

**FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH**  
February 21, 2010 First Sunday of Lent  
“Holding On, Letting Go”

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

L: We live in shelter of the Most High,  
**P: we place our trust in the Almighty,**  
L: we claim with confidence God’s protection.  
**P: When we call out, our God will answer.**  
*All: In our trouble, God will be near.*

**HOLDING ON**

\*Hymns: “O God our help in ages past” #328 HWB, vv. 1-4  
“Great God, we sing” #639 HWB

**Affirmation of faith:** #710 HWB

**Children’s gathering hymn:** “Come and see” #20 HWB

**Children’s time:** ~ Adam Nafziger

**Hymn:** “I am leaning on the Lord” #532 HWB

**HEARING GOD’S WORD**

**Old Testament reading:** Deuteronomy 26:1-11

**Gospel reading:** Luke 4:1-13

**Reader’s Theater**

**Sermon:** “Entering Lent: Empty and Full”

**LETTING GO**

**Confession**

**Assurance:** #709 HWB

**Hymn:** “From the depths of sin” #136 HWB

**Congregational Sharing**

**Congregational Prayer**

Our Father 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.

*(Continued next page.)*

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** *(please give in writing to the pastor or worship leader)*

**Introduction of Guests**

\***Sending Hymn:** “When peace like a river” #336 HWB, vv. 1-2

\***Benediction**

L: May your journey be one of joy.  
**P: Thank you, Lord, for joy.**  
L: May your journey be one of peace.  
**P: Thank you, Lord, for peace.**  
L: May your journey be one of love.  
**P: Thank you, Lord, for love. Amen**

\***Passing the Peace / Postlude**

Community Time

- **Fellowship time –10:45-11:10 a.m.**

- **Children’s singing – 11 a.m.** Education wing chapel

- **Christian education – 11:15-noon** There are four adult classes:

- Membership exploration (3 weeks) – in Pastor’s Study
- Parent connection to Gather ‘Round – Rm 202, Education wing
- Speaking of Faith – Library
- Ways to Pray – Chapel, Education wing

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**TODAY:** First Sunday of Lent: In the Shelter of the Most High

**Worship Leader:** Gregg Richardson      **Sermon:** Joetta Schlabach

**Song leader:** Pierre Gingerich-Boberg      **Piano:** Adam Nafziger

**Nursery volunteers:** Matthew Hendricks & Joan Wing

**Fellowship:** Thaine Dirks & One Volunteer Needed

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**NEXT SUNDAY:** Second Sunday of Lent: Stand firm in the Lord

**Worship Leader:** Joetta Schlabach      **Sermon:** Ry Siggelkow

**Song leader:** Donna Stucky      **Piano:** Sandra Westby

**Nursery volunteers:** Jason Derrickson & Jenny Wandersee

**Fellowship:** Kathleen Harder & Leslie Minkler

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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.*

As **Lent** begins we invite you to take a look at **devotional resources** from our church library that Cynthia Miller has put on **display in the fellowship area**. There are also copies of several articles that you may take and keep (or bring back to share).

## Faith Mennonite Church

Pastor: Joetta Schlabach

Ministry Staff Person: Kathleen Remund

Deacons: Kami Blackwell Kinney, Greg Renstrom  
Neil Okerlund, Beth Richardson, Hermann Weinlick

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### FMC OFFICE HOURS: February 22-26

**Pastor:** Thurs 9-4; Friday noon-4. Joetta will be out of town Monday through Wednesday. Please contact a deacon in case of an emergency or for pastoral care needs during this time.

**Ministry Staff Person:** Monday 1-3 p.m., Friday 9-Noon.  
Phone messages for Kathleen can be left at VM #2 at the church. You can email her at [minstaff@faithmennonite.org](mailto:minstaff@faithmennonite.org)

**Office Assistant:** Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

*Email all bulletin items before Wednesday evening to:*  
[faithmc@faithmennonite.org](mailto:faithmc@faithmennonite.org). Bulletin is finalized and printed on Thursday.

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**Feb. 14:** Attendance: 66                  Offering: \$1,233

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### Church Meetings and Events

Feb 23 – Lectionary Discussion Group (Ps 63:1-8; Is 55:1-9; Lk 13:1-9)

8:30 a.m., Trotter's, Corner of Marshall & Cleveland, SP

February 25 – Drop in at Melissa Hochstetler's, 7 p.m.

February 26-27 – Families Moving Forward

February 28 – Benefit Concert at FMC, 2:00-4:00 pm

March 8 – Church Council, 7 p.m., chapel

March 17 – Deacon's Commission, 9:30 a.m., Richardson's

March 23 – Mission & Service Commission, 6:30 p.m., chapel

# Ask ICE to recognize the dignity of every individual.

Throughout the U.S., more than 33,000 immigrants are detained on civil immigration charges on any given day. Detainees include asylum seekers, long-time lawful permanent residents facing deportation, and people arrested in immigration raids or stops. They are not entitled to government appointed legal representation, and are held indefinitely, until their immigration proceedings are completed or they can be deported. The mass detention of individuals on civil charges violates our fundamental right to liberty and freedom from arbitrary detention, but we have an opportunity to challenge it now.

The American Friends Service Committee works hard to bring attention to the human rights nightmare that immigrants in detention face. In our field offices in New Jersey and in Colorado AFSC organizers have joined forces with faith and community leaders to offer alternatives to detention of immigrants.

The Department of Homeland Security has the authority to review each detention and release detainees who are not flight risks and do not present any danger. It ignores that authority, however, and refuses to release the many people in detention do not need to be detained at all.

