

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

April 18, 2010

Easter 3 ~ New heavens and a new earth

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship – based on Isaiah 65

L: For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth;

P: Be glad and rejoice in what I am creating:

L: They shall build houses and inhabit them;

P: they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

L: Before they call I will answer,

P: while they are yet speaking I will hear.

L: The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,

P: the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

L: New heavens and a new earth...

ALL: Be glad and rejoice!

***Hymns:** “Let the whole creation cry” #51 HWB
“O sing to the Lord” #12 STJ (vv. 1, 4, 5)

New Testament reading: Acts 9:1-16

Children’s gathering song: “Come and See” #20 HWB

Children’s time: “Pretzels & Prayer” ~Pat Eliason

Song: “You are salt for the earth” #226 HWB (vv. 1, 2, 4)

Prayer

Offering and Offertory

Gospel reading: John 21: 15-19

Sermon: “Conversion: What do we need to see?”

Testimony of something new ~ Eric Kasper

Hymn: “God of the Bible” #27 STJ (vv. 1, 2, 4)

Prayers of the People

Sung response: “Oyenos, mi Dios” #358 HWB

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

Announcements (please give in writing to worship leader)

Introduction of guests

***Sung Benediction:** “The peace of the earth be with you” #77 STJ

***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**

Adult classes:

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

TODAY: Easter 3: A New Way of Seeing (Acts 9:1-6)

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

Song leader: Phil Stolfus

Piano: Sandra Westby

Drummer: Matthew Thomas

Nursery volunteers: Cleta Roth Gingerich & Gerald Schlabach

Fellowship: Cindy Bjork & Natalija Zacharova-Nausede

Each of us may add ACTION to our prayers for Colombia by visiting the MCC-Washington website and signing a “Letter to Congress” in right-hand column under “Action Resources”: <http://washington.mcc.org/days>

For action ideas regarding immigration reform go to:

<http://immigration.mcc.org/us/immigration/>

To listen to the Bill Moyers Journal conversation about racial justice go to:

<http://vodpod.com/watch/3360694-bill-moyers-journal-bryan-stevenson-and-michelle-alexander>

NEXT SUNDAY: Easter 4: New Courage (John 16:25-33)

Worship leader: Bob & Lauren Brown **Sermon:** Greg Renstrom

Song leader: Donna Stucky

Piano: Adam Nafziger

Nursery volunteers: Annette Semanchin-Jones & Aine McCarthy

Fellowship: Arlene Geissinger & Rachel Hoskins

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.

April 11: Attendance: 106 Offering: \$1,693

HWB: Hymnal Worship Book STJ: Sing the Journey

**Please stand if you are able*

Faith Mennonite Church

Pastor: Joetta Schlabach

Ministry Staff Person: Kathleen Remund

Deacons: Kami Blackwell Kinney, Greg Renstrom
Neil Okerlund, Beth Richardson, Hermann Weinlick

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FMC OFFICE HOURS: April 19-23

Pastor: Mon 10-3; Wed 11:30-1:30; Thurs 9:30-4. On Tuesday Joetta will meet with area Mennonite pastors in Faribault. Joetta is open to receiving calls at home on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m. Joetta & Gerald will travel to Goshen, IN (Friday through Monday) to attend graduation activities at Goshen College.

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

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.

Rhonda Martin has a new email address Rlm429@gmail.com.

Looking Ahead: Please mark your calendar for two upcoming events and watch for more details.

- **April 27, Choral Concert by Canadian Mennonite University Chamber Choir, 7 p.m. @ FMC** We need overnight hosts for the choir members and will serve them a pre-concert meal. Please sign-up (meal & hosting sheets on fellowship area table).
- **May 1, Stewardship University, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. @ FMC** – This is a unique opportunity to consider “My lifestyle, faith & money: Are they speaking the same language?” Keynote presentation on Socially Responsible Investing and break-out sessions on budgeting for contentment; self-care as part of good health; long-term care; wise use of credit and debit cards; and community development investing. Our own Cynthia Miller, Minke Sundseth, and Shelly & Matthew Hendricks will be among the presenters. **Brochures are in your mailboxes!**

Church Meetings and Events

April 20 – Lectionary Discussion (Acts 11:1-18; John 13:31-35), 8:30 a.m., Trotter’s Restaurant, Cleveland & Marshall Ave, SP

April 20 – Missions & Service Commission, 6:30 p.m., Chapel

April 21 – Deacon’s Commission, Richardson’s, 9:30 a.m.

April 27 – Canadian Mennonite University Choir, 7 p.m.

May 1 – Stewardship University, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., FMC

May 4 – Christian Education Commission, 7:30 p.m., church office

May 7-8 – Women’s Retreat, Carondelet Center

Acts 9:1-16

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.'

John 21: 15-19

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' He said to him the third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.' (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, 'Follow me.'

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

Leslie Minkler can use some help with meals following shoulder surgery this week. If you could provide a meal for her, please **contact Adam Nafziger** (adammynafziger@yahoo.com) or at **612-239-2192**.

Central Plains Mennonite Conference is facing a deficit of nearly \$50,000 as its fiscal year ends on April 30, 2010. Individuals may send contributions to Central Plains Mennonite Conference, P.O. Box 101, Freeman, SD 57029

Karen Dalke, pastor of Des Moines Mennonite Church is being licensed toward ordination today and **Karla Stoltzfus Detweiler**, associate pastor, **First Mennonite Church of Iowa City** is being ordained. Please remember these ministers and their congregations in prayer.

SAVE THE DATE — South Minneapolis potlucks are returning on April 30! We'll meet at Powderhorn Park on 35th Street and 15th Avenue at 6 p.m. Please bring a dish to share and your own table service. Cancelled if raining.

Plans are 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! **Parents have received registration forms in mailboxes; please return soon!**

Plan a wilderness adventure — 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.

Restorative Justice Facilitator Training: Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice Partnership provides a community alternative to juvenile court for misdemeanor offenses happening in the 55406 zip code. **We need people who have a stake in Seward or Greater Longfellow neighborhoods to volunteer at the conferences as a community member or a trained facilitator.** Our next facilitator training will be **May 14-16**. For information contact Michele Braley at 612-338-6205 x108 or michele@sng.org.

Mennonites and Catholics – Practices for Our Life Together in Christ—July 22-25, 2010, St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota
This summer's conference will be the first in a series of summer conferences focusing on nine "key practices" of Bridgefolk. Visit the website www.bridgefolk.net for more information.