



FMC Weekly - January 10, 2019

The weekly newsletter of First Mennonite Church of Denver

Sunday, January 13

9:30AM Worship

Annie Lengacher Browning will preach from Luke 3:15-17, 21-22. The spiritual path of knowing God is largely one of return to our original soul state in God's image. In this way, there is much that must be unknown within us in order to experience an illumined understanding of the Divine that lives within each of us. Like separating wheat from the chaff, the path of unknowing is one that dissolves our illusions to find a deeper, constant, and true state of God within. Especially in this season in our world of much uncertainty and unrest, the unknowing path provides a location of peace, rest, and stability housed within the Mystery of God.

Come early to enjoy pre-service music from Moses Simbeye. Glenn Balzer will lead worship, Ron Olson has children's time, Sonia Graber will lead singing, and Stephanie Miller and Moses will provide special music.

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

10:45AM Education Hour

◆ Sunday School for ages 2-18

◆ **Adult Education:** The FMC Leadership Board invites everyone to attend a congregational meeting during the Adult Ed hour. The Board will provide an update on pledged giving for the 2019 Ministry Plan (budget) and will also reaffirm our needs and desires for the second pastor position at FMC.

Our FMC Community

The direct assistance office helped 18 households with rent or utility money and received calls from many more people looking for help during this first week of January.

Please continue give to Joseph's Storehouse, the FMC program that provides direct assistance to people on the Westside needing emergency rent and utility support. The direct assistance program often runs out of funds mid-month for rental assistance. Your gifts help our Westside neighbors remain in their homes.

So far we have raised \$21,300! You can help us reach our goal of \$25,000 by giving generously. Write your checks to FMC with Joseph's Storehouse in the memo line. Contact the office with questions.

Advance Directives: On Sun, Jan 27, Ruthie Knowles will be hosting a get-together on Advance Directives at 1:30pm in the FMC Community Center. Lynn Weitzel from Tomorrow's Choices (www.tomorrowschoices.org) will lead the discussion and review various Advance Directives forms. You are invited to come and take care of this important task. If this is something you need to do, please RSVP and plan to come. RSVP to ruthieknowles@gmail.com or 303-257-3001.

Message from the ad hoc Security Group: Our temporary security group drew up an initial emergency preparedness plan, outlining how to respond to various emergency situations. It calls for the formation of a Safety and Security Team to oversee this responsibility. The team will arrange that, for every congregational gathering, one of them will be present in the foyer to monitor the inside and the near outside area of the building. This person would take charge in an emergency and could lock the entrance doors, if necessary. Brad Shelly is seeking persons willing to serve the congregation in this way. Please contact Brad Shelly or Ralph Nafziger to indicate your interest in participating in this team.

Report from the Gun Violence Group: Our group is promoting a proposal for FMC to join Colorado Communities United to End Gun violence (CFCU). The purpose of this community of 40 diverse faith organizations is to help end the deaths and injuries in Colorado caused by the use of firearms. Member churches select one or two representatives to take part in the CFCU meetings and activities, along with others from the congregation who are interested. Also, the church would contribute \$100 a year in support of the group. At the Jan 20 Adult Education session David Livingston, Co-chair of CFCU, will speak to us about the organization.

Please retrieve your stranded dishes! Did you enjoy sharing food during recent holiday gatherings at church? Did your dishes make it home with you? Check the table in the Community Center to collect your dishes/bowls/platters.

Attendance Jan 6: Adults- 142; Children- 19; Total - 161

Sunday School

Mentor/Mentee Program

Also returning in 2019 is the Mentor/Mentee program! Pastor Glenn, Jordan, and Anita want the program to be flexible and creative as there are many ways to have supportive, encouraging relationships. There are no requirements regarding amount of time or activities completed together. If you are in high school and are interested in getting a mentor you can ask someone directly or email Anita or Jordan to help you get started.

