



## **FMC Weekly - Aug 15, 2019**

*The weekly newsletter of First Mennonite Church of Denver*

### ***Sunday, Aug 18***

#### ***9:30am Worship***

Come early to enjoy pre-service music from Arden Slotter and Faye Yoder. Naomi Nishi's meditation will discuss the missing voices of women from the church, historically and currently. She will explore the barriers we all face in listening to and learning from women, and offer spiritual lessons shared by women in our community. Join us as we consider Ruth 1:16-17. Jonathan Moyer will lead worship, Rachel Barnes has children's time, and Emily Martin will lead singing.

#### ***After worship in the Community Center***

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

**No youth or adult education.**

**Yoga Rocks the Park will be in Sunken Gardens Park this Sunday.** There will be a lot of extra folks parking in the FMC neighborhood. Allow a few extra minutes on Sunday to find parking and possibly walk a few blocks to church.

### ***Great Getaway***

The Great Getaway Weekend is coming up! Please join us **Sept 20-22** at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp for a weekend full of fun and fellowship! Registration will be completed online this year at this link ([rmmc.campbrainregistration.com](http://rmmc.campbrainregistration.com)) starting Aug 19. Rachel is available after church to help you pick out lodging. [Click here for more info about the weekend and registration.](#) Please contact Rachel with any questions: [rcbarnes33@msn.com](mailto:rcbarnes33@msn.com) or 720-231-6657

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

**Memorial Service for Sarah (Sally) Newcomer** will be held at FMC on Sun, Aug 25 at 2pm. All are invited.

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**Walking the Watershed Way:** I am considering attending some or all of this gathering (see below) and

wondering if anyone else from FMC is interested as well. It would be great to do this with a small group from our community! Contact me at [jemcanuck@gmail.com](mailto:jemcanuck@gmail.com) or 303-815-2104 - Thanks, Jennifer Miller

Join with allies in NM and CO to delve more deeply into creation care and environmental justice through the framework of Walking the Watershed Way- Sept 27-29 in Alamosa CO.

Registration & more information: see the [MSMC website](#) or the [August/September Zing](#)

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### Working against violence

We will be having a **Moms Demand Action** meeting at First on Wed, Aug 21 at 7 PM to address how to take immediate action against gun violence. You do not need to be a mom or a woman to attend. Please join us! RSVP at this link: [every.tw/2M0hKLt](https://www.every.tw/2M0hKLt)

Our Moms group will also be supporting **GRASP (Gang Rescue and Support Project)** and marching in the Eastside Peace March on Sat, Aug 24 at 11am. Please come join us. RSVP and find more information with this link: [every.tw/2xVWNc2](https://www.every.tw/2xVWNc2)

If you have questions, please contact Rachel Barnes: [rcbarnes33@msn.com](mailto:rcbarnes33@msn.com)

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### Local and Global Giving Projects- School Supply Collections

This coming year the Sunday School kids and families will be trying something new- collecting needed items for local and global communities!

Our fall project is collecting supplies for Denver area schools and putting together MCC School Kits. You can drop off any of the following items in the church office. If you'd like to help make school kit bags or transport donations, please contact Anita Miller. To donate funds toward these drives and let our youth do the shopping, submit a check made out to FMC with "school supplies" in the memo line.

**Bring supplies by Sun, Sept 15.**

Metro Area School Supplies	<a href="#">MCC School Kits</a>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● lined paper</li><li>● markers</li><li>● glue sticks</li><li>● scissors</li><li>● backpacks</li><li>● used crayons</li><li>● dry erase markers</li><li>● post-it notes</li><li>● highlighters</li><li>● tissues</li><li>● paper towels</li><li>● gently used books for infants to young adults</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● spiral or perforated-pages notebooks (<i>70 pages</i>)</li><li>● new unsharpened pencils</li><li>● rulers (<i>flat, good quality, must indicate 30 cm</i>)</li><li>● 12 colored pencils (<i>in packaging</i>)</li><li>● large erasers</li><li>● new black or blue ballpoint pens</li></ul>

We also need bags to be sewn for the MCC School Kits. You can find the [directions online](#).

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**Attendance Aug 11:** Adults- 107; Children- 10; Total- 117

## **Sunday School- Summer Faith Formation**

### **Save the Dates!**

Sun, Sept 8: Sunday School Opening Day & Party

Sun, Sept 15: Sunday School Service Day

Sun, Oct 13: Group event for mentor/mentee pairs

### **Week 12/12 – Jesus' Life and Ministry**

*Every week this summer Anita presents a different section of the Bible storyline. You are encouraged to read these stories directly from the Bible, talk about them with your families, and think about what they mean for us today.*

This is the last of our summer series on the Bible storyline. Sunday school classes might have taught us that the early Christian church grew because of the love between God and humans, the Holy Spirit, the care and support of a close community, acceptance of outsiders, women and girls, and a worldview that offered hope for the present and future.

