

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH  
July 19, 2009 ~ "Letters to the early churches"

**Prelude**  
**Welcome**

**\*Call to Worship**

**L:** Praise the One who hears the cry of the poor, who lifts up the weak and gives them strength.

**P:** **Praise the One who feeds the hungry and satisfies the ongoing of those in need.**

**All:** *Praise the One who holds with tenderness the orphan and widow and gives the stranger a land and a home.*

**\*Hymns:** "Rejoice, the Lord is king!" #288 HWB (v. 1-3)  
"Lord, whose love in humble service" #369 HWB

**Psalm 31:14-24**

**L:** In you, O God, I trust; I say, "You are my God." My fate is in your hand; rescue me from the hands of my enemies.

**P:** **Let your face smile upon your servant, save me in your love. I beg you, Yahweh; do not let me be disgraced, let the disgrace fall on the wicked!**

**L:** May they go speechless to Sheol, their lying lips struck dumb for their insolent slurs on the just, for their arrogance and contempt.

**P:** **O God, how great is the goodness reserved for those who fear you, for those who take shelter in you!**

**L:** Safe in your presence you hide them far from devious human plots; inside your tent you shelter them far from the battle of tongues!

**P:** **Blessed be God, who shows faithful love for me! In my terror I exclaimed, "I have been snatched out of your sight!"**

**L:** Yet you heard my petition when I called to you for help. Love God, all you faithful ones. God, protector of the faithful, will more than repay the arrogant.

**All:** *Be strong, let your heart be bold, all you who hope in God!*

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

**Children's time:** "Getting to know others through letters"

**Hymn:** "In your sickness" #585 HWB

**New Testament reading:** Philippians 3:12-4:9

**Sermon:** "Pressing on toward the goals of reconciliation and mutual transformation in Rwanda"

**Hymn:** "My life flows on" #580 HWB

**Congregational Sharing**

**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**

**\*Sung benediction:** "The Lord is my light" #97 STJ

**\*Passing the Peace / Postlude**

Community Time

**- Fellowship time - 10:45 a.m.**

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**TODAY:** Pressing toward the goal

**Worship leader:** Thaine Dirks   **Sharing:** Aryn Baxter

**Song leader:** Donna Stucky   **Piano:** Adam Nafziger

**Reader:** Sophia Harder Kouay

**Nursery volunteers:** Jenny Wandersee & Marcia Siggelkow

**NEXT SUNDAY:** Loving one another (Colossians 3:12-17)

**Worship leader:** Thaine Dirks   **Sermon:** Donna Stucky

**Song leader:** Pierre Gingerich-Boberg   **Piano:** Karen Zeug

**Nursery volunteers:** Andi Kuenning & Laurie Kauffman

**Fellowship:** Volunteers Needed

*Note: Children are invited to wear their favorite dress-up clothes!*

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*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.*

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**July 12:** Attendance: 137

Offering: \$2,808



**Faith Mennonite Church**  
Pastor: Joetta Schlabach  
Ministry Staff Person: Michael Bischoff

Deacons: Kami Blackwell Kinney, Cleta Roth Gingerich  
Neil Okerlund, Beth Richardson, Hermann Weinlick

2720 East 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406 Ph: 612-375-9483  
E: [faithmc@faithmennonite.org](mailto:faithmc@faithmennonite.org) Web: [www.faimennonite.org](http://www.faimennonite.org)



### FMC OFFICE HOURS: July 20-24

**Pastor:** Monday & Tuesday 10-4. Joetta will be on vacation and out of town Wednesday to Sunday. Please contact a deacon in case of an emergency or for spiritual care needs during her absence.

**Michael Bischoff:** Thursday, 9 a.m. - noon

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

*Email all bulletin items before Thursday evening to:*  
[faithmc@faithmennonite.org](mailto:faithmc@faithmennonite.org)

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**Word of thanks** I would like to express my deep appreciation for the many expressions of affirmation and the varied ways that people worked together to make my service of ordination and the fellowship meal a time of joyful celebration last Sunday. Serving this congregation is an honor and a pleasure. – *Joetta*

### Contact Info Updates:

- **Semanchin Jones**, We are canceling our home phone this week. Call Chris at 612-718-9509 and Annette at 612-718-0132.
- **Andy Martinson and Alisa Bardo-Martinson** 4635 20th Road N, #12; Arlington VA 22207. 571-312-4351. My cell phone is 651-494-8145 (Alisa). If you want to see some up-to-date pictures of Phoebe (with us in the background), check out [www.bartinson.blogspot.com](http://www.bartinson.blogspot.com)

**Mark your calendar for an All-Church Outing on Sunday, August 2.** Following the worship service we will go to the Como Park Zoo and Conservatory for a shared picnic and afternoon together. More details to come.

