



FMC Weekly - December 21, 2017

The weekly newsletter of First Mennonite Church of Denver

Christmas Eve, December 24 [No Morning Service]

5:00 pm Worship

Join us this Christmas Eve at 5:00 pm as we celebrate the birth of Christ. This will be an evening filled with music, scripture, and reflection. Pastor Glenn and Emily Martin will co-lead this celebration. Please invite your family and friends!

After the worship service in the Community Center

Join us for Christmas goodies.

Our FMC Community

Christmas Eve Service, 5:00 pm. Please bring a plate of Christmas goodies to share after the Christmas Eve worship service. We are counting on you.



Joseph's Storehouse

As you have probably heard by now, we are in the midst of our annual Christmas campaign to raise funds for Joseph's Storehouse. As noted a few weeks ago, Joseph's Storehouse is based on the story in Genesis where Joseph developed a program to stockpile resources in a time of plenty to assist people in a time of need. We use it as an opportunity to gather some of our abundant resources to share with others over the coming year.

For nearly 40 years, this FMC program has helped hundreds of families and individuals each year with rent or utility assistance during personal emergencies. Volunteers meet with people from our neighboring communities from 9-11:30 am on Mondays and Wednesdays to evaluate the need for assistance and provide funds where appropriate. Funding comes

from Joseph's Storehouse, the FMC budget, and grants from Energy Outreach Colorado.

Especially in light of the issues that FMC is currently wrestling with regarding homelessness, this program offers an opportunity for us to help prevent people from ending up on the streets. Please consider a generous gift to Joseph's Storehouse this year! Thank you to everyone who has already contributed including at the Holiday Bazaar!

Checks should be made out to First Mennonite Church with Joseph's Storehouse in the memo line. All contributions at the Christmas Eve service will go to the drive unless designated to your pledge or the General Fund. We will be accepting contributions through early January.

The Assistance Office volunteers are: Lynn Amstutz, Wanda and Martin Brotherton, Bob Carlsten, Norm Dewhurst, Don Finks, Robert George, Vicky Mierau, Stephanie Miller, Debb Reed, Carol Rempel, Marylou Shelly, Craig Sommers, Carla Stoltzfus, and Barb Wiens.

End of Year Reminders: End of year giving must be dated and postmarked by December 31 or at the church (offering or office) by December 31 to be included on your 2017 contribution statement. Any receipts for reimbursement in 2017 should be submitted to Linda by December 27.

FMC Memorial Garden Additions: Longtime planning to improve and maintain the FMC Memorial Garden, including installing a wrought iron fence and lighting to allow more hours of visitation, has been completed. Hopefully, these additions will complement the beauty of the garden as well as provide safety to it's contents. Thanks to Craig Sommers (Chair: FMC Stewardship Fund), Dave Harguth & Ardell Swartzendruber (FMC Facility & Grounds Committee), Darcey VanWagner (Chair: FMC Architectural Review Committee), Lynn Williams & Richard Wyse (FMC Gourmet small group) and electrician Peter Friesen for making this happen. The fence gates are locked and will be unlocked each Sunday morning. For access other times, please contact Linda in the church office or caretakers, Joshua and Alyssa.

The FMC Memory Book indexes need to be updated and proofread. I tried to accomplish this task a year ago. I did not get through the project. I would like to have a volunteer help me get the Memory books proofread and prepared in a way that they are easy to update. I need someone who is comfortable with Microsoft Word and formatting using that software. If you would be willing to work with me on this, please contact me. I don't think it would take more than half a day. I hope to do this in January. Thanks.
Roberta Kandel, 303-807-0841, rokandel@comcast.net.

Snow is in the Air! In the event that there is a lot of snow to remove in the next two weeks while the caretakers are away, please feel free to contact Matt Baron 303-548-5058 or Ron Olson if you can help with snow removal here at FMC.

New building for homeless opening in January!!

The St. Francis Apartments at Cathedral Square (SFAS) will be opening the beginning of January. The building is on Washington St./Colfax. It will house 50 plus residents who have been homeless for an extended period.

They would also like to stock each new apartment with food items to help residents get started with their "new" life in a home. These items can be donated BY January 2. There will be a large tub in the Community Center if you would like to donate food:

Non perishables

Peanut Butter & Jelly

Canned chicken/tuna

Canned soups/instant soups

Pasta /Pasta sauce

Cereal/Instant oatmeal

Canned vegetables /Canned fruits

Instant rice

Paper towels

Dishwasher liquid/pods

Shampoo

Lotion

This is an exciting project that is a response to the need for affordable housing in Denver. Look it up!! We need more units such as this!!

