

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

August 1, 2010

Stories of God's People

Prelude Welcome

***Call to Worship** –based on 1 Corinthians 15:58

L: Blessed are those who are steadfast and show the mercy of God.

P: **God can do all things and the ways of God are greater than we can imagine.**

L: Therefore, sisters and brothers, be steadfast, immovable, because you know that in God your labor is not in vain.

P: **We wait for God and the courage God offers.**

All: *We will stand firm and without fear,
for God is worthy of our praise.*

Prayer

***Hymns:** “In the morning when I rise” #45 STJ
“Open now thy gates of beauty” #19 HWB

Scripture reading: Daniel 1:1-10

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

Children's time: Foods that make us healthy

Hymn: “Go, my children” #433 HWB, v. 4

Scripture reading: Daniel 1:11-21

Sermon: “A story of resistance”

Story

Sharing at the Table in Communion

We will gather at the tables at front and back in groups of 10-12 as the ushers guide. Please hold the bread /cup until all are served and then partake together. The bread is gluten free. The cup is grape juice. All who have made a public commitment to follow Christ and share in the life of Christ's body are invited to the table. Children may come to receive a grape and blessing.

Communion Song: “Coming together for wine and bread” ~ Ensemble

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 worship leader)

Introduction of guests

***Sung Benediction:** “Sent forth by God's blessing” #478 HWB

***Passing the Peace / Postlude**

Community Time

Picnic and game afternoon at Riverside Park. Following worship we will head over to Riverside Park, tucked off of 30th and Franklin. Enjoy each other's company, eat, play games and celebrate summer marriages of Rachel Combs & Shawn Walding (7/17) and of Lauren Cassat & Dylan Evans (8/14). There are cards to sign on the back table and you are welcome to make a monetary gift to the couples. *Visitors are welcome even if you haven't brought food to share; there's always enough!*

TODAY: Four men in exile

Worship Leader: Geneva Martin **Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

Song Leader: Hermann Weinlick **Piano:** Melissa Falb

Organ: Jim Kuebelbeck **Ensemble:** Melissa Hochstetler, Arlene Holdeman, Matthew Kinney, David Mayou

Ushers: Barb Beers & Darrell Martin

Nursery volunteers: Dan Liesen & Laurie Kaufman

NEXT SUNDAY: Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego (Daniel 3)

Worship Leader: David & John Mayou **Sermon:** Kathleen Remund

Song Leader: Gregg Richardson **Piano:** Sandra Westby

Ushers: Rachel Hoskins & Paula Okerstrom

Nursery volunteers: Jenny Wandersee & Rhonda Martin

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: Kathleen Remund

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

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FMC OFFICE HOURS: Aug 2-6

Pastor: Mon 10-4; Joetta will be on vacation August 3-9. Please contact a deacon for pastoral care needs during her absence.

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

Office Assistant: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 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.

July 25: Attendance: 90 Offering: not recorded

Church Meetings and Events

August 3 – Lectionary Discussion, 8:30 a.m., Trotter’s Restaurant, Marshall & Cleveland, SP (Daniel 3)

August 10 – Bible Study, 7 p.m., FMC Chapel

August 11 – FMC Council, 7 p.m.

August 14 – August Birthday Brunch, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Schlabachs

August 15 – Fall Retreat Committee, 11:30 a.m., FMC

August 24 – Bible Study, 7 p.m., FMC Chapel

August 25 – Deacons Commission, 9:30 a.m., Richardsons

August 25 – Missions and Service, 7 p.m. Chapel

November 13 – Twin Cities MCC Relief Sale

Daniel 1:11-21

In the third year of the reign of King Jehoiakim of Judah, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. The Lord let King Jehoiakim of Judah fall into his power, as well as some of the vessels of the house of God. These he brought to the land of Shinar, and placed the vessels in the treasury of his gods.

