

# ***Mountain Community Mennonite Church***

*Welcome Friends!*

Join Us – We Share God’s Love by Following Jesus,  
Reconciling Community, Building Peace

***"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.  
They will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not grow faint."***

Discovering God’s Story, Entering God’s Hope  
April 3, 2016

Visiting Preacher  
Worship Leader  
Song Leader

**Karen Lichlyter-Klein  
Meredith Oakes  
Dennis Book**

## **WE GATHER**

Announcements  
Time of Quietening  
Welcome

### **Call to Worship**

Leader: God’s strong and loving hands are outstretched to all Creation.  
**All: Let the world stretch forth and grasp God’s hands with joy.**

God’s open hands are as the gate of righteousness.  
**Let us enter in to God’s abundant life and give thanks.**

In God’s hands are new life, strength, and salvation.  
**Let us be thankful and sing unto our God with gladness.**

## **WE GROW IN WORSHIP**

Opening Prayer  
Opening Hymns  
Joys & Concerns  
Congregational Hymns  
Offering & Prayer

**HWB 25, 267**

**HWB 301, 356**

### **Prayer of Confession**

ONE: Most gracious God, the Earth is yours with all of its fullness. Your Creation is beautiful and complex in ways beyond our imagination. If we follow its magnificent design, it leads us to You. Yet we have been so distracted following wrong directions of the contaminated hands of the world—hands that have cut off, torn down, burned up,

dug under, held back, built around, and moved out the gifts of the Earth, created for blessing. We have lost our way and your Creation groans for us to turn back to You. We have been too complacent as we have witnessed the covetous few control too much at the expense of the desperate hungry multitudes.

**ALL: Forgive us for not exercising the strength of our hands for the good of your Creation. Give pardon for allowing our hands—gifted by You—to rest idling by our sides. We seek the guidance of your hands to point us to your brightest light, salvation, and new life for your suffering Earth. Through your Son, Jesus Christ, the Way. Amen.**

### **Words of Assurance**

Risen Jesus, You are our salvation. Your forgiveness causes us to rejoice in your glory. Your nail-scarred touch has endowed within us fullness of grace. We lift our hands in thanksgiving, strong as the upraised branches of your majestic trees. Praise You for the power of your mighty hands upon us, for they reach into the depths of our hearts. You are marvelous!

### **Scriptures Sermon**

*John 20:19-31*  
"Coming Full Circle"

### **WE GO OUT TO SERVE**

Sending Song  
Sending Prayer

**HWB 163**

*Your worship service today was planned by the MCMC Worship Commission.*



### **APRIL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

4 Linda & Rick Pankratz  
5 Fran Yoder

6 Mary Gardner & Dar Barrie  
13 Faye Brenneman

### **ONGOING EVENTS**

- Prayer Circle, Sundays @8:45–9:00 AM. All are welcome!
- The Pastor will be in the office Thursday and Friday, April 7 and 8. Please call to make an appointment.
- Women's Bible Study 9:30-11:30 AM each Friday. Contact Rae Shellenberger at 719.213.6931.
- Men's Coffee each Saturday at 8 AM at Serrano's.
- Each Saturday "More than a Meal Ministries" 8:00 AM at Legacy Wesleyan Church, 502 N Walnut St, Colorado Springs, CO 80905.

### **UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS**

-Congregational meeting, Sunday, April 17, during Discovery Hour. The meeting will be brief, but it is **important all who are able attend. Please mark your calendars!**

-The **2016 MSMC Faith & Life Forum, "Dreaming in Color,"** will be Saturday, April 16, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Evergreen Lake House, 29612 Upper Bear Lake Creek Rd. Evergreen, CO. Join us for a time of fun, worship, sharing and dreaming about our conference as we focus on Acts 6 and our guiding text, Luke 1:76-79. All are welcome. Bring a set of colored pencils and wear your favorite color. Please RSVP by April 11 to Karen Martin at [administrator@MountainStatesMC.org](mailto:administrator@MountainStatesMC.org). If you need childcare or could help underwrite the costs of this event, please contact Karen.

