

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

February 1, 2009

Prelude
Welcome

***Call to Worship**

Response: L: We come to you as children

P: For to such does the kingdom belong!

***Hymn:** "Praise to the Lord, the almighty" #37 HWB (vv. 1-3)

First Reading: Luke 2: 25-38

Children's Gathering Hymn: "Come and See" #20 HWB

Children's Time: Blessing the children

Hymn: "Jesus loves me" #341 HWB

Second Reading: 1 Samuel 2:1-10

Parent Sharing: Matthew and Shelly Hendricks

Hymn: "For the beauty of the earth" #89 HWB (vv. 1, 4)

Parent Sharing: Ruth Johnston and Shuji Moriichi

Hymn: "Thy holy wings" #118 HWB (vv. 1-2)

Parent Sharing: Nicole Fitch and Adam Nafziger

Reading: Mark 10:13-16

Parent Sharing: Alisa Bardo-Martinson and Andy Martinson

Hymn: "Child of blessing, child of promise" #620 HWB

Words of dedication and blessing

Congregational commitment: #791 HWB

Congregational Sharing

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

HWB: Hymnal Worship Book STJ: Sing the Journey

**Please stand if you are able*

***Sending hymn:** "Lord, we bring to you our children" #90 STJ

***Benediction**

***Passing the Peace / Postlude**

Community Time

- **Fellowship time - 10:45-11:10 a.m.** – We will have a reception and baby shower during our fellowship time for the families who have dedicated children.

- **Children's music – 11 a.m.**, Room 201, education wing

- **Education for all ages – 11:15-noon**

Adult education classes:

- The Spirituality of Imperfection - Room 201, education wing
- Spirituality and Health - Library

TODAY: Dedication and blessing of parents and children

Worship leader: Joetta Schlabach

Readers: Glenn Geissinger, Karen Zeug, Joan Kreider

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

Nursery volunteers: Rachel Hoskins & Arlene Geissinger

Fellowship: Cori Skoberboe & Tom Johnson

NEXT SUNDAY: Church Membership and Annual Meeting

Worship leader: Joetta Schlabach

Song leader: Phil Stoltzfus **Piano:** Karen Zeug

Nursery volunteers: Beth Richardson & Leslie Minkler

Fellowship: Arlene Holdeman & Susan Weinlick

Please remember those who will make a commitment of membership and participation next Sunday: Rhonda Martin, Scott & Deedee Stevens Neal, Donna Stucky, and Greg Renstrom.

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 25: Attendance: 77 Offering: Not Recorded

Thanksgivings: Continued recovery for Candace's father following heart surgery; training workshop on nonviolence (Candace); Kathleen's work in seeking to reduce errors in hospital operating rooms (Hermann)

Concerns: Skogerboe family as Noah's back ailment continues

Faith Mennonite Church

Pastor: Joetta Schlabach

Ministry Staff Person: Michael Bischoff

Deacons: Cleta Roth Gingerich, Candace Lutt,

Mike Okerstrom, Beth Richardson, Hermann Weinlick

2720 East 22nd Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406 Ph: 612-375-9483

E: faithmc@faithmennonite.org Web: www.faithmennonite.org

FMC OFFICE HOURS: February 2-6

Pastor: Mon 10:30-2:30; Wed & Fri 9-1; & Thurs 9:30-4:30

Joetta is open to receiving phone calls at home on Mon and Wed from 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday is a study day.

Michael Bischoff: Thursday 9-noon

Office Assistant: Wednesday & Friday 8:30-1:30

Email all bulletin items before Thursday evening to:

[*faithmc@faithmennonite.org*](mailto:faithmc@faithmennonite.org)

Church Meetings and Events

February 3 – Lectionary Discussion Group, (2 Kings 5:1-14; 2 Cor 9:24-27; Mark 1:40-45) 8:30 a.m., Trotter's, corner of Marshall & Cleveland, St. Paul

February 8 – Church Membership and Annual Meeting Sunday

February 9 – Church Council, 7 p.m., FMC

February 13-14 – “Common Root 2009: Creating our Future in the Shadow of the Empire,” FMC

February 14-16 – Men's Retreat

February 20-21 – Families Moving Forward

February 25 – Ash Wednesday

February 26 – Goshen College Choir Performance, 7:30 p.m., Messiah

Lutheran Church, 2504 Columbus Ave S, Minneapolis

March 14 – Council & Commission Retreat, 9-noon, FMC

March 21 – Musician workshop, led by Jane Ramseyer Miller, 9-noon, FMC

Luke 2: 25-38

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.'

