



FORT COLLINS MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

300 E. Oak Street, Ft. Collins, CO 80524

Cell: 970-412-7510

Web: www.fcmennonite.org

Pastor: Steve Ramer

Email: stevemramer@yahoo.com



Worship 10:00 AM

We are all ministers in this fellowship

DECEMBER 14, 2014

OUR VALUES



- **Commitment and perseverance.** As the body of Christ, we have a commitment to the community through difficult times as well as good times.
- **Faith-filled, grateful attitude.** In God's economy, we have enough resources: enough finances, enough love and nurture, enough volunteers, enough time. Be grateful while also working to grow resources.
- **Every person in this fellowship is a minister.** Every person has a gift and every person should be given an opportunity to give that gift. We are the body of Christ.
- **Spirituality and social justice are integrally interwoven.** We believe and act on this as we emulate the life of Christ, interpret the Scriptures, and meet the spiritual needs of our community. We are unapologetic about being a Christian community that values spirituality; AND we are unapologetic about being a justice and peace community; AND we are unwavering that these are inextricably entwined, and even synergistic.

We are an open and affirming congregation.

WELCOME THE ONE WHO COMES: AWAKEN, OPEN UP, HOLLOW OUT, AND RECEIVE

From Joyce Rupp's classic, *Fresh Bread*, and Caryl Houselanders' book, *Reed of God*, we draw our 2014 Advent theme, "**Welcome the One Who Comes.**" We are preparing a dwelling place for God this season, on earth and within ourselves. Wake up with us! Open up your heart. Hollow out, start over, clean up, and make ready your mind and spirit to receive the One Who Comes.

GATHERING

- Prelude
- Centering Silence and Opening Prayer
- Call to Worship
- Congregational Singing
- Welcome and Passing the Peace of Christ



Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us offer one another signs of peace, reconciliation, and love. (Stand and shake hands or hug.)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

- Children's Story
- Scripture
- Sermon: *Hollow Out: Emptiness, Form, and Purpose* (Lynette)



Today's service is contemplative, using the method of 'guided imagery'. A nest, a chalice, a bowl and flute all must be formed; they must first be empty in order to be filled. This is not a formless emptiness, a void without meaning; rather, each object has a shape, a form given to it by its maker. It is the purpose for which something is made that decides the material to be used.

"To be full of things is to be empty of God. To be empty of things is to be full of God." — Meister Eckhart

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

- Congregational Singing
- Reflections and Discussion
- Joys and Concerns
- Offering & Music
- Family Circle
- Closing and Sending



VISITORS

Please complete a visitors' card (available from the greeter or on the back information table) and place it in the offering basket or return it to the greeter.

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Steve's regular office hours are Wednesdays, from **2-6 pm** and by appointment. You can contact him at: **412-7510** or stevemramer@yahoo.com

This Advent, let us:

- **Wake up** to the presence of God. Listen for God's guidance.
- **Open up** to the will of God. Receive God's grace.
- **Hollow out** to make room for purpose. ... [more to come]



Birthdays, prayers, and announcements on back

PRAYER REQUESTS

Let us know your requests during the “joys and concerns” time of worship, or write them on prayer cards (available in the back of the church) and place them in the offering basket.

If a concern arises during the week or if you would like someone to personally pray with you, Keith (**391-9956**), Steph (**685-8162**), or Steve (**412-7510**) welcome hearing from you.

DECEMBER PRAYERS FOR FCMF FAMILIES



- Katie and Keith Price-Foster & family
- Steve Ramer and Kathy Egan & Family
- Michael Riverson
- Martha Roden and David Braley
- Steve and Liz Ruhl

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS



Our Fellowship: Continue to pray for Martha's ankle (it's getting better); for all our FFH families; for David, a young man stranded in Ft. Collins; for Stacy and her children; for Elizabeth Bates and Michael Riversong's health; for Katie, Keith, and their girls; and for everyone who needs love, healing, and protection.

