



FMC Weekly - November 8, 2018

The weekly newsletter of First Mennonite Church of Denver

Sunday, November 11, 2018

9:30AM Worship

Come early to enjoy pre-service music. Bob Carlsten will preach from 1 Cor. 2:1-5, Eph. 2:8-10, and Isaiah 2:3-4. Is "mystery" or "certainty" most compatible with our faith? Is our journey more like the groping of the blind, or the traveler with 20/20 vision? Ardell Swartzendruber will lead worship, Linda Miller has Children's Time, and Aimee Voth Siebert will lead singing. There will also be a time to observe All Saints' Day.

All Saints' Day has been a very solemn and rich experience of remembering those who have gone before. The act of lighting candles in their honor and being surrounded by our church family who are doing the same thing has been a very worshipful time. We have few such times of quiet reflection and remembrance at FMC. We will continue this tradition at the time of the international recognition of All Saints' Day. The other part of the tradition has been to hear the names of the cloud of witnesses that we are honoring.

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

10:45AM Education Hour

- ◆ **Peace School for ages 2-18 years**
- ◆ **Adult Ed** - Women Bridging Borders will be presenting a "teaser" for an upcoming series on education, Colorado, choice, and diversity.

Our FMC Community

Equity in Schools: Then and Now.... new WBB Adult Education Series! Sunday will be the first class of a new series that WBB is planning. Come watch a PBS video about the history of desegregation in Denver Public Schools and the current trends of trying to close

the achievement gap. Did you know that DPS was part of a Supreme Court ruling to desegregate schools by providing bussing in 1973? Did you know some of our FMC members were either teachers or students during this controversial period? Come hear about the fascinating past and what the current trends are today as we start this learning journey.

Children's Christmas Program: Practice has started for the children's Christmas program! If your children would like to participate they are welcome, even if they missed the first practice! Contact Rachel Barnes if you have questions.

Important dates:

Nov 11: Practice after children's story

Nov 18: Practice after children's story & costume choosing day!

Dec 2: Practice after children's story AND after Peace School! We will do a quick run through of the program in the sanctuary

Dec 8: Saturday dress rehearsal- 9:30 to 11 am

Dec 9: The big show!

Come one, come all! We are looking for singers from all walks of life and ability to sing for advent and Christmas Eve. There is no need to commit to every Sunday. If you can only sing one Sunday, GREAT! Practices are Sundays at 8:30am at church prior to the service. More info to come. (Charlie Ferguson and Sonia Graber)

Denver Children's Choir Songs of the Season concerts: Dec 1 and 2 the Denver Children's Choir will be having their Songs of the Season concerts. On Sat, Dec 1 you can hear the sounds of the performing choirs at Bethany Lutheran Church from 4-5:30pm. On Sun, Dec 2 you can experience the sounds of the training choir at Central Presbyterian from 4:30-5:30pm. For tickets and information, visit www.denverchildrenschoir.org.

Safonia Concerts: Safonia, a local women's ensemble that rehearses at FMC on Tuesdays, will be presenting a Thanksgiving concert at FMC on Sat, Nov 17 at 7:30 pm and Sun, Nov 18 at 2:30 pm. The concert features music from *Dear Evan Hansen* and *Mamma Mia!*, new arrangements of traditional African American Spirituals, a recognition of parenthood in all its forms, and a special arrangement of "Ae Fond Kiss" accompanied by the harp. For ticket information, please visit www.safonia.org/tickets.

2019 Ministry Plan and Narrative (budget), as requested by the Ministry Teams and proposed by the board has been posted in the Active Participants page of the website for your review in advance of the congregational meeting on Sun, Nov 18 at 11am in the Sanctuary. In order to fund the 3.5 full time equivalent staff, along with the Ministry Team operating requests, we will need offerings to increase about 5% over the current year's

projected levels. There will be opportunities for questions and discussion at the congregational meeting. The pledge drive will begin on the 18th. Contact Tom Bishop with questions.

Mark Your Calendars:

Nov 18 - Congregational meeting (11am) to review proposed 2019 Ministry Plan

Dec 2 - Congregational meeting to vote on 2019 Ministry Plan

Dec 9 - Children's Christmas Program & Christmas Bazaar

Follow the Burkholder Family blog at: wonderwanderrtw.wordpress.com

Attendance Nov 4: Adults - 144; Children - 26; Total - 170

Staff time away:

Nov 8-12: Pastor Glenn out (see Glenn's letter above)

Nov 8-11: Anita out

PEACE SCHOOL UPDATES

What's happening this week:

PreK - The Ark & the Temple

K2 - The Ark & the Temple

Venture Club - Destruction & Exile

JYF - The Kings

MYF - Anabaptist History, part 2

For families to do this week:

Research shows that children are more likely to grow in faith if they have the support of at least five involved adults (in addition to family members). Who are (or who could be) your child's "faithful five"? For more on this concept, check out *The Sticky Faith Guide for Your Family* (Zondervan 2014).

Looking ahead:

- Nov 25: no Peace School
- Children's Christmas Program rehearsals after Children's Time in the worship service- Nov 11 and 18 and Dec 2. Dress rehearsal after Peace School on Dec 2.

Caring for Each Other

Angie Birky's Faith Story from last Sunday is posted on the active participants page of the website. Look for it under the directory section.

New Horizons Group (singles 50+) - Dec 9, 2018 at 5 PM!

Our evening will begin with a traditional Russian Mennonite Sunday evening meal - Faspa! We will revive this tradition as we gather at FMC at 5PM to eat. After Faspa we will make our way to Denver's Boettcher Concert Hall to join the [Ten Tenors](#) as they perform a selection of traditional and contemporary seasonal favorites performed with the Colorado Symphony.

