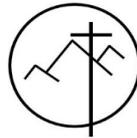


DATE: December 14, 2025

Mountain Community Mennonite Church
Palmer Lake, CO 80133
Box 502
(719) 481-3155



Join Us – We share God’s love by: Following Jesus,
Reconciling Community and Building Peace
**“We are a new creation in Christ - leading us in the
ministry of peace and reconciliation.”**
2 Corinthians 5

DATE: December 14, 2025
Palmer Lake

9:00 am: Worship Begins
Discussion

Lead Pastor: Vern Rempel

Pastor Vern’s email: vkrempel@gmail.com

Pastor Vern’s Blog: soulreport.WordPress.com

Pastor Vern’s political blog is
at mennopol.wordpress.com. Recent posts include:
“Deadly Metal” & “Incarceration Addiction.”

Elders: Barb Eichelberger, Dwight Landes

Information Technology Support: Wilmer Villacorta
Please silence your cell phones. Thank You.

*There will be a time of quiet meditation when the
music stops at 9:00 am prior to the start of worship.
We invite you to join in this time of silence before our
service begins.*

Sermon downloads available at <http://mcmcp.org>

MEETING SCHEDULE: Worship begins at 9:00 at Palmer
Lake every 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of month.

Worship begins at 10:30 at Dry Creek on 2nd Sunday of
month.

3rd Sunday of Advent, Theme: “Star Light”

Speaker:Vern Rempel
Worship Leader:.....Rae Shellenberger
Song Leader:.....Dennis Book
Sound room:Jake Eichelberger

WE GATHER

Welcome
Announcements
Time of Quieting

Call to Worship:

**One: Joy is the gift God gives us upon waking in the
morning to see beams of sun dance in dusty corners
or hear much needed rain, even on a leaky roof.**

Many: Joy is in the delight of tiny precious things.

**One: Joy is the magnificence of the Redeemer when the
tests come back clear, or when a school test is finally
passed, or when the spirit is tested and chooses faith
over fear.**

Many: Joy is in the hands that hold our own while we sit
silently and wait.

**One: Joy is the patience of Emmanuel when petty
disagreement turns into great injustice and change is
slow to bend towards what is right and good.**

Many: Joy is in the small actions we take each day
to help righteousness and peace abound.

WE GROW IN WORSHIP

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymns: #212: Comfort, Comfort, O My People
#248: It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Lighting the Advent Candle
Prayers of the people and sharing the grace.....

Congregational Hymn: #237: Now the Heavens Start to
Whisper

Offering and Prayer:

Prayer for Transformation and New Life:

Great Redeemer, too often we allow the idea of absolute
happiness to block the existence of joy from our daily lives.
Our hopes are crushed under the weight of the world’s
sorrows, and our peace is disturbed by the agonies of an
interconnected existence. We race toward solutions
without pausing to meditate on the greater good. We lay
bare the sorrows we carry without acknowledging the
small delights that make the fight against injustice
worthwhile. Relieve us of the pain we wear as a badge of
honor, ignoring your love, even as it surrounds us.

Scriptures: Psalm 19: 7-8

Sermon: “All the Light That’s Meant to Be – The Story of
the Universe”

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

Sending Song: #236: Creator of the Stars of Night

*If you would like to support this gathering financially, you
may give a check, payable to Mountain Community
Mennonite Church, or cash, or give on-line. PayPal -
mcmctreasurer@gmail.com (Icon is a picture of the Palmer
Lake church from the lower parking lot.)*

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

*Please return the hymnals to boxes provided at back of
sanctuary. Thank you.*

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Rick Shellenberger.....December 21

MCMC

Piano Recital.....4:00 December 22

Christmas Eve Service/Wassail and Cookies 6:00 December 24

MOUNTAIN STATES MENNONITE CONFERENCE

Christmas Eve Service Wassail will be served. Please bring a plate of cookies or bars to share.

A new issue of Zing! is available now. Click on this [LINK](#) to see the December issue. Included is information about the Faith & Life Forum, photos from the credentialed leaders retreat, and more!

You can print the Zing! by opening it in your web browser using the standard print function (usually by pressing Ctrl+P on Windows or Cmd+P on Mac) to save it as a PDF or print directly to your printer.

Colorado Rapid Response Network (CORRN) is committed to responding to raids, deportations, and any Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) activity happening across the state in our communities. Our network comprises multiple immigrant advocacy and activist groups. If you witness any ICE activity, you can report it using 1-844-864-8341 or visit their website:

<https://www.coloradorapidresponsenetwork.com/>

Health coverage through MC USA, sponsored by The Corinthian Plan, offers open enrollment from November 1st to December 31st, 2025, with a January 1st, 2026, start date. If your congregation is seeking health coverage for its staff, please contact duncans@mennoniteusa.org or visit [The Corinthian Plan | Mennonite Church USA](#) for more information. For those renewing your coverage,

watch for your renewal packets in the mail. There are significant changes to the design of the health coverage plan; therefore, please read it carefully. Area Advocates, Joe Christophel (joechristophel@gmail.com), Teresa Pickens (920.248.2268), or Director, Duncan Smith (DuncanS@mennoniteusa.org); or Everence Service Assistant, Denise Henke (denise.henke@everence.com).

Care Packages to Roca

The list of those detained continues to grow.

"I was a prisoner and you visited me."

You may not be able to visit a detention center in San Antonio, but you can still make a difference for our friends caught up in the immigration system there.

Roca de Refugio is inviting the rest of the conference to provide care packages for families who have a loved one in detention or in the deportation process.

Possible items include:

For adults: Cozy socks, cookies, hot chocolate, tea, mugs, candles, face masks, lotions, a journal and a pen, notes of support, etc.

For tweens and teens: self-care items, fashion accessories, games, crafts, etc.

For kids: Stuffed animals, cozy socks, a soft blanket, candy, cookies, a coloring book or notebook and pen, an activity book (with no or little English), etc.

Email Cheryl: administrator@mountainstatesmc.org to request the name and info of the next family on the list, and you (or your church, or a couple of your friends with you) can send them some love. Thank you for your support!

Other resources to note

--**Pulpit supply:** We've added some names to the list of folks willing to guest preach in Mountain States

congregations. Worship leaders/administrators/those who help set up the preaching schedule: let Amy know if you'd like more info: amy@mountainstatesmc.org

HURRICANE MELISSA RESPONSE - MCC is responding to the impact of Hurricane Melissa. Please pray for the people who have been affected by this disaster. MCC is working with local partners to provide food, hygiene items and other emergency supplies. We welcome your donations at mcc.org/hurricane-melissa.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN MENNONITE CAMP

Jr. High (Jan. 16-18) and **Sr. High (Feb. 13-15)** Snow Camps are coming again in 2026! – The time has come to start planning to enjoy the beauty and chill of RMMC in the winter once again. Come play in the snow and on the ice and then be ready to come inside for good food, fellowship and worship together. Visit the camp web page (www.rmmc.org) for additional snow camp details and to register that you're headed to the Colorado Rockies to start the new year!

Young Adult Snow Camp (Feb. 13-15) Young Adult Snow Camp continues to join the Jr. and Sr. High Snow Camp activities and fellowship with participants serving as program assistants AND participants at just the right young adult price . . . free!

Scrapbook Retreat, (Jan. 30-Feb.1) This your opportunity to create paper or digital photo books and share ideas and good conversation with other scrapbook participants. Lisa Longacher will return as our program resource for the retreat and help facilitate a variety of activities. Please come for retreat and community in God's creation here at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp. Register online (www.rmmc.org) and save a space to join in.