

First Sunday in Christmastide

December 27, 2009

Prelude

Priscilla Boschmann

Welcome

Celebrating upcoming birthdays

Introduction of guests

Announcements

Musical preparation for worship

Call to worship SS#131 [unison]

Opening prayer

Hymn #178 “Come, thou long expected Jesus”

Hymn #195 “It came upon a midnight clear”

Pastoral prayer

Paul Shankland

Hymn #349 “Spirit of the living God”

Offering

Doxology #119B “Praise God, from whom”

Children’s Time

Jyoti Sarkar

Scriptures Luke 2:41-52, 23:46, 24:45-49

John Boyce

Drama “Luke Interviews Mary”

Gloria Hood & Paul Shankland

Hymn of response #208 “Love came down at Christmas”

Passing the friendship register

Sharing of joys and drama responses

Closing hymn #318 “Joy to the world”

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 Boyce **Song Leader:** Art Umble

ASL Interpreter: Linda Bellville

Accompanist: Rod Deaton

Choir Director: Julie Deaton **Choir Accompanist:** Jana Miller

Liturgical Dancers: Emily Fontaine, Rene Hostetter, Ella & Emma King,

Joyce Kuntz, Patty Kuntz, Laura Moshier, Margo Talbott

Ushers: Maurice Graber & Lynn Irelan

Greeters: Mary & Mel Swartzentruber

Nursery: Rachel Potenza & Cal Swarbrick

Ministers: Each participant in the congregation

UPCOMING SERVICE:

January 3: “Experiencing God in 2009”

Michael Z. Miller, Jacqueline Okeyo, Gerald Miller

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.”]

There are no Sunday school classes today. Enjoy an extended fellowship time with Christmas goodies available.

Financial Update

Budget contributions on December 20:

\$ 7,039

Contributions YTD:

\$361,882

Projected contributions needed YTD:

\$423,200

Surplus (Deficit) YTD:

(\$ 61,318)

Sunday morning attendance for December 20: 211

TODAY—December 27, 2009

There will be no Sunday school classes today. All classes will resume next Sunday, January 3, with some utilizing the new building. Watch for room assignments.

THIS WEEK

Both Ryan Ahlgrim and Rene Hostetter will be out of the office this week. Any pastoral concerns should be addressed to the elders.

A message from JoAnne Lingle: “I will be traveling on Christmas Day to join the Gaza Freedom March, an historic initiative to break the siege that has imprisoned 1.5 million Palestinians who live in Gaza. Marking the one-year anniversary of the December 2008 Israeli invasion of Gaza and conceived in the spirit of Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and nonviolent resistance to injustice worldwide, the march is designed to draw attention to the ongoing siege that continues to cause unabated suffering to the people of Gaza. Such notables as author Alice Walker, Nobel Peace Prize winner Maraid Maguire, and 85-year-old Holocaust survivor Hedy Epstein will be among the 1,360 internationals coming from 43 countries for the march. On December 31, we will be met by a projected 50,000 Palestinians, walking hand in hand to the Eretz border with Israel. On the Israeli side, there will be a gathering of Israelis and Palestinians who are also calling on the Israeli government to open the borders and lift the siege. Upon reaching the Eretz border, participants on both sides will release balloons, fly kites and wave flags to demonstrate their solidarity with one another. After the march, I will stay in Gaza with other internationals accompanying farmers and fishermen, working at children's centers and hospitals, writing, video taping and doing repair and construction work.”

NEXT SUNDAY

Food pantry Sunday is next Sunday, January 3. Remember to bring your generous donations of non-perishable foods and toiletries for the Glick Neighborhood Center food pantry.

We will have a **building dedication** during our worship service next Sunday, January 3, and thank the Building Committee. In the spring we are planning an **Open House and Homecoming** to celebrate the building addition and development of the grounds.

PART-TIME JANITOR FOR NEW BUILDING

A part-time janitor position is being created to care for the new addition to our building. Job responsibilities will include:

- ✓ **Clean all surfaces and all fixtures in all bathrooms each week**
- ✓ **Vacuum/sweep all common area floor surfaces as needed**
- ✓ **Dust all common areas as needed**
- ✓ **Empty all waste baskets as needed**
- ✓ **Wash windows as needed**
- ✓ **Vacuum and dust classrooms as needed (Sunday School teachers to be responsible for leaving rooms in presentable condition)**
- ✓ **Maintain entry-way, all surfaces and glass, as needed**

The position will pay \$10.00 per hour for a maximum of 10 hours per week. To apply for the position please contact the Administrative Relations Committee (ARC). ARC members include: Marcy Major, Mel Glick and John Boyce. First Mennonite Church, Indianapolis is an equal opportunity employer.

