



## **FMC Weekly - April 26, 2018**

*The weekly newsletter of First Mennonite Church of Denver*

### ***Sunday Morning, April 29, 2018***

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

Come and worship this Sunday morning. There are many delicious kinds of fruit. Apples, kiwis, pears, mangos, pineapples, blueberries, and the list goes on. Fruit trees seem to bear fruit almost effortlessly, unless the branch becomes disconnected from the tree. Join us as we look at John 15:1-8 and explore the need for connectedness. Phil Ebersole will lead worship, Arlen Hershberger will lead singing and will provide pre-service music and offertory, and Susan Falk will lead children's time.

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

- ◆ Join others for coffee/donuts/fruit/fellowship and help support our youth.
- ◆ Purchase grocery cards to help support the FMC Ministry Plan.  
Pick up a 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** - The Glenn and Darren series – Part 1, The Danger of a single story. Our lives, our cultures, are composed of many overlapping stories. Before our discussion we will watch Novelist Chimamanda Adichie as she tells the story of how she found her authentic cultural voice -- and warns that if we hear only a single story about another person or country, we risk a critical misunderstanding.

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

**Graduations will soon be here!** Graduates or Parents of Graduates, please send us your graduate information for high school, college and post-grad students, including name of graduate, graduating from where (include kind of degree), and plans for the next year.

Please send your graduate information to [Linda](#) by May 10 for inclusion in the *Weekly*.

**For those interested in learning more about yourself and issues around immigration and racism**, you might want to consider the online course described below. It connects well with exploration around immigration issues FMC will have on May 20 with Anton Flores and Sarah Jackson. Thanks to Deb Schaffer for bringing this to our attention.

“Without community, there is no liberation.” —Audre Lorde, poet

Do you want to join people of faith and conscience from across the U.S. in taking action and practicing reflection? Are you seeking ways to offer grounded solidarity without reproducing oppressive practices? Have you ever gone to an immigration (ICE) check-in or court to support a person at risk of deportation? Is your congregation part of the New Sanctuary Movement, or talking about joining?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, you may wish to join our new e-course, *Changing systems, changing ourselves: Anti-racist practice for sanctuary, accompaniment, and resistance*. This free interactive e-course will meet monthly and support groups in learning, reflecting, and acting for social change.

In four sessions, we will explore:

Undoing racism in the context of immigrant rights solidarity.

The U.S. immigration system's history of racial exclusion and how it plays out today.

The theology and practice of accompaniment.

Real life examples through case-studies.

Practical skills in three streams: ICE/court accompaniment, congregational sanctuary, and immigration detention/prison visitation.

We especially encourage small groups working together locally to join our interactive program. If you don't have a group we can help match you up, along with connecting you with partner groups seeking volunteers where possible. There will be homework between sessions, and attendees are expected to participate in the full course.

The e-course begins May 1 and continues through August. The e-course series will be broadcast over an online platform, and connection details will be sent in advance of each session.

We hope you will join us to help enact what Alice Walker talked about when she said, “I think we have to own the fears that we have of each other, and then, in some practical way, some daily way, figure out how to see people differently than the way we were brought up

to.” Learn more and register [here](#).

This program is a collaboration of the American Friends Service Committee's Sanctuary Everywhere initiative and the UUA and UUSC's Love Resists campaign in partnership with Church World Service and Community Initiatives for Visiting Immigrants in Confinement (CIVIC).

**This Sunday I will be available after the service with a petition you can sign to get Initiative 93 on the statewide ballot this November.** This initiative will begin to address K-12 state funding and the dire situation that is Colorado's public education: Colorado ranks 42nd in per pupil funding in the US, and 48th on spending for services for students with special needs. Colorado ranks 50th in the union in how teacher pay compares to that of other college-educated workers. Colorado is experiencing a significant teacher shortage. Changes to school funding in Colorado must go to the vote of the public and cannot be made by our legislators, due to TABOR/Gallagher. Petitions are being carried around the state to see that Initiative #93 gets on the statewide ballot. You can sign with me this Sunday. -Ann Leonard

### **WESTSIDE Neighborhood Opportunities**

- April 29, 11am-4pm - Artist Sunday, Santa Fe Street Art District, open galleries with food.
- May 12, International Market, 998 Navajo St., Farmers Market and international food, offered by entrepreneur students from Emily Griffith Technology School.

