

## FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

March 23, 2008 ~ Easter

### Gathering Music

**Greeting:** The Lord is risen!

**C:** **The Lord is risen indeed!**

**Choral anthem:** “The Lord is risen indeed”

### Invocation and Welcome

**\*Hymns:** “Christ the Lord is risen today” #280 HWB  
“For mornings bright” #113 SJT

**Scripture reading:** Acts 10:34-43

### Affirmation of faith

East: We believe in a bright and amazing God  
who has been to the depths of despair on our behalf;  
who has risen in splendor and majesty;  
who decorates the universe with sparkling water,  
clear white light, twinkling stars and sharp colors,  
over and over and over again.

West: We believe that Jesus is the light of the world;  
that God believes in us, and trusts us,  
even though we make the same mistakes  
over and over and over again.

All: We commit ourselves to Jesus,  
to one another as brothers and sisters,  
and to the Maker’s business in the world.:

**Children’s Gathering Hymn:** “Come and See” #20 HWB

**Children’s Time** “God’s way of winning”

**Hymn:** “Christ has arisen” #267 HWB

**Gospel reading:** Matthew 28:1-10; 16-17

**Sermon:** “With fear and great joy”

**Hymn:** “From ashes to the living fount” (*insert*)

**Response:** “From fear to joy” – Thaine Dirks

### Congregational Sharing

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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 & Offertory

**Announcements** (please give in writing to the pastor or worship leader)

### Introduction of Guests

**\*Sung Benediction:** “Praise God from whom” #118 HWB

### Passing the Peace

### Postlude

### Community Time

*There are no Christian Education classes today. Classes resume next Sunday.*

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*A parent resource room is directly below the sanctuary, between the men's and women's washrooms. 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.*

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**TODAY:** Easter one: God transforms our fear into joy

**Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

**Song Leader:** Pierre Gingerich-Boberg

**Organ:** David Mayou

**Childcare:** Minke Sundseth & Andy Martinson

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**NEXT SUNDAY:** Easter two: God dispels our doubts

**Sermon:** Carol Wise

**Song Leader:** Phil Stoltzfus

**Piano:** Melissa Falb

**Childcare:** Volunteers needed

**Fellowship time:** Sandra Westby

**Snow Shoveling (Mar. 24- 30):** Volunteer needed

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**Thank you to Richard & Sandra Westby** who coordinated the Maundy Thursday meal, to **Teresa Wasick and Clea Roth Gingerich** who coordinated the Easter breakfast, and to all who brought food and participated in each. Happy Easter!

## Faith Mennonite Church

Interim Pastor: Joetta Schlabach

Deacons: Candace Lutt, Martha Mayou, Mike Okerstrom,  
Beth Richardson, Hermann Weinlick

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### FMC OFFICE HOURS: March 24-28

**Pastor's Hours:** Mon, 1-5; Tues & Wed, 9-4; Thurs, 8:30-noon. Joetta is open to receiving phone calls at home on Monday and Wednesday, 7-8:30 p.m. Joetta (and Gerald) will be traveling to Goshen Thursday afternoon, returning Monday, March 31. Please contact a deacon for pastoral needs or in case of an emergency.

**Office Assistant Hours:** Wednesday & Friday, 8:30-1:30.

*Email all bulletin items before Thursday evening to:*

[faithmc@faithmennonite.org](mailto:faithmc@faithmennonite.org)

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**March 16:** Attendance: 90 Offering: \$3,629

### Church Meetings and Events

- March 26 – Worship Commission, 4:30 p.m., FMC
- April 2 – Bethel College Choir concert, 7 p.m., Luther Seminary
- April 5 – Christian Education Commission, 9 a.m. at FMC
- April 10 – Deacon's Commission, 1 p.m. at Richardson's
- April 14 – Church Council, 7 p.m. @ FMC Chapel
- April 16 – Missions & Service, 7 p.m. at FMC
- April 20 – FMC Neighborhood Gatherings, 5-7 p.m. in homes

### Acts 10:34-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all

who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

### **Matthew 28:1-10; 16-17**

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted.

L: The word of the Lord.     **C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Announcements**

**Delegates needed for Central Plains Mennonite Conference Annual Meeting.** Faith Mennonite may send three lay delegates to the CPMC Annual Meeting, held this year from June 17-19, in Lincoln, Neb. Anyone (including youth) interested in attending with Jerry Janzen, Joetta Schlabach, and Joan Kreider (to be confirmed), **please notify the church office by Wednesday, March 26.**

**Thank you** to Richard Westby, who delivered 65 lbs. of groceries to Community Emergency Services and to Donna Minter for transporting MCC kits to Goshen, Indiana.

**Time to Register for the Women's Retreat (April 25-26)** Registrations for the spring Women's Retreat, "Spiritual Care through the Seasons of Life," are due by March 30. Don't miss this opportunity to take a break from your busy routine and enjoy the relaxed company of FMC women. We'll talk, play games, sing, pray, eat, walk, nap, and more.

**The Concert Choir from Bethel College in North Newton, Kan.,** will give a benefit concert for the Twin Cities Mennonite Central Committee Relief Sale Wed., April 2, at 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel of the Incarnation at Luther Seminary in St. Paul. The seminary's address is 2481 Como Ave. and the chapel is located in the Olsen Student Center at 1490 Fulham (corner of Fulham and Hendon Ave.). The 45-voice choir sings a repertoire of mostly sacred music under the direction of Dr. William Eash.

**Muslim-Christian Cooperation in Peacemaking, April 10.** Two peacemakers will speak at the University of St. Thomas, Thursday evening April 10. Sami Rasouli of Muslim Peacemaker Teams, Iraq and Ahmed Haile, Peace Studies instructor at Daystar University in Nairobi, Kenya. Ahmed Haile is originally from Somalia and an alumnus of Goshen College. Free and open to the public. April 10, at 7p.m., 3M Auditorium, Owens Science Center, 2115 Summit Av., St. Paul. For more information contact Gerald Schlabach at [gwschlabach@stthomas.edu](mailto:gwschlabach@stthomas.edu) or 651 962-5332

**Please consider volunteering for the coffee, tea, and snack** part of the fellowship time after church services. We are changing the sign-up sheet so that we have 2 volunteers per Sunday. If you are single, ask another church member to sign up with you. Bring snack food of your choice to feed around 80 people (each person could bring enough for 40). The church supplies the follow items: coffee, sugar/sugar substitute, half & half, juice, and napkins.