



# FRIENDSHIP MENNONITE CHURCH

*Changing Lives Through Jesus Christ*

February 24, 2008

*Third Sunday of Lent*



**Focus Statement:** From the unquenchable thirst of our obstinacy, we open ourselves to receive the water of God's love. Our parched lives are softened by a spring gushing up to eternal life.

## Connecting with Others

- Welcome
- Announcements
- Prayer
- Offering

## Living by Faith

- Worship in Song
- Children's Time
- Confessing Our Sins (on back of bulletin)
- HWB #495 *O let all who thirst*

## Hearing the Word

- Scripture Reading: Genesis 12:1-6; Romans 8:24-31
- Sermon: *New Hope, New Beginnings*
- Song of Response: HWB #299 *New earth, heavens new*
- Song: *From ashes to the living fount*

## Sending to Serve

- Benediction
- Song: *Rain Down*

## Guest Speaker: Bill

*Worship Leader:* Keven

*Song Leader:* Rachel

*Greeters:* Melvin & Parsilla

*Pianist:* Rhonda

*Usher:* Tim

*Worship Nursery:* Chris

## Upcoming Events & Meetings

- Sun. Feb. 24 Food for Thought at Tim & Rebecca's 4:30pm  
 Sat. Mar. 1 Elders' Meeting 7:30am  
 Sun. Mar. 2 Agape Group at Chris & Sue's 4:30pm  
 Wed. Mar. 5 Worship Committee at Rachel's 7:00pm

## Giving for February 17, 2008

Church Offering: \$878.65	Sunday School: \$10.00
Care Packages: \$20.00	MAMA Project: \$90.00

## Lenten Love Challenge—Week Three

*The deed of love:* Take a simple gift to two or three people, homemade, child-made, flowers, etc.

## Scripture Reflections for Lent—Week Three

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

## Announcements:

- We thank **Bill** for speaking this morning. Next week Vern will be sharing with us.
- Sheri will be attending the **MCC Annual Meeting** in Illinois on March 7-9. The church is helping her put together an AIDS care kit. Please keep the meeting attendees in your prayers as well as the AIDS victims who will be ministered to by the kits. If anyone is interested in learning more about MCC or attending this meeting, please contact Sheri.
- **Annual Conference Assembly** of the Ohio Conference of Mennonite Church USA will be held March 6-8 at Bluffton University and First Mennonite Church of Bluffton. For more information on either of these, contact Sheri.

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Congregational Counselor: Gizella  
Elders: Dean, Tim,  
Bill, or Maria.

- Just a reminder: Sign up sheets for **Moments with Children** are located in the lobby on the bulletin board. We are now looking for Volunteers for March and April. If you have any questions, contact Rebecca.
- MMA (Mennonite Mutual Aid) is now offering **budget and debt counseling** at no cost to our church members (or those who attend regularly). Whether you need help with basic budgeting, credit card or credit score help, mortgage, loan assistance, counseling will be provided by LSS Financial Counseling by a toll free call. Brochures are in the information rack. If you have questions, see Sue, Friendship's MMA Advocate.
- We have begun **recording our services** in digital format. This enables us to offer our sermons on our web site as well as in CD format. If you are interested in receiving copies of the sermon on CD, please contact Julie via phone or e-mail (secretary@friendmc.org).
- If you have an **item for the monthly calendar**, please leave a message on the church phone or contact Julie via phone or e-mail (calendar@friendmc.org) by Wednesday, February 27.
- If you have an **announcement for the bulletin**, please leave a message on the church voicemail or contact Julie via phone or e-mail (bulletin@friendmc.org) by Thursday morning.

### **Peace and Anabaptism**

24. Pray for Spanish readers who access the newly updated www.menonitas.net Web site, which gives witness to the historical and theological background for peace teachings and Anabaptism.
25. Mission associates Ray and Akiko Epp in Hokkaido, Japan, request prayer for the emerging opportunities to share peace theology with students and faculty at Rakuno Gakuen University, a Christian university located near them.
26. Please remember Margaret De Jong and Wolof women who are followers of Jesus attending a leadership seminar today through Friday on praying for Senegal. Margaret is a member of the planning committee.
27. Mission Network urban ministry director Virgil Vogt in Chicago requests prayer for congregations that minister to Mennonite brothers and sisters who live in the U.S. as undocumented immigrants.
28. Richard and Ruth Friesen ask for prayer for the Mennonite Team in the Argentine Chaco as they bid farewell to Frank and Ute Paul from Germany. The Pauls have contributed greatly to ministry among the Toba people for 12 years.
29. Pray for Sharon Kniss, mission worker, and Colin Patterson, acting director of Bridge Builders, as they lead the Mediation and Facilitation Skills Training course March 2-7 in London. Bridge Builders is the church conflict transformation program of the London Mennonite Centre.

### **Ministry with Children and Youth**

1. Mission workers Aaron and Laura Kauffman and a Radical Journey team work with children and youth in marginal neighborhoods in Anapoima, Colombia. Pray that they will embody God's love to these young people.

### ***Prayer Request for week of February 24***

Pray for Cindy and Tim Buhler, Mennonite Mission Network workers, as they apply for work permits so they may return to Macau in late July. In the past, this process sometimes has caused difficulties for mission workers.