

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

September 17, 2017

***Gathering Song:** “He comes to us as one unknown” #498 HWB, vv 1-4
Musical Interlude

***Welcome and Call to Worship:**

Leader: We gather to worship in the presence of the eternal God. The moment is now. The place is here.

People: In this holy place, may eternity and time overlap. May this be a place where we know the Lord is our God.

Sovereign God, you call each of us by name.

Give us eyes to see your world around us.

Teach us to hear the voices of your people

Empower us to cry out for your holy justice.

Strengthen us to love with your unending love.

Help us to dream of the world into which you lead us,

All: and to trust that you will never leave us alone.

Adapted from Words for Worship 2, edited by Diane Zaerr Benneman

© 2009 by Herald Press, Harrisonburg, Va.

***Hymn:** “God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian” #632 HWB

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

Children’s Time

Song: “Guide my feet” #546 HWB

Scripture reading: Genesis 27:1-4, 15, 17-23; 28:10-17

Sermon: “God will not leave us”

Hymn: “Spirit of God! descend” #502 HWB, vv 1, 3, 4, 5

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

***Sung Benediction:** “Be thou my vision” #545, HWB vv 1, 2, 4

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

**Please stand if you are able*

Community Time

10:40: Fellowship time in the basement fellowship hall. This is a time to enjoy light refreshments and get acquainted with someone you haven’t yet met. (Children’s activities previously available at the front of the sanctuary will be set up in the NW corner of the fellowship hall.)

11:00: Christian Education for all ages. Adults will meet in the sanctuary for reports and discussion about the summer meetings of Central Plains Mennonite Conference (Sioux Falls) and Mennonite Church USA (Orlando).

TODAY: Jacob’s Dream

Worship Leader: Joan Kreider, Sophia Kouay **Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

Song Leader: Gregg Richardson

Piano: Karen Zeug

Ushers: Stew Thornley, Dan Gerber

Fellowship: Kristin Borntrager & David Ries, Phil Fuller

Nursery: Beth Richardson, Miriam Augsburger

NEXT SUNDAY: All Church Retreat – YMCA Camp St Croix

We will not have worship or Sunday School here at our building next Sunday. Everyone is welcome to come to Camp St. Croix for a 9:30 worship service, even if you can’t make it to the Saturday activities. The camp address is 532 County Road F, Hudson, WI 54016. Please notify the church office if you plan to drive on Sunday and have room for others or if you would like a ride on Sunday. The camp is about a 30-minute drive from the church.

Sept 10:

Attendance: 117

Offering: \$4,755

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

2720 East 22nd Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406 Ph: 612-375-9483
E: faithmc@faithmennonite.org Web: www.faithmennonite.org

FMC office hours: September 18-22

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.

Prayer Request from Mennonite Mission Network: Yesterday, the Argentina Mennonite Church began celebrating their centennial anniversary. Pray that God will be glorified as church members and guests worship and remember God's faithfulness. Pray also that today's mission rally in the greater Buenos Aires area will introduce people to Jesus in new ways.

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.

Annual Twin Cities Benefit for Mennonite Central Committee's World Relief, Saturday, Oct. 7, 5-8:30 p.m. at the Valley Community Presbyterian Church, 3100 Lilac Way, Golden Valley. Our goal is to raise \$40,000 for the Mennonite Central Committee programs of relief, development, and peace building in the name of Christ. For information go to <http://tcmccreliefsale.org>. **Reservations are required and will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Please respond as soon as possible, as seating is limited to 120 people.** Call 763-522-3063 or email info@tcmccreliefsale.org. We will direct the first \$30,000 we raise to MCC. Anything beyond that (after expenses are paid) would go to Mennonite Disaster Service for hurricane disaster relief.

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

Sept 19 – NO Sunday text discussion this week

Sept 23-24 – FMC Fall Retreat, YMCA Camp St. Croix

Sept 27 – Youth Faith Formation, 6 p.m., Ratigan Green home

Oct 4 – Deacon Commission, 6:30 p.m., Kristin Green home

Oct 7 - TC Benefit for Mennonite Central Committee, 5-8:30 p.m., Valley Community Presbyterian Church, Golden Valley

Oct 11 – Church Council meeting, 7 p.m., chapel

Oct 14 – Worship Commission meeting, 8:30 a.m., chapel

Genesis 27:1-4, 15, 17-23; 28:10-17

When Isaac was old and his eyes were dim so that he could not see, he called his elder son Esau and said to him, “My son”; and he answered, “Here I am.” He said, “See, I am old; I do not know the day of my death. Now then, take your weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the field, and hunt game for me. Then prepare for me savory food, such as I like, and bring it to me to eat, so that I may bless you before I die.” Then Rebekah took the best garments of her elder son Esau, which were with her in the house, and put them on her younger son Jacob; Then she handed the savory food, and the bread that she had prepared, to her son Jacob.

So he went in to his father, and said, “My father”; and he said, “Here I am; who are you, my son?” Jacob said to his father, “I am Esau your firstborn. I have done as you told me; now sit up and eat of my game, so that you may bless me.” But Isaac said to his son, “How is it that you have found it so quickly, my son?” He answered, “Because the LORD your God granted me success.” Then Isaac said to Jacob, “Come near, that I may feel you, my son, to know whether you are really my son Esau or not.” So Jacob went up to his father Isaac, who felt him and said, “The voice is Jacob’s voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau.” He did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau’s hands; so he blessed him.