-RAWtools presents: **Plotting for Peace - A Fundraiser Dinner with Shane Claiborne and Laurie Works, with music from Giants and Pilgrims.** Enjoy an evening of food & fellowship, an update on RAWtools, as well as keynote speaker, Shane Claiborne and a story from gun violence survivor Laurie Works, whose sisters were killed in the New Life Church shooting. Event info and RSVP at [PlottingForPeaceRSVP.eventbrite.com](http://PlottingForPeaceRSVP.eventbrite.com). (RSVP required.) Fifty-one percent of the proceeds will benefit the new nonprofit Colorado Springs Resilience Center, founded by Laurie Works. **April 23 6PM at Beth-El Mennonite Church.** RAWtools is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit. Donations accepted at the door. If you, a church, or organization would like to consider sponsoring a table, please contact RAWtools at [mike@rawtools.org](mailto:mike@rawtools.org).

- Shane Claiborne will be speaking at Beth-El Mennonite's **Sunday service, April 24,** following the fundraiser the evening prior. There will be **no Sunday service at MCMC** that day, as we will join Beth-El for worship and Shane's message. Please plan to come!

-MCSS Volunteer Spring Tea: May 3, 4-6 PM at MCMC.

-Mark your calendars for **Saturday, May 7** for a Community Picnic fundraiser event at MCMC from 10-1. Raw Tools will be demonstrating how "swords" are made into "plowshares" -- or maybe guns into tools. Smoked turkey sandwiches and homemade ice cream will be available for purchase, benefiting Silver Key and Mountain Community Senior Services programming. **\*\*Volunteers are needed to help serve sandwiches and ice cream, as well as for publicity prior to this event. Please see Paul Johnson if you are interested in helping with these needs.\*\*** Beth-El Mennonite Church has also been invited to join us. Come and bring your friends and neighbors!

-Summer is getting closer and it's time to register for summer camp at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp. New for 2016 is Sibling/Multiple Camp Discount, which applies if one child attends multiple camps or if siblings attend camp. Again this summer, save \$20 by registering before June 1.

-Todd Wynward will be leading a "Rewilding the Way Wilderness Trek," July 1-9 outside of Taos, climbing the Sangre de Cristo range and plunging into the Rio Grande Gorge. This is a mountain and river adventure designed for adult spiritual formation (ages 19+). Cost is \$395 for eight days; there are several scholarships available. For more info, see Paul Johnson.

### ***OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP***



MDS is recruiting volunteers to help finish two new houses in Jamestown, particularly during the week of April 4-8, and perhaps the following week. Lodging and three good meals each day are provided at no cost. Come fall in love with Jamestown and its residents, especially Nancy and Karen, new owners of the two homes. Talk to Gil Friesen: [303-430-7489](tel:303-430-7489) (h) [303-913-8788](tel:303-913-8788) (c) or call Alicia Hurst at MDS directly: [717-735-3536](tel:717-735-3536).

-More Than a Meal: Hadley Hiebert is halfway to her goal of collecting 200+ bags of soap for her laundry soap drive. Please place 3 bags of laundry soap into a larger plastic bag, along with a card of greeting for the recipient, to be handed out at the weekly breakfast. Thanks for helping!

### ***SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS***

-Be sure to sign Don Brenneman's website, [www.caringbridge.org/visit/donbrenneman](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/donbrenneman). (Site name: donbrenneman) Also, please sign up for a meal for the Brennemans; they request mild dinners. Talk with Paul Johnson about this ongoing meal ministry.



-Senior meals at MCMC - Golden Circle Senior Nutrition - begin April 4, continuing indefinitely, 5 days/week. Preparation each day will begin at 10 AM and finish at 1 PM.

-#MennoLove ... get involved! Would you like to be part of Mennonite Church USA's new storytelling project, Love is a Verb? We're exploring the idea of love in action — highlighting stories of individuals, families, congregations, communities and agencies across Mennonite Church USA, who are living out the transformative love of Christ all around them. Write for the Menno Snapshots blog, submit a feature story idea or congregational service snapshot, nominate a love song of the month, or tell us what you think "love is..." at [mennoniteusa.org/mennolove](http://mennoniteusa.org/mennolove).

### ***EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES***

MCC Central States has an opening for the position of Executive Director. The Executive Director promotes and encourages support of MCC. The Director works hand-in-hand

with a management team which includes the Program Director and the Director of Donor Relations, to provide vision and leadership to MCC programs in the region and to develop and maintain strong relationships between MCC and its constituents in the region. This full-time position, based in North Newton, Kansas, requires considerable cooperation and coordination with MCC US and the other regional MCCs, and considerable travel in the region and beyond. Full job description is available at <http://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/executive-director-cs>.

### **Sermon Notes**