

Lent

Restore us, O God! We hope.

FMC Weekly - April 6, 2017

The weekly newsletter of First Mennonite Church of Denver

Sunday, April 9

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 focus on Holy Week and include mini-reflections by Pastor Tory on "Entering Jerusalem," the "Last Supper," "Washing Feet," and the "Arrest and Trial" of Jesus." The service will conclude with the singing of "Were you there when they crucified my Lord," followed by a moment of darkness and silence. Aimee will lead singing, and music will be provided by Ken Stotts and Crystal and Tory Doerksen. Restore us, oh God, as we hope.

After the Worship Service

- ◆ Join others for refreshments and help support our youth.
- ◆ Purchase grocery cards to help support the FMC Ministry Plan.
- ◆ OpEn Table - Sign up for April 22 Spring Work Day and for altar arrangements.

10:45 AM Education Hour

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

◆ ***Adult Education***

Dismantling Whiteness for Racial Justice

Part Three: Colorblindness and Commitment to Self-Work

"Live so as not to oppress others" - Richard Foster

This Foster quote has stayed with me (Naomi) since I read [Celebration of Discipline](#) over a decade ago, but the meaning has changed for me as I came to understand Whiteness.

In this third part of our Adult Education Series on Whiteness, we'll discuss the concept of colorblindness and look more closely at how racism has evolved in what some refer to

as a post-racial era. We'll also talk more about the self-work that White people must engage in to effectively dismantle Whiteness to truly move us toward racial justice.

This series has been developed by our Women Bridging Borders (WBB) team and we hope you will join us!

Our FMC Community

Good Friday service will pick up where our Palm Sunday service ends. This year we'll be singing songs out of the Red Hymnal and Purple Songbook as we read, reflect and pray through the stations of the cross and the crucifixion.

Ministry Teams, upcoming meetings:

- Memorial Reception Ministry Team meets Monday, April 10, 10:00 AM, at FMC
- Adult Education Team meets Tuesday, April 11, at 6:00 PM, at FMC
- Social/Fellowship Team meets Monday, April 17, at 6:00 PM, at FMC
- Care Giving Team, date to be determined

Anyone is welcome to attend! If you have questions, contact Pastor Theda.

The job advertisement for the vacant pastor position at FMC is now being publicly advertised. A copy of the advertisement is available from the FMC website and can be shared freely. The Pastor Search Committee is finalized and is comprised of: Angie Birky, Arden Slotter, Charlie Ferguson, Eric Boschmann (co-chair), Glenda Kauffman (co-chair), Peter Conrad, and Sonia Graber. The committee will first meet around Easter, and begin reviewing applications in early May. Pastors Theda and Tory and the Board will be included at the interviewing stage of the process.



Easter Sunday is April 16. You are invited to bring Easter lilies and other spring arrangements to make a beautiful display of new life in the front of the sanctuary on Easter morning. Tape your name to the bottom of your plant, bring it to the front of the sanctuary before the service and they will be added to the display. Afterwards remember to take your plant home with you to enjoy the rest of the week. Thank you!

If you would like to sing in the Easter choir, come to the rehearsal Easter Sunday morning 9-9:40. Prior rehearsal not required.

April 22, Earth Day and FMC Spring Work Day

Please plan to come and help us brush up for Spring! Sign up at the Open Table the next two Sundays for areas where you would like to help.

Altar arrangements: Lola Hershberger, our floral coordinator, is looking for persons to provide a floral arrangement or art piece for a Sunday morning worship service in April, May and June. Is there a significant date you would like to observe or a special person you would like to honor? Stop by the open table this Sunday to sign up or contact Lola as soon as possible at 303-523-5364 (call or text) or Lola.hershberger@gmail.com to choose a date.

Living the Questions Small Group – notice the changes to time or date of each group. Morning group will meet on Thursday, April 13, from 9-10:30am at the church. This is a time change. Evening group will meet on Thursday, April 20 at 6:30pm for a POTLUCK at the home of Theda and Dawn. We watch a 20-minute video on progressive Christian thought, followed by discussion. All are welcome.

