



FMC Weekly

October 16-22

Worship this Sunday, October 18

The theme for this Sunday is Spiritual Aspects of Change: Fear. Pastor Annie Lengacher Browning will be preaching. The lectionary reading is Psalm 69:1-15. For a listing of future worship services, go the FMC website at <http://www.fmcdenver.org> and click on "Worship." For the FMC choir schedule, click [here](#).

Education this Sunday, October 18

For Children

The lesson theme for October 18 is "God's messenger brings assurance." Scripture/Bible Story is Isaiah 40. The faith focus is God comforts and strengthens. The giving project is MCC School Kits.

For Adults

Formation 101: Exploration of Anabaptist and Mennonite understandings. We will continue to work together to discover theoretical and practical connections with the Anabaptist/Mennonite distinctive values as expressed in this community (First Mennonite). Continued discussion of the National ID resolution, using excerpts from the MCUSA study materials. Meets in the Sanctuary. Facilitator: Vern Rempel

Events October 16-22

October 16-17

MCC Sale in Rocky Ford

October 18

Choir Rehearsal at 8:30 AM

Last Sunday to sign up for small groups in the FMC foyer after church.

Blessing of the Animals, 4:00 PM

October 21

Leadership Council Meeting, 7:00 PM

October 22

Round Table, FMC, 10:00 AM

For a listing of future events, go to www.fmcdenver.org

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.

We are happy to announce that we are pregnant, and we ask for your prayers for health and well-being in the coming months.
-Annie and Morgan

I am thrilled to announce that I have been rehired for my lost, half-time job as a school librarian. I am very excited. I still would appreciate prayers, as my 2 positions require a lot of time, planning and attention. I also am taking 6 hours of graduate work, including a field experience. It will be a stressful few months, but I am so happy to be back in a library. Also, please pray for my dear friend and business partner, Candy Scott. She was visiting a friend in Italy to do a show. She fell and received a severe concussion. She has been hospitalized in Italy for a week. She is mending slowly but surely. Thanks, Mary Olson

Happy Anniversary

18 - Arzella and Mel Dirksen

Happy Birthday

16 - Magdalena Burkholder
18 - Howard Schmidt
19 - Eli Eby Mast
19 - Eloise Sommers
20 - Jim Brenneman
20 - David Leaman-Miller
21 - Jennifer May
21 - Vernon Yost
22 - Sara May

Attendance October 11

Adults - 206
Children - 43
TOTAL - 249

Sermon, October 11

Pastor Vern Rempel's sermon, Spiritual Aspects of Change - Part 1: Failure and Loss" can be found on the FMC website.

Our FMC Community

We are trying to make it easy for you to look to websites and information, but sometimes we fall short! If you discover a bad link to something on the First Mennonite Church website (sorry this is happening), go to <http://www.fmcdenver.org> and locate what you are looking for on the tabs across the top of the website. You can find information about adult education, upcoming worship services, the choir schedule, upcoming events, past worship folders, past issues of FMC Weekly and news releases from Mennonite Church USA.

Animal Blessing at First Mennonite

Celebrate this season of St. Francis by bringing your animal to be blessed. Pastors Annie and Vern will offer blessings on the back patio (lower rock-wall area) at 4 PM this Sunday, October 18. Let us "paws" for prayer!

Choir will rehearse at 8:30 AM and sing during the worship service on Sunday, October 18.

This is the last Sunday to sign up to join a small group this Fall.

Come visit the small group table in the foyer for more information after the service this Sunday, or go to the FMC website to get the form to complete and return to Annie at fmcdenverannie@aol.com or leave for her in the church office. (You will not actually be able to complete the form online, but you can print out a copy.) Any questions can be directed to the small group committee. (Linda Bontrager, Anne Gerber, Theda Good and Dawn Kreider)

HELP NEEDED: Help is needed to finish painting in the basement SS space at FMC. If you could help during any of these times please call me by Monday, October 19, at 303-320-3475.
Tuesday, October 20, 9:30 AM-noon or 1-4 PM
Thursday October 22, 9:30 AM-noon or 6 -9 PM
Many hands will take less time to finish and will make it more fun! - Roberta Kandel.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our MCC "Penny Jar." A check from First Mennonite for \$660.42 will be added to the total collected at the MCC Sale in Rocky Ford. Start saving your pennies for next year!

Carvin' Up Pumpkins! FMC Venture Club invites your child(ren) to join other club members for an afternoon of scooping out pumpkin seeds, drawing and carving spooky faces and snacking on homemade sloppy joes. If this sounds fun, have your children ready to go at noon in the FMC Community Center on Sunday, October 25th. We'll then take club members to Marla and Leon Graber's house for carving and return them to the church for pickup at 2:30. Please have your child bring a pumpkin to carve!

Fall Work Day is Saturday, October 24, starting at 8:00 AM. There will be sign up sheets in the Community Center on Sunday. There are a variety of tasks to be done outside and inside. We can use all kinds of workers. This is a chance to make new friends while you enjoy some food and get some work done. Bad weather date is November 7.

MENTOR EVENT! All mentors plan on meeting after Sunday School on October 25th for lunch and a short learning time lead by Lois Keener. Lunch will be provided. We should be done by 1:30.

Menno Focus

September/October issue of *Menno Focus* is available at www.fmcdenver.org/Newsletters or on the Welcome Table in the foyer.

Conference Connections

The October issue of *Conference Connections* is available at <http://www.mountainstatesmc.org/cwtools/download.php/mnF=October2009Newsletter.pdf,mnOD=Newsletters,mnOD=My%20Documents,dc=mountainstates,dc=mennonite,dc=ne> or on the Welcome Table in the foyer.

