

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

February 14, 2010

Prelude

Welcome

*Call to Worship – Psalm 99

L: The Lord is ruler; let the peoples tremble! God sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake! The Lord is great in Zion; God is exalted over all the peoples. Let them praise your great and awesome name.

P: Holy is God!

L: Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob. Extol the Lord our God; worship at God's footstool.

P: Holy is God!

L: Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was among those who called on God's name. They cried to the Lord, and God answered them. God spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept the decrees and the statutes that God gave them.

P: Holy is God!

L: O Lord our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger of their wrongdoings. Extol the Lord our God, and worship at God's holy mountain; for the Lord our God is holy.

P: Holy is God!

*Hymns: "Holy, holy, holy" #120 HWB vv. 1, 2, 3
"Santo (Holy)" #15 STJ

Old Testament reading: Exodus 34:29-35

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

Children's time

Hymn: "Christ upon the mountain peak" #232 HWB

Gospel reading: Luke 9:28-43

Sermon: "Illuminated by a Holy God"

Response: Anointing

Solo: "Open my eyes Lord"

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:** "Move in our midst" #418 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** 4 new classes begin today:

- Membership exploration (3 weeks) – in Pastor's Study
- Parent connection to Gather 'Round – Rm 202, Education wing
- Speaking of Faith – Library
- Ways to Pray – Chapel, Education wing

TODAY: The Transfiguration

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

NEXT SUNDAY: First Sunday of Lent: Holding on & Letting Go (Ps 91)

Worship Leader: Gregg Richardson

Sermon: Joetta Schlabach

Song leader: Pierre Gingerich-Boberg

Piano: Adam Nafziger

Nursery volunteers: Dan Leisen & Joan Wing

Fellowship: Thaine Dirks & One Volunteers 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.

As **Lent** begins we invite you to take a look at **devotional resources** from our church library that Cynthia Miller has put on **display in the fellowship area**. There are also copies of several articles that you may take and keep (or bring back to share). All are welcome to a contemplative **Ash Wednesday Service this Wednesday, 7 p.m.** to mark the beginning of Lent. The service will include receiving of ashes and prayers of confession.

Faith Mennonite Church

Pastor: Joetta Schlabach

Ministry Staff Person: Kathleen Remund

Deacons: Kami Blackwell Kinney, Greg Renstrom
Neil Okerlund, Beth Richardson, Hermann Weinlick

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FMC OFFICE HOURS: February 15-19

Pastor: Mon 1-5; Wed noon-5; Thurs 10-5; Friday 10-3. 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.

Phone messages for Kathleen can be left at VM #2 at the church. You can email her at minstaff@faithmennonite.org

Office Assistant: Monday, 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.

Feb. 7: Attendance: 104 Offering: 2,846

Church Meetings and Events

Feb 16 – Lectionary Discussion Group (Ps 27; Phil 3:17-4:1; Lk 13:31-35)

8:30 a.m., Trotter's, Corner of Marshall & Cleveland, SP

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 18 – Drop in at Melissa Hochstetler's, 7 p.m.,

February 18 – Christian Education Commission, 7:30 pm., FMC

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. 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. 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.

Exodus 34:29-35

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterwards all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

Luke 9:28-43

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah'—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, 'Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It throws him into convulsions until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.' Jesus answered, 'You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you?'

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Luke 9:28-43 continued

Bring your son here.' While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

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

Thanks to everyone who came to the fundraiser soup meal and helped the MDS group with expenses. **We raised \$800** that should cover most of our expenses. Some of you were looking for soup recipes. Here they are. Thanks - the MDS group

TODAY — 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.

Saturday, Feb 20, 9-noon Members of the Church Council and each of the Commissions are invited to take part in a morning retreat as we set course for another year. Participants are invited to stay for lunch, which will be shared with members of the Central Plains Mennonite Conference Council that will be meeting at FMC on Friday evening and Saturday.

Families Moving Forward on Friday, Feb 26 and Saturday, Feb 27 Faith Mennonite will assist Lyndale UCC and Union Congregational UCC in hosting at Union Congregational UCC, 3700 Alabama Ave, St. Louis Park. We **still need** volunteers for both nights in several categories.

2 people for Dinner Volunteers (Preparers/Servers/Cleanup) from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. **2 people for Evening Activities for Children (for the 26th only)** from 7:00-9:00 pm. 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!

Benefit Concert — 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.**

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— We are still accepting full MCC relief kits.** Please place in boxes or bags. There are still items no one has signed up to buy for the 5 “multi-donor” MCC relief kits. These items are 4 bath towels (medium weight, dark or bright colors), 2 large bars of bath soap in original wrapping, 4 wide-tooth combs (6-8" long), 1 box of adhesive bandages (minimum 40, assorted), and 2 packages of sanitary pads (18-24 thin maxi). **Kits need to be completed and to FMC by the end of February or to Ten Thousand Villages by February 20th.**
- **Ten Thousand Villages** store in St. Paul is increasing the stock of items made in Haiti, in order to assist the artisans there. There are stone carvings created by artists from Caribbean Crafts, metal-work wall decorations made by Comite Artisanal Haitien, dried grass decorations, and interestingly shaped wooden salad bowls with wooden serving utensils. They are beautiful. For those who don't know, Ten Thousand Villages only carries fair trade goods and is located at 867 Grand Ave, St. Paul.
- **Volunteer at Feed My Starving Children** Assemble food packets at Feed My Starving Children for low income or disaster stricken people here in the US and around the world. Packets have been sent to Haiti for years and of course, after the earthquake. NOTE: Change of date and location: **April 14 in Eagan.** The extended **deadline for signing up is TODAY** in the evening. I need a complete list of adults and children in order to reserve spots. Call me at 612-387-0096 or lrninkler@yahoo.com or talk with me today. Their website is www.fmssc.org.— *Leslie Minkler*