

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

“Growing together as children of God”

February 11, 2018

***Gathering Song:** “In the morning when I rise” #45 STJ

Musical Interlude

***Welcome and Call to Worship** based on Psalm 27

Leader: God, you are our light and salvation;

People: whom shall we fear?

L: When trouble comes, you will hide us in your shelter,

P: and set us high upon a rock.

L: Even when enemies surround us,

P: our hearts will not fear.

L: One thing we ask:

All: to behold your beauty and dwell in your presence.

***Hymn:** “The Lord is my light” #97 STJ

Children’s Gathering: “Come and see” #20 HWB

Children’s Time ~ Gregg Richardson

Hymn: “I sought the Lord” #506 HWB

Scripture reading: John 9:1-41

Sermon: “Where does faith begin?”

Hymn: “Amazing grace!” #143 HWB vv. 1-4, 6

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns (*It is a joy to welcome guests; this can be a time for guest introductions.*)

-Mission Moment

Congregational Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

Our Father/Mother 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

***Sung Benediction:** “Move in our midst” #418 HWB

Postlude

HWB: Hymnal Worship Book STJ: Sing the Journey Hesla: River of Gladness

**Please stand if you are able*

Community Time

10:40: Fellowship Time-Basement fellowship hall

11:00: Christian Education for all ages. Adults are invited to participate in a Listening Session with the Leadership Transition Team in the Fellowship Hall.

TODAY: The Man Born Blind

Worship leader: Travis Lusk **Song leader; Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

Piano: Karen Zeug **Readers:** Richard Benton, Jr, Melissa Hostetler,

Nursery: Meg Goldsberry-Troyer & Perry Troyer Donna Minter

Ushers: Dan Gerber, Stew Thornley

Fellowship: Barbara Beers, Leslie Minkler

We pray for the men who are enjoying a retreat together this weekend in Ely.

NEXT SUNDAY: Lent 1: Jesus raises Lazarus (John 11:1-44)

Song leader: Miriam Augsburg **Sermon:** Ry Siggelkow

Ushers: Minke Sundseth, Travis Lusk **Piano:** Melissa Falb

Nursery: Sandy Westby, volunteers needed

Fellowship: Hermann & Susan Weinlick

Feb 4: Attendance: 79 Offering – Local Budget: \$1,643

Thanksgivings:

Concerns:

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.

Co-Pastors: Joetta Schlabach & Ry Siggelkow
Deacons: Dan Leisen, Heather Wengerd,
Shawn Englund-Helmeke, Katie Cuffey,
Hermann Weinlick, Kristin Green

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Wi-fi username: FMC Guest; password: peacefmc

FMC office hours: Feb 12-16

Ry: Tues, Thurs 10-3 **Joetta:** Tues Wed 10-2

Office Staff: Aimee Weigle: Mon-Wed. 9:30-12:30, out of office 15-27

Email bulletin items by Wed afternoon. Bulletin printed Thurs morning.

Prayer Request from Mennonite Mission Network: Join Mennonite Mission Network in praising God for the growth of Christ's body in Israel. A mission worker reports that when the nation was founded in 1948, only 12 Jewish people counted themselves believers. Now, there are about 25,000-30,000 believers in approximately 300 Arab and Messianic congregations.

Would you like someone to pray with you or discuss a matter of concern? Look for persons with the purple "deacon" ribbon or the green "prayer" ribbon on their name tag. They are glad to meet with you.

Church Meetings and Events (online calendar: www.faithmennonite.org)

Feb 13 – Sunday Text Discussion, 8:30 a.m., Seward Co-op

Feb 14 – Ash Wednesday Taizé Service, 7 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Feb 21 – Church Council meeting, 7 p.m. (note change of date)

Feb 22 – Men's Breakfast, 7 a.m., Curran's Restaurant, S. Mpls.

Feb 28 – Youth Faith Formation, 6-8 p.m.

Mar 2-4 – Women's Retreat, Lindstrom, MN

John 9:1-41

As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned, [...] but in order that the works of God might be manifest in him, we must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹²They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.” ¹⁸The [Pharisees] did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²²His parents said this because they were afraid [that they might be] put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.” ²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. (Continued on back)

²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him.

³⁹Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” ⁴¹Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.

Leader: 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

The Leadership Transition Team is holding a series of opportunities for congregational listening. The team invites the congregation to choose which would be best for each person:

- Attend the **group listening session today during the education hour.**
- Schedule a **one-on-one conversation** with one of the committee members.
- Send **feedback in writing** to one of the committee members.

Lent begins this Wednesday. All are invited to an **Ash Wednesday** service at **7 p.m. in the church fellowship hall.** The service, in the style of the Taizé Community in France, will include song, scripture, silence, prayer and the marking of ashes.

We have needed to **re-open our search** for a **Sunday morning Nursery Staff Person.** If you have ideas of someone who would be suited for this position, please encourage them to apply. Copies of the posting are on the foyer bulletin board.

Terry Peterson has completed a residential treatment program and is looking for work. **If you need help with shoveling or other home projects,** please call him. He is also looking for a small apartment or a room to rent.

Have trouble remembering names? One way we can help each other learn and remember names on Sunday morning is by **wearing our name badges.** Every regular attender/household has a **mail folder** that contains a name badge. We encourage everyone to check their mail folder each Sunday and to wear their name badge. (If you do not have a mail folder, please speak with an usher so they can give you an information form to complete for the church office. The deacon greeter can provide you with a stick-on name badge.) We also have a few copies of the FMC Pictorial Directory that are available upon request.

Do you know high-school students with gifts for leadership and ministry? AMBS's Explore program gives students in grades 10–12 the opportunity to explore ministry and theology, grow in spiritual practices and biblical engagement and listen for God's call. The program includes a 100-hour congregational internship and a Group Experience (July 3–18, 2018). Tap a shoulder! Applications are due Feb. 15. ambs.edu/explore

(Announcements continued on back)

Announcements (cont.)

Women's Retreat! The retreat is coming up, **March 2-4.** We will have sign-up sheets on the next two Sundays for the following:

- Food for meals
- Car pools
- Dish washing/Clean up

For the car pools, if you are willing to drive a carpool, sign up as a driver based on the number of people you can accommodate.

More info is coming regarding what else to bring as well as time and location specifics. - Women's Retreat Committee

From Joetta Schlabach - Protect Minnesota, an organization that works to **prevent gun violence,** is holding a **lobby day at the state capitol on Thursday, Feb 22.** I am planning to attend and would be glad to have others join me at the 2 p.m. rally that day. Let me know if you'd like to attend. Information about the entire day is here: <https://protectmn.org/event/welcome-back-to-the-capitol-rally-in-the-rotunda/>

Families with children: This Wednesday is the first day of Lent and the beginning of "Between Me & You," a free, downloadable guide for family worship from February 14 through April 1, Easter Sunday. Pick and choose the activities that work best for your family. Find it at www.anabaptistfaithformation.org.