



FMC Weekly

March 12-18

Worship this Sunday, March 14 – 8:30 and 11:00 AM

Worship at 8:30 AM. Lent 4. Our Lenten theme is "Holding On and Letting Go." Pastor Vern Rempel will preach. The text is Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32. All will sing the beautiful and reflective *Holden Evening Prayer*. We will observe Communion. Child care is available.

Worship at 11:00 AM. Lent 4. Our Lenten theme is "Holding On and Letting Go." Pastor Vern Rempel will preach. The text is Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32. This service will have strong a cappella four-part singing, sharing and a lectionary-based sermon for Lent. Gathering music will be *Qui Tollis* from *Messe Solennelle* by Rossini, Sara Martin and Nicole Kandelind, vocals, Vicky Mierau, harmonium (organ). Child care is available.

Education this Sunday, March 14 – 9:45 to 10:45 AM

For Children

The title for the lesson is "Jesus washed the disciples' feet." The Scripture/Bible story is John 13:1-20. Jesus pours water into a basin and washes the disciples' feet. He asks them to follow his example and wash each other's feet as a sign of their service to each other. The faith focus is "we share Jesus' love by washing each other's feet." Canned food drive for Broadway Assistance Center continues.

For Adults

FMC Ministry Fair in the Community Center. What is the Ministry Fair?

- 1) A chance to find out about all that is going on and all there is to do at First Mennonite.
- 2) A way to "de-mystify" the organization of the church and find out who is leading and what they are doing.
- 3) A place to get information, find out more about things you might want to do, and a place to sign up!
- 4) Find out about Outreach, Education, Worship, Finance, Facilities, Leadership Council and more.
- 5) Have fun hanging out, eating candy and meeting people at different tables.
- 6) There will be balloons.
- 7) And candy...and fun candy....did we mention candy?
- 8) The Ministry Fair is the place to be on Sunday, March 14.

Events March 12- 18

Friday, March 12

7:00 PM at FMC. Stand Up for Haiti Relief. Music and clean comedy featuring Dan McGowan and other local talent. Admission is free; an offering will be collected for Haiti.

Sunday, March 14

9:30-11:00 AM FMC Ministry Fair
Noon Venture Club
Evening DOOR Group arrives

Wednesday, March 17

7:00 PM FMC Leadership Council

Thursday, March 18

9:30 AM Meditation Round Table

Prayer Requests

We welcome your requests for prayer. Please e-mail your prayer request to the church office with "Prayer Requests" in the subject line. Also, if you would like prayer for any reason and do not want it to be published, feel free to contact Pastors Vern or Annie.

Happy Anniversary

15 - Jennifer Conder and Keith Wood

Happy Birthday

12- Mim Roth
13 - Kate Rempel
13 - Erin Sharp
14 - Winston Howard
14 - Floyd Stoltzfus
15 - Dawn Kaczor
15 - Angela Nofziger
16 - Cathryn Bay-Fowler
16 - Nikki KandelLind
17 - Alijah Hill

Attendance March 7

8:30 Service
Adults - 58
Children - 13
Total - 71

11:00 Service
Adults - 159
Children - 20
Total - 179

Sermon March 7

Sermon by Vern Rempel on March 7 is posted on the FMC website.

Prior sermons are also available. Look at the left side of the web page under "Recent Sermons."

Hard copies of recent sermons are available in the literature rack in the Community Center.

Links

For Mountain States Mennonite Conference
www.MountainStatesMC.org

For Mennonite Church USA:
www.MennoniteUSA.org

Schedule for Sunday, March 14

8:30-9:30 AM: Worship Service
9:30-11 AM Coffee/Donuts; FMC Ministry Fair
9:45-10:45 AM: Education Hour for all ages/Grocery Card Sales
11:00 AM-Noon: Worship Service

Our FMC Community

Reminder: Past issues of *FMC Weekly* are available on the FMC website at <http://firstofdenver.co.us.mennonite.net/Bulletins>

Daylight Savings Time returns this weekend. Remember to set your clocks forward 1 hour on Saturday night.