The FMC Office will be closed the week of December 25. Linda will be in the office a couple of days, Thursday for sure. Call first to make sure someone is here if you need access to the church any other day. Joshua and Alyssa will be away until January 6. Feel free to call Pastor Glenn at 720-256-3667 if the need arises.

Attendance, December 17: Adults - 176; Children - 39; Total - 215

Mark your Calendars for these Upcoming Event

Dec. 24, 5:00 pm - Christmas Eve Service with refreshments following.

Dec. 31, 9:30 am - Taize worship service

Peace School Notes

MYF - RMMC Snow Camp is arriving soon, Feb. 16-18. If you are interested in going please let Jill Schmidt know by January 15 at jillrays@gmail.com or 316-772-6207.

Caring for Each Other

We would like to thank our FMC family for a very moving memorial service that celebrated the life of our beloved husband, father, and grandfather. We were touched by all of the talent, time and effort put into the service, including words of wisdom and comfort, music, ushers, and sound. A special thank you to Angie, Lola, and Cindy, and everyone involved in the meal preparation, service, and clean up. We thank you all for the many cards we've received with prayers and words of encouragement and comfort.

~ Grace Martin and family

Glenn Balzer's brother-in-law, Gordy Newell, passed away suddenly in a logging accident in Hinton, AB, this past week. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers.

Please pray for Jennifer Miller and family as her mother passed away after a three year battle with cancer. Jennifer and Eric are currently in Ohio. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Continue to keep Robert George and his mother, Joyce, in your prayers as she was airlifted to Swedish Hospital this past week.

Happy Birthday December 22-28

23 - Aggie Polak

24 - Rachel VanWagner

27 - Greg Polizzotto

27 - Carol Reitmeyer

28 - Ardith Barnhorst

28 - Louise Carlsten

28 - Ethan Mullett

Happy Anniversary December 22-28

24 - Nancy & Russ Gregory

25 - Carla & Vernon Stoltzfus

26 - Emily & Sam Martin

In the Building this Week

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

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

The Beloved Community Village is a first of it's kind tiny home village in north Denver for people experiencing homelessness that was formed out of a partnership that included Beloved Community Mennonite Church, Mennonite Disaster Services, and Everence in summer 2016. As you may know, the village has to move at the beginning of January, and Cole Chandler, from BCMC is coordinating volunteers to help with the move. Some information about the schedule, scope of work, and expectations for volunteers is listed below. If you, or someone you know is interested in volunteering to assist with the move by offering your construction skills, cooking skills, or coffee making skills, please email Cole at coledchandler@icloud.com

Thank you!

To Do:

Cut Bolts

Break Down Circ-house

Porch and Ramp of Bath House

Porch and Ramp on Jamiah's House

Stairs on Tex and Silla's house

Stairs on houses progressing towards street

Gate deconstruction and reconstruction

Ramp/Stair reconstruction

Paint and floors if possible

Schedule:

- December 28, 29, 30 from 7:30am-3:30pm - 12-15 skilled workers working on bolt cutting, circ house deconstruction, ramp and stair deconstruction

- January 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 from 7:30am-3:30pm 5-10 carpenters each day to work on ramp, stair, and gate deconstruction and reconstruction

- January 8, 9, 10, 11 from 7:30am-3:30pm - 5-10 carpenters each day to work on ramp, stair, and gate reconstruction and possibly floors and paint

What to bring with you:

One of the problems that we ran on the jobsite last time around was that not everyone came

with the appropriate tools each day. Every day that you come to work at the jobsite, please bring the following items:

- Tool Belt
- Pencil
- Tape Measure
- Hammer
- Speed Square
- Pry Bar
- Chalkline
- Eye Protection
- Gloves
- Pants
- Boots

Additionally, please consider bringing your own circular saw, jig saw, impact drivers, chop saws, table saws, etc.

What to expect:

We will provide coffee, water, and lunch each day.

We will start each day with a safety circle at 7:30am. Safety is our top priority on the job site.

We will be working at 3733 Walnut/1420 38th St.

Parking is limited, please plan to find street parking.

Around Mountain States Mennonite Conference

For more information about our conference and latest issue of ZING!, go to mountainstatesmc.org

Mennonite Church USA and Beyond

During this Christmas season, MC USA invites your prayers for peace to come to the earth: for creative peacemaking that can disrupt cycles of violence and oppression; for communities to find ways to support and love one another; for past wounds to begin healing; for the people of the church to continue seeking the peace of Christ.

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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