



FMC Weekly - May 2, 2019

The weekly newsletter of First Mennonite Church of Denver

Sunday, May 5

9:30am Worship

Come early to enjoy pre-service music from Stephanie Miller and Charlie Ferguson. Darren Knowles will preach from John 12:1-8: the language of beauty. God speaks through beauty. How do we listen? And how do we learn the vocabulary? Glenn Balzer will lead worship, Charlie Ferguson will lead singing, and Glenda Kauffman has children's time.

After worship in the Community Center

- ◆ Join us for refreshments and 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:** (Sanctuary) DOOR Denver City Director Heather Gordon and DOOR participants will share stories about the program and their experiences.

◆ **Sunday Yoditation:** (B2/nursery) Join Jill Schmidt and Ben Gerig for Yoditation- a flowing combination of yoga and guided meditation that centers the mind and body. The session is accessible to all skill levels and will be church clothes friendly. You may still want to wear or bring something comfortable for yoga. This is free!

Nursery Note: Starting May 5 through August, the nursery will be available but not staffed. There will be toys available for children in the Community Center. Babysitters will be in the nursery for Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12.

Building Partner Update: Colorado Circles for Change

Greetings, peace and blessings to you all. As we approach summer 2019, we want to take the opportunity to share more with the FMC congregation about our evolution. Our growth is rooted in the spirit of the Mennonite congregation, specifically Jerry Weaver and his colleagues from FMC who founded the organization 25 years ago!

Many of you know that VORP evolved into [Colorado Circles for Change \(CCFC\)](#) in 2018 and although our name has changed, our commitment remains the same through our mission; ***To create a pathway for our youth to discover sacred relationships with self, family, and community, to reduce juvenile violence and incarceration so youth can reach their full potential.*** We have grown significantly and currently have **five programs** that include Restorative/Transformative Justice, culturally-rooted Youth Leadership Institute and Anti-Racism programming. In 2018, we served 150 + youth and their families. We are currently planning our 25th anniversary celebration in which we will honor First Mennonite Church of Denver for your undying commitment to supporting our work over the past 25 years. Please look forward to more information as details become available.

Thank you – CCFC Staff

Our FMC Community

Spring work day on May 11! Join fellow FMCers to spruce up the church and grounds. There will be inside and outside projects for all skill levels. Contact Matt Barron with questions.

Missing a coat, a beloved travel mug, or a serving dish? It might be part of FMC's lost & found collection. Check out the lost & found table in the Community Center this Sunday to collect your items.

The rugs and pottery you saw on the stage and altar during the Doctrine of Discovery unit were gladly lent by Sam and Emily Martin. The two rugs both dated from the 1930s, both from the Navajo tribe. The weavers only used vegetal (natural) dyes and the natural variegations in the color of the sheep's wool. We are also honored to share the artistry of potters from the Taos, Jemez, and San Ildefonso pueblos. Each artist finds and digs his or her own clay to make each piece. We hope you enjoyed them.

Children's cancer research fundraising

Dear FMC - As many of you know, we are approaching two years since the passing of a wonderful young man, Cooper Deming, who was a friend of Simon's and whose mom is a friend of mine. I am riding in the Courage Classic this July in his honor to raise funds for children's cancer research. If you are inclined, I would greatly appreciate your support - any amount is welcome. Please see my fundraising page at this link: [Cindy's Courage Classic Fundraising Page](#). With Gratitude, Cindy Eby

Attendance April 28: Adults-96; Children- 13; Total- 109

Sunday School



Sunday School Celebration!

Save the Date!

What: Sunday School Celebration & End-of-Year Picnic

When: Sunday, May 19

Where: First Mennonite Church

More details coming soon!

Contact Anita with questions.

What's happening this week:

PreK and K2 classes: Paul

Venture Club class: Peter & Paul

For families to do this week:

With a lesson on Paul, children will continue to learn about the early Christian church, especially its spread around the declining Roman empire. Introduce children to Mennonite Mission Network (www.mennonitemission.net/about) and Mennonite Central Committee (mcc.org/stories/hello), Mennonite mission and service agencies. As a family, how do you share God's love with others?

Looking Ahead:

Sun, May 12: Mother's Day- no Sunday School

Sun, May 19: last day of Sunday School

Sun, June 2: MYF event

Caring for Each Other

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

Happy Birthday May 2-8

3- Benjamin Hegedus

4- Xavier Bohnert

5- Joe Fretz

6- Jane Birky

7- Gary Wahl

8- Elliott Hine

8- Aaron Sauers

8- Landon Skudneski

Happy Anniversary May 2-8

5- Lori Oswald & Jeff Holliday

5- Hope & John Ventura

Staff out of the office:

Glenn is out until May 4

Upcoming Sundays

May 12- Mother's Day

Worship: Glenn Balzer will preach.

Adult Education: Jonathan Moyer will share about the upcoming MCUSA Convention and lead a discussion about convictions and voting.

May 19

Worship: Glenn Balzer will preach from John 13:31-35. It's a new day! John's call opens the possibility of a new life, a new outlook, a new hope, and the freedom to love widely.

Adult Education: Sunday School year-end picnic

May 26

Worship: Glenn Balzer will preach from John 5:1-9. Do you want to be made well? We will celebrate communion.

June 2

Worship: Glenn Balzer will preach.

No Adult Education Memorial Day Weekend through August.

In the Building this Week

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

Sat, 4:30pm- FMC Babysitting Coop (B2/Nursery & Commons)

Sun, noon- Assistance Program Volunteer Lunch (Community Center)

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

Mon, 5:30pm- Denver Children's Choir rehearsals (whole building)

Tues, 4:00pm- Colorado Circles for Change (B21 & B8)

Wed, 9:00am- Quilters (Quilt room)

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

Wed, 6:00pm- Quilters (Quilt room)

--Contact [Marie](#) to list your team meeting in this section.

