



FMC Weekly - November 3, 2016

The weekly newsletter of First Mennonite Church of Denver

Worship at 9:30 AM

Daylight Saving Time ends; turn clocks back one hour on Saturday night.

Sunday Carlene Hill will be preaching the 5th week of our series on the book of Ephesians. We'll continue learning the vision for the church through this short New Testament Epistle. Music will be provided by Emily, Sam, and Moses Martin, Sonia Graber, Romaine Anderson and Nikki KandeLind.

For information about future worship services, please click on the link to go to the [FMC web site](#).

Adult Education

TRANSITION

This Sunday, November 6, we will have a congregational meeting to vote on the proposed Board and Team concepts. The suggestions and concerns from our first meeting about these ideas have been synthesized and the concepts rewritten. If one or both are approved we will look to a time to implement them, in the first quarter of 2017. If one or both are not approved we will rewrite them to address suggestions and concerns.

The second part of our agenda on Sunday, November 6, will be the beginning of our staffing model suggestion. Many of you have asked when we would begin to see things happen, well, that time is here.

It is our wish that all of you can plan to attend. We will begin at 11 AM sharp and we will work no later than 12:30PM. If the wish is to end at 12 PM we will do that.

We look forward to seeing you this Sunday.

For the Council
Norm Dewhurst

Child and Youth Faith Formation

Building Community, Learning about the Bible, Strengthening our Relationship with God

Peace School:

www.fmcdenverfaithformation.weebly.com



Parents, we need readers and actors for Advent skits Nov. 27- Dec. 11 (this year's Christmas Program is smaller skits multiple Sundays). Contact Pastor Tory by Nov. 7 if your child is interested in participating, and we'll organize a time to practice before each Sunday. You only need to choose one Sunday to participate.

Pre K (3 and 4 year olds) will hear the story of the "Ark and Tent."

K-2nd grades will hear the story of Joshua.

Venture Club (grades 3-5) will be hearing the story of the Prophets.

JYF (grades 6-8) will be having a conversation with Heather about Joshua and Jericho. Do we care about those richer and the poorer today in our neighborhood and school?

MYF (grades 9-12) will be having a social Sunday to hang out and play games together this week. We'll have frisbees and blitz cards.

Adults can follow along through the Bible with Chapter 11 of Brian McLaren's *We Make the Road by Walking*. This chapter looks at the ugly parts of the Bible for us as readers today. What do we do when our sacred scripture feels irrelevant to life today?

Our FMC Community

Advent Worship Planning Meeting: In the Fall 2016 edition of the *Leader*, Marty Lehman, writing on Volunteering, quotes Susan Beaumont who says, "People are no longer willing to serve on labor intensive, slow moving committees. They are attracted to micro-projects with fast turnaround times and more focused commitments." As we come to the close of our liturgical year, we invite you to our own micro-project, to participate in a new worship team that will plan our Advent season that begins November 27 and culminates on Epiphany (January 1, 2017). We also have the option of using the worship resources provided in the *Leader* (Mennonite Church-USA). This then is your opportunity to plan for your Advent worship experience. We have scheduled our initial meeting for next **Wednesday, November 9th, at 6:30 PM** at FMC-D. My experience has been that we

may need two meetings to prepare for our Advent worship season, then we can all actively engage the joyful season of Christmas. Please let me know if you have any questions and then how you want to participate. We'll be happy to forward you a copy of the worship materials. ~Rob Burdette

Help is needed for the Schofield memorial reception on Saturday, November 12.

Contact Lola Hershberger 303-523-5364 by Monday if you can help with any of these: sandwich meal food prep and set up, serving and/or clean up, several persons to bring 3 dozen cookies/bars prior to the 2 PM service or even this Sunday (store in freezer).

Election Day Communion Service: First Mennonite Church of Denver and House for All Sinners and Saints invite you to an Election Day Communion Service, to be held at FMC. Join us at 7 PM on November 8 to pray, sing, and commune together as we remind one another where hope comes from. All are welcome.

First Mennonite Church of Denver will be hosting a potluck meal for our neighbors on Thursday, November 10, at 6:00 PM. We hope to get to know each other better and also hear our neighbors' responses to our proposal to share our space with the homeless. We are joined in this initiative by the Denver Homeless Out Loud and the Interfaith Alliance of Colorado. Please plan to attend and bring a dish to share. Thanks.

Living the Questions, video series small group will meet on Thursday, November 10, 10:30 AM at the church. This group will meet once a month on the second Thursday of each month. We will watch a 20-minute video by a variety of leading theologians of progressive Christianity. There will be an evening small group meeting with the same content at Theda and Dawn's home at 6:30 PM, second Thursday of the month. Contact Pastor Theda if interested, theda.fmcdenver@gmail.com

Pledge Forms for the 2017 Ministry Plan are available on the oak table in the foyer and on the Active Participants page of the [FMC website](#). Copies of the 2017 Ministry Plan are available as well. We hope to receive your pledge by November 6.

