



FMC Weekly - September 13, 2018

The weekly newsletter of First Mennonite Church of Denver

Sunday Morning, September 16, 2018

9:30 AM Worship

Come early and enjoy Pre-Service Music with Charlie Ferguson. Glenn Balzer will be preaching from James 3:1-12. What we say matters. Words, whether thoughtfully or carelessly spoken, tell something about our hopes and expectations, or our convictions and fears. Alyssa Bennett Smith will lead worship, Charlie Ferguson will lead singing and Anita Miller will lead the children's time.

After the worship service in the Community Center

- ◆ Join others for refreshments and help support our youth.
- ◆ Purchase grocery cards to help support the FMC Ministry Plan

10:45 AM Adult Education - Denver Inner City Parish with Larry Martinez

Larry will be sharing about the mission, vision and purpose of the Parish and share about the needs they have and how folks can get involved.

Our FMC Community

Celebrating Our Diverse Faith Journeys

Stop by the "dresser" in the FMC foyer to take a moment to prepare your heart and mind for worship. Directions are on the table next to the dresser. In the pews you will find folders, our "travel journals" until the end of the year. Instructions are located inside the folder. The "dresser" and the "travel journals" are to provide an opportunity for people to contemplate or reflect on the week leading up to Sunday morning and to reflect on the worship service. The journals will also provide individual snapshots from those who make up the collective journey of First Mennonite Church.

Your Coins Count Project for MCC

Just a quick note to let you know that \$107.34 was collected by the children on Sept. 9.

These names have been drawn for the Sept 9. extra giving: Rick Rogers, Richard Wyse, Roberta and Ernie Kandel, Lonny Gardner, and Ardith Barnhorst. Each of you have agreed to donate 10% of what the children collected or \$10.70. Please let me know when you have given this money so that I will not be pestering you. We will be looking for a few more fortunate donors on September 16.

Here are a few of the ways this money is used:

- 1) \$15.00 provides training for one water management committee in Ethiopia
- 2) \$3,600 builds one complete well in Ethiopia
- 3) \$80.00 provides 2 water filters which are needed for one well in Mozambique

Thanks for helping to make it possible for MCC to bring safe, clean water to many people throughout the world.

Linda and Richard Wyse

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED TO UPDATE THE FMC DIRECTORY

Thank you to all who have submitted your directory update forms and updated photos.

We look forward to hearing from the rest of you. Bring your form to the FMC office on Sunday or email it to linda.fmcdenver@gmail.com. If you want to receive a paper copy of the directory, please indicate that on your form.

Picture taking at FMC will be available this Sunday, September 16. Photographer will be Rod Stutzman. You may submit your own photo by sending it in jpeg format to linda.fmcdenver@gmail.com.

If you are not yet listed in the FMC Directory and would like to have your info included, stop by Joann's table in the Community Center where you see the orange flag. Joann will be selling grocery cards and will also have Directory information forms to complete.

Please submit your updated info and photos by this Sunday, September 16.

Questions? Contact [Linda](#) in the FMC office.

Mental Health First Aid Class

When you think of basic first aid, what comes to mind? A first aid kit? A class? A person you know could be experiencing a mental health or substance use problem. You are more likely to encounter someone in an emotional or mental crisis than someone having a heart attack. First Mennonite Church will host a Mental Health First Aid class on **Saturday, Sept. 29**, from 8 am to 5 pm. Come and learn an action plan. This class will be taught by a

medical professional. It is sponsored by the National Council for Behavioral Health. We believe this is a critical training and do not want cost to be a barrier. Anyone who signs up may attend without any cost. If you would like to make a donation, the normal fee is \$35 per person. **The registration deadline is Sept. 15.** To register, please contact Angela Nofziger at 303-478-3740 or email at ankenof@msn.com.

GraceFull Foundation

I hope you all are enjoying the first few days of fall! Twice a year, we host a story-sharing evening where we focus on the work of GraceFull Foundation. We are reaching out because you have supported GraceFull through financial giving, and our heart is to stay connected with you throughout the year.

We would love to connect with you Wednesday September 26, for a FREE family style meal. This is a special time to hear stories of the impact your giving has made in our Littleton Community!



Please note, we have limited seating and this is RSVP only. If you are able to attend, please email foundation@gracefullcafe.com by September 21 and we hope to see you there!

Quilter's Corner at the Oct. 19-20 Rocky Mountain MCC Sale--I would like to ask for volunteers to help in the Quilter's Corner this year. We will need help on Friday, Oct. 19 and Saturday, Oct. 20. If you could help, please email me or call me.

Thank You, Angie Nofziger, email--ankenof@msn.com, cell--303-478-3740.