Rachel Friesen & Steven Krall

New adult classes to begin next Sunday, January 3: (1) “Human Sexuality in the Christian Life” led by Ryan Ahlgrim, (2) Adult Bible study led by Marj Rush Hovde, and (3) the Unzickers will share about their experiences in Cambodia with Mennonite Central Committee. The Unzicker class is a one-time class. On January 10 another class will begin: “Time in the Bible and Our Spiritual Lives” taught by Dennis Mishler and John Hofstetter.

Are you interested in **exploring other styles of worship** that we could try out **on occasional Sunday nights**? We want your ideas and input! Ryan Ahlgrim and Rene Hostetter will lead a **creative worship brainstorming session** on Sunday, January 3, after Sunday school. Bring a sack lunch, and we will explore ideas and possibilities (noon to 1:30 p.m.).

There will be a **baby shower** for Alison Schumacher and Sam Carpenter on Sunday, January 3, at 2:00 p.m. here at the church. They are having a boy and are registered at Babies R Us and Global Gifts. Everyone is welcome.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ryan Ahlgrim will be leading an eight-week **Faith Formation Class** beginning on Sunday, January 10, from 12:15-1:30 p.m. Please bring a sack lunch. This class is for **anyone who wants to explore the Christian faith, Mennonite beliefs, and the mission of First Mennonite**. This class is required for those who wish to **join the church or be baptized**.

Comfort quilt preparation will conclude at Kathy Snyder’s home on Tuesday, January 12, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Anyone welcome. Please bring your sewing machine. Questions: See Laura Moshier or Kathy Snyder.

MEDA Indy will meet on Sunday, January 24 (or maybe the 23rd—Colts playoff schedule will determine the date), at 5:00 p.m. Tom and Andrea Unzicker will be sharing pictures and information about their time in Cambodia. They will particularly share about the project MEDA Indy contributed to last spring. This will take place at FMC and be accompanied by curry for all. An RSVP would be helpful for curry preparation. Please email Mary Liechty at to indicate the number of people expected. As the Colts schedule is firmed up, we will lock in the date.

With the cold weather setting in, everyone likes a great bowl of chili! All you cooks out there need to brush up on those chili recipes, and get ready for the **MYF chili cook-off and silent auction**. The event will take place on

Saturday, March 13. We will need lots of pots of chili and some great items for the auction. We will be looking for some great repeat items, like wonderful dinners, Colts items and sermons of our choice. Get those items ready and join us for lots of food and fun.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Food for Thought is the 2010 theme for Spirit & Place. If anyone is interested in planning or has ideas to have an event here at FMC please contact Carolyn Martin. Please let her know by Jan. 10. Meetings to begin applying to host an event begin Jan. 14.

Do you have experience in healthcare, as a provider or a patient? Do you have opinions about the current healthcare debate? Do you have personal stories of illness, healing or the role of faith and church in both? **MennoExpressions** is looking for your input. Our February issue will be on all aspects of sickness and health. Please submit pieces (writing or artwork) to Robin Jones at FMC by January 17.

The expansion of our church building is now complete and it has been turned over to the congregation. We will begin using it next Sunday, January 3.

Reminder from Buildings & Grounds to all groups using the church other than Sunday morning: Please help us save energy in making sure thermostats are set back to 60 when you leave the building. Also make sure all lights are turned off and doors locked. Thanks for your cooperation.

Mennonite Mission Network mission workers, Lois and Wayne Hochstetler, have a blog. Check it out at www.loisandwayne.blogspot.com

Peace pole languages? The new landscape triangle and other areas on the FMC property offer the opportunity to place one or more new poles. If you have suggestions for additional languages that are significant to adoptees and others in the congregation, please send them to Gwen White.

Wildlife Friendly Places of Worship: Presentations given at the recent Spirit & Place Festival are now online. Take a look at all the great garden designs for wildlife and people at various churches around the city--and dream about spring! Slide shows are on the Indiana Wildlife Federation website at <http://www.indianawildlife.org/placeofworship.htm>.

**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 potlucks: February 28, 2010
June 13, 2010**

**FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
4601 Knollton Road
Indianapolis, IN 46228**

**Phone: 317-251-1980
Website address: www.indymenno.org**

**Vol. 56
No. 51**