### Church Meetings and Events

July 21 – Lectionary Discussion Group, 8:30 a.m., Trotter's Restaurant, SP (2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5)

August 2 – All church outing to Como Park Zoo & Conservatory, following worship

You've got mail...



Summer 2009

### Philippians 3:12-4:9 (Contemporary English Version)

I have not yet reached my goal, and I am not perfect. But Christ has taken hold of me. So I keep on running and struggling to take hold of the prize. My friends, I don't feel that I have already arrived. But I forget what is behind, and I struggle for what is ahead. I run toward the goal, so that I can win the prize of being called to heaven. This is the prize that God offers because of what Christ Jesus has done. All of us who are mature should think in this same way. And if any of you think differently, God will make it clear to you. But we must keep going in the direction that we are now headed.

My friends, I want you to follow my example and learn from others who closely follow the example we set for you. I often warned you that many people are living as enemies of the cross of Christ. And now with tears in my eyes, I warn you again that they are headed for hell! They worship their stomachs and brag about the disgusting things they do. All they can think about are the things of this world.

But we are citizens of heaven and are eagerly waiting for our Savior to come from there. Our Lord Jesus Christ has power over everything, and he will make these poor bodies of ours like his own glorious body.

Dear friends, I love you and long to see you. Please keep on being faithful to the Lord. You are my pride and joy.

Euodia and Syntyche, you belong to the Lord, so I beg you to stop arguing with each other. And, my true partner, I ask you to help them. These women have worked together with me and with Clement and with the others in spreading the good news. Their names are now written in the book of life. Always be glad because of the Lord! I will say it again: Be glad. Always be gentle with others. The Lord will soon be here. Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God. Then, because you belong to Christ Jesus, God will bless you with peace that no one can completely understand. And this peace will control the way you think and feel.

Finally, my friends, keep your minds on whatever is true, pure, right, holy, friendly, and proper. Don't ever stop thinking about what is truly worthwhile and worthy of praise. You know the teachings I gave you, and you know what you heard me say and saw me do. So follow my example.

And God, who gives peace, will be with you.

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

**Meals for Westbys** Adam Nafziger is coordinating meals for the Westbys during Sandra's surgery recuperation. Please contact Adam at your earliest convenience to schedule a time when you can provide a meal. Adamnafziger@yahoo.com or 612-722-3317. Thanks!

**Picnic with Aryn Baxter, Friday, July 24, 6 p.m.** Powderhorn Park, corner of 35th Street and 15th Ave S. Rain venue: FMC. All welcome!

Yeshi extends an invitation for everyone to join in a **graduation party for Moti** on Saturday, July 25, 4 p.m. at 384 Nebraska Ave. E., St. Paul.

Jesse Johnson is hoping someone can reunite him with a **blue Calvin Klein shirt he lost** at church last Sunday. Contact him at jesseaj@gmail.com

A community forum on **"Who are the Mennonites?"** will be held at Faith on the evening of **October 24th**. The planning committee wants your input NOW to help shape the event. How can we best convey Mennonite values and practices? **A meeting to brainstorm ideas for the forum will be held at the church on Thursday, July 30 from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm.** Please come share your ideas or contact Michael Bischoff (612-521-1889) with questions or ideas.

**Movies at the Seward Towers:** Many in the church have talked about a desire for the church to connect with the Seward Towers, the large apartment buildings a couple blocks from Faith. Most residents are recent East African immigrants and refugees. **Haven Schrock** and **Michael Bischoff** are volunteering with the summer youth program at the Towers, helping the kids make movies. They invite you to join them as they show the movies the kids make. It will be an easy and quick way to connect with the Towers. Movie showing times will be:

- **Tuesday, July 28, 4-4:30 pm** at Seward Tower West (26th Ave. & East Franklin Ave.)
- **Thursday, July 30, 4-4:30 pm** at Seward Tower East (29th Ave. & East Franklin Ave.)

**Donna Minter** invites us to support her one-day, 30-mile canoe fund-raising effort in the **Wilderness Wind Paddle-a-Thon**, on July 28. Please donate at <http://www.wildernesswind.org/paddleathon.htm>

**Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North — Wed. July 29, 7-9 p.m.**, Documentary film and facilitated discussion of what slave trade history means to us as people who work to promote social justice. **See info sheets on table at back of sanctuary.**

**Latino Voices, Thurs. July 30**, noon, Discussion from 12:20-1:30 p.m. Panel and discussion about immigration with help from Resource Center of the Americas. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31<sup>st</sup> St., Mpls. \$4 charge for meal. 612 729-8358 or [office@htlcmpls.org](mailto:office@htlcmpls.org)