

Lent

Restore us, O God! We hunger for peace.

FMC Weekly - March 2, 2017

The weekly newsletter of First Mennonite Church of Denver

Sunday, March 5

8:40 - 9:00 AM Sunday Morning Prayer

Come to the prayer room in the lower level for a moment of quiet meditation, lighting of candles and spoken prayers. During this time of Lent, transition at FMC, and tumult in our world, consider a time of intentional prayer with one another. "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:20

9:30 AM Worship

The Young Voices for Peace Ensemble will be featured in our worship service this Sunday, including children from our own congregation. The new FMC Board will be commissioned for their work. Jake Christensen and Tory Doerksen will be our worship leaders and Arlen Hershberger will lead our singing.

After the Worship Service

- ◆ Purchase grocery cards to help support the FMC Ministry Plan
- ◆ Sign cards for college students and donate for gift cards/care packages

Before Noon, Final Paper Ballot voting for FMC Future Pastoral Staff

10:45 AM Education Hour

- ◆ ***Peace School*** for ages 2 years - 18 years. More details below.

◆ ***Adult Education***

Starting this Sunday: "Dismantling Whiteness for Racial Justice"

Part One/March 5: What is White Privilege?

In the first part of this 3-part *Adult Education Series* on Whiteness, *Naomi Nishi* will lead a discussion to define White privilege and racism. This conversation will help attendees better understand what "*Whiteness*" is and how it works in systems and in our own individual perspectives.

Ava Duvernay's "**13th**" film available on Netflix and "**I am not your Negro,**" about

James Baldwin (currently in local theaters) are two documentaries we recommend watching prior to these classes. Both will offer valuable insight as we engage in these conversations on whiteness.

This series is being offered by *Women Bridging Borders* (WBB) team. **We hope you will join us!**

Soup Fundraiser 11:00 - 12:30

Our high school youth are fundraising for Youth Convention in Orlando this summer. Soup choices are: Chili, Tomato Bisque and Chicken Noodle. Make lunch an easy choice this Sunday and support our youth. There will be a gluten free and a vegan option available.

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

Our FMC Community

The new FMC Board met Tuesday evening for our inaugural meeting.

We spent time getting to know each other, thinking through division of roles, and briefly reviewing the Ministry Plan. We will meet weekly for this next month as we organize and prioritize the many areas of work, and will provide the congregation with updates as we have them. Board roles and details describing those will be provided going forward.

The Board has a deep sense of positive purpose and dedication to help FMC move forward and thrive in the months ahead. We all feel honored to serve the congregation in this new way. Please feel free to contact any Board member with questions and we welcome your engagement.

~Barb, Cindy, Eric, Jon, and Tom

A New Era

Our transition is passing another mark along this journey. The Council is now in the archives of history and a newly elected Board will assume full and final decision making for First Mennonite Church. Our new Board: Tom Bishop, Eric Boschmann, Cindy Eby, Jonathan Moyer and Barb Stutzman will be official following the commissioning on Sunday, March 5. The Council, although no longer a decision making body, will serve as an advisory group so long as the new Board needs them.

The slate of Board candidates was impressive and I, personally, want to thank all of you who were willing to serve. I would only say, don't go far away because you are going to be needed.

My term is over and it has been a privilege to be involved during this period of our history. First Mennonite is fortunate to have the talented and willing people who make up this congregation.

~Norm Dewhurst

Support the MYF in participating in this summer's convention in Orlando. We have 4 adult sponsors and 8 youth going this year. Plans include an extra day of hanging out together at a theme park, as well as staying at the same hotel as Beth-El, and hopefully spending some time with youth from Boulder, Glennon Heights and Pueblo-Alive with Grace. We have two primary fundraisers to help families with the cost - our Annual Soup Fundraiser this Sunday, March 5, and our bi-annual Easter Pancake Brunch. Total cost for registration, lodging, travel, meals and activities will be around \$1000 per person. Thanks to Ron Schmucker for all his help in leading these two meals!

Voting on FMC Future Pastoral Staff closes at noon on Sunday, March 5:

- Paper ballots are available on oak table in foyer beside the ballot box.
- Email ballots are due by **10:00 PM Friday, March 3**; send to office.fmcdenver@gmail.com.

Can't find the ballot? Send request to that email by Friday noon.

Living the Questions Groups, on progressive theology, will meet again on the second Thursday, March 9.

