

A Celebration of Christian Worship

“World Communion Sunday”

October 4, 2009

Prelude
Welcoming
Celebrating upcoming birthdays and anniversaries
Introduction of Guests
Announcements

Jana Miller

Hymn #651 “I owe the Lord a morning song”

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship Psalm 127:1-2

Unless the LORD builds the house, those who
build it labor in vain.

Unless the LORD guards the city, the guards
keep watch in vain.

It is in vain that you rise up early and go late
to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil.

For God gives sleep to God’s beloved.

Hymns #576 “If you but trust in God”

SJ#40 “As rain from the clouds”

Passing the Friendship Register

Sharing of Joys

Pastoral Prayer

Rene Hostetter

Bringing Our Offerings and Gifts of Food

Sing SJ#88 “Hallelujah! We sing your praises!”

Children’s Time—blessing of children

Rene Hostetter

Scripture Reading Ecclesiastes 9:11

Sermon “An Unpredictable Future”

Ryan Ahlgrim

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

Hymn #580 “My life flows on”

Communion

Closing Hymn #638 “God is working his purpose out”

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: John Daniels **Song Leader:** Emilie Walson

Drummer: Mary Liechty **Flute & Guitar:** Lara Troyer & Art Umble

Organist: Michael Stauffer

Ensemble: John Daniels, Jana Miller, Erin Rodman, Emilie Walson

Ushers: Nate Lichti & Nolan Lichti

Greeters: Joyce & Patty Kuntz

Nursery: Rachel Potenza & Caitlin Selby

Ministers: Each participant in the congregation

UPCOMING SERMON SERIES ON ECCLESIASTES:

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”

October 25: Ecclesiastes 9:13-18 “With Age Comes Wisdom”

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—Ryan Ahlgrim’s office

ADULT CLASS: Bible study led by David and Marj Hovde. Meets in the sanctuary today.

Adult choir will begin meeting next Sunday during Sunday school in the sanctuary. All singers are welcome—Julie Deaton is the director

Financial Update

Budget contributions on September 27:

\$ 3,697

Contributions YTD:

\$263,062

Projected contributions needed YTD:

\$323,623

Surplus (Deficit) YTD:

(\$ 60,561)

Sunday morning attendance for September 27: 173

TODAY—October 4, 2009

Immediately following the service today Julie Deaton would like to meet briefly with any singers interested in joining the choir in the sanctuary.

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

Children's Ed teachers' luncheon at noon today. Parents provide the food.

Fall Clothing Exchange is set up for you to “shop” and make a donation to Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). There is a donation box provided.

THIS WEEK

The **Bible Study on Romans led by Jake Elias** continues this Tuesday, at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to participate. The topics are as follows (all scriptures from Romans): 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) and October 27—Congregational life and Mission (15:14-16:27).

Men's morning meeting is this Wednesday, October 7, at 8:00 a.m.

The third annual conference of the International Interfaith Initiative “*The Confluence of Religion and Politics*” is this Thursday and Friday, 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.

Women's Book Club will meet this 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.

From the Peace & Justice Committee: In honor of the National Equality March in Washington, DC, next Sunday, October 11, the Pink Menno organization is inviting all those who support inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered persons in Mennonite congregations around the country to wear pink to church next Sunday. Don't worry if you forget to wear pink, or if you don't have something pink you want to wear to church, or if you just don't like wearing pink. Those who do not wear pink will not be judged, nor those who do wear pink, nor those who just happen to wear pink without knowing of this announcement! For more information, go to the website www.pinkmenno.org or contact the Peace & Justice Committee.

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.

Thank you, friends at First Mennonite, for your participation in **Penny Power** this year. Your congregation brought in \$254.31 which is enough to pay for the cement for half of a sand dam— a great gift to a community suffering from lack of water. Overall **Penny Power** brought in just over \$19,000 at the Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale on September 26. We greatly appreciate your generosity.
Les and Gwen Gustafson-Zook

Elliot and Beverly Munsanje share news with our congregation: They are the proud grandparents of baby granddaughter, Maina, who was born to Luyando on September 24.

You can help victims of Asia disasters through Mennonite Central Committee! Working with the local Mennonite church and other trusted partners, MCC is meeting human needs following the devastation of recent earthquakes in Indonesia and Typhoon Ketsana in the Philippines and Vietnam. MCC has committed an initial \$100,000 USD to the effort and welcomes your gifts of money to meet immediate emergency needs and support recovery efforts. Contributions may be made at any MCC office; online at mcc.org/donate; or by calling toll free – in Canada, 1-888-622-6337; in the U.S., 1-888-563-4676. Please designate gifts for “Asia Disasters.” Keep watching our website, mcc.org, for updated information. We invite your prayers for people affected by the disasters throughout Asia.

Overnight housing sought for ten female college students who will be visiting Indianapolis for a conference from October 29 to November 1. This request comes from Ken Stoltzfus who is a professor at Malone University in Canton, Ohio and a member of First Mennonite of Canton. If you are able to accommodate any of these students, please report this to the church office. The students will have their own transportation to the convention, but possibly from a central location (perhaps the church).

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

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.

Women's breakfast is Sunday morning, October 18, at 8:00 a.m. All women girls, and mentor-mentees are invited to attend. This will be a time to enjoy a meal and fellowship together. Bring a food item to share if you like.

Attention kids! The **Bible Memory Program** starts on October 18! Pick up your notebook or your new form for your existing notebook in the fellowship hall. The program runs through May 2. All of the adults in the congregation are listeners.

What's for lunch today? Over 1.1 billion people are forced to survive on less than a dollar a day and that question can be a grave one. Be part of the solution, sign up for **CROP Walk** and encourage a group of friends to join you in packing your lunch and donating what you would have spent. Every bit helps! **Crop Walk is October 18**. This is the 30th anniversary of the Greater Indianapolis Crop Walk. Check out the website at 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!

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. There is a sign-up posted for the banquet attendance, bringing food, and assisting with tasks. Look on the kiosk!

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

Everyone is invited to **celebrate with Rachel and Hollins Showalter at their baby shower** on Sunday, October 25, 2009 at 3 p.m. Their small group will host the event at the church. Please see the mailbox flier for more details.

The 17th 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

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).

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

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Vol. 56

No. 40

