



FMC Weekly

October 23-29

Worship this Sunday, October 25

The theme for this Sunday is Spiritual Aspects of Change: Endings. Pastor Vern Rempel will be preaching. The lectionary reading is Psalm 126.

Psalm 126
Stephen Mitchell
2nd-person paraphrase vkr

When the Holy of Holies brought us back to
Zion,
we felt we were in a dream.
Our mouths overflowed with laughter,
and song burst out on our tongues.
Every nation on earth said,
"Look what God has done for them!"
You have done marvelous things for us;
our hearts run over with joy.
You restored us among the nations;
you brought us back from the dead,
like a dry riverbed in the desert,
which swells to life in the spring.

Those who now sow in tears
will reap with songs of thanksgiving.
Those who weep as they go out,
carrying their bags of seed,
will come back singing with joy,
carrying the harvest in their hands.

For a listing of future worship services and the
choir schedule, go the FMC website at
<http://www.fmcdenver.org>.

Education this Sunday, October 25

For Children

The lesson theme for October 25 is "returning to Jerusalem." Scripture/Bible Story is Ezra 1. The faith focus for younger children is "God brings us back;" for older children "God keeps covenant in unexpected ways." 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). October 25 - Anabaptist/Mennonite ethics of conflict, finance, and power: a study of the Sermon on the Mount. Meets in B21. Facilitator: Vern Rempel

Have you ever thought about how complaining affects your life? We 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. Meets in the Sanctuary. Facilitator: Lori Oswald

Events October 23-29

Saturday, October 24

- Fall Clean Up Day 8:00 AM, FMC grounds. Come, even if you didn't sign up ahead of time. Bring rakes, gardening tools, gloves, brooms, rags, buckets. We have a variety of indoor and outdoor projects. Refreshments will be served.
- Blues Brethren/Andi Hagerup and Friends in concert to raise funds for VORP, 7:00 PM, FMC Sanctuary

Sunday, October 25

- Basement Blessing 10:30 AM. Come to the basement for cake and see the new look! We will bless this beautiful area for our children.
- Jr. Youth Fall Festival, Noon. Each youth should bring a sack lunch, play clothes, and a pumpkin. Meet in the Commons.
- FMC Venture Club "Carvin' Up Pumpkins." Noon to 2:30 PM. Bring a pumpkin to carve. Meeting at the Graber's home.
- Mentor Gathering. Noon. Meet in the Community Center for lunch and a short learning time lead by Lois Keener. Lunch will be provided. Activity ends by 1:30 PM.
- Discussion Group. 5 PM. Home of Annie and Morgan.

Wednesday, October 28

- Primitimers Potluck and Presentation at Glennon Heights Mennonite Church, noon

Thursday, October 29

- 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.

I would like prayers for Jack Moore, my companion and friend of many years. He suffered a stroke last week, was hospitalized at Swedish for six days and is now at Cherry Hills Life Care Center in Englewood and will be there for a couple of weeks. I appreciate the support from the congregation. - Cisco Mascarenas

Our FMC Community

Check your FMC Mailbox on Sunday! Mailboxes have been adjusted so your mailbox may not be in the same place. Some of the "G"s have been moved to the north set of mailboxes. In your FMC mailbox this week, you will find your new FMC Church Directory (a huge thank you to Joann Roupp for assembling the information and producing the directory once again); your 2010 Budget packet, including the proposed budget and your pledging materials; a flyer about Mountain States Mennonite Conference's new SEED Project; and your nametag.

Thanks to Roberta Kandel and Glennis Hochstetler who put some finishing touches on the basement painting this past week.

If you are not listed in the main section of the FMC Directory, but would like a copy of the directory, they are available for \$5. Let the church office know if you would like to have one mailed out to you.

This Sunday morning we will be having a **Basement Blessing** downstairs at 10:30 AM to celebrate and bless the basement make-over, including freshly painted classrooms, updates in the commons area and new artwork. Come enjoy a piece of cake and enjoy this open house hosted by the education commission.

Happy Anniversary

23 - Rick and Ruth Ann Rogers
23 - Arlo and Betty Sonnenberg
24 - Carol and Dave Harguth
25 - Brian and Naomi Nishi
25 - Howard and Myrna Schmidt
29 - Barb and Rod Yoder
Stutzman

Happy Birthday

23 - Steve Kandel
25 - Katherine Rose Friesen
Birky
26 - Hannah Harder
26 - Steve Slotter
26 - Sam Snyder
27 - Irene Martin
28 - Treva Finks
28 - Steve Stutzman
29 - Tim Pynes
29 - Bev Snyder
29 - Jason Stutzman

Attendance October 18

Adults - 161
Children - 27
TOTAL - 188

Sermon, October 18

Pastor Annie Lengacher
Browning's sermon, Spiritual
Aspects of Change - Fear can be
found on the FMC website:
<http://firstofdenver.co.us.mennonite.net/Worship/Sermons>.