What's happening this week:

PreK, K2, and Venture Club classes: John baptizes Jesus

For families to do this week:

Continuing with our light in the darkness theme- play with flashlights! Play flashlight tag or sit in the middle of a familiar room, name an object, and have your child shine the flashlight on that object. To make it harder, keep the flashlight turned off until it's aimed at the object- see how close you can get. Here are more ideas: www.thespruce.com/flashlight-games-kids-can-play-indoors-or-out-3129284

Looking ahead:

- ◆Jan 25-27: RMMC Jr High Snow Camp
- ◆Jan 25-27: MYF retreat at RMMC's Eagle's Nest

- ◆Feb 8: MYF to Colorado Avalanche game (vs Vancouver Canucks!)
 - ◆Feb 15-17: RMMC Sr High Snow Camp
 - ◆March 8-10: Venture Club at RMMC
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Apply for 2019-20 Everence college scholarships. If your family uses Everence faith-based services, you are eligible to apply for college scholarships for the 2019-20 school year. Submit your application by Feb 28. Learn more at www.everence.com/college-scholarships or see Katrina Schrock for a copy of the application.

Caring for Each Other

Our sincere thanks for all the kind thoughts, cards, and prayers during the loss of our dear grandson, Bryan. The pain continues but is lessened by God's love shown through you. Peace, Wanda and Martin Brotherton

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

Happy Birthday Jan 11-17

- 11- Joan Slotter
- 11- Bekkey Wiebe
- 12- Donald Finks
- 12- Jeff Kauffman
- 12- Lois Keener
- 12- Sherri Toews
- 13- Imanii Adams
- 13- Betty Schmidt
- 14- Reuben Gingerich

Happy Anniversary Jan 11-17

none

Upcoming Sundays

Winter 2019 Theme: Doctrine of Discovery

The worship theme through Easter will focus on the Doctrine of Discovery. Pastor Glenn's sermons will follow the Bible Reflections produced by the Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery Coalition (www.dofdmenno.org). There will be opportunities for deeper study and discussion through Adult Education and Lenten small groups.

Visit www.dofdmenno.org to learn more about the Doctrine of Discovery through readings and a documentary.

Jan 20

Worship: Glenn Balzer will preach from Luke 16:19-31- The Rich Man and Lazarus (Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery Bible Reflection 1). We will celebrate Communion as part of Mennonite World Fellowship Sunday.

Adult Education: Arden Slotter will give an update from the Gun Violence Group. David Livingston, Co-chair of Colorado Communities United to End Gun Violence (CFCU), will share about the organization and how FMC may work with them. Candace Fleming will introduce the Doctrine of Discovery.

Jan 27

Worship: Karin Kaufman Wall from Mennonite Central Committee Central States will preach

Adult Education: The Loss of Turtle Island is a participatory learning experience that depicts the historic relationship between European settlers- including Mennonites- and the Indigenous nations, the original inhabitants, of the land we now call the United States of America. Blankets represent the land and participants represent distinct Indigenous nations who experience colonization, genocide, broken treaties, forced removal, assimilation and termination- all in the spirit of the Doctrine of Discovery. Erica Littlewolf (Indigenous Visioning Circle Program Coordinator) and Karin Kaufman Wall (Peace and Justice Education Coordinator) of MCC Central States will facilitate.

Feb 3

Worship: Glenn Balzer will preach from Luke 15- The Gospels of Vulnerability (Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery Bible Reflection 2)

Adult Education: Contemplative living through mindfulness and yoga led by Jill Schmidt and Ben Gerig. Dwelling spiritually involves self-discipline, compassion for oneself and one's neighbor, and a visceral connection to the divine. Come learn how mindfulness and yoga are a bridge to get us back to feeling "at home." Ben and Jill will share their personal experiences with contemplative living through yoga and mindfulness, which has led them on an unexpected journey, sharing it with others.

