

**FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH**

January 24, 2016

**Gathering Songs:** “Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing” #110 HWB  
“Cantai ao Senhor/O sing to the Lord” #12 STJ

**Musical Interlude**

**\*Welcome and Call to Worship** from *A Wee Worship Book*, Iona Community

Leader: We are met in the presence of God,

**People: And we do not meet alone.**

L: With the angels in highest heaven,

**P: We gather to worship the Lord.**

L: With the saints of every age,

**P: We gather to worship the Lord.**

L: With the church throughout the world,

**P: We gather to worship the Lord.**

Leader: We are met in the presence of God,

**People: And we do not meet alone.**

**\*Hymn:** “I’ll praise my maker” #166 HWB

**Old Testament reading:** Nehemiah 8:1-10

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

**Children’s Time** ~ Aine McCarthy

**Song:** “Santo, santo, santo” #400 HWB

**New Testament reading:** Luke 4:14-21

**Sermon:** “Oriented by the Word”

**Reception of new members:** Del Seitz and Mary Friesen Seitz

**Congregational commitment** #793 HWB

**Hymn:** “In the bulb there is a flower” #614 HWB

**Sharing Our Joys and Concerns**

**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 / Introduction of Guests**

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*HWB: Hymnal Worship Book*

*\*Please stand if you are able*

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*STJ: Sing the Journey*

**\*Sung benediction:** “We will walk with God” #78 STJ

**\*Sharing the sign of peace / Postlude**

Community Time

**10:40** Fellowship time. Please keep all food/drink in the fellowship area and use the compost pail to dispose of all organic waste. Thank you.

**11:00** Education hour. This is the last gathering for adults during January, in the basement fellowship hall, a study of *Being God’s Faithful Community: A Covenant of Spiritual Practices for Central Plains Mennonite Conference*. Please join us for this final Sunday.

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**TODAY:** World Fellowship and Membership Sunday

**Worship leader:** Glenn Geissing

**Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

**Song Leader:** Miriam Augsburg

**Organ:** David Mayou

**Ushers:** Travis Lusk, Stew Thornley

**Reader:** Tona Ratigan Green

**Nursery:** Joel Cuffey, Beth Richardson

**Fellowship:** Martin/Miller

*Today we welcome Del Seitz & Mary Friesen Seitz into membership. They are transferring their membership from Community Mennonite Church in Lancaster, PA.*

**NEXT SUNDAY:** Service Sunday and Annual Meeting

**Song leader:** Phil Stoltzfus

**Organ:** David Mayou

**Piano:** Jennifer Wandersee

**Fellowship:** Martin/Miller

**Ushers:** Darrell Martin, Cori Skogerboe

**Nursery:** Pat Eliason, Heather Wengard

Next Sunday the youth will help lead our first “Service Sunday.” Following a gathering time, we will break into intergenerational teams to continue our worship of God through service. Service projects will focus on various needs of our church community. Children from K-5<sup>th</sup> grade are encouraged to sign up with a parent.

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**January 17:**

**Attendance: 84**

**Local Budget: \$1,874**

**Organ Fund: \$100**

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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.*

**Faith Mennonite Church**  
**Co-Pastors: Joetta Schlabach & Ry Siggelkow**  
**Deacons: Thaine Dirks, Glenn Geissinger**  
**Kristin Green, Melissa Hochstetler**

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*FMC office hours: January 25-29*

**Ry:** Tues, Wed 11:30-3; **Joetta:** Tues, Thurs 9:30-4:30

**Office Staff:** Mon – Fri 9:30-12:30

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

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Today we join with the global Anabaptist community in celebrating **World Fellowship Sunday**, sponsored annually by Mennonite World Conference on the Sunday closest to January 21, which was the day in 1525 when the first adult baptisms took place that began the Anabaptist movement. Let us pray today for the global fellowship of Christians. In particular: - For Anabaptists and other Christians who suffer from persecution, war, or poverty; - That persons who were denied visas to come to the Harrisburg Assembly will find other ways to connect with the global church; - For peace to prevail where there is conflict, such as South Sudan and the Middle East.