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, “I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”

Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!” And he was afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

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.

Genesis 27:1-4, 15, 17-23; 28:10-17

When Isaac was old and his eyes were dim so that he could not see, he called his elder son Esau and said to him, “My son”; and he answered, “Here I am.” He said, “See, I am old; I do not know the day of my death. Now then, take your weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the field, and hunt game for me. Then prepare for me savory food, such as I like, and bring it to me to eat, so that I may bless you before I die.” Then Rebekah took the best garments of her elder son Esau, which were with her in the house, and put them on her younger son Jacob; Then she handed the savory food, and the bread that she had prepared, to her son Jacob.

So he went in to his father, and said, “My father”; and he said, “Here I am; who are you, my son?” Jacob said to his father, “I am Esau your firstborn. I have done as you told me; now sit up and eat of my game, so that you may bless me.” But Isaac said to his son, “How is it that you have found it so quickly, my son?” He answered, “Because the LORD your God granted me success.” Then Isaac said to Jacob, “Come near, that I may feel you, my son, to know whether you are really my son Esau or not.” So Jacob went up to his father Isaac, who felt him and said, “The voice is Jacob’s voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau.” He did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau’s hands; so he blessed him.

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, “I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”

Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!” And he was afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

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

We will receive a special offering today for the hurricane disaster relief work of **Mennonite Disaster Service**. You may write checks to FMC, using the memo line to designate any gifts to MDS.

We are excited about a new year of learning together in our **Christian Education** program. Following is a list of classes, teachers, and locations.

Nursery (Parent Resource Room under narthex):

Danika Zabertini

Pre-School (Nursery)

Andi Kuenning
Rebecca Wright
John Ratigan

K-2nd Grade (Room across from Nursery)

Hayley Brooks
Karla Hovde
Thaine Dirks

3rd-5th Grade (Library)

Marcia Sigglekow
Andy Martinson
Meg Troyer

Middle School (Chapel)

Matthew Hendricks
Casey Englund-Helmeke
Rachel Geissinger

High School (Upper Level behind front of Sanctuary)

Rhonda Martin
Caitlin Smith

In the spirit of our theme for the year “Growing Together as Children of God” the Deacon Commission invites everyone to **consider participating in a triad** (group of three) as a way to build deeper relationships with one another and to support one another in spiritual growth. Triads will decide how often to meet – weekly, biweekly, or monthly—and whether to meet in person or via a web-based meeting platform such as Zoom.US or Skype. Ideas for structuring your meeting time will be offered, but each group can determine what will work best for them. **You may sign up to be placed in a triad, or you can form a triad on your own. See the sign-up sheet in the narthex.** Direct any questions to a deacon or pastor.

The Church Council approved a **letter to the Mennonite Church USA Executive Board**, expressing our desire that they lift the suspension of Doug Basinger’s appointment to the leadership discernment committee. Doug, a member of Seattle Mennonite Church, was appointed upon the recommendation of his area conference leadership, but the board suspended that appointment when some learned that he was a married gay man. **All are invited to sign the letter**, which will be sent this week, before the board’s next meeting.

(Continued on back)

Announcements (cont.)

Several people from FMC will join Asamblea De Derechos Civiles on a bus tour for a state-wide "Emancipation Ride" in defense of DACA on Monday, September 18. If you are still interested in participating in the action please connect with Ry Siggelkow (ry.siggelkow@faithmennonite.org)

From Elaine Klaassen: You are invited to a recital of my own compositions, which I call “**Piano Stories,**” on **Sunday, Oct. 1 at 3 p.m.**, at Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church (4101 37th Ave. S.). I will be joined by wonderful musicians on four of the pieces: Rodin Ngando, congas and voice, Mary Preus, flute, Phil Stoltzfus, violin, and Michael Patrick Coyle, dumbek.

The first Central Plains Bible Study Webinar is coming soon! Join us at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 26, for Don’t Mourn or Weep: Goals and problems. We’ll start with how leaders can contribute to a good study and move on to addressing the biggest challenges leaders encounter. These free webinars are especially for Sunday School teachers of youth and adults or facilitators of small groups, but everyone is welcome. **RSVP on the Bible Study Webinars 2017 page at www.centralplainsmc.org by Thursday, Sept. 21.**

Racism and the Religions - Rev. Dr. Curtiss DeYoung, the new CEO of the Minnesota Council of Churches, will speak at the Saint Paul Interfaith Network (SPIN) Midday Interfaith Dialogue, Wednesday, September 20, 2017, 11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Luther Seminary, Olson Campus Center, Rm 10. DeYoung has spent his entire ministry confronting racism in practice and in his writing. There will be two respondents: Rachel Babbet, Episcopal Church Missioner for Community Engagement, and Don Samuels, executive director of the Northside Achievement Zone. Open to all. (Free will offering) Doors open at 11:15 a.m.; lunch is available in the cafeteria; bag lunches welcome. 1490 Fulham St, St Paul, MN 55108.

The adult Sunday School class will soon begin a nine-week study of the booklet “My Neighborhood is a Muslim”. One dozen copies are available in print form. The booklet is also available in digital form at <http://www.lssmn.org/refugeeservices/study/>. Read the first chapter by October first. Samir Saikaki, an Imam at Al-Salam Mosque in Maplewood, will make his first presentation on October 1st on the subject of “Beliefs and Practices”. Come prepared to ask questions. There will be guests in attendance from other faith traditions. Let us learn together.