Feb 10

Worship: Glenn Balzer will preach from Deuteronomy 30:15-20 and Luke 14:25-33- Trail of Death, Trail of Life (Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery Bible Reflection 3)

Adult Education: Part 2 in the Equity and Education series hosted by Women Bridging Borders

In the Building this Week

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

Thurs, 6:30pm- Denver Children's Choir Board Meeting (B2)

Sat, 9am- SOAR Board Retreat (B2)

Mon & Wed, 9:00-11:30am- Direct Assistance Office (Community Center)

Mon, 5:30pm- Denver Children's Choir rehearsals

Mon, 7:00pm- Mennonite Society for Musical Heritage meeting (Office)

Tues, 4:00pm- Colorado Circles for Change (B21 & Commons)

Tues, 6:30pm- Worship Team meeting (Office)

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

Wed, 6:30pm- FMC Leadership Board 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.

House for rent in SE Aurora: 2 bedroom/1 bathroom with a patio, one-car garage, and a French room. If interested, call Eli Gehman at 303-366-6516 after Jan 22 and leave a message.

Around Denver and Mountain States Mennonite Conference

We would like to invite our MSMC community to the **ordination service for Zach Martinez**, pastor of Sojourn Mennonite Church. The service will be Sun, Jan 13 at 5pm at Sojourn MC, located at St. Luke's Episcopal, 2000 Stover St, Fort Collins CO. Email Sojourn MC with any questions (sojournmennonite@gmail.com).

Journey Forward Retreat: Join Leadership Board, Conference Ministers, and others for a short review of where we've been and a longer conversation about where we want to go together. We'll spend some time developing a resource map or list of assets (spiritual and material gifts) and look at ways these align with the ways God is moving in our culture. This retreat is open to all who are interested in the health and future of our MSMC community.

When: Sat, Feb 16- 9am to 2:30pm

Where: FMC Denver Community Center

More details coming soon.

The January issue of Zing! is now available. Find paper copies on the welcome table. [Click here for an online copy.](#)

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

Mennonite Church USA and Beyond

Mennonite Church USA

Mennonite World Fellowship Sunday is on Jan 20. The theme for this year is "Justice on the Journey: Migration and the Anabaptist Story." Find worship materials for use on Jan 20, or any Sunday that works for your congregations, prepared out of the experience of MWC Latin American churches at mwc-cmm.org/article/world-fellowship-sunday.

Mennonite Mission Network: This week, the Council of International Anabaptist Ministries will gather at MCC's Welcoming Place in Akron, PA. MMN requests prayer for the leaders of North American and global mission agencies as they seek to collaborate in doing God's work in the world.

Mennonite Central Committee seeks: New IVEP (International Volunteer Exchange Program) work placements in Colorado. MCC is interested in identifying new partners and organizations to work with for an IVEP placement in Colorado. We have had the pleasure of partnering with the Conflict Center in Denver for the past couple years and this coming year they need to take a pause. MCC has been honored to work with the Conflict Center and are looking to fill in the gap with another amazing organization. IVEP participants come with many gifts and talents. Each year the level of education and skill they have increases. We are looking for job placements in many areas from banking to education. If you know of a great organization who would like the enriching experience of having an IVEPer and/or if you have specific questions about IVEP and would like to talk further about possibilities please be in touch with the Young Adult Program Coordinator, Sharon Faith Nelson. Sharon will be in Colorado the week of Jan 21 and would be glad to meet with you in person. She can be reached at 909-519-7797 or sharonnelson@mcc.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 2019-20 academic year is May 15, 2019. For details and application form,

see www.mennohealth.org/student_term/, email info@mennohealth.org, or call 1-888-406-3643.

Hesston College's Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship Series (AVDS) conference Feb 1-3 will do more than just talk about following Jesus, we will practice spiritual disciplines using our bodies and voices for Jesus. Join Christian spirituality experts Mark and Lisa Scandrette for "Growing More Like Jesus From the Outside In: Transforming Heart and Mind." Register by Jan 28. \$100/person, \$75/each for two or more from your group. Call 620-327-8147 or visit www.hesston.edu/events/avds for more information.

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

Other Information

Sermons are posted on 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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