



FMC Weekly - February 8, 2018

The weekly newsletter of First Mennonite Church of Denver

Worship Services this Week

9:30 am Worship, Sunday, February 11

Join with us as Darren Knowles shares thoughts from Mark 9--and the story of the Transfiguration: Grime, Glory and Grace. Lisa Longacher will lead worship, Charlie Ferguson will lead singing, and Roberta Kandel will lead 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 am Education Hour

- ◆ **Peace School for ages 2-18 years**
- ◆ **Adult Ed** - Join us in the Sanctuary to reflect on Adult Education sessions that have been meaningful and use that info to generate some ideas for Adult Education in the future. Led by Darren Knowles in the Sanctuary.

February 14 – Ash Wednesday Prayer Service at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

Come join us Wednesday evening as we mark the start of Lent. Pastor Jane Dick of the Bethany Group, Herm Weaver, and Pastor Glenn will lead in a service of Scripture readings, music, reflection, and ashes will be imposed.

Our FMC Community

First Mennonite Hires an Outreach Consultant!

The West Side of Denver, the neighborhood First Mennonite calls home, is growing and

changing. It is a living, breathing and vibrant community filled with a diverse mix of people and cultures. The new wealthy and the historic poor live side by side. Homeowners, renters and gentrifiers all compete for spaces to live. Santa Fe Avenue is a microcosm of the changes happening all over the neighborhood. There are schools, not-for-profits, and artists. New art galleries compete for space with historic restaurants. Emerging businesses, historic museums and brew pubs all want to be part of our community...and First Mennonite sits in the midst of this vital mix. All right on the edge of downtown. What an exciting crossroads. Just the type of place for a church to place itself!

Last week Duncan Smith began a new assignment for us, the FMC family. For the next 6 months Duncan will walk with us as we explore new ways of engaging with the neighborhoods around First Mennonite. His tasks include supporting current outreach efforts, dreaming with us as we imagine new possibilities and exploring the possibility of re-engaging the Urban Minister position.

Duncan will be guided by one primary question: how can First Mennonite reach out in concrete ways with the love, grace, justice and peace of Christ?

Here is what you need to know and how you can be part of this period of dreaming, imagination and actions:

1. Duncan will be working 12-15 hours per week as an Outreach Consultant.
2. Please take time to share your thoughts and ideas with Duncan about our neighborhood and how we can effectively be a church that cares through both words and actions.
3. If you are interested in exploring the neighborhood with Duncan – call him.
4. If you have connections to people, service agencies, businesses, schools or churches in our neighborhood, please find a way to make introductions and connections.

You can reach out to Duncan via phone and email:

503-707-4012; duncan.fmcdenver@gmail.com

It is important to note that Duncan is re-engaging with us in a new role. It is only natural to occasionally fall into the assumption he is back as our Gap Pastor. When this happens, give yourself some grace and don't feel bad if Duncan says "no" to your request!

Some words from Duncan, "This invitation of First Mennonite takes me back to my roots in

ministry, including Chicago and the Bronx. I hope that our partnership provides clarity, discernment, and maybe even a re-energizing of First Mennonite's place in the West Side neighborhoods."

Looking for Lent activities for the whole family? Try the MMN Lent activity calendar! Lent is a time of remembering Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness that prepared him for ministry. Starting Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14, join others across the United States in activities that encourage and prepare us to work for peace in our communities and world. You can find the calendar here: <http://www.mennonitemission.net/lent>.

Do you have trouble hearing during the worship services and adult education?

Do you prefer not wearing the FMC headphones? You can bring your own headphones or earbuds, then stop by the sound booth and pick up a battery pack to use during the worship service and adult ed. Give it a try, it will enhance your worship experience. FMC has four battery packs for use each Sunday.

Please join us for the Venture Club Snow Camp Weekend at RMMC March 9-11.

This event is **open to all** of FMC. It's a time of fellowship and broomball! You can join us for the entire weekend or just for the day on Saturday. You can find registration materials [here](#). The last day to register is February 25th. Please contact Rachel Barnes if you have any questions: rcbarnes33@msn.com or 303-573-7282 (h).