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

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=O
ctober2009Newsletter.pdf,mnOD
=Newsletters,mnOD=My%20Doc
uments,dc=mountainstates,dc=m
ennonite,dc=ne](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.

Please review the 2010 budget materials this week in preparation for a congregational meeting to discuss the budget on Sunday, November 1.

If you have misplaced your nametag and would like a new one, contact the church office.

We're trying to make each issue of FMC Weekly fresh and new!

Announcements are only run once. If you would like your announcement to run more than once, you will need to change it and resubmit it. If you would like to see back issues to review some of the announcements, please go to the FMC website at www.fmcdenver.org/Archives.

Thanks for your wonderful response to our request for more prayer cloths! Char Hostetler, Bekkey Wiebe and anonymous donors have provided a wonderful new supply of prayer cloths!

The Jr. Youth Fall Festival is this Sunday, October 25! Come participate in fun activities with the new group of sponsors. Remember to bring play clothes, pack a lunch, and bring a pumpkin. Activities will begin after Sunday school around noon. Parents are invited to join the youth and sponsors at 2:30 PM for pumpkin carving. Our activities will take place downstairs in the Commons. Please RSVP to Betsy at betsyapp@gmail.com. We look forward to having a fun fall afternoon with you!

If you need the use of an LCD Projector for church-related activities, please contact the church office. Some in the congregation are willing to loan their equipment for church use and the church office will help you make arrangements for this.

Anyone interested in becoming a Caregiver for FMC may contact any of these members. We would be happy to meet with you. Jane Birky, Linda Bontrager, Lois Dewhurst, Lola Hershberger, Annie Lengacher Browning, Irene Martin, Elizabeth Miller, Linda Miller, Sarah/Sally Newcomer, Aggie Polak, Mim Roth, Betty Schmidt, Carolyn Stjernholm, Carol Swartzendruber, Darcy VanWagner, Julia Weaver.

Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp has returned a few items found after our retreat. These items can be found in the FMC Lost and Found under the A-G mailboxes in the Community Center. The items are one child's sneaker, light blue size 8; one child's hat (dark blue, light blue, green and white); one gray sweatshirt with lettering Outer Banks N. Carolina size kids XL.

The first Sunday evening discussion group will be taking place at Annie and Morgan's house this Sunday evening at 5 PM. Please bring a snack or beverage to share. Contact Annie at fmcdenverannie@aol.com for more information, articles to read and directions.

Come to FMC's Game Night for a great evening of games and snacks! Friday, November 6, 6:30-8:30 PM in the FMC Community Center. There will be Dutch Blitz, Rook and Scabble Tournaments, as well as group games like Pictionary and Charades. Bring snacks to share and fun games to play. Child care will be provided for ages 4 and under. All are welcome. The Small Group Committee - Linda Bontrager, Anne Gerber, Theda Good and Dawn Kreider - the planners. Contact one of them if you have questions.

Links

For Mountain States Conference
www.MountainStatesMC.org

For Mennonite Church
USA

www.MennoniteUSA.org

Contact Us

FMC General Mailbox
fmcdenver@aol.com

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.

"In Your Drawers" is a new business created by myself and Chris Uhlemann. Please consider us if you need assistance with any of the services listed below. Services offered are as follows:

- De-clutter closets and wardrobes
- Re-sell, recycle and dispose of unwanted items
- Alterations of clothing available
- Consultation and personal shopping
- Preparation to re-locate or downsize for you or your loved one
- Estate organizing
- Meal preparation
- Run errands and grocery shopping
- Holiday shopping
- Pet sitting

Please call Maxine Martin at 303- 475-5067 or email at maxinesmartin@comcast.net.

Around Mountain States Mennonite Conference

DOOR is in need of a decently operating used vacuum cleaner for our Dwell Unit, the year-long component of our ministry. If you have one to donate please contact Randal Friesen 303-898-4541.

Preliminary figures from last weekend's MCC Relief Sale indicate the total appears to be very close to what we did last year, \$122,000 - \$123,000. It takes a whole lot of volunteers to make an event like this happen, and it takes a lot more people purchasing items to make it a successful event. Great effort by so many! Thanks to all from FMC who helped!