- Morning group will meet at 10:30 AM here at the church
- Evening group will meet at 6:30 PM at the home of Theda and Dawn

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.

All are invited to sing in the Easter Choir. The first meeting will be at Lola and Arlen's house next Wednesday, March 8, from 6:00 to 8:15, as you are able to get there after work. Come hungry and be ready for a good time, which will include some singing. Please respond if you will attend. Another meeting (tbd) will be held around the first of April. Contact Arlen at: arlenhersh@yahoo.com or 303-359-9339.

Support our college students. Cards will be available for signatures. Please consider contributing some money or some snacks to send with the cards. Remember that there are 25 college students this year that we are supporting! Thanks for helping to encourage and support our college students as they are gearing up for the last quarter of the school year.



Hair getting unruly? Come see us at **The Sierra Saloon!**

Cuts are free – tips welcome.

Talk with Donna, Stephanie or Sierra.

Staff Time Away: Alyssa and Joshua Smith will be gone Friday - Sunday.

Attendance February 26: Adults - 129; Children - 29; Total - 158

Child and Youth Faith Formation

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

www.fmcdenverfaithformation.weebly.com

Peace School March 5

~PreK through Venture Club classes will be learning about Jesus feeding the 5,000.

~JYF will sit together with Ann Leonard, joining the adults upstairs as we hear about White Privilege from Naomi Nishi.

~MYF will be serving soup with Ron Schmucker.



Story Site with updated links to schedules and last week's lesson summaries:

[Pre K \(3 and 4 year olds\).](#)

[K-2nd grades](#)

[Venture Club \(grades 3-5\)](#)

[JYF \(grades 6-8\)](#)

[MYF \(grades 9-12\)](#)

Caring for Each Other

Happy Birthday March 3-9

3 - Arden Slotter

4 - Ann Leonard

5 - Ron Olson

5 - Sherman Wenger

8 - Yvonne Yousey

Happy Anniversary March 3-9

4 - Chris & Lola Miller

In the Building this Week

Saturday, 4:30 PM - FMC Babysitting Coop

Saturday evening and overnight - MYF fundraiser preparation and sleepover

Sunday, 1-3 PM - Safonia Ensemble rehearsal

Sunday afternoon-Friday - DOOR group of 10 from Rhodes College, Memphis, TN
Monday & Wednesday, 9-11:30 AM - Assistance Office
Tuesday, 6:30 PM - Safonia Choir rehearsal
Wednesday, 9:00 AM - Area Menno Pastors Book Study
Wednesday, 9-12 - Quilting
Wednesday, 5:30 PM - SOAR Choir meal and rehearsal
Thursday, 10:30 AM - Living the Questions Group
VORP Program

Save the Date!

Join us for these events

March 10-12: Winter Retreat at Rocky Mountain Camp

March 12: Early Morning Prayer (8:30) in the Prayer Room each Sunday of Lent

April 14: Good Friday Service

April 16: Easter Sunday Worship with MYF Pancake Fundraiser

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

Plan to attend the MSMC Faith & Life Forum on Saturday, April 29, 9:00 AM - Noon, Lunch following, at Beth-El Mennonite Church in Colorado Springs. Featured speaker will be Drew G.I. Hart, author of *Trouble I've Seen*.

Looking for a great way to spend some of your free time? Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp needs volunteers to help with food service during the following retreats:

March 24-26: a youth guest group

May 17-21: a quilt retreat and outdoor group

May 27-29: Memorial Day Work & Play retreat

June 4-10: Colorado Roots Music Camp

If any of these dates work for you, please contact Mary Yoder at mary.rmmc@gmail.com or call 719-687-9506. You can also sign up online by following the “Volunteer” link at www.rmmc.org.

Check out the February edition of *ZING!* on the website.

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

Mennonite Church USA and Beyond

Please be in prayer for the joint MHS Mennonite Health Assembly and Mennonite Education Agency Education Leaders Gathering taking place March 9-12 in Jacksonville, Florida. Health care and education professionals from Anabaptist-related institutions across the country will be gathering to learn, network, and share. The MHS Board will also be meeting prior to and during the conference.

Early registration for the Mennonite Church USA Convention 2017 has been extended to March 23! Early Registration includes a T-shirt, I-Ride trolley pass, servant project and a meal card. Come to Orlando July 4-8 to celebrate “Love is a Verb” with fellowship, worship and activities with Mennonites from around the country. Learn more at <http://convention.mennoniteusa.org/registration/>.

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](#)

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

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