As we announced last week, forms to request Pastoral Care for yourself or someone else are available on the Welcome Table in the foyer. If you have a concern or need, you are welcome to complete a form and place it in the brown box located on the Welcome Table. The Ministry Networks, Nurture Commissioner and pastoral staff will process and respond to these requests.

Spring Retreat April 9-11 at St. Benedict's Monastery in Snowmass, CO:

The retreat will focus on excerpts from the book, *A Hidden Wholeness: The Journey Toward an Undivided Life* by Parker Palmer. His book focuses on "our yearning to live undivided lives --lives that are congruent with our inner truth --in a world filled with the forces of fragmentation." Building on our Lenten theme of "Holding On and Letting Go", this retreat will include time of reflection and conversation around making peace with our divided lives, reclaiming our integrity and fostering wholeness in who we are and what we do. If you are interested in participating, please contact Annie Lengacher Browning to register. More details about the retreat are available on the FMC website or the Welcome Table. More information about the retreat center is available at www.stbenedictsretreat.com, and information/pictures of the retreat center and monastic community is available at www.snowmass.org.

Palestinian Refugee Family Sponsorship Update: While waiting for the Department of Homeland Security clearance, we would like to collect household items the family may need upon arrival. We want to provide items for an entire household. Please add your name to a list of things that we need that is on the bulletin board in the Community Center (FMC Market Place area) or add your donation to the listing during the Ministry Fair. If you have large items such as furniture and you cannot store them until the family arrives, contact Stephanie at 720-319-0434 or Debbie at 303-744-0948.

Thank you: We wish to thank all of you for your thoughts, prayers, and kindness during the illness and death of our mother and grandmother, Irene Yousey. Thank you for the many cards and the beautiful flowers. Your support and caring have meant a lot to us during this time of loss.
Yvonne Yousey and Jim Dunn and Kelsie.

The FMC Caregivers invite anyone interested to attend a presentation by Mary Beth Leitzman, Seniors! Inc, on Monday, April 5, at 7:00 PM at FMC. Mary Beth will be speaking about the benefits Seniors! Inc. provide for aging individuals, their families, healthcare professionals and community service providers. Seniors, Inc. maintains a large network of nonprofit, senior services and government agencies to which referrals are made to address needs. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to the church office.

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30-9:30 AM

Worship Service

9:45-10:45 AM

Education Hour/Grocery Cards

11:00 AM-Noon

Worship Service

(9:30-11 AM Coffee/Donuts)

Menno Focus

March *Menno Focus* is available on the Welcome Table in the foyer.

Links

For Mountain States Conference
www.MountainStatesMC.org

For Mennonite Church USA
www.MennoniteUSA.org

Mennonite Church USA News Releases

http://www.fmcdenver.org/MCUS A_Releases

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 message will be left on the FMC Worship and Activities Line. Call 303-892-1038 and press 1 at the prompt. 3) Email will be sent to all known FMC email addresses. If you receive the email and know someone who does not have email, please call them to let them know. 4) If possible, we'll post the info on Channels 4, 7 & 9.

FMC Subscriptions: It is time to subscribe, renew or unsubscribe from various subscriptions to Mennonite Church USA publications. Absolute deadline for response is April 11, 2010. To subscribe, renew or cancel a subscription to any of these publications, send an e-mail to the church office. For publications with a fee, please mail or bring checks to the church office. Make checks payable to First Mennonite Church.

Publications available for subscription:

- **The Mennonite.** The official publication of Mennonite Church USA. See the fresh look of *The Mennonite*, now a 64-page, colorful monthly magazine. Published the first Tuesday of each month. Mailed to your home. Subscription is \$35 per year for group rate.
- **Timbrel.** Published bi-monthly by Mennonite Women USA, a ministry of Mennonite Church USA. Subscription rate is \$15 for one year. Mailed to your home.
- **Beyond Ourselves** is published by Mennonite Mission Network. Placed in your church mailbox. Free
- **A Common Place** is a quarterly magazine introducing the people, programs and vision of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). Placed in your church mailbox. Free.
- **Leader**, published quarterly, seeks to inspire, equip and empower both pastors and lay leaders in helping their congregations fulfill the mission vision of Mennonite Church USA. Mailed to your home. Individual annual subscription is \$33.20.

