



FRIENDSHIP MENNONITE CHURCH

Changing Lives Through Jesus Christ

March 18, 2007
4th week of Lent

Welcome!

May we feel God's presence as we worship together!



"This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has give us this task of reconciling people to him."

II Corinthians 5:17,18 --NLT

- Welcome
- Worship in Song
- Opening Prayer
- Announcements
- Children's Lesson
- Reflections of Lent
- Song *Fill Us With Your Feast*
- Tithes and Offerings
- Scripture Reading Genesis 15:1-18 Luke 13:31-35
- Sermon: Promise and Pilgrimage
- Song HWB #299 *New Earth, Heavens New*
- Benediction
- Song *God Go With You*
- Moment of Silent Reflection

Guest Speaker: Vern

Worship Leader: Rhonda

Song Leader: Rachel

Pianist: Ted

Greeters: Mel & Parsilla

Usher: Tim

Sunday School Nursery: Alice

Worship Nursery: Keven & Elizabeth

Upcoming Events & Meetings

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| Sun. | Mar. 18 | Agape group at Chris & Sue's 4:30pm |
| Tue. | Mar. 20 | Core Cabinet Meeting 6:30pm
Church Council Meeting 7:30pm |
| Sun. | Mar. 25 | Food for Thought group at Church 5:00pm |

Giving for March 11, 2007

Church Offering:

\$1419.50

Sunday School:

\$23.00

Meals on Wheels:

\$5.00

Announcements:

- We thank **Vern** for bringing us the message this morning. Next week we will have Dean.
- **Ohio Mennonite Women** will be holding their Spring Day of Inspiration on April 14 at Sharon Mennonite Church in Plain City, OH. Contact Sheri for more information.
- Please continue to pray for those affected by the tragedy at **Bluffton University**. A letter has been posted on the bulletin board with specific prayer requests for this situation.
- Please keep the **Pastoral Search Committee** in your prayers as they begin to process a new slate of candidates.
- Each **Wednesday evening** anytime between 8:00 and 9:00 p.m. we would like to have people pray from their house or wherever they are for 1) **Discernment**, as we are in the process of finding a pastor for our Church 2) **Each other**, as many are struggling with health issues, grief, and the day to day issues of life 3) **Our Church** as a whole. Even though we are apart, through our prayers we can come together.

Address:
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Congregational Counselor:
Gizella

For emergencies, please contact,
our elders: Dean
or Tim.

- We will be compiling a **directory of the church** in the next few months with photographs and descriptions of each family that make up our congregation. This directory will be available to our next pastor to learn about our congregation as well as to each other as a church family album. More information will be coming. In the mean time, if you have questions or suggestions, please see Yan.
- If you have an **item for the monthly calendar**, please contact Julie by March 27 via phone or e-mail (calendar@friendmc.org).
- If you have an **announcement for the bulletin**, please contact Julie by Thursday morning via phone or e-mail (bulletin@friendmc.org).

Lenten Scriptures/Reflections:

1st week Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16;
Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13

- What are your places of wilderness? Are you wandering around that wilderness, despairing of a way out, like the Israelites in their wilderness? How might you “call on the name of the Lord” in the midst of your wilderness?

2nd week Genesis 15:1-12, 17,18; Psalm 27;
Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35

- Where are the “places of darkness” in your life? Where is God offering safe shelter in the midst of the darkness?

3rd week Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 64:1-8; I Corinthians 10:1-13;
Luke 13:1-9

- Describe the differences in your life between life without God and life with God. What might be the life-giving food and drink that God is offering you during Lent?

4th week Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; II Cor. 5:16-21;
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

- Which of the siblings do you identify with—the younger one who chooses misguided and self-serving actions, or the older one who chooses misguided and self-serving passivity and inaction? How is God calling you to abandon these choices and instead receive God’s abundant embrace of love and delight?

5th week Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Phil. 3:4-14;
John 12:1-8

- What are the times when you experienced difficult, stormy, or barren times of life and God brought provisions? What were those provisions? What provisions is God offering you now?

Community Service

18. Pray for Michael (MJ) Sharp and Tim Huber, Germany, as they work through Military Counseling Network with U.S. soldiers who are struggling with serious post-traumatic stress disorder.
19. Remember Mennonite Voluntary Service participants serving in St. Louis: Elina Born and Amanda Maust working with autistic children at Edgewood Children’s Center and Dan Worth at Habitat for Humanity.
20. Pray for SOOP (Service Opportunities for Older People) participants serving in Reedley, Calif., as they partner with Mennonite Central Committee West Coast in its fruit drying program and the Ten Thousand Villages and thrift stores.
21. Marlow and Vicky Ramsay request prayer for the new Mongolian leadership team that is assuming responsibility for the Celebrate Recovery groups established in local churches in Mongolia to work with alcoholics and their families.
22. Pray for health, strength and a growing faith for Laura Kraybill, Esther Misrahi, Rike Muschka and Terra Wiens, Service Adventure participants in South Bend, Ind.

Ministry with Children and Youth

23. Gretchen and Keith Kingsley request prayer for the youth and leaders of an indigenous denomination in northern Argentina who meet in a large conference today through Sunday in the Chaco province.
24. Join Julian Wiebe-Johnson, France, in giving thanks for the growth and consistent attendance in the Mennonite church youth group of Église Évangélique of Chatenay-Malabry. Pray for the group’s week-long retreat during spring break.

Prayer Request for week of March 18

Mennonite Mission Network workers Bruce Yoder and Nancy Frey, West Africa, request prayer for the leadership training program of Mennonite Church Nigeria. Pray that God will use this initiative to strengthen the church and increase its awareness of the Anabaptist tradition.