Please go to Women Bridging Borders facebook page for the *assignment Naomi gave us* in last Sunday's Adult Ed class. Or go directly to these links:

https://www.ted.com/talks/kimberle_crenshaw_the_urgency_of_intersectionality or <https://peacelearner.org/2016/03/14/privilege-walk-lesson-plan/>. Thanks for your interest!

Women Bridging Borders

Singers who read/speak Spanish, Arlen Hershberger is looking for help to prepare some of the Spanish songs in our song books for Sunday morning services. Contact [Arlen](#) to let him know you are available.

Upcoming Events:

- * **MYF Snow Camp** - Feb. 16-18
- * **Venture Club Families Weekend at Camp** - March 9-11
- * **Easter Sunday** - April 1, more details to come

Staff Time Away: This Sunday Pastor Glenn will be worshipping at Riviera Presbyterian Church in Miami FL. He is in Florida to celebrate the [ordination](#) of Daniel Morales, a friend, coworker and fellow pastor. Glenn will return from Miami on Monday and be back in the office Tuesday.

Attendance, February 1: Adults - 114; Children - 15; Total - 129

Upcoming Worship and Adult Education

February 18

Worship - Pastor Glenn will be speaking from Genesis 9:8-17, exploring what it means to move from a life of grief to grace-filled wonder.

Adult Ed - Westside Stories - Join us as we hear stories from our very own living legends! Merv Dick, Jane Dick, John Ventura, Al Zook, and Tom Friesen will share stories from their days as Urban Ministers right here on the Westside of Denver. This is the first of a 4-part series designed to help us as a congregation dream of ways to engage and re-engage the La Alma, Lincoln and Baker neighborhoods.

February 25

Worship – John 13:1-17 is one of Pastor Glenn's favorite biblical passages. In many ways it is the biblical version of Robert Fulghum's book *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*. Join with us as we explore this text and celebrate communion.

Adult Education – Naomi Nishi will lead a conversation on Recognizing Oppression: White Supremacy and Intersectionality – this is week two of a 4-week series. We'll look at white supremacy and whiteness. In particular, we'll look at how race intersects with gender, class, sexuality and other systems of oppression to render people of color, especially those with other marginalized identities invisible even as they are subjected to great violence. We'll also examine the "White Hegemonic Alliance," (Allen, 2008) and how groups like poor whites and white women participate in it while still being oppressed by capitalism and patriarchy, respectively. We will discuss our roles in these intersecting systems related to race and brainstorm how we resist oppressive systems in ourselves and with others.

March 4

Worship - Pastor Glenn will be speaking from John 2:13-22

Adult Education - Family Promise

March 11

Worship - Pastor Glenn will be speaking from John 3:1-21. Our text this Sunday includes what is arguably the most famous passage in all of Scripture, "For God so loved the world...so that everyone who believes in him..." What exactly does it mean to believe in Jesus?

Adult Education - Naomi Nishi will lead a conversation on Recognizing Oppression: Patriarchy and Intersectionality - this is week three of a 4-week series. We will examine patriarchy and intersecting systems of oppression. The women's marches and the #metoo movement have been focused overwhelmingly on white women and their issues, although

often masked as being for all women. In this session, we'll look at examples of patriarchy and intersectionality and discuss again how we resist these intersecting oppressions within ourselves and with others.

Caring for Each Other

Please keep Robert (Bob) Schmidt in your thoughts and prayers as his wife and life partner, Vionetta Schmidt, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, February 7, 2018. Vionetta leaves behind her husband of 60 years, they celebrated their anniversary on August 18, 2017; 4 children; 10 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild. A memorial service, including an interment of Vionetta's ashes in the FMC columbarium will take place sometime in the next 3-4 weeks.

