



FMC Weekly - November 10, 2016

The weekly newsletter of First Mennonite Church of Denver

Worship at 9:30 AM

Where are your wounds? Ephesians 6:10-20

I was so pleased to embrace a faith community and denomination that didn't function as an auxiliary to our armed forces. I thought, even in my limited exposure to the Bible, there was something contradictory in the life and teachings of Jesus and our civil dependence on our military force.

Yet there is something disturbing around the religious reliance of passivism as opposed to the Christian ethic of pacifism. As the church has blended with societal standards, we have tended to stifle the church's militant approach to righteousness, healing and shalom. The author of Ephesians 6:10-20 compels the faithful into action.

Don't be put off by the metaphoric imagery of weaponry and armaments. Instead, look to pressing urgency of this embryonic community to overcome the domination of the Roman Empire. The author stresses reliance on God's power and discipline. Does this passage have relevance for our society today? Can you visualize the forces of good and evil locked in combat in postmodernity? What is our role as a people of faith? I hope to see you all Sunday. ~Rob

Sarah Winter will lead worship, Charlie Ferguson will lead singing, and Romaine Anderson will provide music.

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

Adult Education

On the heels of a national election and a meeting with our neighbors regarding our

initiatives with the homeless community, Marcus, Norm and Ro: will continue this discussion and hear your perspectives following our worship service.

Additional Adult Education Option: For those who would like space to gather since the election this week to share and pray together, a space will be available in B-21 with Pastor Theda.

Child and Youth Faith Formation

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

Peace School:

www.fmcdenverfaithformation.weebly.com

Pre K (3 and 4 year olds) will be hearing the story of the Ark and the Temple.

K-2nd grades will also be hearing the story of the Ark and the Temple.

Venture Club (grades 3-5) will be learning the story of the Destruction of Jerusalem and the Exile of the Jews.

JYF (grades 6-8) will be wrestling with the book of Judges and the cycle of sin and salvation in our daily life. Do we still need to be saved today? Do we still cry out for God today?

MYF (grades 9-12) will leave FMC at 9:30am to visit Sharon Nelson of MCC at Platte Park Church.

Adults can follow along with Chapter 12 in "We Make the Road by Walking," reflecting on King David and the Prophet Elisha.



Our FMC Community

Transition Update

On November 6th there was a Congregational meeting to discuss and vote on two proposals from the Structure and Governance task force.

The Board proposal is to replace the current Council with a 5 (minimum) to 7 (maximum) member Board. Some of the discussion focused on the roles, the length of terms, nomination and selection. There was also recognition that the Constitution and By Laws would need to be re-written.

The Team proposal discussion focused on Commissions no longer operating. Teams would address areas of need such as; worship, nurture, education, etc. The teams would be composed of people who had a passion and/or an interest in that particular area. Teams would have a great deal of autonomy and would decide the number of members,

the length of service, meeting days and hours and so on. Teams would work with and report directly to the Pastoral staff.

These proposals passed with the following vote:

Board	Approve 70	Do not approve 0	More Discussion 2
Team	Approve 71	Do not approve 0	More Discussion 0

There was a beginning discussion about the staffing pattern for First Mennonite Church. Those attending were asked to consider a 3.0 FTE staff. This could include two ministers and one congregational administrator. It could also be three full time ministers with the administrative responsibilities assumed by one or more of the Pastoral staff.

Advent Worship Planning Meeting: As we come to the close of our liturgical year, we invite you to participate in a new worship team that will plan our Advent season that begins November 27 and culminates on Epiphany (January 1, 2017). This then is your opportunity to plan for your Advent worship experience. We have scheduled our initial meeting for **Monday, November 14, 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. ~Rob Burdette

Thanksgiving Donations will be collected for DenUM 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.

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. Pledges may be placed in the red wire basket on Linda's desk, emailed or mailed.

Attendance

November 6: Adults - 108; Children - 23; Total - 131

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

Mervin Schofield's Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 PM, Saturday, November 12. Let us remember Clara and her daughters, Charlene and Debbie, in our thoughts and prayers.

Pray for those who are dealing with distress, sickness, pain or loss. May the Good Shepherd walk with us through the valley and shadows of life. May health and strength be restored, may hope lead us to action and love. Amen!

Happy Birthday November 11-17

11 - Barb Stutzman
12 - Tristan Sommers
13 - Eric Boschmann
13 - Micah Hofer
13 - Mel Stjernholm
14 - Aimee Voth Siebert
17 - Larry Leaman-Miller
17 - Lillian Penner-Smith
17 - Jessi Stoltzfus

Happy Anniversary - November 11 - 17

13 - Ernie & Roberta Kandel
15 - Lois & Norm Dewhurst

"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. The exhibit will run from December 16-18 - the weekend of the FMC celebration. If you have an article or two that you would be willing to put on display, please contact Joe Fretz for information about submitting the artwork: joefretz@comcast.net or 303-506-6083, or pick up an information sheet and artwork submission form by the mailboxes.

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: Mervin Schofield Memorial Service, FMC Assistance Program, VORP, MSMH Meeting, Ten Thousand Villages Board 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.

Need extra Christmas money??? Arlen Hershberger is seeking a loving temporary Thanksgiving home for his adult well trained gentleman dog Toby to board for late Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 22, to Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 29. Will pay a daily rate of \$25 for his space/care at your home and walks. Food, bed, leash, companionship, and dog brush included--he can be wary around very young children (but has not been a problem for us). He is cat friendly. Please call or text Arlen 303-359-9339 before Nov. 16.

Our Urban Community

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.

Casa de Paz Benefit Concert

Casa de Paz keeps growing and growing and growing! Sometimes we have between 10 to 12 guests staying in our small one bedroom apartment each night. Because of this we have set a goal to purchase a home to accommodate all our guests and give each person a comfortable place to rest after being released from detention. Please join us for this benefit concert where we will raise money for the downpayment of our new home. Enjoy a homemade pozole dinner and great music. Invite everyone you know! November 19, 5:30-8:30pm, FREE ADMISSION (free will donation), Mountain View United Church, 10700 East Evans, Aurora.

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

Registration for "Beyond Buried Treasure: Turning Hidden Resources into Assets" opened Oct. 17. This second joint MHS Mennonite Health Assembly and Mennonite Education Agency Education Leaders Gathering takes place March 9-12 in Jacksonville, Florida. For more information or to register, visit mhaelgconference.wordpress.com.

Shine: Living in God's Light, the Sunday school curriculum produced by MennoMedia and Brethren Press, is accepting applications for curriculum writers. The curriculum is for children age three through grade 8. Accepted writers must attend a Writers Conference in Virginia, March 2-5, 2017. Shine pays for meals and lodging during the conference and covers reasonable travel expenses. More details are available at www.ShineCurriculum.com/writers. Application and sample session deadline is Dec. 1,

2016.

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](#)

First Mennonite Church
430 W. 9th Ave
Denver, Colorado 80204
US

[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.

vertical DELIVERED
response BY
Try It Free Today!