



FMC Weekly - February 2, 2017

The weekly newsletter of First Mennonite Church of Denver

Sunday, February 5

9:30 AM Worship

From Rob: Our passage for this week continues with Jesus' words we come to know as the Sermon on the Mount, at the very core of our Anabaptist tradition. This week I'll be preaching on Matthew 6:7-21 which includes Jesus' teaching on prayer, the words we come to know as The Lord's Prayer, then guidance on the practice of fasting and finally storing riches in heaven (For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also).

Please reflect on Jesus' words regarding the forgiveness of debts, later Matthew uses the word trespasses, Luke uses the word sins. Author Bruce Malina suggests that sins are infractions incurred against God while debts are usually monetary obligations owed humans.

My father, who made his business in real estate referred to encumbrances on a property, i.e., mortgages, liens, etc. Jesus urges his followers to pray that God will forgive our debts, release us from our encumbrances. God has released many of our debts be they financial and interpersonal. What type of encumbrances impede your relationships today? Do you suppose you or I will ever be debt free?

Marcus Hyde and Isabella G. will lead worship, Sonia Graber will lead us in music, and Tory will continue the children's time.

Cake Reception After the Worship Service

Rob Burdette has been our Transitional Pastor for 26 months. This Sunday, February 5, will be his last Sunday with us. We are grateful for his time with us and have changed the Adult Education hour to host a farewell reception for Rob. There will be coffee, cake, donuts, an open mic and a basket for cards. Rob will be returning to Ohio to be with his wife Patty as she continues with some health concerns. We wish them God's blessings.

Also in the Community Center

- Purchase grocery cards to help support the FMC Ministry Plan
- Open Table: Welcome Signs for Sale - \$6 each; make checks payable to Theda Good.

10:45 AM Peace School for children and youth

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

Our FMC Community

UPDATE ON STAFFING DISCUSSION:

The congregational meeting of January 29 was intended to consider the staffing allotment of 2.0 FTE and to further consider the roles of each pastor. As the discussion ensued it was clear that there were issues in how all functions were going to be covered. A couple of the most glaring were the dilution of the Children and Youth Faith Formation, and the concept of Lead Pastor and preaching. There was also consideration given to making one or both of the Pastoral positions part-time.

I heard from many people saying that there was no way they could vote in two weeks. Numerous other people told me there was a need for more discussion. We are scheduled for our next meeting on Sunday, February 12. At that meeting We Won't Vote, we will have more discussion.

The proposed agenda for that meeting is below:

1. FTE 2.0 only two people fill these positions
2. Breakup the 2.0 into part time
3. Who preaches and how much preaching from the pastors. Do we ask members of the congregation to preach?
4. Child and Youth Faith Formation
 - a. How should it be staffed
 - b. Share a youth minister with another Mennonite Church
5. Theda and Tory
 - a. Automatically offer/place them into the available positions
 - b. Ask them to apply and be considered along with other candidates

~Norm Dewhurst

Congregational Care Ministry Team will begin formation. There will be a meeting this evening, Thursday, February 2, 7:00 PM, at the church.

Living the Questions Small Groups, change of time for the month of February.

Evening group will meet on **Thursday, February 16, at 6:30 PM** at the home of Theda and Dawn. If you would like to join this group you are welcome. If you want to catch up on sessions missed, please contact Theda to arrange for a time to view the videos. (The morning group met this morning, February 2).

During Epiphany we will continue collecting donations 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 – will be for sale at the OpEn TabLe on Sunday morning. Signs will be \$6.00, funds collected beyond costs will be donated to Casa de Paz. Make your checks payable to Theda Good.

Staff Time Away: Theda will be out of the office Monday-Sunday, February 6-12, celebrating her 50th birthday!

Attendance

January 29: Adults - 134; Children - 10; Total - 144

Child and Youth Faith Formation

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

www.fmcdenverfaithformation.weebly.com

Peace School February 5

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 \(3 and 4 year olds\)](#), [K-2nd grades](#), [Venture Club \(grades 3-5\)](#), and [JYF \(grades 6-8\)](#) will be learning about Jesus' disciples.

[MYF \(grades 9-12\)](#) will discuss current events and how we connect with God.

Caring for Each Other

Cindy Eby is at home resting following her hip surgery on Tuesday. Cindy's doctor said that the procedure went well and he was confident that with time she will have reduced pain and full mobility. Cindy will be using a walker or crutches for at least the next 6 weeks as she recovers. Thank you all for your messages, meals and prayers; they are all appreciated. Cindy, Randy, Eli and Simon

Happy Birthday February 3-9

4 - Brad Schrock
4 - Vernon Stoltzfus
7 - Kris Long
8 - Rhonda Polizzotto
9 - Alan Burkholder

Happy Anniversary February 3-9

6 - Elizabeth Grace & Keith Mullett
8 - Don & Treva Finks

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, 9:00 AM - Area Mennonite Pastors Book Study
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 resubmitted. Deadline is midnight Wednesday.

Our Urban Community

Around Mountain States Mennonite Conference

Come join the fun at Young Adult Snow Camp February 24-26, 2017 at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp. Hannah Heinzekehr, Executive Director of The Mennonite, will share during the worship times on the topic "This is Us: The faith-filled stories we tell." There will be group games, broomball, human curling, singing, and many opportunities to be outside enjoying the beauty of creation. The cost is only \$80. Online registration available at www.rmmc.org or call 719-687-9506.

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

For more information about our conference, go to mountainstatesmc.org

Mennonite Church USA and Beyond

WELCOMING IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES AS NEIGHBORS. Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) U.S. decries the executive actions on immigration enforcement taken this week by President Trump as well as actions on refugee resettlement expected later. In our society, rejection of the immigrant—"the other"—still runs deep. By building walls and turning away refugees we ignore Christ's call to care for those in need and to love the newcomer. We encourage you to consider new ways you can [welcome](#) immigrants and refugees as neighbors in your community, and to make your voice heard by [contacting](#) the White House and your members of Congress. Pray with us for [hearts of love](#) toward one another.

Looking for a summer internship? Learn, grow and develop your skills while interning (some positions are paid) for an organization that makes a difference in the world! Check out our opportunities at: <https://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/short-term>. If you would like to suggest someone for one of the internships, you're welcome to do so online by visiting this website, select one of the internships and then "nominate someone."

Pray for the participants in the “Hope for the Future” conference, which concludes today in Hampton, Virginia. More than 70 dynamic leaders from across the church, including many people of color, were expected to attend.

For more information about our denomination, go to 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

Phone: 303-892-1038

Deadline for announcements is Wednesday midnight. Please send announcements to Linda Welty at 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](#)

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