**Mark your calendars** - Spring Work Day is scheduled for May 19.

**Come and Sing.** Join the 12th Weekend Choral Festival coming up June 22-24 at FMC. Retreat Theme is Transformation: Transform the spirit through the power of singing in the choral tradition. This is a weekend choir retreat where singers come together to learn new songs, perform at an FMC worship service, eat, have fun, and of course sing! Dr Mark Bartel, is once again this year's Festival Conductor. He is the Artistic Director and Choral Conductor for the Wichita Chamber Chorale, and Director of Choral Music at Friends University in Wichita, KS. He is a vibrant conductor who artistically weaves together choral music, instrumental performance and recitations into a compelling story in performance events. All singers are welcome, whether they are veteran choir members or are less experienced. To register, click on this [link](#). Please let us know if you plan to attend!

### **Added to Active Members Section of [FMC Website](#):**

- > Updated Picture Directory
- > Updated Text Only Directory
- > Updated Other Friends Directory

**Picture above** was taken today, changes to the lot next door continue!

Attendance April 22: Adults - 92; Children - 14; Total - 106

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

### **Happy Birthday April 27-May 3**

27 - Susan Hertzler Burkholder

27 - Les Hjelmstad

29 - Ruth Friesen

29 - Char Hostetler

29 - Keith Mullett

3 - Benjamin Hegedus

### **Happy Anniversary April 27-May 3**

None this week

## ***Upcoming Events***

### **May 6**

**Worship** – Pastor Glenn will be preaching from John 15:9-17.

**Adult Education** – Come as Darren and Glenn discuss the Bible, Theology and Stuff  
What is the Bible? by Rob Bell – come as we discuss how an Ancient Library of Poems, Letters and Stories can transform the way you think and feel about everything.

### **May 13**

**Worship** – This week Michael Regier will be preaching. Mamma Mia! God our Father and Mother? If we are made in God's image...??? Families are changing or at least our perception of families is changing. Not everyone has a "mother" in the traditional sense. For some "mother" is a painful memory or reality. So what and who is "mother?" Looking to God and the Family of God gives us some clues.

**Adult Education** – Jonathan Moyer

Much is in the news regarding North Korea. Jonathan Moyer speaks about the conflict and paths to peace.

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### **May 19 - Spring Work Day**

### **May 20**

**Worship** – Anton Flores will be preaching.

**Adult Education** - Anton Flores and Sarah Jackson

Anton Flores and Sarah Jackson will lead us in hearing current immigration stories and challenges. Anton will follow up his sermon by sharing about Alterna, the immigrant hospitality community he lives in and he helped to form, in Georgia. Sarah Jackson will share of the hospitality work of Casa de Paz and her advocacy work with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.) detention center in Aurora. After Adult Education, anyone wanting a tour of Casa de Paz will be welcome. At the end of the tour the group will take a trip to the detention center for a brief prayer vigil outside. Further opportunities to visit Casa de Paz and be trained as a volunteer will also be available. From May 20-June 3, there will also be opportunity to donate toward the physical needs of Casa de Paz.

### **May 27**

**Worship** – This Sunday Pastor Glenn will be speaking from Romans 8:12-17.

We will reflect on what it means to be part of the family of God.

