

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

March 4, 2012

Second Sunday of Lent

Prelude

*Call to Worship (from Psalm 22:23-29)

Leader: You who fear the Lord, praise God!

People: All you offspring of Jacob, glorify God;

Leader: For God did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted;

People: God did not hide from us, but heard when we cried.

Leader: The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek God shall praise the Lord.

People: May your hearts live forever!

Leader: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,

People: All the families of the nations shall worship before God.

All: Dominion belongs to the Lord, and God rules over the nations.

*Hymns: "Lift every voice and sing" #579 HWB

"Who now would follow Christ" # 535 HWB

Epistle Reading: Romans 4:13-25

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

Children's time

Song: "Lord, you have come to the lakeshore" (vs. 1-3) #229 HWB

Gospel Reading: Mark 8:27-38

Sermon: "Vocation"

Hymn: "Will you come and follow me" (insert)

Prayer of Confession

God, in Jesus you have shown us yourself. We have seen you as One who does not overwhelm or threaten but as One who shares, who supports, who challenges, who comforts. You have invited us to follow Jesus, but so often we have found his way too difficult or too challenging or too strange. Forgive us. Help us to be more faithful followers of Jesus.

Assurance of Pardon

Communion

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Leader: God of mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

HWB: Hymnal Worship Book STJ: Sing the Journey

**Please stand if you are able*

Congregational Prayer

Offering & Offertory

Announcements (please give in writing to worship leader)

Introduction of guests

***Sending hymn:** "Make Me a Captive, Lord" #539 HWB

***Benediction**

***Passing the Peace / Postlude**

Community Time

10:40 a.m. Fellowship time

11:00 a.m. Christian education classes for all ages. Visitors welcome.

Adult ed. classes: Theological Explorations in the chapel; Jubilee

Justice and Sabbath Economics in the fellowship hall; Parenting

Support Group in the sanctuary.

TODAY:

Greeter: Donna Minter **Ushers:** William Chittenden, Casey Englund

Worship leader: Shawn Helmeke

Sermon: Hermann Weinlick

Reader: Phil Fuller

Piano: Sandra Westby

Song Leader & viola: Karen Wiebe

Horn: Neil Okerlund

Children's Time: Joan Wing

Fellowship: Kathleen Harder

Nursery: Cori Skogerboe & Melissa Hochstetler

Shoveling: Bob Mack

Fellowship buddy: Jacob Schlabach

NEXT SUNDAY: Third Sunday of Lent

Greeter: Aryn Baxter

Ushers: Rhonda Martin & Cori Skogerboe

Worship leader: Alisa Bardo-Martinson

Sermon: Richard Westby

Song Leader: Gregg Richardson

Piano: Jim Kubelbeck

Nursery: Aryn Baxter & Shelly Hendricks

Shoveling: *volunteer needed*

Fellowship buddy: Jenny Wandersee

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 26:

Attendance: 81

Offering: \$2,363

Faith Mennonite Church

Pastor: Joetta Schlabach (on sabbatical)

Ministry Staff: Phil Stoltzfus

Sabbatical Pastoral Care: Donna Stucky

Deacons: Aryn Baxter, Shelly Hendricks,

Donna Minter, Adam Nafziger, Neil Okerlund

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FMC office hours: March 5–9

Pastoral Care: Mon 1-3, or leave message at any time on church phone

Ministry Staff: Mon 10-5; Wed 1:45-7; Thurs 10-5

Email bulletin items by Wednesday evening. Bulletin is printed on Thursday.

This week: all girls and women are invited to a special **International Women's Day** event, on **Thursday, March 8, 2012**. We will gather in the church basement for a **potluck at 6:00 p.m.** followed by a talking circle and possibly a short film. Much laughter and meaningful conversation anticipated. **RSVP: Kristi Zabriskie.**

Sunday, March 11, noon, church potluck—international theme. Please bring a dish according to the beginning letter of your last name:

- A-G: Dessert
- H-M: Salad
- N-Z: Main dish

Please consider bringing, in addition to the item above, a bread, condiment, small serving of fruit, or side dish. Questions? Email Teresa Wasick.

Church Meetings and Events (online calendar at: www.faithmennonite.org)

March 5 – Sustainability Team, 5:00, chapel

March 5 – Soup Group, 6 p.m., Joan Kreider home

March 8 – International Women's Day potluck, 6:00 p.m., fellowship hall

March 11 – Church potluck, 12:00 pm; **SLRJP Benefit Concert**, 2:00 pm

March 12 – Missions & Service, 5:00 p.m., chapel

March 14 – Church Council, 7 p.m., chapel

March 17 – March Birthday Brunch, 9:30-11 a.m., Schlabach home

March 17 – **Neighborhood Sustainability Fair**, 1-5 pm, fellowship hall

March 18-24 – MDS Trip to Minot, ND

March 20 – **Bethel College Concert Choir**, 7:30 p.m., sanctuary

Romans 4:13-25

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Mark 8:27-38

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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

Darrell Martin and Cynthia Miller will be participating in public health clinics in Haiti and Belize this spring and are **collecting new bottles of multivitamins** to be distributed. If you would like to donate, put them in the labeled box at the back. **The goal is to collect what we can by today.**

Soup Group upcoming dates in March:

- **Monday, March 5**, 6 p.m., home of Joan Kreider,
- **Tuesday, March 13**, home of Katie Hochstedler & Nicki Morgan,
- **Friday, March 23**, soup & board games, FMC fellowship hall,

hosted by Marybeth Luing.

If you are interested in **hosting a soup group, please sign sheet in back.**

Benefit concert for Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice

Partnership, Sunday, March 11, 2-4:00 p.m. at FMC. Musicians Linda Breitag, Sophia Breitag, Chris Semanchin Jones, Ray Makeever, Robin Nelson. Folk songs, songs of peace, roots music, Celtic fiddling, serious silliness, and *you* singing along. Freewill donations gratefully accepted. For info contact Michele Braley.

During March, FMC will participate in the 2012 **Community Emergency Service Food Drive**. Help fight hunger by donating food, hygiene items, or cash. Details coming soon. –*Susan Weinlick*

Volunteers needed for the Neighborhood Sustainability Fair, Saturday, March 17, 1-5:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Do you have a sustainability skill to share? Could you volunteer to staff a recycling station, or the kitchen, or be a greeter, or provide music? See **sign-up sheet on the back table or contact the church office**. Please **take fliers to pass out and post**. –*Phil Stoltzfus*

The **Bethel College Choir** (KS) will be performing a concert at FMC on **Tuesday, March 20**, 7:30 p.m. The fellowship commission is looking for **volunteers** to provide pots of soup and cookies, as well as to set up/serve/clean up. There is a **sign-up sheet on the back table**. –*Fellowship Commission*

I have posted a video of the **children singing at FMC last Sunday** at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=WbHRhUw0Zqg –*Karen Linn Peterson*

Saturday, March 17, 9:30 a.m., Joetta's house, **March Birthday Brunch**, for those with March birthdays and their families. Sign-up sheet in back.

Several donated **school kits need to be delivered** to MCC offices in either N. Newton, KS or Goshen, IN. Going that way? Contact the FMC office.

Wilderness Wind is offering a **free canoe trip** in the Boundary Waters. Gather a group of five first-time participants, and the sixth person goes free. Contact 316-217-1129 or www.wildernesswind.org