus. The *Gather 'Round Handbook* will be used as a resource; families are encouraged to get a copy. (**Sign-up sheet for the handbook is located at the back of the church.**) Kami Blackwell Kinney will lead the class.

Speaking of Faith will focus on questions and ideas regarding faith and belief. Why/how does our personal Christian belief system remain intact in a sea of other ideological systems? What can we learn from these other systems that will inform our Christian faith? Krista Tippet's book, *Speaking of Faith* (and other resources) will be used as a "springboard" for the discussions. (**Class participants should sign-up for a personal copy of Tippet's book on the sheet located at the back of the church.**) Joan Kreider will lead the class.

Ways of Praying Author Anne LaMott writes that there are two basic prayers: "Help! Help!" and "Thank you! Thank you!" While that may be true, 2,000 years of Christian practice have produced a number of different prayer forms through which we express these simple words. In this class we will explore a variety of prayer forms including silent contemplation, *lectio divina* (holy reading) with Scripture, the daily *examen*, labyrinth prayer and more. We will practice these prayer forms together in the class and then individually during the week. Each successive session will include time for feedback about our individual experiences during the week. Coordinated by Pastor Joetta, with the assistance of others.

Mark 9: 33-37; 10: 10-16

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the way?' But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.' Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Luke 2:21-35; 39-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

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

We are pleased to announce that we have hired **Kathleen Remund** to fill our **Ministry Staff Position**. Kathleen will officially begin her work on February 1. Kathleen lives within a block of FMC and is a long-time member of the Community of St. Martin. She holds a Master of Divinity degree from United Theological Seminary, where she works part time in church relations. She brings a rich background of experience relevant to our Ministry Staff Position including curriculum development, outreach and reconciliation for the Spirit of Hope United Methodist Church in Apple Valley, communication, and women's and children's advocacy. She worked as a marketing coordinator for Mike Schrock at Schrock DeVetter Architects from 1997-1999. Kathleen is a spirited person with a deep commitment to peace and to working to build peace in concrete ways. – Search Committee (Joan Kreider, Melissa Hochstetler, Joetta Schlabach)

February Birthday Brunch, Sat., February 13, 9:30-11:30 a.m. If you or a family member has a birthday in February, pastor Joetta invites you to her home, 248 Aurora Ave., St. Paul, for brunch on February 13. (This invitation is for whole families, not just the birthday person.) Please RSVP on the sign-up sheet in the fellowship area or email: jschlabach@faithmennonite.org

Any men that are interested in a men's retreat at Snowshoe Lodge should pencil in the weekend of 3/12 - 3/14 in their calendars. This weekend seemed to work the best after informal polling last week. If you are interested in attending and would like more details, please let Adam know. We would like to begin working on a final list so that we can reserve the correct number of cabins. Contact me at 612-722-3317 or adammynafziger@yahoo.com

Worship Arts Tour, March 12 & 13—in the Twin Cities. Led by Joetta Schlabach and Martha Yoder. More information in the brochure on table at back of sanctuary and available as pdf from FMC website.

RESPONDING TO THE CRISIS IN HAITI

- **Mennonite Central Committee is responding to the devastating earthquake that struck Haiti** — MCC committed \$100,000 for immediate needs and anticipates a response of at least \$1 million over multiple years. MCC is planning its response which will include short-term relief plus recovery efforts over the medium and long term. Donations to MCC's response in Haiti are welcome and can be made online at mcc.org, or by sending a check, designated Haiti Earthquake, to MCC Central States PO Box 235 North Newton, KS 67117 or call 316-283-2720.
- **MCC Relief Kits to Haiti**— In addition to donations of money, MCC is asking the public to supply 20,000 relief kits, 10,000 heavy comforters and 10,000 sheets to be sent to Haitian earthquake survivors. **See the flyer at the back of the sanctuary** for a list of materials needed. You may also go to MCC's website at www.mcc.org/kits
- **We have 5 'multi-donor' Relief Kits** that we are assembling at the church. Individuals/couples/families can sign up to be responsible for 1 or more items instead of purchasing items for a whole kit, though that is also needed. If these fill up quickly, we will add more kits. All items must be brought to Faith Mennonite Church by Feb 28th.
- **Volunteer your time for a good cause** — **Feed My Starving Children** is a non-profit organization that sends emergency food packets to places like Haiti. Leslie Minkler is organizing an evening shift (8:00 to 9:30pm) for sometime in March or, more likely, in April. We will have a firm date by the next mid-week update. The age limit is 3rd graders and older. To learn more go to <http://www.fmssc.org>

TODAY – Nursery Cleaning — Join us right after Sunday School for a sandwich potluck and nursery cleaning. Homemade bread and good company provided. Just bring your favorite sandwich fillings and some elbow grease to scrub down all the nursery toys and furniture. We should be done by 2:30pm. If you know you're coming, please RSVP so we know how much bread to bring. Thank you.

Thursdays — Keep the winter blues at bay! Throughout the winter, Melissa Hochstetler will be hosting a weekly gathering at her apartment on Thursday evenings. Drop in starting at 7:00 – stay all evening or stay for half an hour. Bring a favorite game if you have one, or a snack if you have time to make or buy one. Melissa is at 3120 Raleigh Ave, apt 205, in St Louis Park (which is not as far away as you might think!). Call her at 952-929-0909 if you have questions or need directions. All are welcome!

Matthews Park – Winter Ice Follies, Saturday, Feb. 6 12:30-2:30 Free food and fun for families and people of all ages! Featuring “The Teddy Bear Band” and Horse-drawn Hay Ride. **At Matthews Park, 24th St. and 28th Ave. South.**