

Lent

Restore us, O God. We see!

FMC Weekly - March 23, 2017

The weekly newsletter of First Mennonite Church of Denver

Sunday, March 26

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 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

Worship on Sunday will be led by Pastor Theda, with Sonia Graber leading music. Pastor Tory will be reflecting on John 9, and Jesus healing a blind man on the Sabbath. What truly matters as we practice our faith? What makes something sacred, and do you see what is sacred?

After the Worship Service

- ◆ Join others for refreshments and help support our youth.
- ◆ Purchase grocery cards to help support the FMC Ministry Plan.

10:45 AM Education Hour

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

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

Our FMC Community

Music Team formation! Pastor Tory and Ardell will be facilitating a music conversation on April 5 at 6:00 PM. We'll be discussing how best to organize song leaders, musicians, and choirs as well as the best way to plan music throughout all next year while supporting the

vision of Worship Teams along the way. This conversation will include conversations about song selections, learning new music in an intentional way, and purposefully incorporating longtime favorites. We'll gladly plan a second meeting if needed, as well as a way to reflect on our efforts periodically. "Lift every voice and sing" - Pastor Tory

Our 6:30 PM Good Friday service will be Taize-style, using the red and purple songbooks, as we walk through the crucifixion singing -

"What wondrous love is this"

"When I survey"

"Were you there"

"Create in me a clean heart"

The service will end in dark silence.

There will be communion on Easter Sunday, April 16. If you would like to bake bread to be served with grape juice that Lois Hjelmstad canned, please let me know. Thanks.

~Roberta Kandel (rokandel@comcast.net, 303.320.3475)

Bag It!! If you would like to sew pre-cut fabric to make MCC school bags, please talk to me after church services for the next 3-4 weeks. I will give you the fabric and instructions.

Please return completed bags to me at church in about 2-3 months. The bags will be filled with supplies in August or September. You don't need advanced skills. Just willingness to help. There are about 125 bags to be completed. Thank you, Angie Nofziger

Thank you to everyone who signed cards and/or donated funds to help support our 25 college students. We were able to send them each a \$30 Target gift card. The support and generosity of our church family is truly appreciated. ~Glenda Kauffman

Message from Women Bridging Borders

Our current adult ed. series "Dismantling Whiteness for Racial Justice" is half over and will continue on April 9 plus another date TBD in May. WBB, and series presenter Naomi Nishi, want to acknowledge the difficult work we are asking individuals to do in this series. We believe there is much to be learned and, to that end, we have put together a basic website to capture all the relevant resources in one place. Please visit

<https://teacherann.wixsite.com/fmc-wbb>

SOAR adult/youth choir will be singing for our FMC service on Sunday, April 23, the week after Easter. SOAR is a group of adults supplying relationship support and mentoring for foster and kinship kids through the magic of choral music. They are currently rehearsing at FMC on Wednesdays and would like to offer music in partial appreciation for the space-the home- the group experiences here. The theme this spring is *The Many Faces of Love*.

We are singing about friendship love, parent-child love, love of our global brothers and sisters. Emily Martin is the music director. Please join us.

Staff Time Away:

Caretakers Alyssa & Joshua will be gone Friday - Tuesday, March 24 - 28.

Linda will be out of the office Monday - Wednesday, March 27 - 29.

Attendance, March 19: Adults - 131; Children - 25; Total - 156

Child and Youth Faith Formation

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

www.fmcdenverfaithformation.weebly.com

Peace School March 26

This week all ages will start reflecting on Easter with three weeks of stories about Palm Sunday, foot washing, communion, the crucifixion and the resurrection. The MYF will be focusing on Baptism along with the stories and rituals above.



Story Site with updated links to schedules and recent 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

Please continue to pray for Michael (MJ) Sharp, taken hostage on Sunday, March 12, by a militia group along with 5 others in the Democratic Republic of Congo. He has many friends here at FMC along with his sister Erin Sharp. MJ is working to transform decades long conflict into civil and respectful living. Pray for his well-being and safe return. Pray for his family in these agonizing days of waiting, and his friends who also grieve for his safety and life.

Happy Birthday March 24 - 30

24 - Fiona Garber

24 - Courtney Kauffman

25 - Arlo Sonnenberg - March 25 [99 years!]

26 - Jessie Peters

27 - Bertie Fiz

27 - Marian Rohrer

27 - Andrea Wiens

28 - Becca Bay

29 - Deb Schaffer

Happy Anniversary March 24 - 30

None this week

In the Building this Week

Tuesday, 6:30 PM - Safonia Choir rehearsal

Wednesday, 9-12 - Quilting

Wednesday, 5:30 PM - SOAR Choir meal and rehearsal

VORP Program

Save the Date!

Join us for these events

March 26, 8:30: Early Morning Prayer in the Prayer Room (each Sunday of Lent)

April 14, 6:30 PM: Good Friday Service

April 16, Easter Sunday Morning:

8:30-9:30 MYF Pancake Fundraiser

9:30-10 Gathering Music

10:00 AM Worship, including Communion

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

Help Camp Spare the Trees! Saturday, March 25, spend a day in the woods at Rocky

Mountain Mennonite Camp treating spruce trees with bug repellent. Last year's treatment, while not perfect, made a big difference in how many trees became infested, and needed to be harvested, saving hundreds of hours of work. We lost about 140 trees the first season, and only about 60 the second. As of now, the infested number for 2017 looks even lower, but we'll see. The non-toxic, pheromone-based treatment can make the trees unappealing to spruce beetles, which are about to leave their winter dormancy. With a warm spring again, we have a narrow window to get this done. We need a large group of hikers to staple small packets to over 1500 trees. If you have a Stanley type T-50 staple gun, please bring it. If you can come, please sign up online or call camp at 719/687-9506. We'll start at 8:30 AM.

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

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

Mennonite Church USA and Beyond

The Future Church Summit will add a new dimension to this summer's Mennonite Church USA Convention, inviting participants to envision an Anabaptist future for the church. Learn more at <http://convention.mennoniteusa.org/future-church-summit/>.

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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