

# A Celebration of Christian Worship

September 27, 2009

**Prelude** Mike Stauffer

## Gathering Time

**Hymn #6** “Here in this place”

**Welcome and Introduction of Rene’s work in Swaziland**

**Passing the Friendship Register & Introduction of Guests  
Announcements**

## Offering Ourselves to God

**Offering**

**Doxology #119B** “Praise God from whom”

**Pastoral Prayer** Ryan Ahlgrim

**Song SJ#54** “Longing for light”

## Hearing God’s Word

**Lighting of AIDS Candle and Prayer**

**Scripture Reading** Matthew 25:31-40 Garrett & Savannah Ahlgrim

**Stages of the Cross\*** Rene Hostetter

*\*This reading relates the suffering of Jesus to those living with HIV/AIDS*

**Silence**

**Hymn SS#115** “Beauty for brokenness”

**Scripture Reading** Matthew 9:35-38 Garrett & Savannah Ahlgrim

**Message** “We Wait. . . in Hope” Rene Hostetter

*Global Suffering and Hope in the Midst of HIV/AIDS*

## Responding to the Word

[Children age four through grade five are dismissed for Children’s Music Ministry]

**Song and Prayer of Reflection** “Lord, have mercy”

*You are invited to light a candle as a symbol of prayer and hope for those who are affected by HIV/AIDS.*

**Closing Words of Hope** Rene Hostetter

## Sending

**Song SJ#2** “Hamba Nathi”

**Sharing of Responses to the Service**

**Blessing**

**Postlude**

**Pastor:** Ryan Ahlgrim

**Associate Pastor:** Rene Hostetter

**Elders:** Gloria Hood (chair), Donna Haines, Elvin Plank, Randy Stoesz

**Elder Apprentice:** Tricia Short Yoder

**Worship Leader:** Ryan Ahlgrim **Song Leader:** Jana Miller

**Ushers:** Lynn Irelan &

**Greeters:** Robin Jones & Sue Turner

**Nursery:** Caitlin Selby & Cal Swarbrick

**Ministers:** Each participant in the congregation

## UPCOMING SERMON SERIES ON ECCLESIASTES:

October 4: World Communion Sunday

Ecclesiastes 9:11-12 “The Unpredictability of Life”

October 11: Ecclesiastes 4:6, 5:10, 12 “The Unhappiness of Too Much”

October 18: Ecclesiastes 2:24-25 “Enjoying Life: Food, Friends and Family”

**FELLOWSHIP TIME:** 10:40 a.m. Beverages are served in the fellowship hall.

[Remember to wash your coffee/tea mug and help us with being “green.”]

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH CLASSES:

There are classes for all children and youth. Lists of class members are on the doors. Here are the classroom locations:

- Ages 2 & 3—classroom east of the new nursery
- PreK & Kindergarten—Classroom behind the mailboxes
- Grade 1—First overflow room off fellowship hall
- Grades 2-3—Corner overflow room
- Grades 4-5—Library
- JYF—Classroom opposite the kitchen
- MYF—grades 9-12—Nursery or outside

**ADULT CLASS:** “Urban Mennonites in MCUSA.” Ryan Ahlgrim will present survey results from eight urban Mennonite churches and compare them with MCUSA regarding Anabaptist convictions and practices. Meets in the sanctuary.

## Financial Update

Budget contributions on September 20:

\$ 6,287

Contributions YTD:

\$259,365

Projected contributions needed YTD:

\$315,325

Surplus (Deficit) YTD:

(\$ 55,960)

**Sunday morning attendance for September 20: 229**

## TODAY—September 27, 2009

Today is the deadline for turning in your **special food needs** forms to the mailbox of Marie Harnish of Fellowship Committee.

**Fall Clothing Exchange** is set up for you to “shop” and make a donation to Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). This will run for several weeks.

The **MYF** will have **Christian Faith and Art** today at the IMA from noon to 3:00 p.m. This is an optional activity. Led by Ryan Ahlgrim.

## THIS WEEK

The **Bible Study on Romans led by Jake Elias** continues this Tuesday, September 29, at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to participate. The topics are as follows (all scriptures from Romans):

September 29—Justification by Faith (5:1-6:23)

October 6—Suffering and Glory (8:1-39)

October 13—God’s People (9:1-11:36)

October 20—The Church in its World (12:1-15:13)

October 27—Congregational Life and Mission (15:14-16:27)

**Green Stories: Faith and Environmental Awareness in Congregations.** This congregational connection event is 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday, September 30, at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Indianapolis, 615 W. 43<sup>rd</sup> St. Highlights include examples of native plant landscaping at FMC, energy audits, composting, and educational programming at area churches. The cost is \$15 a person including lunch and a copy of the book *EcoFaith: Creating and Sustaining Green Congregations* by Charlene Hosenfield.

## NEXT SUNDAY

**Food Pantry Sunday** is next Sunday, October 4. Remember to bring your donations of non-perishable food items and toiletries.

MYF will have a **corn maze next Sunday**, October 4, from noon to 4:00 p.m.

**Children’s Ed teachers’ luncheon** at noon next Sunday, October 4. Parents to provide the food.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

The third annual conference of the International Interfaith Initiative “*The Confluence of Religion and Politics*” is October 8-9 at the Indiana War Memorial with Lee Hamilton and Richard Hamilton giving a keynote conversation. Full details in a flyer posted on the P&J board.