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

1 Samuel 2:1-10

Hannah prayed and said,
'My heart exults in the LORD;
my strength is exalted in my God.
My mouth derides my enemies,
because I rejoice in my victory.

'There is no Holy One like the LORD,
no one besides you;
there is no Rock like our God.

Talk no more so very proudly,
let not arrogance come from your mouth;
for the LORD is a God of knowledge,
and by him actions are weighed.
The bows of the mighty are broken,
but the feeble gird on strength.
Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread,
but those who were hungry are fat with spoil.

1 Samuel 2:1-10 continued

The barren has borne seven,
but she who has many children is forlorn.
The LORD kills and brings to life;
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.
The LORD makes poor and makes rich;
he brings low, he also exalts.
He raises up the poor from the dust;
he lifts the needy from the ash heap,
to make them sit with princes
and inherit a seat of honour.
For the pillars of the earth are the LORD's,
and on them he has set the world.

'He will guard the feet of his faithful ones,
but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness;
for not by might does one prevail.
The LORD! His adversaries shall be shattered;
the Most High will thunder in heaven.
The LORD will judge the ends of the earth;
he will give strength to his king,
and exalt the power of his anointed.'

Mark 10:13-16

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.

Announcements

February 8 – Church Membership & Annual Meeting Day

- **An agenda for the February 8 Congregational Meeting, the 2008 Annual Reports, and draft sections of a new Faith Mennonite Church Handbook are in your mailboxes.** Please read these in advance of the annual meeting and bring them with you on Feb. 8.
- We will welcome 5 people as they make commitments of **church membership and participation**: Scott & Deedee Stevens Neal, Rhonda Martin, Donna Stucky, and Greg Renstrom.
- We will celebrate the year past, the year ahead, and the joy of new members at an **all-church potluck**.

Faith will host Families Moving Forward on Friday, February 20 and Saturday, February 21. We are looking for volunteers to cook the evening meals, provide a couple hours of childcare after dinner, and provide overnight hosting. Hosting takes place at Union United Church of Christ, in St. Louis Park. If you have any questions call Karen Wiebe 612-276-1217. A sign-up sheet is at the back of the sanctuary.

Goshen College Chamber Choir to give Twin Cities Concert You are invited to a worship service in song with the Goshen (Ind.) College chamber choir on **Thursday, February 26, 7:30 p.m.**, at Messiah Lutheran Church, 2504 Columbus Ave, Minneapolis. The 32-student ensemble, directed by Dr. Debra Brubaker, will present a sacred music journey through time and culture with the theme of "Encountering God's Hope." Emily Swora of Shoreview, MN, is a member of the choir. This program is jointly hosted by Emmanuel Mennonite Church and Faith Mennonite Church. For more information, please contact Faith Mennonite Church, 612-375-9483. You can follow the tour at www.goshen.edu/blog/chamberchoir09.

“Race: The Power of an Illusion” St. Olaf Catholic Church is offering a special viewing of the award-winning PBS video series “Race: The Power of an Illusion.” All are cordially invited to a free presentation of this widely-acclaimed and stimulating three-part film series, produced for PBS. Each week, one 60-minute episode is viewed and discussed at 11am, 1pm and 5pmin St. Olaf’s Cowley Hall. **Shown three consecutive Sundays: February 8 (Part I) February 15 (Part II) February 22 (Part III).** All events will be held at St. Olaf Catholic Church, 215 South 8th Street, Minneapolis

The Winter Ice Follies at Matthews Park, 2318 28th Ave South, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. on **Saturday, February 7.** There will be bingo, games with prizes for the kids, an “Ice Fishing Pond” a horse drawn hay ride, hot dogs, popcorn and other snacks, an art project, and more.

Redecorating of the Sanctuary and Narthex

The Trustees have formed an ad hoc interior committee that is exploring the redecorating of the sanctuary, narthex, & balcony. We want your input as well. Please answer any or all of these questions and drop this half sheet in the offering plate this Sunday or next Sunday. The committee will take your thoughts and suggestions into consideration in our deliberations. We hope to have an initial proposal to the congregation by the annual meeting on Feb. 8. Thank you for your input!
Committee members: Nikki Fitch, Bob Mack, Cleta Roth Gingerich, Arlene Geissing, Mike Okerstrom Trustee: Glenn Geissing

At our first meeting, we looked at the **sanctuary** and discussed these (3) questions:

1. What existing element(s) do you wish to retain?
2. Are there one or more element(s) you’d like to see highlighted?
3. What element(s) would you like to get rid of permanently?