



## **FMC Weekly - January 26, 2017**

*The weekly newsletter of First Mennonite Church of Denver*

### ***Sunday, January 29***

#### ***9:30 AM Worship***

Welcome to Sunday morning worship. Our text this week is from Matthew 5 where we have one of the foundational Anabaptist texts, "Blessed are the Peacemakers." How can we use the Beatitudes to help us stay centered and grounded in the coming days? These days call us to action and I will argue that to be our best selves we need to practice spiritual disciplines more than ever. Arlen will lead us in music, Tory will continue the children's time with more on safe spaces and Theda will bring the meditation.

#### ***After the Worship Service***

- Join others for coffee, donuts, fruit and fellowship and help support our youth
- Purchase grocery cards to help support the FMC Ministry Plan
- Open Table: Ministry Team Signups; Sign up for Welcome Signs

***10:45 AM Adult Education*** - Conversations on Staffing Proposal, in the Community Center

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

### ***Our FMC Community***

**Nominations for the five-member church board are open until noon on January 29.**

You may nominate yourself, or you may nominate someone else, provided that person has consented to serve if chosen. Nominations may be emailed to Arlen Hershberger ([arlenhersh@yahoo.com](mailto:arlenhersh@yahoo.com)) or by paper note left with the church office. More details will follow.

**Ministry Teams will become our new model for how we organize the work within the congregation.** There will be opportunities to sign up at the OpEn Table. You are free to

organize a Ministry Team at any time.

**Congregational Care Ministry Team will begin formation.** There will be two meetings on Thursday, February 2, one at 1:00 PM and another at 7:00 PM, hosted at the church.

**Staffing Update:** We are getting closer and closer to having all the pieces in place for our transition. The staffing allotment is now clearer. We, by necessity, will move downward from 2.5 to 2.0 FTE. We will have the two pastoral FTE and the 1.0 Congregational Administrator.

This Sunday we will have a congregational meeting to discuss this proposal, answer your questions and take your comments. In two Sundays, **on February 12**, we will ask for your vote regarding staffing. Norm Dewhurst

**Living the Questions Small Groups, change of dates for the month of February:**

- Morning group will meet on Thursday, February 2, at 10:30 AM here at the church.
  - Evening group will meet on Thursday, February 16, 6:30 PM at Theda & Dawn's home.
- If you would like to join either of these groups you are welcome. If you want to catch up on sessions missed, please contact Theda to arrange for a time to view the videos.

**Rob's Departure:** Hearing my concerns regarding my wife Patty, the Leadership Council has granted me an earlier termination date. My last preaching date will be February 5 and then I will be driving home the next week. Thanks again for your prayers and understanding. Rob Burdette

**Blankets Needed:** As I let Marcus' group, Denver Homeless OutLoud (DHOL), know about the outcome of the church vote, I let them know there were a lot of people offering support, wanting to be involved. I asked if there was something else we could do and Ray from DHOL asked that we provide blankets or sleeping bags. Ray said he gives out blankets like candy so anyone wanting to donate blankets or sleeping bags please bring them to church. Thank you! Stephanie

**"The Adventures of Tom Sawyer: The Broadway Musical"** is playing at the Su Teatro theatre on Santa Fe this weekend. Our own Connor O'Brian is Tom! Tickets are going fast! January 27-29. For more information and tickets: <http://www.theaterforkids.net/events/>

**During Epiphany we will continue collecting donations** with the K-2nd grade class for Casa de Paz. They need gift cards for King Soopers, Target, and Bed, Bath and Beyond. They can also use bottled beverages (water, juices and Gatorades) as well as individual sized snacks (crackers, granola bars, trail mix, etc.). Bring donations to the church office through February.



## "Welcome Your Neighbor" Yard Signs

More signs have been ordered. You can sign up at the OpEn Table on Sunday morning or contact Theda.

Signs will be \$6.00, funds collected beyond costs will be donated to Casa de Paz.

**Leadership Council meeting minutes** are now being posted (once they have been approved) on the Active Participants section of the FMC website, starting with the December 2016 meeting.

**Staff Time Away:** Theda will be out of the office on Monday, January 30.

## Attendance

January 22: Adults - 106; Children - 17; Total - 123

## **Child and Youth Faith Formation**

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

[www.fmcdenverfaithformation.weebly.com](http://www.fmcdenverfaithformation.weebly.com)

## **Peace School January 29**

For more details on MYF February Snow Camp and Venture Club Family Winter Retreat (open to all FMC adults and friends of all ages) check Story Site periodically. Emails will be sent as well to all FMC families with details and Evites.



**Pre K (3 and 4 year olds)** and **Venture Club (grades 3-5)** will be making "travel kits" for Casa de Paz.

**K-2nd grades** children will actually be going to Casa de Paz if they signed up. If they did not sign up to go, they will join the PreK and Venture Club class this week.

**JYF (grades 6-8)** will be learning about Jesus' baptism story with Ann Leonard.

**MYF (grades 9-12)** will discuss current events and how we connect with God.

## **Caring for Each Other**

**The family of Arliss Swartzendruber** wishes to send a message of sincere gratitude to all from the FMC congregation who have reached out in so many wonderful ways, throughout his illness and since his death on January 7. Our hearts are overflowing in response to the cards, the calls, the flowers, the memorial gifts, the music, and the incredible assistance with the service and meal. The list has gone on and on. May God bless each one of you for offering so much of yourselves during this very difficult time.