Then the king commanded his palace master Ashpenaz to bring some of the Israelites of the royal family and of the nobility, young men without physical defect and handsome, versed in every branch of wisdom, endowed with knowledge and insight, and competent to serve in the king’s palace; they were to be taught the literature and language of the Chaldeans. The king assigned them a daily portion of the royal rations of food and wine.

They were to be educated for three years, so that at the end of that time they could be stationed in the king’s court. Among them were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, from the tribe of Judah. The palace master gave them other names: Daniel he called Belteshazzar, Hananiah he called Shadrach, Mishael he called Meshach, and Azariah he called Abednego.

But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the royal rations of food and wine; so he asked the palace master to allow him not to defile himself. Now God allowed Daniel to receive favor and compassion from the palace master. The palace master said to Daniel, ‘I am afraid of my lord the king; he has appointed your food and your drink. If he should see you in poorer condition than the other young men of your own age, you would endanger my head with the king.’

Then Daniel asked the guard whom the palace master had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: ‘Please test your servants for ten days. Let us be given vegetables to eat and water to drink. You can then compare our appearance with the appearance of the young men who eat the royal rations, and deal with your servants according to what you observe.’ So he agreed to this proposal and tested them for ten days. At the end of ten days it was observed that they appeared better and fatter than all the young men who had been eating the royal rations. So the guard continued to withdraw their royal rations and the wine they were to drink, and gave them vegetables. To these four young men God gave knowledge and skill in every aspect of literature and wisdom; Daniel also had insight into all visions and dreams.

At the end of the time that the king had set for them to be brought in, the palace master brought them into the presence of Nebuchadnezzar, and the king spoke with them. And among them all, no one was found to compare with Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah; therefore they were stationed in the king’s court. In every matter of wisdom and understanding concerning which the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom. And Daniel continued there until the first year of King Cyrus.

L: For the word of God is in the Scripture,
 For the word of God is within us,
 For the word of God among us,

ALL: Thanks be to God

Announcements

Steve Dintaman, professor of theology at **LCC International University in Lithuania**, will be **at Orv and Cleta Gingrech's tonight from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.** to talk about his experience at LCC. Steve and his wife Betsey are sponsored by Mennonite Mission Network. Natalija Zacharova-Nausede is a graduate and staff person of LCC. This will be a good time to hear from both Steve and Natalija about the unique and important contribution LCC is making to higher education in Lithuania.

We are continuing to schedule daily visits to **Rebecca Johnson**, to assist with food preparation, laundry or dishes. **Please note the sign-up sheet for the coming week on the table in the fellowship area.** You can call Rebecca ahead of time and ask if she needs a meal or if there is food at home to prepare. Contact Erin Geiser if you have questions.

Fellowship time volunteers needed in August. Sign-up sheet is on the back table. If you have questions about procedures, speak with Minke Sundseth from the Fellowship Commission. Thanks!

FMC South Minneapolis Potluck, Fridays, 6 p.m., SE corner of Powderhorn Park, corner of 15th Avenue and 35th Street. New participants welcome! Cancelled for rain.

We still need a **nursery volunteer for August 15th** when Meagan will be gone. Please call the church office if you can help.

Families Moving Forward, Friday Sept. 10 and Saturday Sept. 11. Please note signup sheets on the fellowship table and volunteer. Folks are much needed to help with dinner (preparers, servers, cleanup) and evening activities for the children. The event is at Union Congregational UCC, 3100 Alabama Ave., St, Louis Park. See the sign up for more information. Pat Eliason is the contact.

Many thanks to Brook Derrickson and Shelly Hendricks who sorted and reassembled children's worship bags for use on Sunday morning. We encourage parents to please return used bags in good order to the fellowship area each Sunday so they're ready for the next week/user.

We also thank the Trustees (Glenn Geissinger, Nikki Nafziger, and Mark Kaufman), Jerry Janzen, and additional volunteers who have been responding to a number of needs in the church building this summer – from need updates to comply with fire code, to pigeon nest removal, to vacuum cleaner replacement.... Our old building needs lots of TLC and these folks are doing a stellar job. THANK YOU!