



# FORT COLLINS MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

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

Cell: 970-412-7510

Web: [www.fcmennonite.org](http://www.fcmennonite.org)

Pastor: Steve Ramer

Email: [stevemramer@yahoo.com](mailto:stevemramer@yahoo.com)



**Worship 10:00 AM**

*We are all ministers in this fellowship*

**PALM SUNDAY: MARCH 29, 2015**



## 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.*

## LENTEN THEME FOR 2015: THRESHOLDS OF TRANSFORMATION

Lent can be a time for reflection, change, and action as we strive to remove obstacles that get between us and our relationship with God. This Lenten season, we explore the image of *thresholds*, those places we come to that lie between the life we have known and the life ahead of us . . . spaces that can be *transformational*. A threshold, chosen or otherwise, is a place of wild possibility. A threshold invites us to stop, to imagine, to dream, and to question.

### 1. GATHERING

- Prelude
  - Centering Silence
  - Blessing the Threshold
  - 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.)



### 2. HEARING GOD'S WORD

- Children's Story
- Scripture: Mark 1-11
- Sermon: *High Drama or Low Brow Mockery?* (Steve)



Palm Sunday is often called the "Triumphal Entry," yet Jesus was actually making a mockery of the forces violently oppressing the people of Israel. Jesus' little parade put into stark contrast the rule of God and the rule of the Roman Empire.

Jesus calls us to reject the Empire's claims of legitimacy and supremacy. God comes to save, not with chariots and spears, but with the power of love, foolishly unarmed and on the back of a stubborn little donkey.

### 3. RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

- Congregational Singing
- Reflections and Discussion
- Joys and Concerns
- Offering & Music
- Family Circle & 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](mailto:stevemramer@yahoo.com)

### 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.

***Birthdays, prayers, announcements, and more quotes on back***

## MARCH PRAYERS FOR FCMF FAMILIES

- Saja Butler
- Eliza and Jim Carney
- Mary and Cade Coldren & family
- Carla Conrardy and Jeff Kearns
- Keven and Julia Cross



## SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS



**Our Fellowship:** Pray for Mark Scott as he grieves the death of his mother; for Dave Freeman and his brothers as they help their aging parents; for Jordan White as he heals from his surgery and for his parents, Wes and Angela; for Gabi as she weighs her college options; for Michael's health; and for all the FFH families as they move on.

### Mennonite Mission Network:

Pray for funding to implement a program at Bethesda Hospital in Benin to improve the diets of pregnant women, children under 5 years old, and people living with HIV/AIDS.

*"Jesus made clear that the Kingdom of God is organic and not organizational. It grows like a seed and it works like leaven: secretly, invisibly, surprisingly, and irresistibly."* — Os Guinness

*"Let us more and more insist on raising funds of love, of kindness, of understanding, of peace. Money will come if we seek first the Kingdom of God - the rest will be given."* — Mother Teresa

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- **Week 1:** Gus Gouvas (03/01)
- **Week 3:** Liz Ruhl (03/19)
- **Week 4:** Cybil Holmes (03/28)
- **Week 5:** Allison Goertz (03/31)

## ONGOING EVENTS

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

## CALENDAR

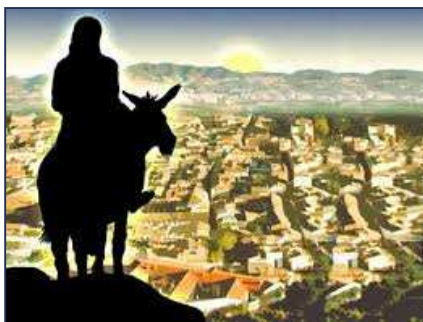


Refer to Announcements for details

- **April 3:** Good Friday Service
- **April 5:** Easter
- **April 9:** IFC Awards Dinner
- **April 9:** Homeless Gear donation collection at Sam's Club,
- **April 25:** MSMC Faith & Life Forum.

*"Because of the inherent challenges of life on earth, all of humanity is vulnerable. This is all the more reason to seek the kingdom of heaven within and find the peace that leads to understanding."* — Mike Love

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE COMING!** Please join us for an informal, interactive, Good Friday service on **Friday, April 3 at 6:30 pm**.

**FFH THANKS YOU.** Another successful FFH hosting week. Four families stayed with us. We helped them feel safe, comfortable, and cared for. Thanks to all who helped.

**FORT COLLINS AREA INTERFAITH COUNCIL DINNER.** You are invited to IFC's Annual Appreciation and Awards Dinner to honor those who have worked so hard to provide affordable housing for all. The event takes place on **Thursday, April 9 pm at 6:00 pm** at the first United Methodist Church (1005 Stover Street). Thanks to the generosity of 1st Bank, dinner will be served without cost with soup and salad meal be provided by FoCo Café (Feeding Our Community Ourselves). A free-will offering will be designated for IFC member agencies whose purpose is to provide affordable housing.

**MSMC's ANNUAL FAITH & LIFE FORUM.** Each year in the spring, Mountain States Mennonite Conference (MSMC) hosts a Faith & Life Forum. Representatives from all congregations gather to make new and re-new friendships, to worship and pray and sing, and share ideas. This year's topic is, "Ways We Follow Jesus." The forum will be held on **Saturday, April 25, 2015, from 8:30 am-3:00 pm** at Beth-El Mennonite Church/Iglesia El Centro, 4625 Ranch Drive, Colorado Springs, CO. MSMC's deadline to RSVP is **April 20** — to make sure there is enough seating and food. Contact Karen Martin at: [administrator@mountainstatesmc.org](mailto:administrator@mountainstatesmc.org).

**NOTE:** Please let Steve know if you are interested in attending.

**ANNUAL ASSEMBLY AT GHOST RANCH.** This year's Annual Assembly will be held at Ghost Ranch in Abiquiu, NM on **August 7-9**, and a planning team is working diligently to make our weekend together full of relationship building and fun. To pique your interest, below are a few historical facts about the history of Ghost Ranch, visit: [www.ghostranch.org](http://www.ghostranch.org)

## WORSHIP ROTATIONS

	March 29	April 5	April 12	April 19	April 26
<b>Greeter</b>	Allison	Martha	Martha	Keith	Liz
<b>Worship leader</b>	Isaiah	Steve	Lynette	Annie	Steve
<b>Music</b>	Geoff	Cathy & Saja	Geoff	Stan	Mary Beth
<b>Children's Story</b>	Allison	Dave	Cathy	Steph	Mary
<b>Scripture</b>	Lynette	Liz	Miranda	Allison	Kristen
<b>Message</b>	Steve	Easter - Steve	OPEN	Steve	OPEN
<b>Communion Bread</b>	NA	Coldrens	NA	NA	NA
<b>Snacks &amp; Coffee</b>	Katie	Mary	Isaiah & Allison	Greeters	Jeff & Carla

### Bulletin Announcements:

Please submit any announcements by Thursday evening to Martha Roden at: [martharoden@gmail.com](mailto:martharoden@gmail.com)

### Worship Rotations:

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