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) 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. 2) A message will be left on the FMC Worship and Activities Line. Call 303-892-1038 and press 1 at the prompt. 3) If possible, we'll post the info on Channels 4, 7 & 9.

Links

For Mountain States Conference
www.MountainStatesMC.org

For Mennonite Church USA
www.MennoniteUSA.org

For MCC Relief Sale October 16 & 17, 2009 www.rmmcsale.org

Contact Us

FMC General Mailbox
fmcdenver@aol.com

Mark your calendars now!

Saturday, December 19, 5:00 PM

"Celebration of Christmas"

Vicky Mierau and Faye Yoder

Vicky and Faye have participated in FMC's music program over the years as accompanists, organists, pianists, and providing music for special services. In recent years they have performed organ/piano duets. More recently, they expanded their repertoire to include classical music for one piano, four hands and presented "An Afternoon of Music" at First Mennonite Church in May. This "Celebration of Christmas" will include Carol settings for four-hand piano duets, piano solos, organ solos, and piano/organ duets.

Would you like to become a member of First Mennonite?

Pastors Annie and Vern would like to invite anyone who is active at First Mennonite and is not a member to consider joining our congregational community on Sunday, December 6. On that Sunday, we will be offering our membership ritual, which includes responding to the questions, and a public response to your commitment. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Annie or Vern (fmcdenverannie@aol.com; fmcdenververn@aol.com)

The first Jr. Youth activity will be a Fall Festival on Sunday,

October 25 at FMC directly following the Sunday school hour. We will have a variety of fall themed activities including outdoor games, art, and trivia. We invite the Jr. Youth parents to join us at 2:30 PM for the final event: pumpkin carving! We'll announce the winners at 3:00 PM. Each youth should bring a sack lunch, play clothes, and a pumpkin. Please RSVP by emailing Betsy by October 18th. We look forward to having all Jr. Youth join us!

MEF (Mennonite Education Fund) Update

The following five students are attending Mennonite colleges this semester and each are receiving a \$2,400 grant from the MEF.

Allison Christensen, junior, Goshen

Evan Conrad, sophomore, Bethel

Ali Fretz, freshman, Goshen

Jamie Leaman-Miller, freshman, Goshen

Chase Snyder, senior, Goshen

In September, the MEF received \$5,000 from the Olen Hershberger Memorial Fund. The MEF receives no funds from the general FMC budget. All money comes from donations, memorial funds, interest income and fund raising. Thanks to all who have contributed to the MEF! Dave Harguth, Chair: MEF Committee

Have you ever thought about how complaining affects your life?

On October 25, 2009, the adult education hour will be focused on learning why we complain, what benefits we think we receive from complaining, how complaining is destructive to our lives and how to get others around you to stop complaining. Come learn how becoming "complaint free" will dramatically improve the quality of your life. - Lori Oswald

Beginning on November 29, for the four Sundays of Advent, we will offer an early service, from 8:15 - 8:50 AM. This service will include a briefer version of the Sunday's sermon and will be contemplative in character.

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 be run one time. Deadline is midnight Wednesday.

We are looking for some part time help with some household duties as well as after school care for our girls (age 3 & 6) for a total of 8 hours (2 days). This is a perfect situation for an at home parent with a young child or college student who loves kids and is looking to make some extra money. Please call Lori Oswald at 303.636.1778 (w) or 303.755.5051(h) for more information.

Advent Retreat 2009

What is the truest calling for your life? Join seven other people in Snowmass, CO on the second weekend of December for a contemplative and exploratory retreat, based on the book *Let Your Life Speak* by Parker Palmer. This retreat will be led by pastor Vern Rempel. For information about the retreat, go to http://firstofdenver.co.us.mennonite.net/Events/Advent_Retreat.

Around Mountain States Mennonite Conference

Primetimers will meet on Wednesday, October 28, at noon at Glennon Heights Mennonite Church, for a potluck and presentation about Mennonite World Conference and South America. Irene Martin and Sam and Joyce Hofer are the presenters. Bring food typical of South America. RSVP to any of the hosts: Elvira Schierling or Sam and Joyce Hofer.

Ten Thousand Villages, 2626 E. Third Ave., Denver, CO., is hosting a Community Shopping Night on October 22 from 5-8 PM for Community Ministry. Community Ministry's mission is to meet the basic needs of qualified people in Southwest Denver who are experiencing economic hardships and related problems. From time to time, we host events after hours for metro nonprofit groups to help with their fundraising. Fifteen percent of our net sales during the hours of 5 – 8 PM go to the participating organization. We welcome you to come and support these organizations and give three times – first as a gift to yourself or others, second to the participating nonprofit, and third and very importantly to our artisans.

Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp needs volunteers to demonstrate first hand the parable of the sower and the seed (Matthew 13:1-23). While the road was used as much as possible to minimize disturbing the grassy hillsides, almost an acre of ground will need to be reclaimed with reseeded. As the parable mentions, to avoid seed falling on rocky ground will require effort to provide good soil (spreading topsoil where needed). Once the seed is sown, we will use rakes to cover the seed so birds do not come and devour it (bring your metal rakes). We would like to have a group of no less than 15 or so to help "spread" out the task at hand. So bring your Bibles, rakes, friends and family on Saturday, October 24 and join in bringing this wonderful parable to life! Please contact the camp (719-687-9506 / info@rmmc.org) to let us know your coming. Visit the web page for project pictures, volunteers, and additional information about the project!

Mennonite Church USA

From Mennonite Education Agency: Pray for Gehmans Mennonite School's students, teachers and its new administrator, Michael Burkholder, during this time of transition. Pray also for wisdom to deal with any challenging situations that may arise.

From Mennonite Mission Network: Pray for God's guidance as new participants begin their Mennonite Voluntary Service experience. May they serve in God's name through both hard and joyful times.