The following were also timely historical factors:

1. The Jewish diaspora and the destruction of the Second Temple in Jerusalem – Without Temple or geographic unity, Jews had to solidify what it meant to be a Jew. This forced the followers of Jesus to decide whether they were going to continue being Jews following stricter laws or become something else (Christians). Because of the diaspora, Gentiles were also somewhat aware of the Jewish concept of God and Scriptures.
2. Common language – The common languages of Greek and then Latin throughout the Roman Empire made it easier to spread the message.
3. Paul and the Pax Romana - As a Roman citizen Paul could travel freely throughout the Roman Empire, facilitating the geographic spread of Christianity. Traveling was the safest it had ever been.

[\(5 Reasons Christianity Spread Quickly\)](#)

[\(Why Did Christianity Grow\)](#)

The Church, as a human organization, has always been in some relationship with the culture and zeitgeist of its time. What do we make of our place in history as a church and a movement? How do we move non-anxiously into a post-Christian era of post-modern society?

Here are the stories of the early Christian church that we teach the kids, 5th grade & younger:

- Pentecost – Acts 2
- Peter and The Early Christian Church – John 1:36 & 42, Matthew 16, Acts 2
- Paul's Conversion – Acts 9 & 15

Reflection for children **and** adults:

- What is the Holy Spirit? What are ways the Holy Spirit is present in our world and in our lives?
- Is it important for people in a church to spend time together? Why or why not?
- In the early church some people sold their belongings so they could share all their money and goods with all other people in their church. Could we do that today?
- In what ways do we currently share at FMC?
- In what ways are children part of the congregation at FMC? How could they be more fully included?
- The early church had to struggle with how to form a group that needs some boundaries for the sake of establishing an identity, while staying welcoming to new members whose influence and acceptance might eventually change the behaviors and boundaries of the initial group. Discuss some modern examples of this dilemma from FMC (Should we have rules about what it means to be a member? Do we?) or the broader Mennonite Church in general (What about when different churches want to make different rules?)

More resources for adults:

- [The Bible Project](#) has a variety of videos that explain different books of the New Testament books written to the early church.
- [This is a good recap of Jesus' life](#)
- [And a recap of the spread of Christianity](#)

## ***Caring for Each Other***

**Care Line: 720-345-7722** (call or text)

The Care Line will connect you with a member of the Congregational Care Team. Reach out to request prayer, a visit, or other support. All care is kept confidential. Questions? Contact Marylou Shelly or Glenn Balzer.

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

### **Happy Birthday Aug 15-21**

15- Emily Gingerich  
 15- Joann Roupp  
 17- Ligia Gibson  
 17- Isaac Longacher  
 17- Alex Wessner  
 18- Bob Carlsten  
 18- Hope Ventura  
 19- Bryan Knowles  
 21- Joseph Fretz

### **Happy Anniversary Aug 15-21**

15- James Dunn & Yvonne Yousey  
 18- Mel & Rachel Gingerich

## ***Upcoming Sundays***

## Aug 25

**Worship:** Faithful service may necessitate acts of (dis)obedience in inconvenient settings! Luke 13:10-17 is one interesting example. We will celebrate communion.

**Adult education:** The annual FMC Congregational meeting will be led by the Leadership Board. Agenda items will include: affirming new board members, board annual report, Pastor Glenn's annual report, setting an agenda for the year ahead, and a brief update on the budget process.

## Sept 1

**Worship:** Have you ever experienced an uncomfortable moment or situation? Maybe it happened at a dinner party for all your friends and co-workers to see. This week we will find out how Jesus managed to create his own awkward moment in Luke 14:1, 7-14.

## Sept 8

**Worship:** We will celebrate the start of the Sunday School year by recognizing students entering kindergarten and high school.

**Adult Education:** Ask Pastor Glenn a question!

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

Thurs, 6:30pm- Mindful Yoga (Community Center)  
Sat, 8am- Colorado Circles for Change Restore Program (basement)  
Sat, 10am- SEED Meeting (Office)  
Mon & Wed, 9:00-11:30am- Direct Assistance Office (Community Center)  
Mon, 5:30pm- Denver Children's Choir rehearsals (whole building)  
Tues, 4pm- Colorado Circles for Change (B21 & Commons)  
Wed, 6pm- Leadership Board Meeting  
Wed, 7pm- Moms Demand Action (Community Center & Sanctuary)

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

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

The Aug/Sept 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](http://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.*

**Do you speak Low German?** Are you willing to translate for a client/patient in Aurora? If so, contact the FMC office.

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Peace Menno is selling **Western Slope peaches** as a fundraiser. An 18lbs box is \$36. Contact Barb Swartzendruber by Aug 24 to order (303-344-1731).

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

### **Mennonite Church USA**

Find out how **churches across MC USA are offering solidarity with immigrant communities** in their contexts: [mennoniteusa.org/news/mennonite-church-usa-follow-up-to-churchwide-statement-on-the-abuse-of-child-migrants](https://mennoniteusa.org/news/mennonite-church-usa-follow-up-to-churchwide-statement-on-the-abuse-of-child-migrants).

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

### ***Other Information***

Sermons are posted on [fmcdenver.org](https://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](https://www.9news.com/closings) or on the 9News app.

Website: [fmcdenver.org](https://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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