

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH
October 4, 2009 “Finding hope in unsettling times”

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship & Prayer**

***Hymns:** “Come let us all unite to sing” #12 HWB
“Let the whole creation cry” # 51 HWB

Scripture reading: Matthew 5:21-24, 38-44

Children’s gathering hymn: “Come and See” #20 HWB
Children’s time ~ Deedee Stevens Neal

Hymn: “Hope is a candle” vv. 1-3 (insert)

Scripture reading: Luke 4:16-30

Sermon: “Can we be civil in a contentious culture?”

Communion

We will gather at the tables at front and back in groups of 10-12 as the ushers guide. Please hold the bread and 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 Hymn: “Put peace into each other’s hand” #87 STJ

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

HWB: Hymnal Worship Book STJ: Sing the Journey

**Please stand if you are able*

Announcements (please give in writing to the pastor or worship leader)
Introduction of Guests

***Sending Hymn:** “Blest be the tie that binds” #421 HWB (stanzas 1,3,4)

***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 – 11:15-12:15**

Everyone is invited to take part in an inter-generational event, **“Bread for All,”** in the basement fellowship hall. This will introduce us to the work of Mennonite Central Committee and serve as a kick-off for the November 14 Fall Festival and Sale for World Relief.

TODAY: Civility: An expression of hope

Worship Leader: Orv & Cleta Gingerich **Sermon:** Greg Renstrom

Song leader: Hermann Weinlick **Piano:** Tom LoBello, Sandra Westby

Nursery volunteers: Rhonda Martin & Barbara Beers

NEXT SUNDAY: The nature of hope

Worship Leader: Orv/Cleta Gingerich **Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

Song leader: Pierre Boberg-Gingerich **Piano:** David Mayou

Nursery volunteers: Paula Okerstrom and Mark Kaufman

Fellowship: Barb Beerswing

Next Sunday is “Pink Menno Sunday,” a time to celebrate this grassroots movement in the Mennonite Church to acknowledge and affirm the presence and gifts of glbt persons. You are welcome to wear something pink next Sunday. To learn more about Pink Menno visit www.pinkmenno.org.

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.

September 27: Attendance: 91 Offering: \$4,265 designated \$25

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: Oct 5-9

Pastor: Mon 1-4; Wed & Thurs 9-3; Friday 9-1. Tuesday is a study day.
Joetta is open to receiving phone calls at home on Monday and Wednesday evening from 7-8:30 p.m.

Michael Bischoff: Thurs 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*](mailto:faithmc@faithmennonite.org)

The CROP Walk is coming up on October 11! This is our chance to raise money for Church World Service and Mennonite Central Committee in their efforts for hunger relief, and to walk together to show our support and solidarity with those who are hungry. There are two routes this year, a 3-mile route and a longer 5-mile route. **Melissa Hochstetler has pledge forms and more information**--please see her if you are interested in walking or donating to a walker. Registration 1:30, walk begins at 2:00 p.m. Walk begins and ends at Augsburg College, Oren Gateway Center 2211 Riverside Ave. S., in Minneapolis. Bring a lunch and we will eat at FMC and then head over to Augsburg.

Church Meetings and Events

October 6-- Lectionary Discussion Trotter's, corner of Marshal and Cleveland, SP, 8:30 a.m.

October 11 -- CROP Walk

October 12 -- Church Council, 7 p.m., FMC Chapel

October 18 -- Gifts Discernment Forms are due

October 25 -- "Who Are the Mennonites" community open house event, 2-5 pm, FMC

October 27 -- Missions & Service Commission, 6 p.m., Schlabach's

October 30 -- Movie, Game, & Pizza night, 6:30-?? FMC

Matthew 5:21-24, 38-44

‘You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, “You shall not murder”; and “whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.” But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, “You fool,” you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.

‘You have heard that it was said, “An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.” But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also; and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you.

‘You have heard that it was said, “You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.” But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

Luke 4:16-30

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because he has anointed me

to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

and recovery of sight to the blind,

to let the oppressed go free,

to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.’

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down.

The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, ‘Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’ All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, ‘Is not this Joseph’s son?’ He said to them,

‘Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, “Doctor, cure yourself!”

And you will say, “Do here also in your home town the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.”’ And he said, ‘Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s home town. But the truth is, there

were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up for three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over

all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.’ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

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

Gift Discernment Information & Forms were put in mailboxes last weekend. Please take some time to review the material, fill out the form and return the form to the special gift box at the back of the sanctuary. **Due by Sunday, October 18th.**

The Revised FMC Handbook is finally complete! The Handbook is available on the web as a downloadable pdf if you log in as a member. There is also a copy in a black three-ring binder at the back of the sanctuary for use at church. The handbook contains information on FMC: Constitution, Commissions, Guidelines for Church Building Use and more.

Mailboxes reorganized—We outgrew our previous number of mailboxes and have added additional ones. In the process your mailbox may have moved! If you’re new to FMC you may have a mailbox (if you can’t find one and would like one, please speak with the greeter or usher. The Office mailbox remains the same: in the bottom left corner. Since table space is diminished, printed copies of sermons, church directories, and extra Newsletters are in the top left spaces.

As you shop each week...remember that FMC gathers non-perishable food items, toiletries and disposable diapers for Community Emergency Services. You can bring items with you to church, leave them on the back table next to the mailboxes and they will be delivered. Thanks for remembering those who don’t have resources to support their families.

Announcements (continued)

At Thanksgiving Time —We are looking for someone to help with **transportation for Nicole around Thanksgiving time.** We will be going to SD and Nicole will spend the holiday with family in Mpls. We are looking for someone who could **pick her up in Andover on Wednesday evening and drop off in South Mpls.** We will pay for the gas. — Kristin Green and John Ratigan

Today — 2:30-3:00 PM – Prayer service & vigil coordinated by The Interfaith Coalition on Immigration. Held at Ramsey County Adult Detention Center in St. Paul, 425 Grove St., St. Paul. The Interfaith Coalition on Immigration holds public witness events calling for comprehensive humane immigration reform.

Tuesday, October 6, 7 p.m. “Abused, - The Postville Raid” a premiere film showing at St. Paul Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. FREE and open to the community. Guatemalan filmmakers present clips from their new documentary which examines issues surrounding undocumented workers and the aftermath of the 2008 immigration raid both in Postville and in Guatemala, the home country of many of the workers.

Interfaith Action For Marriage Equality in Minnesota, Thursday, October 8th, 1pm, Minnesota State Capitol, room 125. Join interfaith clergy and congregational leaders at a media conference. Stand in solidarity, in recognition of National Coming Out Day (October 11th), as retired Bishop Lowell Erdahl of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA), Rabbi Jared Saks of Temple Israel, and numerous other clergy leaders from various faith traditions in Minnesota come out in favor of full marriage equality for same-gender couples.

October 30, 31 — “Ultimate Compassion: God, Poverty, and Actions that Make a Difference” —a conference put on by **Woodland Hills Church.** There are more than 400 passages in the Bible (spanning over 3000 verses!) that encourage Christ-followers to serve and be in relationships with those living in poverty. This conference will help equip you, whatever your economic status, to understand the impact of poverty and decide how to respond. The cost is \$75/person through October 12. Beginning October 13, the cost will be \$90. Student rates, need-based scholarships and group discounts are available. For more information go to www.ultimatecompassion.com.

Project Homeless Connect coming up on Monday, December 7, at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Please mark your calendars and watch for the volunteer recruitment e-mail in mid-October which will have instructions on signing up to volunteer and the training dates and times.