

**FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH**  
“Growing together as children of God”  
November 26, 2017

\***Gathering Song:** “Come, ye thankful people” #94 HWB, vv. 1-2  
“Sing to the Lord of harvest” #98 HWB, vv. 1, 2, 4

**Musical Interlude**

\***Welcome and Call to Worship** based on Jeremiah 29

Leader: We gather as exiles, strangers in our own land.

**People: We come with questions, how to live in these times.**

L: God says: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce.

**P: We seek the welfare of the city and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare we will find our welfare.**

L: God says: I know the plans I have for you, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

**P: When we call upon you, O God, you will hear us.**

*All: When we search for God with our whole hearts, we will be found by God.*

\***Hymn:** “For the fruit of all creation” #90 HWB

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

**Children’s Time:** ~ Kristi Zabriskie

**Song:** “Lord, bless the hands” #93 HWB

**Scripture reading:** Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14

**Sermon:** “Relearning the call in exile”

**Hymn:** “My hope is built on nothing less” #343 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*

**Offering and Offertory**

**Announcements**

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

\***Sung Benediction:** “Now thank we all our God” #86 HWB

Community Time

**10:40: Fellowship time** – basement Fellowship Hall

**11:00:** There are **no children’s Sunday School classes today**, however **youth and adults** may stay for a **concluding session of “My Neighbor is Muslim.”** Front of sanctuary.

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**TODAY:** Jeremiah’s Letter to Exiles

**Worship & Song Leader:** Joetta Schlabach **Sermon:** Adam Nussbaum

**Piano:** Melissa Falb **Ushers:** Stew Thornley, Thaine Dirks

**Nursery:** Volunteer Needed

**Fellowship:** Andi Kuenning & Dan Leisen, Wendy Brunner

*Today Ry Siggelkow is doing a pulpit exchange with Adam Nussbaum, pastor of Shalom Mennonite Church in Eau Claire, WI. Welcome, Adam!*

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**NEXT SUNDAY:** First Sunday of Advent: Daniel & the Fiery Furnace

**Worship Leader:** TBD (Daniel 3:1-30)

**Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach **Song leader:** Adam Nafziger

**Ushers:** Thaine Dirks, Travis Lusk **Organ:** Jim Kuebelbeck

**Nursery:** Beth Richardson

**Fellowship:** Hermann & Susan Weinlick, Thaine Dirks & Judy Lapham

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**Nov 19: Attendance: 99 Offering – Local Budget: \$2,619**

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**Thanksgivings:**

**Concerns:**

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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.*

**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: November 27 – Dec. 1***

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

**Office Staff: Aimee Weigle:** Mon.-Fri. 9:30-12:30

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

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**Prayer Request from Mennonite Mission Network:** Kendra Selzer serves through Mennonite Mission Network's Mennonite Voluntary Service in Puerto Rico. Pray for her and the Academia Menonita Betania in Aibonito, where she works with pre-kindergarten – grade 10 students and also helps with community clean-up after the September hurricanes.

**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))

**Nov. 30** – Men's breakfast, 7 a.m., Curran's Restaurant, Mpls.

**Dec. 2-3** – Seward Art Crawl, Fellowship Hall

**Dec. 5** – Missions & Service Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Chapel

**Dec. 5** - Ecumenical Taize Prayer, 6 p.m., Cabrini Catholic Church

**Dec. 6** – Youth Faith Formation, 6 p.m., Reinert home

**Dec. 6** – Deacon Commission, 6:30 p.m., Englund-Helmeke home

**Dec. 9** - Sewing Group, 9:30 a.m., Library

**Dec. 17** – FMC Christmas Program & Cookie Social, 4 p.m., Sanctuary

## Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14

These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. <sup>4</sup>Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: <sup>5</sup>Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. <sup>6</sup>Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. <sup>7</sup>But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

<sup>8</sup>For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream, <sup>9</sup>for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the Lord. <sup>10</sup>For thus says the Lord: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. <sup>11</sup>For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. <sup>12</sup>Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. <sup>13</sup>When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, <sup>14</sup>I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

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

**Faith Church** will be hosting several artists in our Fellowship Hall for the **Seward Art Crawl, Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>**. This will include crafts from **Ten Thousand Villages**, **Dan Leisen** photos and notecards, and **Charlie Thompson** carved spoons and bowls, as well as several other artists. See <https://sewardarts.org/faith-mennonite/> for information about other activities at Faith and other Art Crawl locations. Be sure to come to the **Community Sing** that is being sponsored in part by Faith Church, Community of St. Martins and the Seward Co-op on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> from 2 to 3 p.m. at Faith.

*(Announcements cont. on back)*

## Announcements (cont.)

**Weldon Nisly**, a retired Mennonite pastor from Seattle, WA, and a member of the Christian Peacemaker Team (CPT) Peacemaker Corps, **will give a presentation "Voices and Views from Hebron" during the education hour on Sunday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>**. Nisly recently returned from two intensive months in Hebron this fall. Earlier this year he served for several months in Iraqi Kurdistan. During the upcoming Advent season, we will receive a first-hand report of the everyday challenges of life in the conflicted area where Jesus was born. A simple soup and bread lunch will be served, following the presentation, for any who would like to engage in further conversation with Weldon regarding the work of CPT in Israel/Palestine and in Iraq.

**SAVE THE DATE! The FMC Christmas Program will be Sunday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m.** Children are planning and preparing in Sunday School classes in the upcoming weeks. The candle-light service will be followed by a cookie social--everyone please bring a plate to share. (Fruit, veggies, cheese & crackers also welcome).

**It's time to fill the Fellowship schedule!** Please sign up for a Fellowship slot, using SignUpGenius. **Sign up begins immediately and after Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>, if the schedule for this period is not filled, we will assign people as needed.**

**Families with children:** Next week is the First Sunday of Advent and the beginning of "Yes! Let It Be!" a free, downloadable guide for family worship from Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> to Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>. Pick and choose the activities that work best for your family. There are copies available in the narthex, or you can also find it at [www.anabaptistfaithformation.org](http://www.anabaptistfaithformation.org).

**Keep in mind** - There will be no Sunday School classes on Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. – *Education Commission*