



FMC Weekly

December 4-10

Worship this Sunday, December 6

8:15 - 8:50 am Service of Contemplation in the Sanctuary.

9:30 am Second Sunday of Advent. Heavenly lights: All flesh shall see.
Luke 3:1-6. Pastor Vern Rempel will be preaching. Choir will sing.

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

Education this Sunday, December 6

For Children

The title of the lesson for the second Sunday of Advent is "The Word becomes flesh." The Scripture/Bible story is John 1:1-18. Christ is the light of the world. John was sent from God to testify to the light. The law came through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. The faith focus is, "we wait for the light of Christ."

For Adults

Sanctuary - no class (Church Christmas Bazaar in Community Center)
B-21 - The Godfather trilogy and the Old Testament Part 4 - Tory Doerksen
B-18 – Formation 101 – Introduction to MCUSA Denomination – Ed Rempel

For information about upcoming Adult Education, go to <http://firstofdenver.co.us.mennonite.net/Education/Adult%20Ed>

Events December 4-10

December 6

8:30 am choir rehearsal

FMC Holiday Bazaar

- Ruth Goebel House – supports formerly homeless women.
- FMC Venture Club – supports MCC
- Women Without Borders – supports Afghan women
- Women's Bean Project – supports teaching women job readiness and skills for entry-level employment while moving towards self-sufficiency
- West High Mural Club – supports a club trip to New York City to visit art museums
- Earth Links – supports homeless and at-risk low-income people
- People of Hope Crafts – supports people and communities in El Salvador
- Grocery Certificates – purchase gift cards for Head Start families
- SABEEL – supports awareness of Palestinian struggles
- Denver Refugee Women's Craft Initiative – supports refugees who have relocated to the United States.
- UNICEF – supports children around the world.

December 10 Round Table, FMC, 10:15 am

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

5 - Marco Monzon Paz and Jessi Stoltzfus

Happy Birthday

4 - Annie Lengacher Browning
4 - Frank Gaeddert
6 - Kori Leaman-Miller
6 - Rachel Moyer
6 - Doug Reed
6 - Jenae Stutzman
7 - James Sommers
7 - Keith Wood

Attendance November 29

8:15 am Service: 17

9:30 am Service:

Adults - 207

Children - 32

TOTAL - 239

Sermon November 29

Reflections by Pastor Vern Rempel are posted at www.fmcdenver.org/Worship/Sermons. Hard copies of recent sermons are also available in the literature rack in the Community Center.

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

Menno Focus

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

Our FMC Community

New this week:

December Menno Focus, the monthly newsletter of First Mennonite Church

December Conference Connections, the monthly newsletter of Mountain States Mennonite Conference

Please turn your pledge form in as soon as possible. Place your pledge in the offering plate, e-mail the information to Karen Martin or mail it via US mail to the church office. Thank you!

Want to help welcome new babies to the congregation? When new babies are born to families in our congregation, we have a list of people who take meals to the families. Speaking from experience-it is such a relief to not have to cook and it felt so nice to know so many people were thinking about our family. If you would like to be put on the list to bring meals to new families, please contact Liz Miller at lizandevan@aol.com

December 1 Update from the Finance Committee. Periodically, the Finance Committee publishes the status of the contributions and here is the status for eleven months ended November 30, 2009. We have some ground to make up before the end of the year! Contributions for tax year 2009 will be reported on your tax receipt if received in the offering or postmarked by December 31. All contributions received at later dates will be reported on your 2010 receipt. – Dawn Kreider, Finance Coordinator
Giving Status Summary:

Budget for Contributions through 11/30/09	\$414,017.
Actual Contributions through 11/30/09	\$406,017.
Shortage in contributions through 11/30/09	-\$7,999.

Herman Reitmeyer's last sibling, Iona Browning, died last Sunday, November 29, in Cornville, AZ. Memorial service is Sunday, December 6, at 1:30 pm at the Methodist church in Cottonwood, AZ. Our thoughts and prayers are with Carol and Herman during this time of loss.

Congratulations and best wishes to Chris, Rachel and Aidan Barnes as they welcome **Ella Grace Barnes**, born Monday, November 30. Ella weighed 10 lbs, 8 oz.

Please be careful about leaving gifts or other valuable items in or around the FMC mailboxes. Some items have been stolen in the past.

