



## **FMC Weekly - November 30, 2017**

*The weekly newsletter of First Mennonite Church of Denver*

### ***Sunday Morning, December 3, First Sunday of Advent***

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

Join us this Sunday! Anton Flores-Maisonet will be our guest speaker (see more about Anton below). The title of his meditation is "Across the Border." Bruce Springsteen asked, "What are we without hope in our hearts that someday we'll drink from God's blessed waters?" Advent is a time when in the parchedness of our despair we thirst for a hope of a redeemer who comes bringing living water - not tomorrow, but today, not only in the sweet by-and-by but also in our bitter here-and-now. Scriptures: Isaiah 64:1-9, Psalm 80:1-7 and 17-19, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:24-37. Cindy Kauffman will be worship leader, Sonia Graber will lead singing, Sonia and Stephanie Miller will provide pre-service music and the offertory, and Rachel Barnes will lead the children's time.

#### ***After the worship service in the Community Center***

- ◆ Join us for refreshments and help support our youth
- ◆ Purchase grocery cards to help support the FMC Ministry Plan. Pick up your reloadable King Soopers card and still earn points on your personal card.

#### **10:45 Education Hour**

**Peace School for ages 2-18 years**

**Adult Education** - Hear more from Anton during this time.

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

**Anton Flores-Maisonet**, our guest speaker this Sunday, is co-founder of Casa Alterna, a hospitality house in Georgia devoted to faithful acts of mercy and justice alongside its Latinx neighbors.

Anton serves on the national board of directors of the DOOR Network and chairs DOOR's Beloved Community Council. He and his wife, Charlotte, have served as interim city directors for DOOR in Atlanta and Los Angeles. His son, Jairo, was a 2016 Discerner here in Denver. Jairo is now a first-year student at Clemson University.

Because of Anton's prophetic advocacy and tireless solidarity, he has been honored by two Spanish-language Atlanta-based newspapers as their respective "Person of the Year." Additionally, Alterna was named "Organization of the Year" by Mundo Hispánico, the largest Spanish-language newspaper in Atlanta.



**Children's Time is an important part of our worship.** In order to develop this moment that children have with the congregation every Sunday morning, a group is forming to plan and brainstorm fresh ideas. If you would like to be a part of this endeavor, join us on Monday, December 18, at 6 pm, at the home of Roberta Kandel. Please let Roberta or Liz Holdeman know that you can come.

### **Christmas Program Practices**

There will be practices on the next two Sundays (December 3 & 10) during the worship service. After the children's story, those kids who are participating will leave the service and meet in the Community Center. The Christmas Program will take place Sunday morning, December 17.

**Give the gift that keeps on giving!!!** The Holiday Bazaar on December 17 right after the Children's Christmas program will have a variety of booths and items to share for your Christmas shopping. Women's Bean Project, A Little Something, Bead for Life, Direct Assistance, Earthlinks, MCC Christmas Booth, Silks of Laos, and more will be attending. Please save some of your shopping for this event!! Bring cash or checks (will not accept credit cards).

**Haven't turned in your 2018 Ministry Plan Pledge Form?** Please submit it this week. Pledge forms are available on the oak table in the foyer and can be placed in the offering plate or in the drop box by the north office door. Pledges can also be emailed to [Linda](#) in the office. Thank you! And thank you to all who have already submitted pledges.

**December 10, 2017, at 11:00 am**, there will be a Congregational Meeting in the Sanctuary to review and approve the final 2018 Ministry Plan (budget).

**Staff Time Away:** Glenn will be out of the office through December 1. Glenn's regular day off each week is Monday.

Attendance, November 26: Adults - 138; Children - 22; Total - 160

### ***Mark your Calendars for these Upcoming Events***

**Dec. 10, 11:00 am** – Congregational Meeting to vote on the final 2018 Ministry Plan

**Dec. 17, 9:30 am** – Children's Christmas Program

**Dec. 17, 10:45 am** - Holiday Bazaar in the Community Center

**Dec. 24, 5:00 pm** - Christmas Eve Service

### ***Peace School Notes***

**Venture Club** will be decorating the Christmas Tree in the Community Center on Sunday, December 3, during the Peace School hour.

### ***Caring for Each Other***

**We give thanks for the life of Al Martin.** Keep the family of Al Martin in your prayers as they remember and celebrate his life and grieve his loss.

Details for the service are as follows:

Sunday, December 10, 2:30 pm, at First Mennonite Church

**We also give thanks for the life of Alma Groff.** Keep Alma's family in your prayers as they celebrate and remember her life and grieve her loss.

Details for the service are as follows:

Saturday, December 2, 4:00 pm, at Someren Glen Retirement Community Chapel

**The father of Kevin Yoder and Rhonda Polizzotto,** D. Paul Yoder, died yesterday (Wednesday) at the age of 91 in Goshen, Indiana. The funeral will be at Lower Deer Creek Church in Kalona, Iowa, on Monday. Eunice Brenneman from Glennon Heights Church is a sister to Paul. Keep these families in your prayers as they celebrate and remember his life and grieve his loss.

