

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

March 25, 2012

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Prelude

***Call to Worship** (based on Jeremiah 31:31-34)

Leader: The days are surely coming, and are here now, when the Lord will initiate with us a new covenant.

Left: The laws will be written on our hearts.

Right: You will be our God and we will be your people.

All: God will know us, from the least to greatest. God will forgive our iniquity and remember our sin no more.

***Hymns:** "O breathe on me, O breath of God" #46 STJ
"O God, who gives us life" #483 HWB

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9

Prayer of Confession – Psalm 51

"The sacrifice you accept, O God" #141 HWB (vv. 1-3)

Assurance of Pardon

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

Children's time: "Rules by heart" – The Kaufman Wengerd family

Song: "Obey my voice" #163 HWB

Gospel Reading: John 12:20-33

Sermon: "Writing God's Word on our hearts"

Hymn: "Open, Lord, my inward ear" #140 HWB (vv. 1-3, 5)

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Leader: God of mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Congregational Prayer

Offering & Offertory

Announcements (please give in writing to worship leader)

Introduction of guests

***Sending hymn:** "One is the body" #72 STJ

***Benediction**

***Passing the Peace / Postlude**

Community Time

10:40 a.m. Fellowship time

11:00 a.m. Education Hour. Adult ed. classes: Theological Explorations in the chapel (chapter 3 of the Stuart Murray book); Jubilee Justice and Sabbath Economics in the fellowship hall; Parenting Support Group in the parent resource room below the sanctuary.

12:05 p.m. Easter Choir rehearsal, directed by Anna Gambucci. Also rehearsing next Sunday, April 1 at 11:50. If you plan to make either (or both) of these rehearsals, please let Anna know: annagambucci@yahoo.

TODAY: Fifth Sunday of Lent (Jer. 31:31-34; John 12:20-33)

Worship leader: Adam Nafziger

Sermon: Joetta Schlabach

Song Leader: Phil Stoltzfus

Keyboard: David Mayou

Brass Quartet: Matthew Blackwell Kinney, Neil Okerlund, Gregg Richardson, Matthew Thomas

Ushers: Shawn Helmeke & William Chittenden

Nursery: Casey Englund & Wendy Brunner (Meagan O'Brien gone, additional parent may be needed)

Fellowship Buddy: Hermann Weinlick

NEXT SUNDAY: Palm/Passion Sunday (Mark 14:1-15:47)

Worship leader: Joetta Schlabach

Song Leader: Hermann Weinlick

Organ: David Mayou

Ushers: Cori Skogerboe & Darrell Martin

Nursery: Cleta Roth & Susan Weinlick

Fellowship: *volunteer needed*

Fellowship Buddy: Jacob Schlabach

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.

Mar. 18:

Attendance: 79

Offering: \$3,381.75

Faith Mennonite Church
Pastor: Joetta Schlabach
Ministry Staff: Phil Stoltzfus
Deacons: Aryn Baxter, Shelly Hendricks,
Donna Minter, Adam Nafziger, Neil Okerlund

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FMC office hours: March 26-30

Pastor: Mon 8:30-4:30; Wed & Thurs 9-5. Tuesday is a study day.

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

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

This Sunday and next Sunday (March 25 and April 1) we are collecting donations for the **March 2012 FoodShare Drive for Community Emergency Services**. Your participation is needed now more than ever.

- Grocery bags are available today; as you leave pick up a bag, and return it no later than next Sunday.
- Envelopes are available on the table if you wish to mail a check, or put your check in with the offering, with a note that it's for CES.
- The bags will be delivered to CES on April 1. —*Susan Weinlick*

FMC's **Maundy Thursday Service** (April 5) will begin with a simple meal of soup, bread, and fruit. If you are planning to come and are able to help out by either bringing food or working in the kitchen, **please sign up** on the sheet located in the fellowship area. Questions: Contact Sandra or Richard Westby.

Monday, April 2, 6 p.m., Soup Group, home of Joan Kreider. RSVP by April 1 to Joan.E.Kreider@gmail.com. **If you are interested in hosting** Soup Group, please **sign the sheet in the narthex** or contact Aryn Baxter.

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

March 28 – April Newsletter deadline, noon to Gregg Richardson

April 5 – Maundy Thursday meal and service, 6 p.m., fellowship hall

April 8 – Easter breakfast (8:30 a.m.) & worship (no education classes)

April 11 – Church Council, 7 p.m., chapel

April 13-15 – Creating a Culture of Peace workshop, at the church

April 18 – Deacon Commission, 9 a.m., Nafziger home

Hebrews 5:7-9

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

John 12:20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. “Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

Registration deadline April 1: Creating a Culture of Peace nonviolence training, April 13-15. Missions & Service will be hosting a weekend workshop, facilitated by Phil Stoltzfus and Janet Chisholm (national executive director of CCP). 1 p.m. Friday through 6 p.m. Sunday (with time off Sunday morning). We will explore dimensions of violence in our culture, spiritual and practical resources for interpersonal nonviolence, dynamics of nonviolent social movements, perspectives on community building, and action planning for future projects. Registration is open to FMC members and community folks, newcomers to nonviolence as well as those wanting to deepen their understanding. Cost is \$100, scholarships available. **Registration forms available on the back table and on the FMC homepage.**

A big **thank you to all of those who volunteered** for the **Neighborhood Sustainability Fair** last week, either by serving on the planning committee, distributing flyers or creating a Facebook page, staffing a table or an activity station, taking photographs, setting up or cleaning up, or by greeting people who came to our church from Seward neighborhood and farther afield. Some 150-200 meals were served by Sisters' Camelot, a half dozen pickup loads of electronic equipment and plastics collected, countless bikes fixed, and many new connections forged as we came together to explore and celebrate sustainability. –*Phil Stoltzfus*

Lodging needed for four male college students from Briercrest Bible College (Saskatchewan, Canada), who are looking for a place to stay **March 29-30**. Contact the church office.

April 30-May 4, Strategies for Trauma Awareness and Resilience (STAR) workshop in Minneapolis. The STAR mission is to strengthen the capacity of caregivers, leaders, and organizations to address trauma, break cycles of violence, and build resilience at the individual, family, community, and societal levels. STAR teaches alternatives to revenge for personal and institutional transformation. **Register online** at www.starmpls.eventbrite.com or **contact Donna Minter**.

Wednesday, March 28, Christians for Biblical Equality prayer walk around the Whittier neighborhood as a way to celebrate **Women's History Month**. Everyone is invited. Join us to pray for God's Spirit to open minds and hearts to the scripture, which empowers women's gifts, and for healing and reconciliation where injustice against women is taking place. Meet in the Meadows Lobby just inside the Minnesota Church Center at 6:00 pm, 122 W Franklin Ave., Mpls. –*Charity Kroeker*

Thursday, March 29, OutFront Minnesota's Lobby Day of Action with Minnesotans United for All Families. Join us for a day of training, organizing, and action. The rally for equality is at noon on the Capitol lawn. Afterwards, "Of Light and Hope," a multi-faith worship service connecting people of faith to defeat the marriage amendment at Mount Zion Temple, 1300 Summit Ave., SP. Join with other people of faith and take time for healing, honoring, and moving forward together. Welcoming reception at 4:30, followed by worship from 5:30-6:30pm.

Community Garden Spring Resource Fair, "Nourishing Neighborhoods, Connecting Communities," **Saturday, March 31**, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Neighborhood House, 179 Robie Street, SP. Workshops, local urban agriculture panel, keynote speaker (Karen Washington, president of NYC Community Garden Coalition). For more info, see: www.gardeningmatters.org.