

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH
March 15, 2009
Lent 3: Our Lives Are In Your Hands

Prelude
Welcome

***Call to Worship**

L: People of God, do not worship the idols of power, prestige, and money. Order your lives to reflect God's will and way.

P: **Spirit of Truth, guide us as we stumble toward your kingdom. Clear our distortions, correct our mistakes, and mend our hearts. Amen.**

L: Brothers and sisters,
we gather today assured of God's guidance and mercy,

P: **that even God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom!**

Hymns: "You are all we have" #29 STJ
"Open my eyes, that I may see" #517 HWB

Readers' theatre (from Exodus 20; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1)

Response: *Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.*

Prayer of Confession

O God, many times we cannot see your beauty, celebrate your love, or hear your voice, all because we are not rooted in your message. Open our eyes, enlighten our hearts, and fill our ears with your tender words. We ask this through Jesus, the Eternal Word. Amen.

Children's Gathering Hymn: "Come and See" #20 HWB

Children's Time: Honey and rules ~ Kristin Green

Hymn: "A charge to keep I have" #393 HWB

Gospel Reading: John 2:13-22

Sermon: "Playing by the House Rules"

Hymn: "Just a closer walk with thee" #106 STJ

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. *(cont. on next page)*

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:** "They Holy Wings" #118 STJ

***Benediction**

L: God of heaven and earth, your perfect teaching inspires us,

P: **your Holy Spirit enlightens us,**

L: your Son Jesus confronts us.

P: **Our lives are in your hands.**

L: Send us into the world you love and we love
as representatives of the crucified love and the living Savior.

***Passing the Peace / Postlude**

Community Time

- **Fellowship time - 10:45-11:10 a.m.**

- **Children's music - 11 a.m.,** Room 201, education wing

- **Christian Education - 11:15 - noon**

Adult classes:

- The Spirituality of Imperfection - Room 201, education wing
- Spirituality and Health - Library

- **Noon - Women's choir rehearsal, sanctuary**

TODAY: Lent 3: God overturns human wisdom

Worship leader: Deedee Stevens Neal **Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

Song leader: Donna Stucky **Piano:** Cathy Smetana

Nursery volunteers: Jennifer Wandersee & Rhonda Martin

NEXT SUNDAY:

Worship leader: Deedee Stevens Neal **Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

Song leader: Pierre Gingerich-Boberg **Piano:** Adam Nafziger

Nursery volunteers: Two Volunteers Needed

Fellowship: Adam Nafziger & Nikki Fitch

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: Michael Bischoff

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: March 16-20

Pastor: Mon 1-5 p.m.; Wed 2-5; Thurs 9:30-3:30; Fri 8:30-12:30

Joetta is open to receiving calls at home on Monday and Wednesday from 7-8:30 p.m., Tuesday is a study day.

Michael Bischoff: Thursday 9-noon

Office Assistant: Wednesday & Friday 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

*Email all bulletin items before **Thursday evening to:***

faithmc@faithmennonite.org

Mar 8: Attendance: 67 Offering: \$1,159

Soup & Silence —During the weeks of Lent we offer a simple soup supper one night each week, followed by a time of centering prayer. FMC Chapel

6:00-6:30 p.m. – Soup & Bread, **6:30-7:00 p.m.** – Prayer

Tuesday, March 17, Wednesday, March 25, Monday, March 30

Church Meetings and Events

March 16 – Women’s Retreat planning group, 5 p.m., FMC chapel

March 17 – Lectionary Discussion Group (Num 21:4-9; John 3:14-21)

8:30 a.m., Trotters, Corner of Marshall & Cleveland, SP

March 18 – Deacon’s Commission, 9:30 a.m., Richardsons

March 21 – Musician workshop, led by Jane Ramseyer Miller, 9-noon, FMC

March 29 – Immigration & Food Justice: A Multi-Faith Dialogue,

2:30 - 4:30 p.m., FMC

April 6 – Missions & Service, Commission, 9 a.m., FMC

April 9 – Maundy Thursday supper & service, 6-7 p.m., Fellowship Hall

April 12 – Easter Breakfast & worship (no Christian education classes)

May 8-9 – Women’s Retreat, Carondelet Center

Announcements

John 2: 13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

TONIGHT—Forum on Affordable, Supportive Housing in Seward, 5:30 -6:25 pm, FMC sanctuary. Faith is collaborating with the Community of St. Martin to offer an Adult Education session about a new affordable housing project that is proposed in the Seward neighborhood. The developers of this project have asked Faith Mennonite for our moral and public support as they work with the neighborhood, the city, and funders. Please come join this discussion to learn more about this project

Women – Save the Date! Spring women's retreat, Friday, May 8, 7 p.m. to Saturday, May 9, 5 p.m. (with optional dinner out). Carondelet Center. More details to follow from planning group: Erin Geiser, Rhonda Martin, Leslie Minkler, and Joetta Schlabach

Ecuador — A recent report from Lois and Shirley Kaufman from their recent trip to Quito, to meet with Mennonite Outreach partners Cesar Moya and Patricia Uruena, is posted on the back Missions & Service bulletin board in the back of the sanctuary. Very interesting and informative.

NEXT SUNDAY AFTERNOON— Immigration and Food Justice: A Multi-Faith Dialogue, March 29, 2:30 – 4:30 pm. What impact do immigrants as people and immigration policy have on the production and distribution of food in the U.S.? Who benefits? Who suffers? A panel from different faith perspectives will discuss how the values of justice and respect apply to the connections between immigration and food. **Panelist Include:** Rabbi Morris Allen, Owais Bayunus and Tisha Rajendra **Co-Sponsors:** Faith Mennonite Church, Jewish Community Action, Bread for The World Upper Midwest Office, Oxfam Action Corps Minnesota, Community of St. Martin, Pan-African Community Organization, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, The Church of St. Albert the Great, and the Land Stewardship Project. **Held at Faith Mennonite Church.** Open to the public; free. For more information, contact Michael Bischoff at 612-521-1889. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** –The Spring Forum Committee is looking for volunteers **to bring snacks** for our upcoming forum, "*Immigration and Food Justice: A Multi-Faith Dialogue.*" Please contact Melissa Hochstetler if you can help.

Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice Partnership builds community by bringing youth offenders, victims, community members and trained facilitators together in a conference to repair the harm done by the youth offender and promote healing, accountability and reconciliation. We need people who have a stake in Seward or Longfellow neighborhoods to volunteer at the conferences as a community member or a trained facilitator. Our next facilitator training will be April 24-26. Please contact Michele Braley at 612-338-6205 x108 or michele@sng.org for more information about the program and how you can become involved.