

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH
March 7, 2010 Third Sunday of Lent
“Holding On, Letting Go”

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

L: Like parched ground waits for rain,
P: we long for God, body and soul.
L: When we see God’s power and glory
P: we can’t help but lift our hands in praise.
L: God is the one we seek,
P: the one we’ll hold on to.

HOLDING ON

*Hymns: “In the morning when I rise” #45 STJ
“Jesus calls us here to meet him” #3 STJ

Affirmation of faith: #717 HWB

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

Children’s time: “Quenching our thirst” ~ Marcia Siggelkow

Hymn: “We are people on a journey” #8 STJ

HEARING GOD’S WORD

Old Testament reading: Psalm 63:1-8

Gospel reading: Luke 13:1-9

Sermon: “Waiting and thirsting”

LETTING GO

Confession & Words of Assurance

Sharing at the Table in Communion

We will gather at the tables at front and back in groups of 10-12 as the ushers guide. Please hold the bread /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. During this time people are also invited to place a stone on the front table or wrap a ribbon on a twig as a symbol of holding on or letting go.

Solo: “Come to me, come to us”

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:** “You shall go out with joy” #427 HWB

***Benediction**

L: Leaving behind what does not satisfy,
P: and letting go of our pride, greed and selfishness,
L: let us look to God
P: and share what we’ve received.

***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** There are three adult classes:

- Parent connection to Gather ‘Round – Rm 202, Education wing
- Speaking of Faith – Library
- Ways to Pray – Chapel, Education wing

TODAY: Thirsting for God

/ Communion

Worship Leaders: Ry & Marcia Siggelkow **Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

Song leader: Sara Yoder

Piano: Melissa Falb

Reader: Matthew Kinney

Nursery volunteers: Rhonda Martin & Eric Kasper

Fellowship: Heather Wengerd & One Volunteer Needed

NEXT SUNDAY: Fourth Sunday of Lent

Worship Leaders: Ry & Marcia Siggelkow **Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

Song leader: Karen Wiebe

Piano: Karen Zeug

Nursery volunteers: Pierre Gingerich-Boberg & Pat Eliason.

One additional nursery volunteer needed for worship & education hour (Meagan gone).

Fellowship: Okerstroms

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, Greg Renstrom

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: March 8-12

Pastor: Mon 11:30-2:30; Wed 9-1:30; Thurs 9-4. Tuesday is a study day. Joetta will co-facilitate the CPMC Worship Arts Tour from Friday noon to Saturday noon. Joetta is open to receiving phone calls on Monday and Wednesday 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: Tuesday, 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. 28: Attendance: 90 Offering: \$2,973

Church Meetings and Events

March 8 – Church Council meeting, 7 p.m., chapel

March 9 – Lectionary Discussion Group (Is 43:16-21; Jn 12:1-8) 8:30 a.m.,
Trotter's, Corner of Marshall & Cleveland, SP

March 12 & 13 – Worship Arts Tour

March 12 & 14 – Men's Retreat, Snowshoe Lodge

March 17 – Deacon Commission, 9:30 a.m., Richardson's

March 19 – FMC Variety Show, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

March 23 – Missions & Service Commission, 6:30 p.m., Chapel

March 24 – MCC Sale Benefit Concert, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Emmanuel
Mennonite Church

March 28 - April 2 – MDS Trip to New Orleans

Psalm 63:1-8

O God, you are my God, I seek you,
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.
So I will bless you as long as I live;
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,^{*}
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips
when I think of you on my bed,
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;
for you have been my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand upholds me.

Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.'

Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down." '

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

Thank you so much for your expressions of sympathy in connection with the passing of Phil's mom. We appreciate being part of such a compassionate and caring faith community!— Phil Stoltzfus and Candace Lauth

Restorative Justice Fundraiser a Success! — Thanks to all who helped make last Sunday's fundraising event a resounding success! Approximately 80 neighbors attended the concert. The performers were excellent and the treats were tasty. Best of all, Michele Braley, director of the Seward-Longfellow Restorative Justice Partnership, reports that the concert raised \$2,619 for their work! A special thanks to Donna Minter and Rich Deming, who represented FMC in the planning and hosting of this lively community event—and to Chris Jones, who shared his musical gifts.