Partnering with Everence Sharing Fund. Our congregation helped two households in need with \$2,000 of financial assistance from Everence's Sharing Fund in 2016 and additional funding from the Nurture Fund. Everence matching grants provided almost \$900,000 nationally to help people in need last year. If you have any questions about Everence, please feel free to contact me. ~Dawn Kreider, Everence Stewardship Advocate (dawn.kreider@du.edu)

Time is running out to renew or join our group subscription to *The Mennonite*. *The Mennonite* is a monthly magazine featuring voices from across the Anabaptist-Mennonite world. If you are interested in joining our group plan and receiving *The Mennonite* each month, please contact [Linda](#) by April 12.

Attention MCC Alumni and Friends! You are invited to a MCC alumni gathering on Sunday, April 30 at 4:00 pm at First Mennonite Church in Denver. Meet with fellow alumni and hear updates from MCC alumni and staff who have recently gone on MCC learning tours to Haiti and New Orleans. RSVP by contacting Sharon Nelson at sharonnelson@mcc.org or 909.519.7797 by April 21. See you there!

Staff Time Away: Theda is taking some personal time this weekend attending a board meeting of Brethren Mennonite Council in Minneapolis and will be back in the office on Monday. Alyssa is out of town Saturday and Sunday.

Attendance, April 2: Adults - 110; Children - 14; Total - 124

Child and Youth Faith Formation

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

www.fmcdenverfaithformation.weebly.com

Peace School April 9

Peace School continues with our lesson on Jesus' being betrayed, denied and crucified. (Last week we learned about Jesus entering Jerusalem, washing feet and the Last Supper. April 23 we'll learn about the Resurrection, Road to Emmaus and Ascension.)

JYF will focus on the resurrection this week, and reflect on what it means to carry hope.

MYF will meet with Pastor Tory to reflect on the meaning of Baptism together.



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

Reberta Shirk is turning 80 on April 18. Please help us shower her with birthday wishes!

22517 N. Las Lomas Lane, Sun City West, AZ 85375; e-mail: randgshirk@aol.com

Thanks! Glenda Kauffman and Leslea Wahl

Thank you all for the gift card and well wishes! I was happy to receive the card in the mail last week. I am doing well and looking forward to working at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp this summer. Thanks again!

~ Elsa Lantz, sophomore, Goshen College

Lee Peters was recently hospitalized for pneumonia. He has returned home and is receiving care from a hospice team. Please hold **Lee and Jessie** in your thoughts and prayers.

Al Martin was admitted to Sky Ridge Medical Center on Monday and is beginning chemotherapy for a mass on his pancreas. Please keep **Al and Grace and family** in your prayers.

Happy Birthday April 7-13

7 - Randy Mast

7 - Lola Miller

8 - Greg Stauffer

8 - Roxanne Thompson

10 - Michael Falk
10 - Samuel Falk
11 - Marcus Hyde
12 - Bradley Shelly
13 - Abigail Popp

Happy Anniversary April 7-13

None this week

In the Building this Week

Saturday, 10-4 - Moms Demand for Action (Rachel Barnes)
Monday & Wednesday, 9 -11:30 - Assistance Program
Monday, 7:00 PM - MSMH meeting
Tuesday, 6:30 PM - Safonia Choir rehearsal
Wednesday, 9:00 AM - Area Mennonite Pastor's Book Study
Wednesday, 9-12 - Quilting
Wednesday, 5:30 PM - SOAR Choir meal and rehearsal
VORP Program
See more below.

Save the Date!

Join us for these events

April 9, 8:30: Early Morning Prayer in the Prayer Room

April 12, 7:00 PM: Board Meeting, open to the congregation

April 14, 6:30 PM: Good Friday Service

April 16, Easter Sunday Morning:

8:30-9:30 MYF Pancake Fundraiser

9:00-9:40 Choir Rehearsal

9:45-10 Gathering Music with Vicky Mierau

10:00 AM Worship, including Communion

April 22: Spring Work Day

April 27, 10:45 AM, Ministry Plan Conversation, during the Adult Ed hour

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

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

May 7: Vote on the Ministry Plan and interim referendum for the Board to operate under until new by-laws are written

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.