Please remember **Ry Siggelkow** in prayer this week as he prepares for his interview, on Friday, with the Pastoral Leadership Committee of Central Plains Conference, which credentials pastoral leaders and chaplains. We are planning for Ry's service of installation and licensing as co-pastor of Faith Mennonite Church on February 7.

**Come pray for our church and community!** Parent Resource Room, 9:10-9:25 a.m. each Sunday. Also, if you would like to have someone pray with you or discuss a matter of concern please 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](http://www.faithmennonite.org))

**January 27** - February Newsletter deadline, noon to Gregg Richardson

**January 27** - MN Peacebuilding film 7 p.m., FMC chapel

**January 30** - Worship Commission Retreat, 9-11:30 a.m.,

Joan Kreider home

**January 31** – Service Sunday / Brunch / Annual Congregational Meeting  
(no education classes)

**February 2** – Lent worship planning group, 4:15 p.m., chapel

**February 7** – Ry Siggelkow installation and licensing, during worship

**February 10** – Ash Wednesday Taizé Service, 7 p.m.

## Nehemiah 8:1-10

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. <sup>2</sup>Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup>He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. . . . <sup>5</sup>And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. <sup>6</sup>Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. <sup>7</sup>...the Levites helped the people to understand the law, while the people remained in their places. <sup>8</sup>So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. <sup>9</sup>And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

## Luke 4:14-21

<sup>14</sup>Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup>He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. <sup>16</sup>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, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: <sup>18</sup>"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, <sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." <sup>20</sup>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. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

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

**Our Annual Congregational Meeting** is scheduled for next Sunday, January 31, following a brunch (there will be no Sunday School classes). Documents for the Annual Meeting have been posted on the FMC website and several printed copies are available in the narthex. All regular participants are invited to attend the meeting; one must be a member or associate member to vote. Childcare will be provided.

**For the brunch, please bring edibles according to the initial of your last name: A-G: Fruits/salads H-P: Breads/muffins/desserts Q-Z: Egg/main dish**

**Hosting group:** Okerstroms, Minkler, Reist, Augsburgers, Ott, Mack

The next **MN Peacebuilding film**, is "**Traces of the Trade,**" which documents what the DeWolf family, descendants of the largest slave trading family in US history, did when they discovered their hidden past. You have two opportunities to see this film, and are encouraged to use the following links to register, as space is limited: **Tuesday, Jan. 26, 7 p.m. at the Birchwood Café** - [www.mnpeacefilm.eventbrite.com](http://www.mnpeacefilm.eventbrite.com). **Wednesday, Jan. 27, 7 p.m. at FMC** - [www.mnpeacefilm27.eventbrite.com](http://www.mnpeacefilm27.eventbrite.com).

**STAR-Lite Training:** Learn Strategies for Trauma Awareness and Resilience in a Single Day. **Saturday, Jan. 30, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. in FMC Fellowship Hall.**

The Community of St. Martin invites interested persons to their education hour **today at 5:30** in the FMC chapel. Anne Archbold and Marilaurice Hemlock, funeral celebrants and green burial advocates, will lead a discussion about **natural after-death care options** that are more sustainable than current burial and cremation practices. – *Carol Witte*

The Joint Religious Legislative Coalition (JRLC) is co-sponsoring an **interfaith evening of film and conversation at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, Mpls, on Thursday, Jan. 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m.** The documentary "Sisters of Selma" will precede a conversation about ways in which Christian, Jewish, and Islamic faiths call us to the public work of justice.

Join the Augsburg College Campus Ministry Office for the **first Fosdick Lecture on Preaching** with *New York Times* best-selling author and Minnesota native William Kent Krueger, **Tuesday, Feb. 2, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.** The lecture will be followed by a response and chapel with A.E. Hanson Award-winner Rev. Rachel Wrenn. Information and registration at: <http://www.augsburg.edu/campusministry/fosdick/> – *Greg Renstrom*