Most Sincerely, Carol Swartzendruber and family

**Happy Birthday January 27 - February 2**

27 - Dayvid Graybill  
27 - Ruthie Knowles  
27 - Evan Miller  
28 - Ana Fiz  
28 - Anita Miller  
29 - Isabella Gibson  
29 - Linda Wyse  
30 - Anna Holdeman  
31 - Jan Griffin  
1 - Karyn Gregory  
2 - Aaron Eby

**Happy Anniversary January 27 - February 2**

29 - Del & Joann Roupp

***In the Building this Week***

Sunday, 1:00 PM - Young Voices for Peace Choir rehearsal  
Monday & Wednesday mornings - Assistance Office  
Tuesday, 6:30 PM - Safonia Choir rehearsal  
Wednesday, 5:30 PM - SOAR Choir meal and rehearsal  
VORP

***Save the Date!***

*Join us for these events*

**March 1: Ash Wednesday Service**

**March 5: MYF Soup Fundraiser; YVP Singing in Worship Service**

**March 10-12: Winter Retreat, open to all FMC members and friends**

**April 14: Good Friday Service**

**April 16: Easter Sunday Worship**

**April 29: MSMC Faith & Life Forum at Beth-El, Colorado Springs**

**April 30: Guest Preacher Drew Hart, author of *Trouble I've Seen***

***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*

## ***Our Urban Community***

### **VORP News**

Xinachtli pronounced (she notch lee) is a noun from the Nahuatl people. Nahuatl people were historically known as Aztecs. They are indigenous to southern Mexico and Central America. The meaning of the word is “blooming seed”.

VORP has had the Xinachtli program and designed it to serve the needs of young girls of color. The intent of the program is to address risk areas such as substance abuse, gang violence, teen pregnancy, school failure, dropout risk, and other self-destructive behaviors. These are issues for many youth but in particular for youth of color. The goal of the program is to transform these young girls into community leaders and to help them see and realize their full potential.

Angell Perez has been the primary program provider for Xinachtli. Through the National Compadres Network she worked with a research team to study the impact of this program on the youth participating. The lead researcher Dr. Heriberto Escamilla recently provided output data from this study. It is pre program service and post program service. We wanted to share a couple of the findings.

“How important is your identity to you”? Pre: mean score 2.43 Post: mean score 3.62  
Interpretation is that youth attach increasing positive significance to their identity as a person of color. The statistical probability of this change in score being due to chance is less than 1 in a thousand.

“How often do you now pray”? Pre: mean score 2.19 Post: mean score 3.43  
Interpretation is that youth see more of a need and positive outcome from praying and connecting to God. The statistical probability of this change in score being due to chance is less than 1 in a thousand.

We are very encouraged by the results that this data analysis suggests. It lends scientific evidence to the impact of the program and the changes that we believe we see with these youth. These results are just two of more than a dozen measured variables. We hope to share more in the future.

~ Norm Dewhurst

**Right 2 Rest Fest** is tomorrow!! January 27, 2-5 PM, at the Capitol (Colfax and Lincoln).  
Speaking out, art, food, music, standing strong for the Right to Rest Act!

## ***Around Mountain States Mennonite Conference***

***HYMN SING!*** You are invited to a long-awaited, inspirational hymn sing at Peace Mennonite Church THIS SUNDAY, January 29, at 4:00 PM 13601 E Alameda Ave, just west

if I-225. After the singing, a traditional low German Mennonite "faspa" will be enjoyed. To help them plan food, RSVP immediately at [tinyurl.com/hymnsing2017](http://tinyurl.com/hymnsing2017). Sponsored by MSMH.

**The Frontier Village Foundation is accepting grant applications** through March 1, 2017. Application information can be found on the FVF Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/FrontierVillageFoundation>. Inquiries or applications may be sent to the FVF Board President, Kristen Heil: [heil.kristen@gmail.com](mailto:heil.kristen@gmail.com).

Check out the latest newsletter edition of *ZING!* on the website.

For more information about our conference, go to [mountainstatesmc.org](http://mountainstatesmc.org)

### ***Mennonite Church USA and Beyond***

**MCC's Sharing With Appalachia People (SWAP) program** is seeking volunteer groups and summer staff. Summer will be here before we know it, so make your summer plans now to join SWAP in Kentucky. Don't miss out on your chance to serve with this home repair ministry while learning about life in Appalachia. Groups or individuals can volunteer to serve as week-long volunteers. SWAP is also looking for summer staff to serve as job site coordinators and meals coordinators/cooks for three month assignments. Summer staff are a critical component of SWAP's successful ministry, as they help facilitate the weekly SWAP service groups working on housing repair for low-income persons. Summer staff vary in age from 19 to 70+, and they receive meals, lodging and a weekly stipend for their service. For more information about bringing a group to SWAP or serving as summer staff, visit [swap.mcc.org](http://swap.mcc.org) or contact Angela Maggard at [AppalachiaAdmin@mcc.org](mailto:AppalachiaAdmin@mcc.org) or 606-633-5065.

**Be in prayer for the "Hope for the Future" conference**, taking place Feb. 2-5 in Hampton, Virginia. The event, which brings together people of color who serve in leadership positions in Mennonite Church USA, is now in its sixth year.

For more information about our denomination, go to [mennoniteusa.org](http://mennoniteusa.org)

### ***Other Information***

**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](http://fmcdenver.org)

Phone: 303-892-1038

**Deadline for announcements is Wednesday midnight.** Please send announcements to Linda Welty at [linda.fmcdenver@gmail.com](mailto:linda.fmcdenver@gmail.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.