Request from Meagan O'Brien (our nursery staff person): Are you, or do you know, an entrepreneur? I am interested in interviewing you (or your friend) for my entrepreneurship class at the U. It will only take an hour and I can meet at a time and place convenient for you. Anytime in March would be great. Thank you for your consideration! Meagan O'Brien (meaganobrien@hotmail.com, 507-382-4414)

Plans are getting underway for a one-week Vacation Bible School for children age 4 through grade 4, June 14-18, 9-11:30 a.m.. Please mark your calendar and contact Shelly Hendricks if you would like to get involved: we'll need teachers, helpers, snack providers, etc. Help one morning or all five!

Lent and Easter music – Neil Okerlund will be leading the Menno' Faith and a mixed choir in preparing music for Palm Sunday and Easter. Following is the schedule of practices. Everyone who enjoys singing is welcome to rehearse.

March 7th Men after Sunday School hour (1/2 hour)
March 14th No rehearsals due to Men's Retreat
March 21st Mixed choir during Sunday School hour (11:15-noon)
March 21st Men after Sunday School hour (1/2 hour)
March 28th Palm Sunday, Mixed choir at 9 am, Mixed choir sings for service
April 4th Easter, Men rehearse at 9 am, Men sing for service

The Trustees will meet sometime this week to go over the church buildings and put together a "to-do" list for long- and short-term repair projects. If anyone has noticed something, small or large, that is in need of repair or updating, please let Glenn, Mark, or Nikki know about it so that it gets added to the list. Direct email to: NicoleSFitch@yahoo.com.

Sign up NOW to share your talent at the FMC Variety Show – Friday, March 19th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Dust off your tap shoes, warm up your voice and practice that comedy routine. Email Rhonda Martin at rmartinmsw@yahoo.com to reserve your spot in the variety show. Don't be shy!

Mennonite Mission Network thanks Faith Mennonite Church for contributing \$3,580.00 during 2009. Your gifts, prayers and participation in mission help to create ministries of healing and hope across the street and around the world. May you experience God's blessings as together we seek to *share all of Christ with all of creation.*

Faith Action for Just Treatment of Detainees and All Immigrants, Today at 2:30-3:00 pm Ramsey Detention Center, 425 Grove St. St. Paul, MN Sponsored by the Interfaith Coalition for Immigration

Peace March & Rally, Saturday March 20, 1 p.m. gather at Mayday Plaza (3rd Street and Cedar Avenue, Mpls.) and rally at Belam Theater, 1501 South 6th Street. On the weekend of March 19-21, the seventh anniversary of the U.S. war on Iraq, thousands of people will come together in cities around the world to call for an end to the wars on and the occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Benefit Concert for Twin Cities MCC Relief Sale, March 24, 7 p.m. The Light of His Grace, Tabor College Concert Choir at Emmanuel Mennonite Church, 725 E. 25th Street, Mpls.

Wilderness Wind Camp — God's creation will nurture you through canoe trips, cabins, yurt, and retreats at **Wilderness Wind**, a Mennonite camp based in Ely, Minnesota near the Boundary Waters. WW is taking reservations for **summer 2010. Special retreats** - Lakeside Writer's Retreat with Jeff Gundy and Julia Spicher Kasdorf, Quilter's retreat, Primitive Living Skills for those who want new challenges, and Fishing for smallmouth bass, walleye, and northern pike. Check www.wildernesswind.org or call 316-217-1129.

Bookkeeper (volunteer) needed at the Ten Thousand Villages, St. Paul store to manage our daily sales reports and enter information into Quickbooks; to report financial information to our Treasurer Denise Miller, and to reconcile bank and credit card reports. It will be about a 6 hours per week in the office at the store. **Kathy McGinley**, Store Manager, 867 Grand Ave, St. Paul, MN 55105, Phone 651-225-1043 stpaul@tenthousandvillages.com.