



## **FMC Weekly - November 21, 2018**

*The weekly newsletter of First Mennonite Church of Denver*

### ***Sunday, November 25, 2018***

#### ***9:30AM Worship***

Come early to enjoy pre-service music from Romaine Anderson and Vicky Mierau. Charlie Ferguson will preach 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? Communion will be served, accompanied by reflective music from Romaine and Vicky. Pastor Glenn will lead worship, Lynn Amstutz has Children's Time, and Emily Martin will lead singing.

#### ***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***

No children's Peace School or Adult Education this week

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

**FMC Office will be closed Nov 22 & 23 for Thanksgiving.**

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#### **Children's Christmas Program dates:**

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 11am

Dec 9: The big show!

Contact Rachel Barnes if you have questions

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**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. (Charlie Ferguson and Sonia Graber)

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**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](http://www.denverchildrenschoir.org).

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**2019 Ministry Plan Pledge Forms:** Please return your pledge to support the 2019 Ministry Plan by Dec 2. Pick up a pledge form on the welcome table. You can return your pledge by email (to Tom Bishop or the FMC office), by mail (430 W 9th Ave, Denver CO 80204), or drop it in the lock box by the front office door.

If you missed the Leadership Board presentation of the proposed 2019 Ministry Plan, visit the active members page on the FMC website to review the documents and listen to the presentation and discussion.

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**Second annual Carol of the Beers** will be at 4:00pm on Sun, Dec 16 at Cheluna Brewery in the Stanley Marketplace at 25th & Clinton in Aurora. Come, enjoy holiday cheer and spirited seasonal singing! Contact Arlen Hershberger with questions.

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### **Mark Your Calendars:**

**Dec 2 - Congregational meeting** to vote on 2019 Ministry Plan and receive other updates from the Board

**Dec 9 - Children's Christmas Program & Christmas Bazaar**

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Follow the Burkholder Family blog at: [wonderwandertw.wordpress.com](http://wonderwandertw.wordpress.com)

Attendance Nov 18: Adults - 147; Children - 28; Total - 175

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## **Peace School Updates**

### ***What's happening this week:***

No Peace School this Sunday

### ***For families to do this week:***

Play "Grititude Bingo." As a family, identify 24 things or events you all are grateful for from the past year. Put those in a 5x5 grid with a free space in the middle. Make a different arrangement of items for each member of your family. Print the grids, and randomly calling out the items, play bingo together!

### ***Looking ahead:***

Children's Christmas Program rehearsals after Children's Time in the worship service- Dec 2. Dress rehearsal after Peace School on Dec 2.

***Caring for Each Other***

**Russell Costen Memorial Service** will be at FMC on Sat, Dec 1 at 1:00pm. All are invited.

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### **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 or Jan at 303-880-9117.

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

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### **Happy Birthday Nov 23-29**

- 24- Ash Hill
- 25- Miriam Roth
- 26- Kendrick McMurry
- 29- Jack Wahl
- 20- Mel Gingerich
- 20- Levi Stutzman
- 21- Simon Ammar
- 21- Glenn Shirk
- 21- Stefen Wyse

### **Happy Anniversary Nov 23-29**

- 26- Nicole & Steve Kandel
- 27- Bekkey Wiebe & Kevin Yoder

## ***Upcoming Sundays***

### **Dec 2- First Sunday of Advent**

**Worship**- Glenn Balzer preaching from Jeremiah 33:14-16. Over the next four weeks of Advent, we have permission to dream and to hope. After all, this is a season of expectation! Denver Children's Choir will provide special music.

**Adult Education**- Congregational meeting to vote on the 2019 Ministry Plan and receive updates from the Leadership Board on the search for a second pastor and the organizational/governance structure.

### **Dec 9- Second Sunday of Advent**

**Worship**- Children's Christmas program! Jesus is feeling a little bit down about how Christmas has become so commercialized. Angels help remind him of good work that is being done to spread God's love throughout the world. The audience will be reminded that we can spread hope and peace through one small act of love at a time.

**Adult Education-** Christmas Bazaar

### **Dec 16- Third Sunday of Advent**

**Worship-** Aimee Voth Siebert will preach and the Burkholders will give an update through a video call!

**Adult Education-** Yvonne, Marian, and Jessi will share about their Camino travels

### **Dec 23- Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Worship-** In the Christmas story we discover that Jesus is not hidden behind a tall fence, a posse, or a security detail. Jesus came near, became one of us, and hung out- this is good news, joyful news. Pastor Glenn Balzer will preach from Mark 1:40-45.

