

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH
April 3, 2011 ~ Third Sunday of Lent
Becoming human: called and shaped by Jesus

Prelude

***Call to Worship**

Leader: The Lord is our shepherd.

People: We shall not want.

Leader: God makes us lie down in green pastures.

People: We shall not want.

Leader: God leads us beside quiet waters.

People: We shall not want.

**All: Restore us through your Holy Spirit, the love of Jesus Christ,
and the comfort of your presence.**

***Hymns:** "The Lord's my shepherd" #578 HWB
"Come and be light" #5 STJ

Prayer of Confession & Silence

Words of Assurance

Leader: As everything exposed to the light becomes visible,
We walk from darkness into light.

**All: Open our eyes, Jesus,
that our lives may radiate your glory. Amen**

Scripture reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

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

Children's time: "Choosing a leader God's way" ~ Neil Okerlund

Song: "This little light of mine" (traditional)

Sermon: "Stumbling toward the light"

Silent reflection: In what way have you received sight and new understanding? What has God (and others) helped you see in yourself?

Hymn: "Open my eyes that I may see" #517 HWB (vv. 1, 2, 4)

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Congregational Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Our Father/Mother 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 worship leader)

Introduction of guests

***Sung benediction:** "Go, my friends, in grace" (insert in back of hymnal)

***Passing the Peace / Postlude**

Community Time

- 10:30 **Fellowship time**

- 10:45 **Children's singing time / activities**

- 11:00 **Education for all ages**

Adult Christian Education: Vision for Christian family & relationships

TODAY: Lent 4: Becoming Human: Called to Light

Worship leader: Gregg Richardson **Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

Song Leader: Anna Gambucci **Piano:** Sandra Westby

Greeter: Beth Richardson

Ushers: Nikki Nafziger & Shawn Helmeke

Nursery: Clea Roth Gingerich & Joan Wing

Fellowship: Cindy Bjork & Jenny Wandersee

NEXT SUNDAY: Lent 5: Becoming Human: Called to Life

Greeter: Aryn Baxter

Worship leader: Kristi Zabriskie

Reflections: Joan Kreider and Richard Westby

Song Leader: Phil Stoltzfus

Piano: Melissa Falb

Ushers: Rachel Hoskins & Cori Skogerboe

Nursery: Wendy Brunner & Cori Skogerboe

Fellowship: Paula Okerstrom & Brooke Derrickson

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.

March 27: Attendance: 104

Offering: not recorded
(Weekly budgeted need: \$2984)

Sanctuary Painting Project Update

Received to date: \$24,550

Amount remaining: \$11,450

Faith Mennonite Church
Pastor: Joetta Schlabach
Ministry Staff Person: Kathleen Remund
Deacons: Aryn Baxter, Shelly Hendricks
Donna Minter, Neil Okerlund, Beth Richardson

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FMC OFFICE HOURS: April 4-8

Pastor: Mon 1-5; Wed 9-5, Thurs 8:30-noon, Friday 9-11. Tuesday Joetta will meet with area Mennonite pastors in Cannon Falls.

Ministry Staff Person: Monday 1-3 p.m., Friday 9-Noon.

Office Assistant, Julie Cross: Tues, Weds & Thurs 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Email all bulletin items before Wednesday evening to:

faithmc@faithmennonite.org. Bulletin is finalized and printed on Thursday.

TODAY:

- **Noon:** The **Pastor Parish Relations Committee** will meet in the library to continue to discuss a pastor/congregation review process.
- **Noon-3 p.m. Final quilting session in the chapel.** If you are working on a block but cannot attend this session, please notify Arlene Geissinger, Nikki Fitch, Kristin Green, or Sandra Westby.
- **2:30 – 3 p.m. – Immigration Faith Action Vigil (ICOM).** Ramsey County Adult Detention Center; 425 Grove Street, SP Meet at church at 1:45 p.m. for carpools.

Easter Flowers! The Lent-Easter Planning Committee is taking order for potted spring flowers to decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. The plants can be taken home after worship. **Sign-up sheet on back table this Sunday and next.** Suggested contribution of \$10/plant (can be put in offering, marked “Easter plants”). – *Cleta Roth Gingerich*

Several persons will be received into membership on Easter Sunday, April 24. **If you are interested in exploring church membership, please speak with pastor Joetta or one of the deacons.**

Church Meetings and Events

April 4 - First Monday Soup Group, 6 p.m., Joan Kreider's home
April 5 - Lectionary Discussion Group, 8:30 a.m., Trotters Restaurant
April 12 - 2nd Tuesday Soup Group, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall, followed by
Lent sharing with Cabrini Catholic Church at 7 p.m.
April 13 - Church Council, 7 p.m., FMC
April 16 – Birthday Brunch, 10-11:30 a.m., Schlabach home
April 20 - Deacon Commission, 9 a.m., Richardson's
April 21 – Maundy Thursday, 6 – 8 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Cover design by Dan Leisen

1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.' And the Lord said, 'Take a heifer with you, and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the Lord." Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.' Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, 'Do you come peaceably?' He said, 'Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen any of these.' Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.' He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

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

Please pick up children from the nursery before 10:40. Children may be dropped off again for Sunday School starting at 10:55. The nursery will be closed between those times for cleaning and prep. —*Meagan O'Brien*

FMC Soup Group An opportunity for our church community to share meals together on a regular basis. Each week someone from the congregation will host a meal at church (or their home) and anyone is welcome to come (and to bring friends and family if they would like). Soup and bread will be provided. RSVPs are requested for accurate planning.

- **First Monday, April 3, 6 p.m. at Joan Kreider's**
- **Second Tuesday, April 12, 6 p.m., FMC** This will be followed at 7 p.m. with a time for fellowship and reflection on a Lent biblical text with friends from Cabrini Catholic Church.

Easter cards for college students and others. Please take a moment this Sunday and next to sign and/or write a note to our college students and others at a distance. Cards are on back table.

Special Offering for Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) disaster relief. The recent earthquake and tsunami in Japan remind us of many places still recovering from past disaster. **On Sunday, April 10, we will take a special offering for MCC.** This will be in addition to a regular gift to FMC. You may write checks directly to MCC and they will be sent to MCC.

Ten Thousand Villages St. Paul, is holding a very special Oriental Rug Event Oct. 12-16, 2011, bringing in hundreds of fair trade rugs from Pakistan for a five-day sale. Purchasers can be assured that these rugs are of exceptional quality and value, and have not been produced with child labor. **Help is needed to prepare for this event: volunteer carpenters** who can prepare six plywood platforms and bases. We can provide detailed instructions and cover material costs. Interested?

Welcome to Everence. Banking, insurance, financial services with community benefits and stewardship education. Learn more at www.everence.com Poster in foyer.

Please note Sign-Up Sheet for:

- **Petition to stop deportations in Hennepin County**
- **April Birthday Brunch, April 16**

Correction: In the description of the Family, Singleness and Marriage series, which appeared in the bulletin the past six weeks, Richard Westby was omitted from the list of planning committee members. Thank you, Dick, for your contributions to this committee!