Mark your calendars:

September 16 - Directory photos taken at FMC

September 16, 11:00-11:45 - Meeting for parents of JYF and MYF youth to plan for the year

September 21-23 - FMC Getaway Weekend at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp

September 29, 8am- 5pm - Mental Health First Aid Class at FMC

Follow the Burkholder Family blog at: <https://wonderwanderrtw.wordpress.com>

Attendance September 9: Adults - 135; Children - 36; Total - 171

PEACE SCHOOL UPDATES

9/16 - planning meeting with JYF and MYF **parents** during Adult Ed hour - B21

9/29-30 - MYF fundraiser/sleepover, "Down for Dreaming," to benefit Family Promises - more info soon

Pastor Glenn, Anita Miller and Jordan Penner are putting together an "Advisory Council" for our Child and Youth Faith Formation Program. We're looking for four to six people willing to share ideas about our current and future programming, meeting three or four times a year. Please contact Pastor Glenn, Anita or Jordan if you're interested.

For kids and families to do this week:

- Start your own "Your Coins Count" collection at home: Find an interesting container and add a coin every time you do something you'd like to do more often (do a chore without being reminded, greet a stranger, chose a conversation instead of screen time, etc). Watch the coins add up and bring them to church every Sunday!

For everyone in the congregation:

- **Remember to bring your coins for the MCC 'Your Coins Count' collection time.**
- We are in need of magazines with lots of pictures of kids, families, and/or nature scenes from which our kids can find collage pictures. If you have some you're done with, there will be a box inside the church office for your donations. Thanks!
- MCC School Kit assembly - We filled at least 250 bags last Sunday! Thanks to everyone who donated. The kids had a blast.



FMC STAFF



Glenn Balzer, Pastor

glenn.fmcdenver@gmail.com

720-256-3667

I am the Pastor at First Mennonite Church of Denver. My dream for FMC is that we become a place that figures out how to filter people in. It is our differences that make life and church interesting, full and fun. I married my college sweetheart in 1986. Together we have raised 2 boys. Our oldest lives in Chicago and our youngest has followed my journey in reverse and now lives in British Columbia, Canada.



Linda Welty, Office Administrator

linda.fmcdenver@gmail.com

303-892-1038

Linda enjoys the variety that comes with working in the FMC office and helping to coordinate all the details that come with each day. It is fulfilling to support the many ministries and teams here at FMC.

Linda joined the FMC staff in December 2009. Linda and her husband have two sons, one in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, with his wife, and one in Boise, Idaho, with his wife and two children.



Anita Miller, Faith Formation Administrator

anitasmiller128@gmail.com

720-289-5574

Anita has been involved in First Mennonite's faith formation programming since 2000. Most recently she developed curriculum and materials for kids 5th Grade and younger. Her goals are to provide a variety of opportunities for youth to learn about the Bible, build relationships with each other, and practice serving the world.

Anita grew up in First Mennonite and is excited to make the church relevant for the next generation. She and her husband have a teenage son and a teenage daughter.



Jordan Penner, JYF/MYF Community Builder

jordanpenner24@gmail.com

316-727-6837

Jordan was born and raised in Reedley California, attended Bethel College, and subsequently has lived in Guatemala, Kansas City, south Texas, and Bolivia. Jordan has a masters degree in History

and has worked with children and youth in Kansas City and Guatemala. Jordan has worked internationally with MCC for four years and now works in Donor Relations for MCC in Denver. Jordan loves playing basketball, soccer, volleyball and he enjoys the occasional jaunt into the mountains with his wife, Jenny Regier. His home-baked bread is simple yet delicious and his chocolate cakes could cause violence if used inappropriately.



Alyssa Bennett Smith and Joshua Smith, Caretakers

caretaker.fmcdenver@gmail.com

Alyssa - 573-576-1424

Joshua - 573-576-0840

Joshua Smith and Alyssa Bennett Smith have been the FMC Caretakers since 2015. They can be found around the building setting up for events, keeping an eye on the grounds, shoveling snow and generally making sure everything is as it should be.

Alyssa also helps on the AV team for Sunday mornings and occasionally leads worship. Joshua spends his days working toward a PhD in Religious Studies at DU, and is currently discerning ordination in the Episcopal church. Alyssa works for

MennoMedia/Herald Press as Digital Marketing Manager and (very) part-time as Church Administrator at House for All Sinners and Saints. In their spare time both love cooking, camping, reading, coffee, and hanging out with their cats.



Caring for Each Other

Happy Birthday September 14-20

14 - Serena Monzon

14 - Mary Jo Preheim

15 - Donna Swartzendruber

16 - Nathan Kauffman

18 - Sylvia Kreider

18 - Mark O'Brian

18 - John Ventura

19 - Naomi Nishi

19 - Stephanie Phibbs

20 - Eli Longacher

20 - Annie Wessner

Happy Anniversary September 14-20

14 - Ann Leonard & Gary Wahl

Upcoming Sundays

September 23

FMC Great Getaway at RMMC (September 21-23)

Two locations - One service

Worship at FMC – Let's start at the very beginning, a very good place to start. This week Pastor Glenn will be preaching from Genesis 3:1-13; 22-24. It is here where our faith journey begins.

