

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH
April 19, 2009 ~ 2nd Sunday of Easter
None can stop the Spirit!

Prelude
Welcome

Call to Worship

L: How wonderful, how beautiful,
C: when God's people live together as one!
L: Blessings overflow, energy multiplies,
C: there's more than enough to go around.
L: This is what God has in mind
All: abundant life, forever.

Hymns: "Christ is risen, shout hosanna" #272 HWB
"The strife is o'er" #263 HWB (vv. 1, 2, 4)

Epistle reading: 1 John 1:1-2:2

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

Children's time: "Highs and Lows"

Hymn: "Filled with the Spirit's power" #289 HWB

Gospel reading: John 19:41-20:10

Sermon: "A Line for 'Low Sunday'"

Hymn: "Who are these" #270 HWB

The story continues: Darrell Martin

Affirmation of faith:

L: Let's keep giving thanks to the Lord all our days.
P: God's unfailing love goes on forever.
L: The Lord is our strength,
P: the Lord has become our salvation.
L: What we have experienced, we now believe.
P: What we believe, we now share with others.
L: This is the day the Lord has made.
All: We will rejoice and be glad in it.
L: The Lord is risen again in each of us.
All: The Lord is risen indeed!

Congregational Sharing

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 and Offertory

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

Introduction of Guests

***Sending hymn:** "Lift your glad voices" #275 HWB

***Benediction**

***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:

- Spirituality and Health – Library
- Bread for the World offering of letters – Fellowship Hall

TODAY: From the tomb to resurrection

Worship leader: Adam Nafziger

Sermon: Greg Renstrom

Song leader: Gregg Richardson

Piano: Cathy Smetana

Nursery volunteers: Andi Kuenning & Thaine Dirks

We welcome Greg Renstrom to preach this morning. Greg has been a regular participant at FMC since moving to the Seward Neighborhood last summer, after retiring from over 30 years of ministry in the United Methodist Church. Greg is a past president of the Minnesota Council of Churches and in retirement he has begun a small publishing business to keep alive the writings of outstanding 20th- century preachers.

NEXT SUNDAY: Then he opened their minds (Luke 24:36b-48)

Worship leader: Alisa Bardo-Martinson **Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

Song leader: Adam Nafziger

Piano: Sandra Westby

Nursery volunteers: Pierre Gingerich-Boberg & Brooke Derrickson

Fellowship: Volunteers Needed

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

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FMC OFFICE HOURS: April 20-24

Pastor: Wed & Thurs 10-4; Friday 8:30-1:00. Joetta and Gerald are attending a Pastor/Spouse Retreat at a Benedictine Retreat Center in NE Nebraska, sponsored by Central Plains Conference, Sunday-Tuesday. Please contact a deacon for pastoral care needs or in case of an emergency.

Michael Bischoff: Thursday 9-noon

Office Assistant: Wednesday & Friday 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Email all bulletin items before Thursday evening to:
faithmc@faithmennonite.org

April 12: Attendance: 115 Offering: \$1,680

This afternoon Joetta is taking part in an interview with the Pastoral Leadership Committee of Central Plains Mennonite Conference as she prepares to be ordained this summer. She welcomes your prayers.

Pastor-Parish Relations Committee will hold its quarterly meeting on **Sunday, April 26**. Please share any affirmations or concerns about congregational life with any of the PPRC members: Thaine Dirks, Matthew Hendricks, Beth Richardson (chair), or Heather Wengerd

Church Meetings and Events

April 21 –Lectionary Discussion (Acts 4:5-12; 1 Jn 3:16-24; Jn 10:11-18)
8:30 a.m., Trotters, Corner of Marshall & Cleveland, SP

April 23 – Race Forum, St. Olaf Catholic Church, evening

April 23 – PACO Fund-raiser food preparation, 3-7 p.m., FMC kitchen

April 25 – Pan-African Community Organization Fund-raiser, 4-7 p.m., FMC

April 28 – May newsletter items due to Gregg Richardson, noon

1 John 1:1-2:2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

John 19:41-20:10

Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

Announcements

Interfaith Worship – TODAY, 6:00 p.m. Celebrate the diversity in the Twin Cities Christian community. St. Paul's Church is hosting an evening of worship, music and fellowship. Ensembles will include music from Ethiopian/Amharic, Chinese, Russian, Kenyan and Latino backgrounds. All are invited; a free-will offering will be received. 1901 Portland Av., Mpls.

Safe Routes to School is a city and school district initiative to increase physical activity and non-motorized transportation in Minneapolis. **Seward School** has taken the lead and has implemented bicycle safety classes, walking and biking encouragement campaigns, and Thursdays as bike days. To expand the concept into the community, we are inviting folks to begin this discussion with us. Please join us on **Wednesday, April 22, from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.**, at **Seward School Media Center**, 2309 28th Avenue. We will share progress, hear more about safe routes work nationally, and discuss possible next steps. Light refreshments served. Please RSVP to Sarah Reuben-Meillier, 612-668-0861 or Sarah.Reuben-Meillier@mpls.k12.mn.us.

OutFront MN JustFair Lobby Day – Thursday, April 23 - Plan now to join your voice with others for an interfaith message of support for marriage equality. Register at www.outfront.org. For those interested in going as a group from FMC with our banner, contact Katie Hochstedler katie.hochstedler@gmail.com

Pancake Breakfast, Sun. April 26, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Support Dick Westby's Alma Mater, South High at 3131 19th Ave. S. Mpls., \$5, kids under 11 \$2.50.

THIS SATURDAY, April 25 – African meal and entertainment to support the Pan-African Community Organization. The West African drumming and dance performance **will start at 4:00 pm**, followed by information about PACO, and then the meal at 5:30 pm. Suggested donation: \$10 or more. Please invite friends and neighbors to this event. The combination of entertainment, food, and cross-cultural relationship building will be a unique opportunity.

Going out for coffee or lunch? Join us at **St. Martin's Table**, a locally owned, non-profit restaurant/bookstore that believes in dining low on the food chain. Vegetarian and vegan soups and salads are made from organic and as much as possible, locally-grown produce. Sandwiches are made with daily homemade bread. Tips are donated to organizations that work to alleviate hunger. Visit www.communityofstmartin.org. 2001 Riverside Av., Mpls.

Twin Cities Anti-Violence Coalition Conference — Saturday, May 2, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Flyers are on the table at the back of the sanctuary.