



FRIENDSHIP MENNONITE CHURCH

Changing Lives Through Jesus Christ

March 25, 2007
5th week of Lent

Welcome!

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



**"Restore our fortunes, Lord,
as streams renew the desert."**

**"Yes, I will make rivers in the dry wasteland
so my chosen people can be refreshed."**

Psalm 126:4; Isaiah 43:20b --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 Romans 1:9-15
- Sermon: Transcendent God of Nations
- Song
- Benediction
- Song *God Go With You*
- Moment of Silent Reflection

Guest Speaker: Dean

Worship Leader: Rachel

Pianist: Rhonda

Greeters: Chris & Sue

Song Leader: Dan

Usher: Jonathan

Sunday School Nursery: Marge

Worship Nursery: Shirley

Upcoming Events & Meetings

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| Sun. | Mar. 25 | Food for Thought group at Church 5:00pm |
| Sun. | Apr. 1 | Agape group at Jonathan & Maria's 4:30pm |
| Thr. | Apr. 5 | Tenebrae Service at Church 7:00pm |
| Sun. | Apr. 8 | Easter Breakfast at Church 8:30am |
| | | Worship Service at 10:00am |

Giving for March 18, 2007

Church Offering:	\$1284.85	Sunday School:	\$12.00
Meals on Wheels:	\$5.00	Eastern European Missions:	\$38.80
The Mennonite Magazine:	\$66.00	MAMA Project-Ebenezer:	\$90.00
		MAMA Project-Women's Time Out:	\$120.00

Announcements:

- We thank **Dean** for bringing us the message this morning. Next week we will have Vern.
- **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 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:
21881 Libby Road
Bedford Heights, OH 44146

Phone:
(216) 662-6788

Web Page: <http://friendmc.org>
Email: friendmc@friendmc.org

Congregational Counselor:
Gizella

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

- **John** has retired and moved back to Pennsylvania. He has been at Friendship for about 45 years. He will be living temporarily with a brother and is making arrangements for a senior living apartment. John's health has improved and he is happy with these changes. Remember him in your prayers and also a card would be appreciated.
- A **Tenebrae Service** will be held on Maunday Thursday, April 5, at 7:00PM. The service will include Holy Communion and a traditional footwashing service. The word 'tenebrae' is Latin for shadows. The purpose of this service is to recreate the emotional aspects of the passion story; the betrayal, abandonment, and agony of the events, and it is left unfinished, because the story isn't over until Easter Day. Childcare will *not* be provided.
- **Easter Breakfast** will be at the church Easter morning at 8:30AM. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. There will be no Sunday School that day. The worship service will be at 10:00AM.
- **Emergency Request from MCC:** It seems that every week brings news of tragedy around the world. As if natural disasters were not enough, armed conflicts are adding to the suffering of many of our fellow human beings. Due to the many, many needs now being met, MCC finds itself virtually without any Relief Kits to distribute. The war in Iraq has caused many innocent people to be driven from their homes. The office in Kidron hopes to be able to respond with 885 Relief Kits. This is an opportunity for us to work with MCC to send healing, rather than destruction, to the land of Abraham. For a list of needed items, please see the bulletin board.
- **Overheard at Ohio Conference Annual Meeting:**
 1. Walt asking about us all and about our church.
 2. Suzanne saying she sends everyone a big hug.
- 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.
- During **February, March & April**, there will be a fundraiser using the MCC banks for **Eastern European Missions**. The banks are available in the lobby and we will collect the change once a month. Please join us in raising funds for the next mission trip to Eastern Europe.
- 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:

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?

6th week Luke 10:28-40; Psalm 118:1,2, 19-29; Isaiah 50:4-9;
Phil. 2:5-11

- Do you celebrate Jesus on Sunday then reject him the rest of the week? How can Jesus stay real to you during the week? How can you stay connected to the steadfast love of God just as Jesus did?

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Community Service

25. Mike and Teresa Sherrill request prayer for the youth at Shiroschi Church, Hokkaido, Japan. The youth initiated daily prayer for each other through their cell phones.
26. A Mission Network couple is working with Arab believers to begin a creative arts center for teenagers in the Arab Peninsula. Pray for this one-on-one outreach to young people.
27. Special event: Pray for God's guidance as mission workers in Japan and Mission Network administrators John Lapp and Sheldon Sawatzky meet today through Thursday in Hokkaido, Japan.
28. Pray for David and Starla Moyer, Argentina, in their leadership role at Centro Cristiano in Santa Rosa where a new Sunday school program for neighborhood children begins this month.
29. Pray that children will learn the ways of peace as they watch video stories recently compiled on "Rhythms of Peace," a DVD released by Mennonite Media.
30. Pray that Mennonite young people will be inspired as a result of their youth pastors and sponsors receiving "Relate: A Christian Service Newsletter," an e-mail resource with an Anabaptist focus.
31. Praise God for the "tweens" (10- to 12-year-olds) at Macau Mennonite Church. George and Tobia Veith request prayer that they will become a thriving youth group and grow in faith.

Prayer Request for week of March 25

Pray that God will grant wisdom to the many high school and college seniors who are making choices and are considering an assignment with Mission Network's Christian Service programs.

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