

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

February 20, 2011

Prelude

***Call to Worship**

Leader: God of love, light a flame of love in our hearts to you,

People: a flame of love to our families and friends,

L: a flame of love to our neighbors,

P: a flame of love to our enemies.

All: Light a flame of love in our hearts to all, from the lowliest thing that lives to the Name that is highest of all. AMEN.

***Hymns:** “For the beauty of the earth” #89 HWB (vv. 1, 4, 5)

“You’ve got a place” #4 STJ

Prayer of Confession: #132 STJ

New Testament Reading: Galatians 3:23-4:7

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

Children’s time “All kinds of families”

Song: “God’s Family” (*insert*)

Gospel Reading: Mark 3:31-35

Sermon: “Families in the Kingdom: beyond bloodlines”

Hymn: “God of Eve and God of Mary” #492 HWB

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Congregational Prayer & Lord’s 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:** “Come thou fount” #

***Benediction**

***Passing the Peace / Postlude**

Community Time

- 10:45 **Fellowship time** – basement fellowship hall

- 11:00 **Children’s singing time & classes**

- 11:00 **Adult education** – fellowship hall

Today we begin a 7-week series on “Family, Singleness, & Marriage” as part of a discernment process around marriage guidelines for our congregation. See insert for a description of the full series.

TODAY: A celebration of music

Worship leader: Joetta Schlabach

Song Leader: Anna Gambucci

Piano: Sandra Westby

Ushers: Nikki Nafziger & Mike Okerstrom

Nursery: Mark Kaufman & Matthew Thomas

Fellowship:

NEXT SUNDAY: Family, Singleness & Marriage – part 2

Worship leader: Aryn Baxter

Sermon: Phil Stoltzfus

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.

February 20: Attendance: Offering: \$

Sanctuary Painting Project Update

Received to date: \$14,000

Amount remaining: \$22,000

HWB: Hymnal Worship Book STJ: Sing the Journey

**Please stand if you are able*

Faith Mennonite Church
Pastor: Joetta Schlabach
Ministry Staff Person: Kathleen Remund
Deacons: Aryn Baxter, Kami Blackwell Kinney
Neil Okerlund, Beth Richardson, Hermann Weinlick

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FMC OFFICE HOURS: Feb 21-25

Pastor: Mon 1-5 p.m.; Wed & Thurs 9-4; Thurs 3-5, Fri 9-noon. Tuesday is a study day. Joetta is open to receiving phone calls at home on Monday & Wednesday evening from 7-8:30 p.m.

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

Office Assistant, Julie Cross: Tues, Weds & Thurs 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Email all bulletin items before Wednesday evening to:

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

Stained Glass Window Washing, Saturdays, 9 a.m. – noon. One more volunteer needed for Feb 26 and March 5. Three volunteers needed for March 12. **Please sign up on sign-up sheet** at back of sanctuary if you are able to participate. Thank you. –*Trustee & Stewardship Commission*

March 13, 2-4 p.m. Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice Partnership Benefit Concert. Come for an afternoon of live music by FMC musician Chris Jones and others and support this fine neighborhood organization.

March 18-20 “Creating a Culture of Peace” nonviolence training, facilitated by Phil Stoltzfus and Candace Lauth. We will explore dimensions of violence in our culture, spiritual and practical resources for interpersonal nonviolence, and much more. Open to FMC members and community folks, newcomers to nonviolence and those wanting to deepen their understandings. **Registration deadline is March 4.** Cost is \$100. Some scholarships available. See: www.creatingacultureofpeace.org.

Church Meetings and Events

February 22 – Lectionary Discussion Group, Trotter’s, Corner of Cleveland & Marshall, SP

February 26 – Stained glass window washing, 9 a.m. - noon

February 27 – Usher breakfast meeting, 8:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall

March 9 – Deacon Commission, 9 a.m., Richardsons

March 9 – Ash Wednesday Taizé Service, 7 p.m., sanctuary

March 12 – Christian Education Commission, 3:30 p.m., Chatterbox in St. Paul

March 13 – Fundraising Concert for Seward-Longfellow Restorative Justice Partnership, 2 p.m., FMC

March 18-20 – Creating a Culture of Peace nonviolence training, FMC

March 26 – March Birthday Brunch, 10 a.m., Schlabachs

Cover design by Dan Leisen

Galatians 3:23-4:7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

My point is this: heirs, as long as they are minors, are no better than slaves, though they are the owners of all the property; but they remain under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; while we were minors, we were enslaved to the elemental spirits of the world. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Mark 3:31-35

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, 'Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.' And he replied, 'Who are my mother and my brothers?' And looking at those who sat around him, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.'

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

Organizing for FMC's 50th and Jubilee Anniversary Celebration is underway. From the beautiful quilt project, to a variety of projects now listed on a sign-up sheet on the table at the back of the Sanctuary. There is something for everyone in the joy of this occasion. **Please take a moment to review some of the tasks outlined on the sign-up sheet**, and expect a joyous & momentous celebration of our church history & its people as we plan to mark our very special upcoming anniversary!

In the adult education forum on February 6, we had discussion of seed starting. This is the plant date calculator: <http://www.johnnyseeds.com/e-PDGSeedStart.aspx??source=HomeSeedCalc0111> The average last frost date for Minneapolis/St. Paul is 5/21. The calculator tells you both the seed start dates and the date to plant relative to the average last-frost date. Here are a couple of ideas for building your own light set-up or light-table: http://www.ehow.com/how_4857469_build-seed-starting-light-table.html <http://www.brownthumbmama.com/2010/02/make-your-own-seed-starting-light.html> Almost time to start the onions! –*Minke Holtkamp Sundseth*

Taizé Service, Wednesday February 23, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Prospect Park United Methodist Church, 22 Orlin Ave SE, Minneapolis (across from Pratt School). This ecumenical prayer service, patterned after worship in the Taizé community in France, is sponsored by PPUMC and Cabrini Catholic Church. Everyone is welcome to attend. They also welcome persons to help plan upcoming services (March 23 and May 4). If you are interested in joining in the planning, contact Chris Kosowski at Cabrini, 612-339-3023, ext. 115; chris@cabrinimn.org

Adult Education Series February 20-April 3 Family, Singleness and Marriage

February 20 & 27 – Family (coordinated by Ry Siggelkow)

March 6 & 13 – Singleness (coordinated by Kathleen Harder and Joetta Schlabach)

March 20 & 27 – Marriage (coordinated by Richard Westby)

April 3 - Vision for Christian Family & Relationships

In this series we will seek to explore each of these areas, and to offer opportunities for open dialog within the context of a trusting and safe community. In each focus area, we will discuss biblical, theological and historical perspectives; we will listen to testimony from our congregation, as well as to the testimony found in our *Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective*. Planning committee: Matthew Blackwell Kinney, Kathleen Harder, Matthew Hendricks, Katie Hochstedler, Donna Minter, Joetta Schlabach