

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

February 7, 2010

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship** (from Psalm 138) with sung response:

L: We give you thanks, O God, with our whole hearts;

P: before the gods we sing your praise;

Bless the Lord...

L: we bow down and give thanks to your name

P: for your steadfast love and your faithfulness.

Bless the Lord...

**All: On the day we called, you answered,
you increased the strength of our souls.**

Bless the Lord...

L: Though we walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve us;

P: you stretch out your hand; your right hand delivers.

Bless the Lord...

**All: O God, you fulfill your purpose for us;
Your steadfast love endures forever.**

***Hymn:** “Let all creation bless the Lord” #61 HWB

Old Testament reading: Isaiah 6:1-8

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

Children’s time: Luke 5:1-11

Hymn: “Lord, you have come to the lakeshore” #229 HWB

Sermon: “Pushing off into the deep”

Communion

We will gather at the tables at front and back in groups of 10-12 as the ushers guide. Please hold the bread and cup until all are served and then partake together. The bread is gluten free. The cup is grape juice. All who have made a public commitment to follow Christ and share in the life of Christ’s body are invited to the table. Children may come to receive a grape and blessing.

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

***Sending Hymn:** “We will follow”

***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 Adults will gather for the first half of the **Annual Congregational Meeting** – basement fellowship hall

- noon – fund-raising lunch for MDS trip to New Orleans (Mar 28-Apr 2)

- 1:15 p.m.-**Business portion of the annual meeting** (childcare provided)

TODAY: Hearing Jesus’ Call

Worship Leader: Scott Neal

Sermon Joetta Schlabach

Song leader: Gregg Richardson

Piano: Melissa Falb

Reader: Matthew Kinney

Nursery volunteers: Shelly Hendricks & Annette Semanchin-Jones

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

Ministry Staff Person: Kathleen Remund

Deacons: Kami Blackwell Kinney, Cleta Roth Gingerich

Neil Okerlund, 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 8-12

Pastor: Mon 1-5; Wed & Thurs 9-4; Friday 1:30-4:30. Tuesday is a study day.
Joetta is open to receiving phone calls on Mon. and Wed. evening from 7-8:30 p.m.

Ministry Staff Person: Monday 1-3 p.m., Friday 9-Noon.

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.

NEXT SUNDAY: The Transfiguration (Luke 9:28-43)

Worship Leader: Scott Neal

Sermon: Joetta Schlabach

Song leader: Hermann Weinlick

Piano: Cathy Smetana

Nursery volunteers: Nikki Nafziger & Jason Derrickson

Fellowship: Rachel Hoskins & Kristin Green

Jan 31: Attendance: 111

Offering: Not Recorded

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.

Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.' The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!'

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: 'Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.' Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'

Luke 5:1-11 (translation by Mary Schertz, AMBS)

This happened while the crowd was pressing around him to hear also the campaign of God. He was standing beside the freshwater lake of Gennesaret when he saw two boats positioned alongside the lake: The fishermen, having landed, were beginning to wash the nets. But he, stepping into one of the boats, which belonged to Simon, asked him to push off from the bank a little. Then, sitting in the boat, he taught the crowd.

As he finished speaking, he said to Simon: "Push off into the deep water, and let down your nets into the catch of fish." But Simon answered and said: "Master, through the whole night, working hard, we got nada!

Still, because you say so, I will let down the nets."

When they had done this, they hemmed in such a group of so many fish that their nets started tearing. They signaled to their companions in the other boat, in order that they might come to help them. They came, and they filled both boats, enough to just about sink them.

When Simon Peter saw, he fell at Jesus' knees saying: "Go away from me, for I am a sinful man, Lord." For astonishment seized him, and all those with him, at the catch of fish to which they had helped (themselves).

Similarly... also Jacob and John the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon...

Then Jesus said to Simon: "Do not be afraid. From now on you will be capturing people." They brought their boats up on the bank: Releasing everything, they followed 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

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

Sunday, February 14 — An invitation from Pastor Chue Vang: You and your congregation are invited to join **Hmong Mennonite Church Valentine's Dinner** and services at 3:00 pm. Location: 1740 Van Dyke St. Maplewood, MN 55119.

Ash Wednesday Service, February 17, 7 p.m. All are welcome to a contemplative service to mark the beginning of Lent. This year's service will include receiving of ashes and prayers of confession.

Sunday, February 28, 2:00-4:00 pm FMC is partnering with Community of St. Martin to present a benefit concert for the **Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice Partnership**. Performances by songwriters and instrumentalists Linda Breitag, Ray Makeever, Bret Hesla and Sophia Breitag, bluegrass musician Chris Jones, and String Harmony, a classical ensemble. This is a family-friendly concert with door prizes and songs of peace and hope that will have you singing along.

Since 2004, Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice Partnership has provided an alternative to juvenile court for youth committing misdemeanor offenses in Seward and Greater Longfellow. Your support for SLRJP during this difficult funding year is appreciated! Freewill donations will be gratefully accepted. **Flyers are at the back of the sanctuary. Please take and post one or two to help spread the word.**

Families Moving Forward on Friday, Feb. 26 and Saturday, Feb. 27 Faith Mennonite will again be assisting Lyndale UCC and Union Congregational UCC in hosting at Union Congregational UCC, 3700 Alabama Ave, St. Louis Park. We need volunteers for both nights in several categories. **3 people for Dinner Volunteers** (Preparers/Servers /Cleanup) from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. **2 people for Evening Activities for Children** from 7:00-9:00 pm. **One person to stay over each night** at Union with the families. Look for the sign-up sheets in the back of the church, or talk to Pat Eliason elias002@umn.edu , or Lauren/Bob Brown bobbrown@gmail.com. Thanks!

Mission Network prayer request

Instituto Biblico Anabautista (Anabaptist Biblical Institute) trains leaders for the Hispanic Mennonite churches in the United States. May God grant wisdom and energy to the volunteer tutors, regional coordinators, and IBA staff as they prepare students for ministry.

RESPONDING TO THE CRISIS IN HAITI

- **For an update on the MCC work in Haiti and how you can contribute go to mcc.org.**
- **MCC Relief Kits to Haiti**— Faith will continue to collect kits. A list of items to include is at www.mcc.org/kits Those dropping off full kits, please bring them IN BOXES, not bags, to FMC or Ten Thousand Villages. Call Leslie Minkler at 612-387-0096 if you can buy any of these items.
**If you are making a complete kit and can't find laundry soap bars, Gregg Richardson reports that Fels Naptha is available at Frattalone's ACE Hardware stores on Grand Ave. (just west of Dale) in St. Paul.*
- **Volunteer at Feed My Starving Children.** April 21st from 8pm to 9:30pm is the time slot I am setting for our volunteer night at Feed My Starving Children. There are currently 60 spots open for that day and time at the Chanhassan location. **I need firm confirmations by Wednesday Feb 10th** from people who want to volunteer. I need exact numbers of adults and children (3rd grade and older) to save that day and time. Contact me at 612-387-0096 or at lrinkler@yahoo.com. Leslie Minkler.

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!

Church Meetings and Events

- Feb 9 – Lectionary Discussion Group (Deut 26:1-11; Luke 4:1-13) 8:30 a.m., Trotter's, Corner of Marshall & Cleveland, SP
- February 10 -- Worship Commission & Lent Planning Committee, 7 p.m., FMC chapel
- 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 17 – Ash Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., FMC Sanctuary
- February 20 – Council & Commissions Retreat, 9-noon, FMC
- February 28, 2:00-4:00 pm — Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice Partnership Benefit Concert at FMC