“The marble not yet carved can hold the form of every thought the greatest artist has.” — Michelangelo

“Make an empty space in any corner of your mind, and creativity will instantly fill it.” — Dee Hock

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- **Week 1:** Jude Krall (12/03), Kaye Williams (12/10), Daniel Scott (12/11)
- **Week 2:** Karina Metzler (12/14), Jim Carney (12/17), Sena Aitchedji (12/18)
- **Week 3:** Michael Scott (12/21), John Kefalas (12/26)
- **Week 4:** Jean Lambert (12/31)

ONGOING EVENTS

- **Potlucks:** Every Wednesday at 6:00 pm (starting Sept. 3). Enter through back (north door) to kitchen/dining area.
- **MennoPints:** 1st or 2nd Friday
- **Movie Night:** 3rd Friday of the month
- **Elders Meeting:** 1st Tuesday of the month (October 6)
- **Womynfolk Group:** Support group meets the 1st Monday of each month. Contact Annie: (**601**) 918-9054 (c)

CALENDAR

Refer to Announcements for details



- **Dec. 15:** FoCo Café's Grand Opening
- **Dec. 21:** Time to Stuff Stockings
- **Dec. 21-28:** FFH Hosting
- **Dec. 24:** Christmas Eve service (6:30 pm)

“I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set him free.” — Michelangelo

ANNOUNCEMENTS



STOCKING STUFFERS FOR FAMILIES. We will be filling 12-16 stockings on **Dec. 21** for our FFH Families. Please bring small gifts to tuck into each one (no gift certificates or plastic cards). Here are some helpful details about the families regarding children's genders and ages: Theresa Case and her children—Angel (3 yrs), Jessica (12), Joshua (14); Brett Speer and his children—Josh (6) and Deanna (11); Mellissa Traylor and her daughter—Jazzmine (4). Liz will be letting us know about the fourth family soon.

PLEASE HELP WITH MEALS. Wes is back to work and school, which means Angela is pretty busy with new baby Edith, Jordan, and Eleanor. Can you help with a meal for their family on **Dec. 15** or **Dec. 19**? The only dietary issue is no dairy for Wes. Please contact Cathy at: **970-412-5828**

FoCo CAFÉ IS OPEN! FoFoCo Café, the restaurant dedicated to providing nutritious and delicious meals to the people of Fort Collins, regardless of their ability to pay, will hold its official **Grand Opening** on **Mon. Dec. 15** from 11-2. To make reservations, please call: **309-368-1659**. To volunteer, sign up at <http://fococafe.org/volunteer/>

NEW FOLKS IN TOWN. For all who received Steve's email introducing us to Allison and Isaiah Goertz, and read their message in response, please consider emailing them with any ideas an information regarding housing, job hunts, general information about the area, etc: goertz.allison@gmail.com

ONE MORE WEEK TO FFH HOSTING! Please sign up to help us host FFH families the week of **Dec. 21-28**. Check Susie's email, then click to log into Signup Genius and offer up your talents in the kitchen, with the families, or with the kids. The families may end up staying at hotels on Christmas Eve and Christmas as a gift from Best Western, and Mon. and Tues. shifts are covered, but we need to be prepared.

COMBINE FAITH WITH YOUR CAREER! Serve for a year with Mennonite Voluntary Service and join a team of talented people making a positive impact in communities across the U.S. Contact: MennoniteMission.net/Serv

WORSHIP ROTATIONS

	Dec. 14	Dec. 21	Dec. 24	Dec. 28	Jan 4
Greeter	Steve	Keith	Christmas Eve Service (6:30 pm)	NO Sunday Service	Lynette
Worship leader	Lynette	Annie			Russ
Music	Michael Geoff & Levi	Stan			Cathy & Saja
Children's Story	Cathy	Steph			Dave
Scripture	Miranda	Matt			Rachel
Message	Lynette	Steph			Steve
Communion Bread	NA	NA			Carla & Jeff
Snacks & Coffee	Steve & Liz	Greeters			Annie

Bulletin Announcements:

Please submit any announcements by Thursday evening to Martha Roden at: martharoden@gmail.com

Worship Rotations:

When a rotation assignment does not work for you, please alert Steve and worship leaders in a timely fashion.