Around Denver and Mountain States Mennonite Conference

SOAR Choir Performance May 4 & 5: This coming weekend, May 4 and 5, SOAR Youth and Adult Choir will be giving their spring performances. Our theme this season is "From Stage and Screen." Concerts will be at Unity Spiritual Center, 3021 South University Blvd. 7pm on Saturday, May 4 and 4 pm Sunday, May 5. \$15 for tickets, \$10 for seniors and students age 6-22. Our youngsters would be most grateful to see you there. Contact Emily Martin with questions.

Discouraged about the world these days? The Denver Children's Choir is putting on a concert May 11 from 3:30-4:45pm at the Newman Center entitled "Harmony of Children: Who We Are." This special concert will feature over 300 voices of children ages 6-18 singing songs that showcase who we are: diversity, inclusivity, equity, fun! To watch a video of the choir rehearsing "Freedom Train," to learn more about the concert, or to buy tickets, go to www.denverchildrenschoir.org.

The Spirituals Project Choral Festival on Fri, May 10 at 7:30pm with guest conductor Roland Carter. Featuring: The Colorado Children's Chorale; The Bennie L Williams spiritual Voices, and the Spirituals Project Choir. At the Gates Concert Hall at the Newman Center at DU. The concert is free, as is parking. Aimee and Michael Voth Seibert and Randy Friesen sing in the Spirituals Project Choir.

The April Zing! is available [online](#). You may also pick up a paper copy on the welcome table.

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

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.

Mennonite Church USA and Beyond

Mennonite Church USA

In preparation for MennoCon19, we continue to invite you to use the [Pathways study guide](#) to consider how the commitments to follow Jesus, witness to God's peace and experience transformation, are at work in your life and community. Find it at mennoniteusa.org/pathways.

Check out the latest MennoCon19 newsletter for info on featured seminar speakers, squads, special events and activities: mennoniteusa.org/con-letter-april

Mennonite Mission Network

Help your young adults take the next step in faith formation and practical experience with service!

A study of 280 students showed that the biggest outcomes of a gap year were a better sense of self, a broader understanding of different people, cultures, and lifestyles, and the attainment of skills and knowledge that helped in academic pursuits and future careers. Through Service Adventure, young adults ages 17-20 grow in leadership and real-world experience by living in community and serving with a local nonprofit in locations across the country. Openings are still available for placements beginning in August. Call Lauren at 574-523-3022 or visit the web to find out more: MennoniteMission.net/ServiceAdventure

Mennonite Central Committee

Save the Date: June 26 for our annual Volunteer Appreciation event at Mennonite Central Committee in North Newton from 5-7. We will celebrate all the work our volunteers do by enjoying an indoor summer picnic together!

Attention all MCC Alumni! Are you interested in connecting with other MCC alumni? Have you wondered about attending an MCC alumni gathering or even hosting one yourself? If so, please contact us at centralstates@mcc.org to start the conversation.

Save the Date: Mennonite Central Committee is celebrating 100 years of working for relief, development and peace in the name of Christ in 2020. Mark your calendars to join us for the evening of February 29 at Tabor College in Hillsboro, Kansas. More details to come!

Support MCC via AmazonSmile: This is not a plug to begin or continue to shop at Amazon.com, but if you find yourself making an Amazon purchase, please use the AmazonSmile site. The ordering process is the same, but the difference is that 0.5% of your purchases will be donated to MCC (assuming you will choose MCC U.S. as your charitable organization!) FYI...total donations to MCC from AmazonSmile in 2018 were \$2,955; \$2,625 in 2017. If you have any questions, please contact maynardknepp@mcc.org or jordanpenner@mcc.org.

The Center for Justice and Peacebuilding will celebrate its 25th anniversary, June 5-7, 2020. You will not want to miss this extraordinary gathering of CJP alumni, students, faculty, staff, donors and friends! Please mark your calendar now.

The theme for CJP's silver jubilee is **celebrate, reflect** and **dream**. The weekend will integrate plenary sessions, panels, great food and lots of conversation as we **celebrate** the accomplishments and global impact of more than 600 CJP graduates; **reflect** on what we have done well and what we could have done better;

and **dream** of what is possible in the next 25 years!

AMBS Learning Tour- Encountering Egypt: Past and Present

Explore history and experience the present in Egypt with AMBS teaching faculty members and tour co-leaders [Safwat Marzouk](#), Ph.D., Associate Professor of Old Testament/Hebrew Bible, and [Drew Strait](#), Ph.D, Assistant Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins. Visit unforgettable historic sites and learn about current challenges and triumphs of people who call Egypt home. [Learn more here](#).

The estimated cost per person is #3,700 to \$4,000, which includes all transportation (round trip from Chicago). To express interest in participating (not a firm commitment), contact AMBS CFO Ron Ringenberg by May 31 at ringenb@ambs.edu or 800-964-2627 ext. 212.

Love Crosses Borders: *A Mennonite Men immersion experience with immigrants.* Love is the greatest of all virtues. But what does love look like in times of cynicism and polarization? Borders are not only social constructs, they're also spiritual ones. Who's included? Who's excluded? How do we reconcile God's call to welcome the stranger with so much fear-filled rhetoric and policies? What can unwelcomed immigrants teach the Church about love? How can the legacy of the Civil Rights Movement inform and inspire us to a love that crosses borders? July 28 to August 3, Mennonite Men will provide a week-long immersion experience with immigrants to engage these issues. To register or for more information, visit MennoniteMen.org or contact Steve Thomas at SteveT@Mennonites.org.

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 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 on the 9News app.

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.

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