**Adult Education-** none

### **Dec 24- Christmas Eve**

**Pre-Service Music-** 5:00pm

**Worship-** 5:30pm

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

Mon & Wed, 9-11:30 am - Assistance Office (Community Center)

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

Tues, 7pm - Leadership Board Meeting (office)

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

Wed, 5:30pm - SOAR Choir meal & rehearsal (Community Center, Commons, & Sanctuary)

--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.*

**Lois Hjelmstad's fourth book, *Abidance: A Memoir of Love and Inevitability***, has just been released. She is offering a special deal for a signed copy until Nov 30. If you are interested, email [lois.hjelmstad@gmail.com](mailto:lois.hjelmstad@gmail.com) for details. Also available on [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).

**Sherwin-Williams** on Havana in Aurora is hiring for part-time positions. Contact Brenan Erb at 303-368-8908 or visit [www.sherwin.com/searchcareers](http://www.sherwin.com/searchcareers) (search for Aurora Havana 7163) for more information.

**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](mailto:beritjany@aol.com).

### ***Around Denver and Mountain States Mennonite Conference***

**Denver Inner City Parish:** As you may be aware, DICP is going through a significant transition and has recently experienced some financial struggles. The Parish has been here in La Alma Lincoln Park for over 50 years. They provide a vital service to our neighbors who may be struggling with homelessness, hunger, or

isolation. We're pleased to report after a period when the Parish was at risk of closing, several donations as well as a full reorganization has helped to put them in a better situation. We are hopeful that DICP will be here for another 50 years.

The Parish is not out of the woods yet however. With this wake up call, the neighborhood association has committed to raising \$5000 for Denver Inner City Parish this holiday season. We're doing this in 2 ways. First is a "No Show Ball". Enjoy a traditional Ethiopian meal made by one of the amazing chefs at Food Bridge (right here in the neighborhood) delivered right to your door. Meals are \$20 each and can be ordered with chicken or vegan. To buy a ticket with cash or check, contact Christine Sprague at [christinelsprague@gmail.com](mailto:christinelsprague@gmail.com) and she will arrange for a volunteer to bring you a ticket and collect the funds. Or visit Fundly ([fundly.com/no-show-ball](https://fundly.com/no-show-ball)) and purchase via credit card (we add a \$1 service fee because they do).

Second, we are promoting DICP as our preferred organization in this year's Colorado Gives campaign. Please take a moment to [make a donation to DICP through Colorado Gives](#).

Thank you, Christine Sprague (President of the La Alma Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association)

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**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 6:20pm. 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.

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**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](mailto:courageblues@gmail.com) or 720-384-5676).

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**The November Zinglet** celebrates Advent traditions in congregations across MSMC. It is available online and in the foyer.

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

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

### **Mennonite Church USA**

Excitement is brewing with **Menno's Best coffee!** You can purchase Menno's Best fair trade and organic coffee today to support a youth group in raising funds for attending MennoCon19 at [mennoniteusa.org/MennosBest](http://mennoniteusa.org/MennosBest).

**Prayers** are requested for regional and conference ministers in the US and Canada as they gather in Los Angeles for their annual meeting on Nov 28 - Dec 1.

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### **Mennonite Mission Network**

**Youth Venture** is announcing four locations to serve and learn in 2019! Teams of youth ages 15-22 and their adult leaders will join in the ministries of our global partners to see what God is doing in the world. These two- to three-week-long trips are in June or July. For more information or to apply, visit the Youth Venture website at [www.mennonitemission.net/Serve/Youth%20Venture](http://www.mennonitemission.net/Serve/Youth%20Venture) or contact Jolene VonGunten with any questions at [jolenev@mennonitemission.net](mailto:jolenev@mennonitemission.net).

**Participants with Journey International**, a Mennonite Mission Network program, are serving in Benin and Ecuador. Pray for God's love to flow through Requiyah Johnson, working with children at *La Casa Grande*, and for Maura Longenecker and Samatha Miller, working with refugees and children in Quito.

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

## Other Information

**Sermons** are posted on [fmcdenver.org](http://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](http://www.9news.com/closings) or by visiting mobile apps for smartphones.

Website: [fmcdenver.org](http://fmcdenver.org)

Phone: 303-892-1038

**Deadline for announcements is Wednesday midnight.** Please send announcements to Marie Voth at [marie.fmcdenver@gmail.com](mailto: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.

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