

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH  
July 13, 2008 ~ Things that Make for Peace

**Gathering Music**

**Welcome**

**Prelude**

**\*Call to Worship:**

L: O God, we come seeking you in our worship together.  
We come to you for truth

**P: because we are untrue.**

L: We come to you for strength,

**P: because we are weak.**

L: We come to you for wisdom,

**P: because we are unwise.**

**All: Move in our midst; show us your truth, your strength, and your wisdom, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**\*Hymns:** “We sing to you O God” #1 STJ  
“Thou true vine, that heals” #373 HWB

**Prayer of Confession:** #697 HWB

**Old Testament reading:** 1 Samuel 25:1-35

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

**Children’s Time** “When things get broken”

**Hymn:** “Healer of our every ill” #377 HWB

**Sermon:** “Third Party Intervention”

**Hymn:** “For the healing of the nations” #367 HWB

**Congregational Sharing & 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**

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HWB: Hymnal Worship Book STJ: Sing the Journey

*\*Please stand if you are able*

**\*Sending hymn:** “O God of earth and alter” (insert)

**\* Benediction**

**\*Passing the Peace / Postlude**

Community Time

- **Fellowship time - 10:45 a.m.** During our fellowship time we will celebrate the recent marriage of **Kat Kohorst and Jason Draper** – Basement fellowship hall.

**Immediately following fellowship time, Hillary Richardson** will share about her 10 months in Buenos Aires, Argentina. All are invited to the basement fellowship hall to hear about her adventures.

- *The Christian Education program will resume on September 7.*

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**TODAY:** Abigail averts war

**Worship Leader:** Kami Blackwell Kinney

**Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

**Song Leader:** Hermann Weinlick **Piano:** Gregg Richardson

**Childcare:** Matthew Hendricks & One Volunteer Needed

**Fellowship time:** Leslie Minkler & One Volunteer Needed

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**NEXT SUNDAY:** Working together for peace

**Worship Leader:** Jennifer Wandersee

**Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

**Song Leader:** Pierre Gingerich-Boberg **Piano:** Sandra Westby

**Childcare:** Two Volunteers Needed

**Fellowship time:** Two Volunteers Needed

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**July 6:** Attendance: not recorded Offering: not recorded

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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.*

## Faith Mennonite Church

Pastor: Joetta Schlabach

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

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### FMC OFFICE HOURS: July 14-18

**Pastor's Hours:** Mon 10-1; Tues, 1-5; Wed 9-4; Thurs 9-noon. Joetta will be in Ely for the Wilderness Wind Writer's Retreat Thursday evening through Saturday afternoon. Joetta is open to receiving phone calls at home on Monday & Wednesday evenings between 7-8:30 p.m.

**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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**Thank you** to everyone who contributed food and helped host the Youth Choir from Houston, TX, for their concert at Park Avenue United Methodist Church this past Wednesday.

**At the back of the sanctuary is a pyramid of MCC Penny Power banks.** Please take one and have the fun of collecting pennies, watching them be counted at the fall sale, and then put to good use in Laos or Ukraine. Coins will be collected at the MCC Relief Sale on November 8, 2008.

### Nicole Debuts on the Catwalk — Saturday, August 23, 5:00pm

The Ratigan Green family invites everyone to a unique evening of entertainment! Nicole and friends will model seven outfits she and her sewing teacher have made over the last two years. There will be musical guests and a reception with refreshments after the show! More information at [clothesencounterofthethirteenthkind.blogspot.com](http://clothesencounterofthethirteenthkind.blogspot.com). Please RSVP by August 16, Phone: 612 721 8786. \$3.50 kids/\$7 adults. Textile Center, 3000 University Avenue SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414

**Raspberry Harvest — July 18** In the morning. Contact Carol Harder for more information. 651-457-8436

### Church Meetings and Events

- July 14 – Deacons Commission, 1:30 p.m., Richardson's
- July 14 – Church Council, 7 p.m., FMC
- July 20 – Missions & Service Commission, 11:30, Library
- July 20 – FMC Neighborhood Groups
- September 26-28 – Fall All-Church Retreat, Osceola, Wisc.

## Things that Make for Peace



“Blessed be your good sense, and blessed be you,  
who have kept me today from bloodguilt  
and from avenging myself...  
Go up to your house in peace...”