Please pray for Gabriel and Sierra. We both lost our jobs but have since started new ones and we need prayers and support as we start over at our new jobs. Thank you, First Mennonite, for everything. Gabriel and I would be much worse off if not for everyone here at church. Love you, Sierra Apodaca

Happy Birthday February 9-15

9 - Alan Burkholder

10 - Judy Coover

12 - Phil Ebersole

13 - Michael Voth Siebert

14 - Palmer Skudneski

15 - Jeff Holliday

Happy Anniversary February 9-15

14 - Bob & Louise Carlsten

In the Building this Week

Monday and Wednesday, 9-11:30 am - Assistance Program in Community Center

Monday, 5:30 pm - Denver Children's Choir Rehearsals, upstairs and downstairs

Monday, 7 pm - MSMH meeting in the office

Tuesday, 4:00 pm - CCFC groups in B21, Commons, and B2

Tuesday, 6:30 pm - Safonia Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary

Wednesday, 5:30 pm - SOAR Choir meal and rehearsal in Commons

Wednesday, 6:30 pm - Ash Wednesday Prayer Service in the Sanctuary

Thursday, 7:00 pm - FMC Board meeting in the office

---Contact [Linda](#) to list your team meeting in this section.

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

Thomas Jefferson High School will be putting on the musical "Grease" February 15th, 16th and 17th at 7:00 pm. Nick VanWagner is Roger, one of the "greasers," in the production. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students. We would love to have you join us. If you are interested in tickets or have any questions please contact the VanWagners at mdvw@comcast.net or at church on Sunday, February 11th. Tickets will also be sold at the door each night of the performance. Thank you.

The Spirituals Project Concert, Music for the Soul: Spirituals & the Blues

Tuesday, February 13, 7:30 pm, with Special Grammy-Nominated Guest Artist Guy Davis Gates Concert Hall, Newman Center for the Performing Arts on the University of Denver Campus, at University Blvd and East Iliff Ave. Free admission, at the door. Complimentary parking in Newman Center Garage one hour prior to concert. Randy Friesen, Michael and Aimee Voth Siebert will be participating in this performance.

Upcoming Denver Children's Choir events:

FEB 11 3:00-6:00 New Hope Baptist Church (3701 Colorado Blvd, Denver, CO 80205). Alpine Ensemble sings and receives award at the Colorado Gospel Music Academy and Hall of Fame Awards Ceremony and Concert. Free and open to the public.

FEB 27 10:00 AM Fourteeners sing "Remember Me" from the award winning animated film, "Coco" on Channel 2 and 31(KDVR) "Everyday" program.

MAR 1 7:30 at Gates Hall (Newman Center) and **MAR 4** 7:30 at the King Center (Metro Campus) the Mountain Aires will sing with the University of Denver Men's Choir and Metropolitan State Men's Choir.

MAR 16 at 7:30 and **MAR 17** at 2:30 and 7:30 at the Ellie Caukins Opera House the Mountain Aires will perform with the Denver Gay Men's Chorus.

MAR 18 2:30-2:55 at St. John's Cathedral the Fourteeners will sing prelude music for the Evensong Choral Service.

MAR 18 5:00 at Temple Emanuel the Fourteeners will join four other Denver area women's choirs in "Sing Out for Safehouse" a concert to benefit SafeHouse, a safe place for survivors of domestic violence.

Ticket and detailed information is available on our website: www.denverchildrenschoir.org

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

Hope for the Future

Pray for the upcoming Hope for the Future gathering in San Antonio on Feb. 8-11. This annual event brings together leaders of color from across the church to explore the ways that power, privilege and racism function in our denomination.

Healthcare Student Essay Project: Anabaptist students in all healthcare disciplines are eligible to submit an essay in connection with the Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship (MHF) Annual Gathering 2018, June 22-24, 2018 at Bluffton University, Bluffton, Ohio. Share your perspective on the theme: "Stories of Healing." Contest is open those currently enrolled in an undergraduate, graduate, professional, residency, fellowship, or internship programs relating to health (physical, mental, or spiritual) who also support the mission of MHF to be an interdisciplinary community of Anabaptist health professionals. Deadline is February 28, 2018. Winners will be published in Mennonite Health Journal and receive free registration for the June Annual Gathering. For more information, go to www.mennohealth.org/essays/ or contact info@mennohealth.org.

Graduate Students in Healthcare Professions: Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship (MHF) offers educational grants for Anabaptist students to learn and serve in cross-cultural mission/service settings in developing countries. Deadline for 2018-19 academic year is May 15, 2018. For details and application form, see <http://mennohealth.org/SET/>, email info@mennohealth.org, or call 1-888-406-3643.

For more information about our denomination, go to mennoniteusa.org

Other Information

Sermons. Sermons are posted on the [FMC web site](#) when available.

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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