High Rise Apartment for Rent! Jeff Bontrager from Glennon Heights Mennonite Church is renting his condo on the 9th floor of the Florentine Condominiums located at 700 Washington St. along historic 7th Ave in Capitol Hill. One bedroom, 681 square feet + huge balcony with sweeping south/east views. Dedicated uncovered parking spot. Laundry across the hall. Pool and workout facility in building. Blocks from Trader Joe's, Governor's Park, Cheesman Park. \$1190/mo. Available last week of May/first of June. Contact Jeff at 303-520-0372 or jeffbontrager@hotmail.com for more information.

Our Urban Community

You are invited to a fundraiser for the new Tiny Home Village. The event is family friendly and open to all! Come learn, connect, and share as we support a great cause! Sponsored by Beloved Community Mennonite Church.

When: Sunday, April 9 from 5–7:00 PM

Where: Beloved Community Mennonite Church (@Mayflower Congressional Church)
3001 S Acoma St, Denver.

What: Blues music, dancing, bake sale, art show/auction, raffle, Q&A with the village organizers. The event is all donation-based and no one is turned away for lack of funds!

About the project... "Beloved Community Tiny Home Village" is a community of people experiencing homelessness in Denver, Colorado that will provide small-scale Tiny Homes for up to 22 people (11 Tiny Homes). It will be democratically self-governed with a mission to provide homes for those people experiencing homelessness that will also cultivate community living and self-empowerment. The Village is a place that enables people without homes to reestablish their place in a community. It's a place where they can rediscover talents, renew their purpose and restore their dignity. Most importantly, it's a place they can call home. A truly radical experiment to help provide just one solution to homelessness!

Around Mountain States Mennonite Conference

Please register for April 29 Faith and Life Forum to be held at Beth-El Mennonite Church in Colorado Springs. Our guest speaker is Drew Hart, the author of *Trouble I've Seen, Changing the Way the Church Views Racism*, published by Herald Press. To order the book, go to <http://store.mennomedia.org/Trouble-Ive-Seen>.

We would love to see First Mennonite Church of Denver represented at this Conference event. The morning starts with worship at 9:00 AM, includes a presentation by Drew, break-out conversations around racism, immigration and other conference agenda and concludes

with lunch (by donation) provided by the Colorado Springs Service Adventure Unit. Child care will be provided. All are welcome!

If you plan to come, please RSVP to Karen Martin at administrator@mountainstatesmc.org

Spend your Memorial Day weekend at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp for the annual Work and Play Retreat, May 26-29! In exchange for your help with camp projects during the retreat, there is no charge for the weekend. On Saturday, participants will help with a variety of projects (spring cleaning, finalizing the boys bathhouse renovation, painting, setting up summer recreation equipment, helping in the kitchen, and more!). There will be work projects for all ages, even for children as appropriate. Parents with small children are asked that one parent cares for their child while the other parent works. Sunday is the “play” part of the weekend including a morning worship service and brunch, leaving the afternoon for hiking, playing on the pond, or taking a nap! Register online (www.rmmc.org), call (719-687-9506) or email (info@rmmc.org) to let us know you can come!

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

Mennonite Church USA and Beyond

This summer’s Mennonite Church USA Convention will feature a new way to involve high school youth and young adult representatives in the delegate sessions.

Called “Step Up,” the goal is to prepare young people who have an interest in being involved with the broader church for future involvement as denominational delegates and leaders. The program will include interactive seminar sessions and attendance at and participation in delegate sessions. Conferences and constituency groups have been invited to nominate youth who are rising high school sophomores or older. For questions, contact Brook Musselman at brookm@atlanticcoastconference.net.

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

[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.