**No Education Hour.**

**June 17** - Father's Day - Child Dedication

**June 22-24** - MSMH Weekend Choral Festival; worship service at FMC on Sunday

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

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

Tuesday, 4 pm - CCFC groups in B21 and Commons

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

Wednesday, 9-11 am - Assistance Program in Community Center

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

Thursday, 4:30 pm - CCFC Calpuli (Mentoring) meeting in B21

--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***

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

**Save the date!** You're invited to join the 35th anniversary celebration of Mountain Community Mennonite Church in Palmer Lake, CO, May 18-20, 2018. Our schedule includes a Friday evening reception from 6-8:30 pm, Saturday evening social hour, dinner and celebration from 4-8 pm, and Sunday worship at 9:30 am with a meal-to-share lunch at 10:45 am. We will also be holding a Silent Auction over the course of the weekend, featuring quality art and vintage items. All are welcome! For more info or to RSVP, call the MCMC office at 719-481-3155 or email Karen Mortensen at [mcmcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:mcmcsecretary@gmail.com). We hope to see many of our friends in May!

**Spruce beetles are relentless at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp!** Over the past few years, these little pests have taken more than two hundred trees. However, their effect is being minimized through the combined efforts of RMMC, Colorado MDS, and Region 3 of Bi-National MDS.

Volunteers have made a terrific impact on the success of this project. We are finding fewer and fewer infected trees as the years pass. This year, at least 15 more infected trees have been identified, and we need your help.

Please give some time during the week of May 21-26 to assist in this year's project. We need at least 5-7 volunteers each day, and we invite you to join us on as many days as you can give during this week.

All skill levels are necessary in order to:

Use chainsaws to fell trees,

Assist the saw-ers with ropes and chains,

Limb trees,

Remove the slash and haul it away,

Drag slash to the chipper, and

Skid logs out of the woods using low impact methods.

RMMC and MDS will provide:

Lodging and meals,

Equipment for the work including saws, ropes, and chains, (You may bring your own if you wish.)

Safety equipment. (Safety is a top priority, and safety equipment is required to be used.)

In order for RMMC and MDS to make necessary plans, please register for this work with both RMMC and MDS at:

—— RMMC ——

Online at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0849a8a729a7ff2-spruce>

Or call: 719-687-9506

— MDS —

Call Paul Unruh: 316-772-6308.

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

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

**Prayers are requested for transitions in denominational leadership.** Pray for Ervin Stutzman as he retires on April 30 after eight years of serving as the executive director for MC USA. Pray for Glen Guyton as he begins serving as the new executive director on May 1.

**Celebrate Mother's Day by supporting mothers around the world** through MCC Infant Care Kits! Help mothers, who are displaced by war or disaster, give their infants a good start. The kit contents have changed recently, visit [mcc.org/mrc/kits](http://mcc.org/mrc/kits) for full kit information and from there click through to our Amazon Wish List for easier shopping and shipping. Just bring or ship kit items to MCC Central States 121 E. 30th St. North Newton, KS 67117. Send love around the world this Mother's Day! Contact [katemast@mcc.org](mailto:katemast@mcc.org) or call 316.283.2720 with questions.

**Calling all MCC volunteers!!** Please save the date for our Volunteer Appreciation event on Wednesday, June 13, 5-7 pm at MCC Central States in North Newton!

### **Sexualized violence and the church**

Mennonite Central Committee is offering a series of free webinars this spring for churches and individuals who want to learn more about how to address sexualized violence within the congregation and how to encourage healthy sexuality and healthy masculinity among members. Each webinar will be led by church leaders and others with expertise in the topics. All three webinars are free and begin at 2 pm and end at 3 pm CST.

Please join us on Wednesday, May 9 for Sexualized Violence- How should churches respond? Speakers Cyneatha Millsaps and Silvia Rios will lead the discussion about what we mean when we talk about sexualized violence and what we can do when our congregations experience sexualized violence. The final webinar will be on June 13, Healthy masculinity. Learn more and register for the webinars at [mcc.org/wwso](http://mcc.org/wwso). Contact [karinkaufmanwall@mcc.org](mailto:karinkaufmanwall@mcc.org) with questions.

**Check these out:**

- Mennonite Creation Care [Newsletter](#)
- Mennonite Disaster Service [News](#)
- Mennonite World Conference [News](#)

For more information about our denomination, go to [mennoniteusa.org](http://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](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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