The cost for this evening is \$32 per person. Please confirm your participation with the FMC office no later than **Nov 23, 2018**. Checks are payable to FMC.

Rick Rogers will be coordinating transportation. This includes to and from your home; to and from FMC to Boettcher Concert Hall and back to your home. If you need transportation or are able to help with transportation, please reach out to Rick at 303-757-4234.

If you have any comments questions or concerns please reach out to anyone on the New Horizons team – Jan Griffin, Rick Rogers, Carol Swartzendruber, or Pastor Glenn

Happy Birthday Nov 9-15

- 11- Barb Stutzman
- 12- Tristan Sommers
- 13- Eric Boschman
- 13- Micah Hofer
- 13- Mel Stjernholm
- 14- Romaine Anderson
- 14- Aimee Voth Siebert

Happy Anniversary Nov 9-15

- 13- Erine & Roberta Kandel
- 15- Lois & Norman Dewhurst

Upcoming Sundays

Nov 18

Worship – Glenn Balzer will be preaching from Ephesians 6:10-12. What does it mean to engage the powers? What does the work of transformation look like in 2018?

Adult Education – Ask the pastor a question!

Pastor Glenn has been here for an entire year. This is your fourth opportunity to ask him some questions! Do you want to know about his hobbies or books he is currently reading?

Maybe you are wondering about something he said in a sermon. Come with your questions and be prepared for a wide ranging conversation!

The FMC Leadership Team will also present the 2019 Ministry Plan and kick off the annual pledge drive. Time will be set aside for questions.

Nov 25

Worship- Charlie Ferguson will be preaching from Isaiah 2:1-5 and Matthew 5:38-48. The world is in turmoil and a pretty scary place today. There are currently 61 active areas of conflict in the world. There have been 352,000 deaths combined so far in 2018. What would happen if our young men were suddenly called to war? Are we ready? Can we still call ourselves a recognized peace church?

Adult Education- No Adult Education

Dec 2- First Sunday of Advent

Worship- Glenn Balzer preaching from Jeremiah 33:14-16

Adult Education- Congregational meeting to vote on the 2019 Ministry Plan

Dec 9- Second Sunday of Advent

Worship- Children's Christmas program!

Adult Education- Christmas Bazaar

In the Building this Week

Thursday, 6:30-8pm - Mindful Yoga (Community Center)

Sunday, 12:30pm - Denver Children's Choir rehearsal (Sanctuary & Community Center)

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

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

Monday, 7pm - Mennonite Society for Musical Heritage meeting (office)

Tuesday, 4pm - CCFC groups (B8 & B21)

Tuesday, 6pm - Christian Education Team meeting (office)

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

Wednesday, 4:30pm - CCFC mentoring group (B2)

Wednesday, 5:30pm - SOAR Choir meal & rehearsal (Community Center)

Wednesday, 6:30pm - Worship & Arts Team meeting (office)

--Contact [Marie](#) 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.

Housing needed! Sierra and Gabriel are looking for a room or one bedroom apartment to rent starting in April. It needs to be in the Arvada/west Denver area if possible. If you have any possible contacts or know of a rental possibility please contact: Sierra (720-361-9843) or Debb Reed (303-229-5332).

Boulder Mennonite Church seeks part-time church administrator. Some duties: coordinate congregational communications, create and distribute weekly bulletin, scribe at council meetings, coordination of building use, supply ordering. 12 hours/week at church office. Call 303-443-3889 or email beritjany@aol.com.

Around Denver and Mountain States Mennonite Conference

Glennon Heights Mennonite Church invites you to attend their annual **Hanging of the Greens** service on Sun, Dec 2 at 6:30pm. Pre-service music begins at 6:20. The program will feature a mass choir from the various Mennonite churches plus other vocal and instrumental ensembles. A reception will follow the service. Glennon Heights MC is at 11480 W Virginia Ave, Lakewood.

Snowmass 2018 retreat (Dec 15-18): You are invited to a retreat at St. Benedict's monastery near Snowmass on Dec 15-18. Vern Rempel and Sheila Davis will facilitate the retreat, offering a reflective exploration of our winter soulfulness, particularly through the inspiration provided by freedom songs and the blues. This music will directly inform the sessions. They will also have a chance to "jam" in the evenings, if people wish. The retreat will also incorporate the Circle of Trust practice inspired by Parker Palmer's work. Cost is a suggested donation of \$200 retreat fee per person and a suggested donation of \$40 per night per person to the monastery (all rooming is double-occupancy only). This is a pay-what-you-can retreat. The FMC office can share additional details. Contact Vern Rempel for full retreat schedule and details (courageblues@gmail.com or 720-384-5676).

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

Mennonite Church USA and Beyond

Mennonite Church USA

Take part in conversations happening across MCUSA now by using the **Pathways study guide** and submitting the **Journey Forward Feedback Survey** and story nominations by Dec 31, 2018. Available in English and Spanish at mennoniteusa.org/jf.

Pray for the MCUSA Racial Ethnic Council as they hold their gathering in Kansas City on Nov 15-17.

Mennonite Mission Network

Join Mennonite Mission Network in praising God for the joy Alisha and Joshua Garber find as they participate in the ministries of the Barcelona Mennonite Church and share the good news of Jesus with the wider community in Spain. Pray that they may find a balance between serving others and nurturing family relationships.

Mennonite World Conference: Find the latest issue of MWC's COURIER at www.mwc-cmm.org/courier.

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

Other Information

Sermons are posted on the fmcdenver.org 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 www.9news.com/closings or by visiting mobile apps for smartphones.

Website: fmcdenver.org

Phone: 303-892-1038

Deadline for announcements is Wednesday midnight. Please send announcements to Marie Voth at marie.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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