### **Happy Birthday December 1-7**

2 - Anne Penner

3 - Maxine Martin

4 - Matias Fiz

6 - Kori Leaman-Miller

6 - Doug Reed  
6 - Jenae Stutzman  
7 - Keith Wood

### **Happy Anniversary December 1-7**

5 - Jessi Stoltzfus & Marco Monzon Paz

### ***In the Building this Week***

Saturday, 4:30 pm - FMC Babysitting Group

Monday & Wednesday, 9-11:30 am - Assistance Program

Monday, 5:30-8:30 pm - Denver Children's Choir Rehearsals

Tuesday, 2-7 pm - CCRC (former VORP) youth meetings in Commons & Sun Room

Wednesday, 6 pm - SOAR choir rehearsal in Community Center

### ***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.*

**Pottery Studio Show and Sale** at Judi Nafziger's home at 1960 Old Squaw Pass Rd, Evergreen, on Friday, December 1, 5-9 pm and Saturday, December 2, 10 am – 5 pm. All are invited. Refreshments served.

### ***Our Urban Community***

**The Denver Children's Choir**, which currently has offices in the church basement and rehearses at FMC, is having two "Songs of the Season" performances in December. On December 2, the performing choirs will be singing at 4:00 at Bethany Lutheran Church, 4500 E. Hampden Ave. On December 3, the neighborhood choirs will be singing at 4:00 at Central Presbyterian Church (17th and Sherman). As a thank you to First Mennonite, we will be offering complimentary tickets. Please contact Cindy Kraybill [cindy@denverchildrenschoir.org](mailto:cindy@denverchildrenschoir.org) or 303.722.5980 to arrange for your tickets.

**Hanging of the Greens:** Join us at Glennon Heights Mennonite Church, 11480 W. Virginia Ave., Lakewood, for our annual service of music and readings to begin the Christmas season, on Sunday, December 3, at 6:30 pm. A wassail reception will follow. If you'd like to sing in the choir, contact Brenda Bartel at [brendalynbartel@gmail.com](mailto:brendalynbartel@gmail.com) or 720-315-4174. The choir will rehearse at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 2. All singers are welcome.

**SOAR Youth and Adult Choir will be presenting their Winter Melodies of Joy concerts**

on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 7 pm, and Sunday, Dec. 10 at 3 pm. Both concerts will be at Historic Grant Avenue, 216 South Grant St. Please check out our website, [soaryouthandadultchoir.org](http://soaryouthandadultchoir.org), and our linked Facebook page. New material is posted every week. We would love to see many FMC friends there!

**Join Denver Moms Demand Action for Gunsense in America** as we remember and honor the more than 150,000 Americans killed or injured by guns since the Sandy Hook shooting tragedy. Learn about our resources and programs that support survivors and what we are doing to #EndGunViolence in our communities.

When: Memorial Service, Sunday, December 10, 4pm

Where: Be3 Dinner Church, 1195 Newport Street, Denver.

Please RSVP using this link:

<http://act.everytown.org/event/moms-demand-action-event/7450/signup/>

**Community singing of seasonal carols** Sunday, December 17, 4:30 pm, at Stanley Market in Aurora. See flyer on Community bulletin board.

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

### **WINTER RETREATS AT RMMC**

Plan to attend one of the upcoming winter retreats at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp! Participate in the Scrapbook Retreat weekend, play in the snow at a youth Snow Camp, or attend the Men's Retreat. Check out [rmmc.org](http://rmmc.org) for more specific information.

These retreats also rely a lot on the help of volunteers. From supervising the tube run, cleaning bathrooms, shoveling paths, and cooking meals, each volunteer makes a weekend at RMMC run great. Visit [rmmc.org](http://rmmc.org) and follow the links to Register Online or to the Volunteer sign up. You may also call RMMC for more information (719-687-9506).

We need volunteers to help in the kitchen for the following groups:

St. Constantine Helen Orthodox Church youth winter retreat (December 27-29, 2017)

Scrapbook Retreat (January 12-14, 2018)

Jr High Snow Camp (January 19-21, 2018)

Sr High Snow Camp (February 16-18, 2018)

Young Adult Snow Camp (February 23-25, 2018)

Men's Retreat (March 2-4, 2018)

**OFFICE ADMIN NEEDED:** Boulder Mennonite Church is looking to hire a 12 hour/week office administrator, who is adept at using the computer including Open Office, Google Drive, and a fundraising database. Inquire at [info@bouldermennonite.org](mailto:info@bouldermennonite.org).

**You are invited to an Advent retreat and weekend** hosted by the Anabaptist Fellowship

of Alamosa... December 9-10.

Theme: "Listening for the Coming..."

Date: Begins at 3 pm Saturday, Dec. 9, wraps up at 6 pm followed by dinner and singing.

Location: Alamosa Presbyterian Church (AFA's worship location)

Plan to worship with AFA at 10:30 a.m., Sunday, December 10

Cost: \$10 suggested for food. Bring seasonal goodies to share.

Find your own accommodations or contact Alice Price at [aliceprice1950@gmail.com](mailto:aliceprice1950@gmail.com) for details about lodging, restaurants, concerts, hot springs and brew houses. Please RSVP to Alice by December 6 (for meal planning).

Come early and take in a Handel's Messiah concert on Friday evening at Adam State University's Richardson Hall or stay for a repeat performance on Sunday afternoon at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. (Some local Mennos perform in the Friday concert).

About the retreat:

We are living in accelerated times. Reflection is at a premium and we are not encouraged in our culture to be mindful of our fast-paced lives and the havoc our lifestyles are wreaking on others and the planet. Come and sit awhile in sacred community to hear what the Heart of Love is calling you to in this season of Advent and beyond.

To invite our inner guidance and re-ignite those deeper places of listening, we will explore storytelling, silence, art, music, journaling and lectio divina (Divine Reading).

As we listen in community, not so different from our Anabaptist ancestors, may we prepare our hearts for Advent!

For more information about our conference and latest issue of ZING!, go to [mountainstatesmc.org](http://mountainstatesmc.org)

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

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.

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