

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

March 26, 2017

***Gathering Songs:** “Come, thou fount” #521 HWB
“Jesus, stand among us” #25 HWB

***Welcome and Call to Worship** based on Psalm 41
Leader: Happy are those who consider the poor; God delivers them in the day of trouble.
People: God protects them and keeps them alive; they are called happy in the land.
God sustains them on their sickbed and heals their infirmities.
You have upheld me because of my integrity, and set me in your presence forever.
All: Blessed be God of all creation, from everlasting to everlasting. Amen and Amen.

***Hymn:** “Blest are they” #94 STJ

Children’s Gathering Song: “Come and see” #20 HWB
Children’s Time
Song: “Praise, praise, praise, the Lord!” #11 STJ

Scripture reading: Luke 16:19-31
Sermon: “Can we bridge the ‘great chasm’?”
Silent reflection
Hymn: “Heart and mind, possessions, Lord” #392 HWB

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

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

HWB: Hymnal Worship Book STJ: Sing the Journey Hesla: River of Gladness
**Please stand if you are able*

Offering and Offertory

Announcements

***Sending song:** “Where love and justice combine” #6 Hesla

***Benediction**

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

Community Time

10:40 Fellowship

11:00 Christian Education Classes for all Ages

TODAY: Lent 4: Rich Man and Lazarus

Worship leader: Patricia Eliason **Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach
Song leader/Piano: Melissa Falb **Prelude/Offertory:** Noelle Hendricks,
Micaiah Hendricks, Phoebe Martinson **Ushers:** Travis Lusk, Dan Gerber
Readers: John Ratigan and Tona Ratigan Green
Nursery: Beth Richardson, Wendy Brunner
Fellowship: Jim Kuebelbeck, Scott Ziemer

NEXT SUNDAY: Lent 5: Zacchaeus (Luke 18:31 – 19:10)

Worship leader: Donna Minter **Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach
Song leader & Organ: Jim Kuebelbeck
Ushers: Minke Sundseth, Stew Thornley **Fellowship:** C. & O. Gingerich
Nursery: Candace Lutt, Katie Cuffey

Mar 19: Attendance: 87 Offering: \$2,518

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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FMC office hours: March 27-31

Ry: Tues, Thurs 9-4 **Joetta:** Tues, Wed 10-3

Office Staff: Aimee Weigle: Mon – Fri 9:30-12:30

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

Prayer Request from Mennonite Mission Network: Beginning on Thursday of this week, local leaders of Mennonite Mission Network's Mennonite Voluntary Service program will gather in Tucson, Arizona, for four days of worship, fellowship, and to envision next steps. Pray for the Holy Spirit's unity in relationships and in purpose.

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.

Lost & Found and Help Yourself! There are a growing number of found items on the table across from the restrooms under the Sanctuary. If you're missing something, take a look! **Any items left after April 2 will be donated.** Danika has done some spring cleaning in the nursery and has placed some culled items on the table next to the church office, help yourself!

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

March 28 – Sunday Text Discussion, 8:30 a.m., Seward Co-op

Mar 28 – April Newsletter items to G. Richardson by noon

Mar 30 – Men's Breakfast, 7 a.m., Curran's Restaurant

Apr 5 – Visioning Session, 7-9 p.m., Rudy Okerlund home

Apr 8 – FMC Sewing Group, 9:30 a.m., Library

Apr 10 – Missions & Service Committee meeting, 6 p.m., Chapel

Apr 12 – Church Council meeting, 7 p.m., Chapel

Apr 13 – Maundy Thursday meal & service, 6:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall

April 16 – Easter breakfast and worship (no education classes)

May 3 – Deacon Commission, 6:30 p.m., Kristin Green home

Luke 16:19-31

“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ He said, ‘Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father’s house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ He said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

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.

Questions for reflection:

1. Who are the “rich” ones in our day?
2. Who are the “Lazaruses”?
3. What ideas do you have for bridging the “great chasm” between rich and poor in this life to avoid the great chasm of divine justice/ judgment in the next life?

****Please schedule your photo appointment for the FMC Photo Directory****
See the flier in your mail file for more information

Breaking Bread Free Meal Spring has sprung, and it can be truly energizing to think about all the new life. But sometimes, people are in need of a little more revitalization and sense of community. Join us as we host another **Free Community Meal at Cafe Racer Kitchen**, 2929 E. 25th St., Monday, Mar. 27, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. This event keeps growing, so thank you for your support, free-will donations, and for spreading the word! We could use some volunteers, so if you are available, please contact us at caferacermn@gmail.com.

According to the United Nations, the world is facing the largest humanitarian crisis since the second world war. More than 20 million people across Yemen, Somalia, South Sudan and northeast Nigeria are facing or are at risk of famine. Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) is working in the area to provide emergency food assistance and increase its response to the crisis. Because of serious conflicts and concerns for safe, unimpeded access for humanitarian assistance, this process is slow and challenging. To donate to MCC’s relief fund, which supports MCC’s response to this disaster and others, visit mcc.org/learn/what/relief, call 1-888-563-4676 or send a check to MCC, PO Box 500, Akron, PA 17501.

From Rudy Okerlund: “What Is This Place?” – A Sequel. Come to my home on Wednesday, April 5th, 7-9 p.m. and enjoy good food while working on identifying what we as a church aspire to be. This is a working session with specific outcomes and promises to be engaging. Please let me know if you plan to attend. I’d like to have some idea of how much food to prepare. Look for more information in the Midweek update. Feel free to contact me via email or phone. My information is in the member directory.