I Samuel 25: 33 & 35b

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## 1 Samuel 25:1-35

Now Samuel died; and all Israel assembled and mourned for him. They buried him at his home in Ramah.

Then David got up and went down to the wilderness of Paran.

There was a man in Maon, whose property was in Carmel. The man was very rich; he had three thousand sheep and a thousand goats. He was shearing his sheep in Carmel. Now the name of the man was Nabal, and the name of his wife Abigail. The woman was clever and beautiful, but the man was surly and mean; he was a Calebite. David heard in the wilderness that Nabal was shearing his sheep. So David sent ten young men; and David said to the young men, 'Go up to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name. Thus you shall salute him: "Peace be to you, and peace be to your house, and peace be to all that you have. I hear that you have shearers; now your shepherds have been with us, and we did them no harm, and they missed nothing, all the time they were in Carmel. Ask your young men, and they will tell you. Therefore let my young men find favour in your sight; for we have come on a feast day. Please give whatever you have at hand to your servants and to your son David."'

When David's young men came, they said all this to Nabal in the name of David; and then they waited. But Nabal answered David's servants, 'Who is David? Who is the son of Jesse? There are many servants today who are breaking away from their masters. Shall I take my bread and my water and the meat that I have butchered for my shearers, and give it to men who come from I do not know where?' So David's young men turned away, and came back and told him all this. David said to his men, 'Every man strap on his sword!' And every one of them strapped on his sword; David also strapped on his sword; and about four hundred men went up after David, while two hundred remained with the baggage.

But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, 'David sent messengers out of the wilderness to salute our master; and he shouted insults at them. Yet the men were very good to us, and we suffered no harm, and we never missed anything when we were in the fields, as long as we were with them; they were a wall to us both by night and by day, all the while we were with them keeping the sheep. Now therefore know this and consider what you should do; for evil has been decided against our master and against all his house; he is so ill-natured that no one can speak to him.'

Then Abigail hurried and took two hundred loaves, two skins of wine, five sheep ready dressed, five measures of parched grain, one hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs. She loaded them on donkeys and said to her young men, 'Go on ahead of me; I am coming after you.' But she did not tell her husband Nabal. As she rode

on the donkey and came down under cover of the mountain, David and his men came down towards her; and she met them. Now David had said, 'Surely it was in vain that I protected all that this fellow has in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that belonged to him; but he has returned me evil for good. God do so to David and more also, if by morning I leave as much as one male of all who belong to him.'

When Abigail saw David, she hurried and alighted from the donkey, and fell before David on her face, bowing to the ground. She fell at his feet and said, 'Upon me alone, my lord, be the guilt; please let your servant speak in your ears, and hear the words of your servant. My lord, do not take seriously this ill-natured fellow Nabal; for as his name is, so is he; Nabal is his name, and folly is with him; but I, your servant, did not see the young men of my lord, whom you sent.'

'Now then, my lord, as the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, since the LORD has restrained you from blood-guilt and from taking vengeance with your own hand, now let your enemies and those who seek to do evil to my lord be like Nabal. And now let this present that your servant has brought to my lord be given to the young men who follow my lord. Please forgive the trespass of your servant; for the LORD will certainly make my lord a sure house, because my lord is fighting the battles of the LORD; and evil shall not be found in you as long as you live. If anyone should rise up to pursue you and to seek your life, the life of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of the living under the care of the LORD your God; but the lives of your enemies he shall sling out as from the hollow of a sling. When the LORD has done to my lord according to all the good that he has spoken concerning you, and has appointed you prince over Israel, my lord shall have no cause of grief, or pangs of conscience, for having shed blood without cause or for having saved himself. And when the LORD has dealt well with my lord, then remember your servant.'

David said to Abigail, 'Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who sent you to meet me today! Blessed be your good sense, and blessed be you, who have kept me today from blood-guilt and from avenging myself by my own hand! For as surely as the LORD the God of Israel lives, who has restrained me from hurting you, unless you had hurried and come to meet me, truly by morning there would not have been left to Nabal as much as one male.' Then David received from her hand what she had brought him; he said to her, 'Go up to your house in peace; see, I have heeded your voice, and I have granted your petition.'

L: For the Word of God in scripture,  
for the Word of God among us,  
for the Word of God within us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**