MMA Breakfast at Arvada Mennonite: MMA West is sponsoring a breakfast meeting with Mark Regier, MMA Director of Stewardship Investing on Thursday, October 29th at 7:30 AM at Arvada Mennonite Church. His topic will be: Investing for Change: Understanding the Social Impact of our Investments. Discover how the money you save can have just as much impact as that which you share and spend. Please plan to attend. Any questions, please contact MMA West at 877-662-9378.

Mennonite Church USA

From Mennonite Education Agency: Ask God for wisdom and guidance in the search for a new vice president and seminary dean for Eastern Mennonite Seminary.

From Mennonite Mission Network: From Mennonite Mission Network: Approximately one-fourth of Mennonite Mission Network overseas personnel serve in countries where they cannot openly share the good news of Jesus. Pray that they may find ways to express God's love, forgiveness and acceptance through their lives.

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) response to Asian earthquakes and flooding - your donation will help! Please see the posting on our FMC website from MCC, the relief, development, and peace-building arm of the Mennonite Church, describing the MCC response in Asia and inviting contributions to this under-publicized tragedy. – Vern Rempel

Our Urban/Global Community

Sabeel Wave of Prayer: Each Thursday at noon in Jerusalem, Sabeel holds a Communion service that is open to the community. The Friends of Sabeel coordinators have offered the idea of "Waves of Prayer." In their respective time zones, individuals and groups around the world will pray together at 12:00 on Thursdays. Starting in Australia, passing through Palestine, and on around the world we will pray for Peace with Justice and focus on specific issues each week. This week at noon please pray for the health and safety of all local and international volunteers and that Palestinian farmers and their families may have a peaceful olive harvest.

Meditation

Question of the Day:

What do the Beatitudes and the Sermon on the Mount say to me?

A number of the many church's non-negotiables today are at major variance with what Jesus actually emphasized. If gay marriage and abortion as single issues are the new litmus tests of authentic Christianity, why didn't Jesus allude to them at least once? How can you read the Eight Beatitudes and the Sermon on the Mount and not believe Jesus was teaching nonviolence? For some reason, things like this are hidden in plain sight. We could not see what we did not want to see, and particularly things that asked US to change!

Wouldn't you think the rather clear non-negotiables in Jesus are forgiveness, inclusion, and love of enemies? But we didn't teach that. That could've changed history! But we weren't interested in changing this world. As Brian McLaren says, we got involved in "an evacuation plan for the next world." None of the Christian nations have a record for peacemaking. We have to go to our Mennonite, Amish, and Quaker brothers and sisters who, thank God, retained the peace witness of the church. Almost every denomination preserved at least one great gem in the crown that is Christ.

Adapted from the CAC webcast, Nov. 8, 2008: "What is The Emerging Church?"

A Service Opportunity offered by Jennifer Miller

Quilts for the St. Francis Center

Saturday - October 24 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

In the spirit of Gee's Bend quilters, on October 24 from 9 AM – 4 PM, there will be a Community Quiltmaking day at Redline. Women from Gee's Bend Alabama have made quilts for three or four generations out of the used textiles in their community. They took old, worn, work clothes, tablecloths, and draperies and recycled them into beautiful quilts. They were discovered by the outside world back in the 70's and were compared to Abstract Expressionism. They were shown at the Whitney Museum in New York City and now have traveled in exhibits around the country. Gee's Bend quilters were recycling out of necessity, long before it became popular today. Linda Campbell is an artist in residence at Redline, a new arts incubator at 24th and Arapahoe. She makes art quilts and greatly admires the quilts of Gee's Bend. Part of Redline's mission is to provide art opportunities in the community. So as a way of welcoming the Curtis Park and Five Points Community to Redline, Linda is organizing this project. Used clothing will be cut-up and pieced back together as quilts. Once the quilts are complete they will be donated to the St. Francis Center for their new transitional housing complex at the corner of Curtis and Park Ave. This new facility will have 50 beds for men and women who are trying to get off the streets. Andrew Spinks, the Development Director for the St. Francis Center, reports that they will put the quilts to good use. It is Linda's hope that the quilts, made by the community, will help the men and women at the St. Francis Center feel the support of the surrounding community. The quilts will hopefully also be a bright and cheerful addition to the decor at the new center. It's a service opportunity through the art residency FMCEr Jennifer Miller is a part of at RedLine.