



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



JANUARY 10, 2016

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.



HOPE IS BORN IN DARKNESS

This Advent we turn our focus to Old Testament scriptures that anticipate the birth of a Messiah. We examine the longing, anticipation, waiting, fear, pain, hope, and joy that can all lead to new birth. We will explore the feelings that often occur in the darkness before the birth of hope for the world and in each of us.

1. GATHERING

- Prelude
- Centering Silence
- Call to Worship Congregational Singing
- Welcome & 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.



2. HEARING GOD'S WORD

- Children's Story
- Scripture: Selections from Isaiah 60
- Sermon: "We Need an Epiphany: Oh Baby, Baby, Baby, Light My Way!"



During Advent, our hope was kept alive by the words of the prophet Isaiah who proclaimed the promise that God's salvation was on its way!

Hope, like the baby Jesus, is often born in darkness. God promises to be with us in darkness and to provide illumination to see and understand.

Isaiah's words call us to awaken at the dawn of each day to the yet unfinished and hopeful business of God's work in our lives.

3. RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

- Communion
- 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

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, Steve would welcome hearing from you: **(970) 412-7510**.

Please read the back for birthdays, prayers, announcements, and more quotes!

JANUARY PRAYERS FOR FCMF FAMILIES

- Katie and Keith Price-Foster & family
- Steve Ramer and Cathy Egan & family
- Martha Roden and David Braley
- Liz and Steve Ruhl
- Annie and Mark Scot & family

WEEKLY PRAYER REQUESTS



Mennonite Mission Network:
Praise God for Janie and Neal Blough's four decades of ministry in Paris, France, and beyond. Pray for the community of young adults around the world who learned about Anabaptism during lectures Neal gave in London, England. May they integrate peace-building into their ministries.

FCMF: Pray for those without homes in the bitterly cold weather; for Russ and his concerns; for Martha's mom and her family; and for all who despair and seek God's help and comfort.

"Never, never, never give up." — Winston Churchill

"All truths are easy to understand once they are discovered; the point is to discover them." — Galileo Galilei

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- **Week 4:** Taka Ito (1/27), Jonathan Miller (1/27), Wes White (1/28), Chenu Atichedji (1/30)
- **Week 5:** Mary Coldren (1/31)

ONGOING EVENTS

- **Potlucks:** Every Wednesday at 6:00 pm. Enter by north door.
- **Mennopints:** Second Friday of each month.
- **Elders Meeting:** To be announced
- **Womynfolk Group:** First Monday of each month. Contact Annie: (970) 294-2646 (c)

CALENDAR

January – Sign up for monthly dinners

February – Monthly dinners begin

"Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness."
— Desmond Tutu

"Hope is like the sun, which, as we journey toward it, casts the shadow of our burden behind us."
— Samuel Smiles



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONTHLY DINNER DATES. We've revived a tradition from a few years ago: monthly dinner dates. We'd like to have 6 groups of adults and their children get together for dinner once a month. Each group would meet at a place of their choosing – someone's home or a restaurant – each month. The first dinner would take place in February. If you are interested in joining a group or hosting a dinner, please sign up at church during January, or via email by contacting Annie at: rascot@bellsouth.net, 970-294-2646

THAT'S A LOT OF LUNCHESES! Did you know that FoCo Café served 23,434 beautiful lunches on a pay-what-you-can basis in 2015, making health meals and a wonderful social experience accessible to all! Thanks to all who lunched and volunteered there. Here's to another year of building community together!

HOMELESS GEAR IS A MANAGING PARTNER. Did you know that Homeless Gear is now a managing partner of the Sister Mary Alice Murphy Center for Hope? Other partners include Bohemian Foundation, Catholic Charities, Neighbor to Neighbor, and Summit Stone Health Partners. Together with dozens of other agencies, they will operate from the Murphy Center to carry out the mission of serving those who are homeless and at risk of becoming homeless.

FOOD CO-OP STILL NEEDS YOUR HELP. The Co-Op still needs you to step up to the plate and spend a little more of your current food budget at their store so they can keep their doors open. Spending \$50 per month of your existing food budget at the Co-Op comes to little more than \$11 per week, and spending \$150 per month comes to less than \$35 per week. It's worth it. The Food Co-Op has been here for 44 years — don't let this be its final year. The Food Co-op cannot survive without you!

INTERNATIONAL NATIVITIES. Global Village Museum presents Nativities Around the World. Multiple renditions of over 250 Nativities from countries, such as Nigeria, Peru, France, and Nepal are on display November 6, 2015 through January 23, 2016. The Museum is located in Old Town at 200 West Mountain Avenue and open **Tuesday through Saturday 11 am to 5 pm** (970-221-4600).

WORSHIP ROTATIONS

	Jan. 10	Jan. 17	Jan. 24	Jan. 31
Greeter	Brad	Eliza	Brad	Allison
Worship leader	Kristen	Brad	Katie	Isaiah
Music	Geoff	Stan	Mary Beth	OPEN
Story	Mary	Martha	Rachel	Allison
Scripture	Ethan	Mark	Annie	Dave
Message	Steve	Steve – MLK Jr. Day	OPEN	Open
Communion Bread	Jeff, Carla, Brad	NA	NA	NA
Snacks & Coffee	Liz	Lynette, Rachel, Eliza	Wes & Angela	Katie

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, worship leaders, and Martha in a timely fashion.