Denver Urban Ministries is collecting Thanksgiving donations for their annual Food For All. Please consider donating the following for our MYF and JYF to deliver and pack on Nov. 20. Donations will be collected in the FMC office through Nov. 20: 1 box stuffing, 1 can or mix gravy, 2 cans of corn, 2 cans of green beans, 1 container of crunchy fried onions, 1 can cream of mushroom soup, 1 can fruit cocktail, 1 box Jell-O, 1 box or can of sweet potatoes, 1 can of cranberries, 1 box, can or mix of pie filling, 1 pie crust (non-perishable please) and one \$10 gift card to a local grocery store. All miscellaneous donations will help fill DenUM's food pantry. Thanksgiving supplies can be brought to the

church through Sunday, Nov. 20. Please click the link for more details from [DenUM](#).

Here is a link to the latest [Creation Care Network](#) newsletter, which highlights some of the wonderful work and actions going on in the Mennonite Church today! In your mailboxes this week, you will find a "Watershed Way" pledge for individuals or small groups to consider. Finally, some of us from FMC met with Ray Martin from Virginia this week to learn about a major initiative at Eastern Mennonite University to establish a Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions. We discussed ways that we as a church can encourage each other to take positive steps towards the healing of our land, air and water. We expect this conversation to continue and encourage new ideas to be shared! ~ Jennifer Miller

Everence® has released the sixth resource of its ongoing educational series, 7 steps to integrating faith and finances. The latest release is in your mailbox this week. This month's topic, Connect my faith with my estate plan, provides a biblical perspective on our last wishes, plus practical tools to help us transition belongings and leave final instructions to loved ones. We encourage you to take a little time with this resource as a way of looking at your finances from a faith perspective. ~Dawn Kreider, Everence Advocate

Staff Time Away: Pastor Theda Good is attending the Women Doing Theology Conference November 4-7; Alyssa Bennett Smith will attend the same conference November 4-6; Joshua Smith will also be away November 4-6.

Attendance

October 30: Adults - 162; Children - 14; Total - 176

Caring for Each Other

"Surrender asks us to be strong enough to engage each moment with integrity while being soft enough to flow with the current of life." Deborah Adele in The Yamas & Niyamas

Time change for Mervin Schofield's Memorial Service is 2:00 PM on Saturday, November 12.

Happy Birthday November 4 - 10

4- Lani Rupp

5 - Mahlon Amstutz

7 - Lynn Amstutz

7 - Elena Long

A prayer regarding the encampment at Cannonball, ND submitted by Patty Burdette:

Creator, You loved creation into being. Your goodness is present in the land and waters, in the creatures and peoples You created. You call us to be in right relation with all living things. Be present today, and every day, where people stand in peaceful defense of your creation. We recognize Your presence in Standing Rock, with Indigenous peoples who are protecting the waters. May we also be present in spirit and in truth. We recognize Your presence in our own country where Indigenous peoples also stand peaceably in defense of land and waters. May we be present in witness and solidarity. We recognize and repent for the violence that has marked relations with Indigenous peoples on Turtle Island. We claim your challenge of truth and justice, and your promise of healing and reconciliation. In Your mercy, help us move forward in a good and just way. Amen.

- From <http://www.kairoscanada.org/pray-standing-rock-november-3-2016>

"Season of Celebration" - FMC's 75th Anniversary

Attention Artists! As part of our FMC 75th anniversary celebration we want to exhibit some of the art created by our community. If you have an article or two that you would be willing to put on display for about six weeks prior to Christmas, please let us know no later than November 5. Contact Joe Fretz at: joefretz@comcast.net or 303-506-6083.

Help us celebrate the 75th Anniversary by ordering a commemorative T-shirt. They are \$15 each. Check out the shirt choices and order one at the Open Table on Sunday or click [here](#) to view T-shirts and order form. Sample shirts will be available to check sizes.

75th Anniversary Choir: We will be assembling a special choir for the FMC celebration on December 18. Contact Arlen Hershberger at 303-359-9339 or arlenhersh@yahoo.com

Thanks to all who have sent photos. Please keep them coming!

Write your memories! Write your memories! If you have a memory to share, please write it up and send it to Anne Gerber by November 25 (deadline has been extended!) at agerber78@gmail.com. We want to publish a special issue of the *Menno Focus* devoted to memories covering the last 75 years. Some suggestions: What brought you to First Mennonite Church? Is there one event you specifically remember? What is your favorite service during the year? What is the funniest thing you remember happening at FMC?

Sunday, December 18, 2016: Special Worship Celebration and Meal.

Happening This Week

In the building this week: MEDA Dinner, FMC Assistance Program, VORP, Neighborhood Meeting

Save the Date!