**Landscape Update:** Thanks to the 40 volunteers who planted the triangle, pathway, community garden plot, and bioswale around the new building over the past few weeks. This saved FMC nearly \$20,000 in contract labor costs. Plants included 51 Little Henry Itea and 28 Amethyst Coralberry shrubs, 96 Junegrass clumps, 2 Allegheny Serviceberry trees, and 1 Japanese Ivory Silk Lilac tree. In spring, we’ll see white blooms with pink edible summer berries, red fall colors, and another half acre of wildflowers.

**Attention women:** the 2009-2010 calendar of women’s events has been put in your mailbox.

**Calling all gardeners!** For this year’s Fall Banquet on Saturday, October 24, we are featuring local produce in the menu. If any of you have extra garden produce or home preserved produce you would like to donate to the dinner, please contact Lali.

**Women's Book Club** will meet on Friday, October 9, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Beth Goering and Andrea Krause to discuss *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven* by Sherman Alexie. With questions or to be added to the e-mail list contact Alison Schumacher.

**Women's retreat at Amigo** is October 9-11, with Evie Shellenberger as the speaker. There are flyers on the women's table.

Please note that there will be a **brief congregational meeting** at the conclusion of the Sunday service on October 11, 2009, to affirm Becky Fontaine as Chair-Elect of Children's Education Committee. Questions? See Discernment Committee—Pattie Mishler, Ted Danielson, or Joe Longenecker.

**JYF** will do a corn maze event on Sunday, October 11, from noon to 4:00 p.m.

Each year for the past five years, First Mennonite Church has participated in *Coat of Many Colors* with St. Monica Catholic Church. St. Monica selects four or five houses of low-income elderly families who need their houses painted, but cannot afford it. On Saturday, October 17, we are asking for volunteers to assemble at St. Monica on Michigan Road and we will proceed to paint this year's houses. Put this on your calendar. More details to follow. Questions? Talk to Delbert Culp.

**All-church fall party**, Saturday, October 17, at the home of Allen and Cindy Mast. Children's activities begin at 3:30 p.m. with the hot dog roast at 5:00 p.m. Dogs, buns, drinks, smores and paper goods provided. Bring a side dish.

**Membership Sunday:** The Pastor-Elder Team recommends the following persons be received into membership at FMC on October 18: Marj Hovde, David Hovde, Nate Christophel-Lichti, Jen Christophel Lichti (associate), and Gwen White (associate). Any feedback or questions may be directed to any member of the Pastor-Elder Team.

Did you know over 800 million people in this world are undernourished – and they don't all live in far away lands? Help fight hunger in Indianapolis and around the world by being part of **CROP Walk on Sunday, October 18**. Pick up your envelope in the Fellowship hall today! This is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Greater Indianapolis Crop Walk. Check out the website at [www.cropwalk.org](http://www.cropwalk.org) – click on Indiana and Greater Indy walk to find the FMC team website. Brian and Kenda Friend are the coordinators this year. Note to MYFers: This is one of your events for October!

Next **soup supper** and **Church Council meeting** is Wednesday, October 28.

**The 17<sup>th</sup> annual Indianapolis Prayer Breakfast** with speaker Serge LeClerc is Thursday, October 29, 7:30-9:00 a.m. at the Indiana Roof Ballroom. Tickets are \$25 per person. Details are available on a flyer on the P&J board.

First Mennonite Church will host a **joint Thanksgiving Service** on Sunday, November 22, at 6:00 p.m. with five other churches participating. We are planning on having a **joint liturgical dance group led by Shannon Dycus**. Anyone interested in participating in this dance group should contact the church office. There will likely be practices on the three Saturday mornings preceding the service.

### GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Update on Treasurer A position** from the Discernment Committee: Jean Boyce has agreed to continue in the Treasurer A position for another three-year term beginning September 2010. We appreciate her willingness to serve our congregation in this way!

**Plan ahead to be on time for worship in October!** Don't worry, it's not time to change your clocks yet—that's November 1. Beginning October 4 and continuing at least through October, the order of the Sunday morning worship service will be adjusted so that the Introduction of Guests and Announcements are moved to the beginning of the service. The elements of the Gathering Time will then be followed by the prelude, which will then serve as a short period of centering as we all listen to the music and prepare for worship. The Worship Committee hopes that these adjustments (and a few others) to the order of the service will enhance our communal worship experience.

**Meal Coordinator Needed!** The Pastor Elder Team is looking for someone to serve as meal coordinator(s) for 2009-2010. The meal coordinator is responsible for arranging for meals for new parents and persons with injuries or hospitalizations. If interested in serving in this position, please contact Donna Haines.

**Neighborhood Assistance Tax Credits** are a great way to support projects in our community that benefit low-income families and neighborhoods. Nate Lichti has information about a project he's working on which has received these credits. The project involves a major restoration of a blighted property to create a homeownership opportunity for a low-income family. The project is part of a neighborhood revitalization effort which Nate will be glad to tell you about. Please contact him directly if you have interest. Pledges can be made to reserve credits through the end of this calendar year.

**Living Christ's mission of reconciliation  
through service,  
with justice,  
by God's grace.**

**Yearly Communion Schedule:**

**First Sunday in October (World Communion Sunday)**

**First Sunday in Advent**

**Christmas Eve**

**First Sunday in Lent**

**Maundy Thursday**

**Easter Sunday**

**Pentecost Sunday**

**Third Sunday in August**

**All-church potluck on November 22 (Thanksgiving).**

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