Jr. Youth Christmas Party! Join us at Betsy's house on Friday, December 11 from 7 to 10pm for an evening of Christmas cheer. Please bring a silly white elephant gift (from home or less than \$5). We will also have a Christmas movie and some other holiday activities. Contact Betsy if you have any questions (betsyapp@gmail.com).

Conference Connections

December issue of *Conference Connections* is available at 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

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.

Anyone going to Hesston

before December 15? If you could take a box to Kansas for Jan Griffin, please contact her at 303-755-1250.

2009 Advent and Christmas at First Mennonite Church

"Heavenly lights"

Hymn for the season: For Mornings Bright
STJ 113

All four Sundays of Advent: November 29, December 6, December 13, December 20

Early service: 8:15 am - 8:50 am

Heavenly lights: A service of contemplation on divine light

Advent 1: Sunday, November 29

Heavenly lights: The heavens are telling the glory of God
Luke 21:25-36

- Pastor Vern Rempel preaching.

Advent 2: Sunday, December 6

Heavenly lights: All flesh shall see
Luke 3:1-6

- Pastor Vern Rempel preaching.
- Annual FMC Holiday Bazaar before and after worship.

Advent Retreat: December 11-14

- An Exploratory and Contemplative Retreat at Snowmass, CO, with Pastor Vern Rempel.

Saturday, December 12

- Children's Christmas program rehearsal from 9:30 – 11:30 am

Advent 3: Sunday, December 13

Heavenly lights: Ring out your joy
Isaiah 12:2-6

- Children's Christmas program: The Light that Shines
- Last Sunday to purchase gifts cards for Head Start families.

Advent 4: Sunday, December 20

Heavenly lights: Blessed is she
Luke 1:39-45

- Pastor Annie Lengacher Browning preaching.
- An FMC string ensemble will be playing excerpts from the Saint-Saens' Christmas Oratorio.

Christmas Eve Service and Wassail: Thursday, December 24

Heavenly lights: A starry silent night

Gathering Music - 6:15 - 7 pm

Worship service - 7 - 8 pm

Wassail in Community Center - 8 - 8:45 pm

First Sunday after Christmas, December 27: Winter Count

Heavenly lights: Glimmers of divine light in our lives

- A service of bearing witness from our year
- No Christian Education classes.

Second Sunday after Christmas, January 3

- Pastor Annie Lengacher Browning preaching .

2009 Joseph's Storehouse

Support rent and utilities assistance, housing assistance, restorative justice services and other important ministries to our communities by giving a donation. The money collected in December and January is used to offer starter and partial operating grants to these important urban ministries at our various Anabaptist churches. At First Mennonite Church, a grant from this Joseph's Storehouse drive provides funds for our Assistance Program. In the spirit of barn-raising and helping each other at harvest, we offer our resources for the good of all. Write "Joseph's Storehouse" on the memo line of checks made out to First Mennonite Church or put coins and cash in an envelope designated for Joseph's Storehouse. Please donate generously for the ministries in the Denver-Boulder area. The need is great in these difficult economic times.

Mennonite Church USA

Just in time for Christmas, Mennonite Publishing Network (MPN) offers you a great selection of books for gift-giving at discounted prices! The world is a challenging place today. Economic uncertainty, unemployment, pandemic, conflict, poverty, hunger, injustice: these are just a few of the issues that confront us. Fortunately, there's hope! As followers of Jesus, we know that the daily litany of distressing news is not the final answer; God is still the author, creator and giver of life. As Christians, we are called to be witnesses for this hope, bringing grace, joy, peace and healing to the world. Our goal at MPN is to provide great books and other resources to help you live out the radical message of Jesus Christ, and to proclaim that the historic Anabaptist vision of peace, justice, worship, discipleship and service offers real and practical solutions for the challenges facing the world today. I am grateful that your area conference has given us permission to send you this message, via your church, about the resources we offer. You can find these great books at www.mpn.net/greatbooks. The offer ends Dec. 20.

As together we celebrate the birth of our Savior, we want to thank you for your friendship and support this year. Click on the following link for a special Christmas message from Mennonite Mission Network www.MennoniteMission.net/ChristmasGreeting. May the peace of Christ be with you.

From Mennonite Mission Network: Pray for the peace witness of Mennonite churches in Bolivia today during the presidential elections and that the elected president will implement policies that benefit all regions of the country.