Join us for these events in the future

December 4: Holiday Bazaar

December 11: Ordination Service of Theda Good

December 18: "Season of Celebration" FMC 75th Anniversary Worship Celebration and Meal

December 24: Christmas Eve Service

December 25: Christmas Day Potluck Brunch and Worship

January 1: Winter Count Taize Service

Market Square

If you want to sell, buy, trade, get a ride, find a roommate, find an employee, find a job, find sponsors, or advertise an event requiring purchase of tickets, this section is for you. (Note: Official functions of Mountain States Mennonite Conference or its congregations excepted.) E-mail your announcement to the church with "Market Square" in the subject line. It will run one time but may be resubmitted. Deadline is midnight Wednesday.

My co-worker has been sponsoring a young Kenyan woman through the organization, Compassion. My co-worker is no longer able to financially sponsor her and is wondering if anyone would be interested in taking over the sponsorship. The young woman is 15 and will be 16 in February. The sponsorship goes until age 18. It involves exchanging letters and would be \$38 a month, plus \$8 since she lives in an HIV/AIDS area. The website is www.compassion.com. If anyone is interested, do let me know. Thanks! ~Jill Gerig

Our Urban Community

Denver El Camino Del Inmigrante "The way of the immigrant": Join us for an 11 mile prayer walk to express our solidarity with immigrants and raise awareness for the need for comprehensive immigration reform. Our goal is to pray and spread the word far and wide that Denver Christians care about immigrants, refugees, and undocumented people in our communities and to advocate for the comprehensive immigration reform principles espoused by the [Evangelical Immigration Table](#). Saturday, November 12, start at 9 AM in the parking lot just north of the Decatur/Federal RTD station at 1310 Federal Blvd. End at 3 PM at the ICE Detention Center, 3130 Oakland St., Aurora. Feel free to join us at the beginning, end or any point along the walk - as much as you are able!

Chained Voices: Second Chance Center Inc. is cosponsoring the "Chained Voices Art Show" on November 17. Chained Voices is an art show that enables incarcerated artists to showcase their artwork while raising awareness and funds for needs they face as incarcerated youth and adults who were convicted as juveniles. Event details are: November 17, 4-8 PM, at Great Way Real Estate, 3060 Brighton Blvd. More information is at

the Welcome Table in the Community Center.

First Degree Documentary: First Degree puts a human face on a college behind bars that prevents released inmates from returning to prison. A Panel discussion will follow the screening with Dr. Stephen Hartnett, Hassan Latif (Second Chance Center), Senator Evie Hudak. Details are: December 1, Sie Film Center, 2510 E. Colfax Avenue, 6pm Reception, 7pm Screening, \$30 per person. Tickets may be purchased online at denverfilm.org. More information is at the Welcome Table in the Community Center.

Around Mountain States Mennonite Conference

Christmas season kick-off! Please join us for the Hanging of the Greens, December 4, 6:30 pm at Glennon Heights Mennonite Church. This year we'll be featuring a choir drawn from the broader Mennonite community. If you'd like to sing with us, we'll be practicing together on Saturday, December 3, at 10:00 AM and on Sunday, December 4, at 2:45 PM before the event. For more information about the choir, contact Brenda Bartel at brendalynbartel@gmail.com.

Mennonite Church USA and Beyond

Lift up prayers for the women of the church and especially those who will be participating this weekend in the Women Doing Theology Conference, I've got the power: Naming and reclaiming power as a force for good, at the National Conference Center in Leesburg, Virginia. Information on the conference is at mennoniteusa.org/wlp-conference.

Be in prayer for the meetings of the Mennonite Church USA Executive Board, taking place Nov. 10-12 in Newton, Kansas; the MHS Board meeting Nov. 17-18 in Columbus, Ohio; and for all the work of the churchwide staff.

For more information about our denomination, go to mennoniteusa.org

Other Information

Monthly Newsletter: Most recent issue of *Menno Focus* is posted on the [FMC web site](#).

Sermon Notes. Sermons are posted on the [FMC web site](#) when available. You may also listen to sermons on the FMC website.

FMC Emergency Closure: When weather or any other emergency event necessitates last minute cancellation of worship or other events here at FMC, the following procedure will be followed: 1) The cancellation will be posted on the FMC website. 2) A recorded message

will be left on the FMC main line at 303-892-1038. 3) The cancellation is posted on Channel 9. 4) The cancellation will be posted on Facebook. You can view closing information online anytime at <http://www.9news.com/closings> or by visiting mobile apps for smartphones.

Web site: fmcdenver.org

Phone: 303-892-1038

Deadline for announcements is Wednesday midnight. Please send announcements to Linda Welty at fmcdenverlinda@aol.com. Announcements run one time. Please rewrite and submit a fresh announcement if you want your announcement to run a second time.

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)

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