Please join AFSC in calling on Immigration and Customs Enforcement to recognize the dignity of each individual in its custody by using existing legal standards for each case to determine whether detention is really necessary.

Without individual case review, more and more people are subject to unnecessary detention. With closures of facilities, detainees are not released, but are transferred from jail to jail, often without notice to families or attorneys and without proper medical records, leading to less access for visits and more isolation.

In New York, ICE has announced its plans to close the Varick Federal Detention Facility, and to move its almost 300 detainees to Hudson County Jail in New Jersey. Current detainees in Hudson County would be transferred to other jails in New Jersey. These transfers and disruptions in already disrupted lives are unnecessary and can be avoided if ICE exercises its authority to review the individual cases and release detainees who are eligible for release.

Amy Gottlieb and Christian Ramirez  
AFSC's Immigrant Rights Programs.  
**American Friends Service Committee**  
1501 Cherry Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

## Deuteronomy 26:1-11

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, ... 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.' You shall set it down before and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

## Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.' Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone."'

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, 'To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.' Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."'

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."' Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

L: 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

**Church security note:** Our custodian has found the 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue door ajar on several occasions. It was locked but not latched. We ask everyone, especially if you are the last person out of the building, or if you enter during the week, to **please ensure that the door latches behind you.** Because we have only part-time custodial service and no night watch person, the security of our building is the responsibility of all. Thanks!

**2009 Giving Survey – due Feb. 28th** This is a reminder to complete and return the 2009 Giving Survey that the Missions & Service Commission introduced at Annual Meeting. We want to celebrate the whole picture of FMC stewardship through giving, volunteering, and investing. **Please return completed surveys to Donna Minter's mailbox.**

**Sunday, Feb 28, 2:00-4:00 pm Family-friendly Concert** to benefit the **Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice Partnership.** FMC is partnering with Community of St. Martin to host this event, which will include artists from each congregations. Since 2004, Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice Partnership has provided an alternative to juvenile court for youth committing misdemeanor offenses in Seward and Greater Longfellow. Freewill donations will be gratefully accepted. Door prizes and refreshments. **Several volunteers are need to help with refreshments and clean-up after the event; sign up today!**

**MCC is deeply grateful for the overwhelming response to the January 12 earthquake in Haiti.** MCC is developing a multi-year response to utilize the over \$8 million that has been donated. Kurt Hildebrand, an MCC worker in Haiti, recently said, "Haitians...were accustomed to being considered by the outside world as a hopeless basket case that wasn't worth the effort...I want us to all think and pray very hard about how we can sustain the interest." **MCC is committed to working in Haiti long after the media spotlight fades** as it has in other places – New Orleans, Sudan, Indonesia, etc. However, due to a decrease in general giving over the past two years MCC has been forced to make cuts to vital programming around the world. **Please consider giving a "where needed most" donation** to support MCC's work. Send checks to MCC Central States, PO Box 235, North Newton, KS 67117 or at [mcc.org](http://mcc.org) .

**Volunteer at Feed My Starving Children (Eagan)—May 12, 8-9:30 p.m.** Assemble food packets at Feed My Starving Children. Packets have been sent to Haiti for years and of course, after the earthquake. **The night of April 14 (announced last week) is not available** in Eagan so we have **changed the date to May 12.** The extended **deadline for signing up is TODAY** in the evening. Please confirm your participation with Leslie Minkler: 612-387-0096 or [lrninkler@yahoo.com](mailto:lrninkler@yahoo.com). For more information: [www.fmsc.org](http://www.fmsc.org) – *Leslie Minkler*

**Lent and Easter music – Neil Okerlund will be leading the Menno'Faith and a mixed choir in preparing music for Palm Sunday and Easter. Following is the schedule of practices.** Everyone who enjoys singing is welcome to rehearse.

March 7 Men after Sunday School hour (1/2 hour)

March 14 Mixed choir after Sunday School hour (1/2 hour)

March 21 Mixed choir during Sunday School hour (11:15-noon)

March 21 Men after Sunday School hour (1/2 hour)

March 28 (Palm Sunday) Mixed choir at 9 am; sings for service

April 4 (Easter) Men rehearse at 9 am; sing for service

**Variety Show at Faith** – Dust off your tap shoes, warm up your voice and practice that comedy routine, it's time for a variety show at Faith! Please join us on **Friday, March 19th from 6:30-8:30 p.m.** at the church to show everyone your talents. Email Rhonda Martin reserve your spot in the variety show: [rmartinmsw@yahoo.com](mailto:rmartinmsw@yahoo.com) to.

**Nobel Peace Prize Forum at Augsburg College March 5, 6** Keynote speaker Friday evening is 2008 Nobel Peace Laureate Martti Ahtisaari. Saturday film, *Pray the Devil Back to Hell*, followed by speaker, Leymah Gbowee, Liberian women's peace leader. Lots of other program too. Register on line at [www.peaceprizeforum.org](http://www.peaceprizeforum.org). Ask Orv Gingerich for more information.

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### Directory Updates

- **You can contact Kathleen Remund, our new ministry staff person, at: [minstaff@faithmennonite.org](mailto:minstaff@faithmennonite.org)** or phone her at church, 612-375-9483, VM#2. Her hours are Monday 1-3 p.m. and Friday 9-Noon.
- **Erin Geiser email change** – Please remove [meah@tcq.net](mailto:meah@tcq.net) from your e-mail addresses and use [erindgeiser@gmail.com](mailto:erindgeiser@gmail.com) instead.
- **Dick Christoph**, 612-724-9282, 3617 S. 35<sup>th</sup> Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55406 [dchrist@comcast.net](mailto:dchrist@comcast.net)