Mennonite Church USA

From Mennonite Education Agency: Praise God for the alumni of Mennonite elementary and secondary schools who are sharing God's love with others throughout our world.

From Mennonite Mission Network: Many college groups participate in DOOR (Discovering Opportunities for Outreach and Reflection) over spring break. Pray for growth through their experiences – both in the lives of the students and those they serve – and the application of this new understanding in their lives.

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! Please e-mail your request to the church with "Market Square" in the subject line. It will run one time. Deadline is midnight Wednesday.

Ready for Spring to Arrive?
Celebrate with Fun and Renewal! Colorado Interfaith Power and Light (CoIPL) presents Walkin' Jim Stoltz' Multi-media Concert "Forever Wild." Jim has walked 27,000 miles of American wilderness and presents it pictures, words, guitar and song. March 20, 2010, 7:30 pm, at University Park United Methodist Church, 2180 S. University Blvd., Denver. Tickets \$10-20 (sliding fee). Complete information (including preview clip and ticket purchase) at www.coipl.org. CoIPL works with congregations of any faith on becoming good stewards of Creation. Contact Betty Goebel (303 429 57920) for more info. Walkin' Jim is also performing in Boulder on 3/19/2010, hosted by Clean Energy Action & Rocky Mountain Peace & Justice, details at www.cleanenergyaction.org.

2010 Lent, Holy Week and Easter

Theme: "Holding On and Letting Go"

Sunday Morning Worship during Lent: March 14, 21

Two Services: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

During the 8:30 AM service, the beautiful and reflective Holden Evening Prayer will be sung each Sunday and communion will be observed.

Services at 11:00 AM will include presentations by choir, other ensembles and a cappella hymn singing.

Thursday Meditation Round Table: March 18, 25, April 1

Midweek moment of worship, reflection and sharing led by Pastor Vern.

The meditation will include hymns, poetry and prayers. 9:30 AM.

Holy Week: March 28 – April 3

Palm Sunday, March 28, 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

The *Holden Evening Prayer* will be sung during the 8:30 AM service and communion will be observed. On the final Sunday of Lent – Palm Sunday – we welcome people who seek baptism and/or membership at First Mennonite to participate in those rituals during the 11:00 AM service. In addition, we will observe communion and continue with our tradition of tossing flowers during the gospel reading and walking around the park to end our service in a "joyful procession."

Maundy Thursday, April 1, 6 PM

We will share a modified Seder meal from the Jewish tradition at 6 PM. During the course of the Seder, we will also participate in a ritual of handwashing, as an alternative way of offering ourselves to each other in service. "Maundy" comes from the Latin word for "command" (compare "mandate"). The command was from Jesus regarding footwashing, a sign of mutual service. This meal will begin at 6 PM, but it is fine to arrive whenever you can. The meal and ritual will end no later than 8 PM.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service, April 2, 7 PM

On the Friday before Easter, we will join together in our long-standing practice of the Tenebrae service. This will include a final singing of the *Holden Evening Prayer*, and the ritual of 15 candles, marking the hours of prayer through the night. (This follows a monastic tradition of prayers from 3 PM - 6 AM: 9 vespers and 5 lauds, and one remaining to represent the life that is not extinguished.)

Easter Sunday, April 4

8:30-9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal

8:30-9:30 AM Easter Brunch

9:30-10:00 AM Children's Opening Time

10:00 AM Easter Service

This is the great feast and celebration of Christ's Spirit as the Spirit of Life, and will be planned and led by Pastors Annie and Vern. We will observe communion and have the option of anointing during the service. Remember to bring bells to ring as we sing the final verse of "Christ the Lord is Risen Today."

Spring Retreat: Holding On, Letting Go, Making Peace: April 9-11

In response to the Lenten season, Pastor Annie will lead a retreat to St. Benedict's Monastery in Snowmass, CO. The focus will be on integrating themes from the Lenten series into personal experiences of holding on, letting go and how we integrate these experiences into finding peace and new learning in the spiritual life.