No Adult Education

September 30

Worship - Rhoda Blough will preach.

Adult Education – Rhoda Blough and Dennis LeFevre from Everence will lead Adult Ed. Everence 101: How can Everence help you integrate your faith values with your finances. Learn about Socially Responsible Investing, the importance of wills, how you can become more charitable, the benefits of naming The Mennonite Foundation as the charitable recipient in your will and any other questions you might want to ask Dennis LeFevre and Rhoda Blough.

October 7

Worship - Glenn Balzer will preach.

Adult Education - Leidy Muñoz , MCC Bolivia Country Representative

Leidy Muñoz, MCC Co-Representative for Bolivia and the Southern Cone, will be sharing about the work of MCC in Bolivia. MCC Bolivia works in the areas of peace building, environmental advocacy, indigenous rights, income generation, education, and sustainable agriculture. Leidy shares from her deep lived experience as a Colombian who has worked for years for social justice in Colombia and Bolivia.

October 14

Worship - Glenn Balzer will preach.

Adult Education - Sarah Jackson, Executive Director of Casa de Paz, will be sharing stories of immigrants, asylum seekers and their families who are separated by the immigrant detention prison in Aurora. She will lead the discussion on current conditions inside the prison and ways to accompany those who are affected by immigration policies. There will also be an opportunity for each person to create a piece of art which will be given to an immigrant who has been released as a way to say, "Welcome to this country!"

In the Building this Week

Thursday, 6:30 pm - Yoga class in Community Center

6:30 pm - SOAR Board meeting in B21

Saturday, 8 am - 1 pm - CCFC Restore meetings in Commons, B21 and B2

9 am - 3 pm - SOAR Adult Choir Retreat in Community Center

Monday & Wednesday, 9-11:30 am - Assistance Office in Community Center

Monday, 5:30-9 pm - Denver Children's Choir Rehearsals in most of the building

Tuesday, 6:30-9:30 pm - Safonia Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary

Wednesday, 4:30 pm - CCFC mentoring group in B2

Wednesday, 5:30 pm - SOAR Choir dinner and rehearsals in CC, Sanctuary, Commons

Thursday, 6:30 pm - FMC Board meeting in 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.

Around Mountain States Mennonite Conference

Immigration RoundTable Around the Corner: This exciting Mountain States Mennonite Conference event will be held September 28-30 in Aurora and Ft. Collins, hosted by Sojourn Mennonite Church and sponsored by SEED and MCC, which is also providing several resource persons. There is no cost; details are on the web page, along with a registration form. Please register by September 25 at the latest so final food arrangements can be made. Even if you do not plan to attend the main event Saturday, you are welcome to join for the special opening on Friday, September 28, at 6:00 p.m., a time for reflection and prayer at the ICE Detention Center, 3130 Oakland St, Aurora, CO 80010 (see the web page for meeting location). Then you are invited for the monthly potluck at 7:00 at Casa de Paz; to get the address for the potluck e-mail sjackson@casadepazcolorado.org. See you there!

Mennonite Central Committee is looking forward to the Rocky Mountain Mennonite Relief Sale coming up on Oct. 19 & 20! If you're planning to bring MCC material resources (MCC kits, comforters, etc.) to the sale so they can be transported to the MCC Material Resources Center in North Newton, Kansas please let us know! Email katemast@mcc.org by Oct. 10 so we can make appropriate transportation arrangements. Thank you!

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

Mennonite Church USA and Beyond

The worst monsoon flooding in a century has damaged roads, homes and sources of income for hundreds of thousands of people in the Kerala state of India. As displaced people are returning to their homes, Mennonite Central Committee is working with Gilgal Mission Trust in India to provide tarps, food baskets, cooking utensils, and cleaning and hygiene items. Donations to support the response can be given online at mcc.org/india-flooding; by phone at 888-563-4676; or by mail to MCC U.S., 21 S. 12th St., PO Box 500, Akron, PA 17501.

Join MC USA in global prayer for immigration justice on Peace Sunday, which takes place September 23, 2018. Use the Peace Sunday prayers and worship resources created by Mennonite World Conference with the theme “A renewed peace church welcomes the stranger.”

Pray for the Worship Planning Committee as they meet in Kansas City on September 21-23 to plan worship for **MennoCon19**.

Brian and Noelia Fox and their daughters, serving with Mennonite Mission Network, are beginning another school year in Spain. Pray for the girls as they relate to classmates, and for Brian and Noelia as they work with parents and students in the English school they established.

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](#)

First Mennonite Church
430 W. 9th Ave
Denver, Colorado 80204
US

[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.

