



Welcome to Boulder Mennonite Church

Sunday, September 20, 2026

A Service of the Word

The Season of Creation: Returning to God's Garden / School Kit Sunday



Children with school kits in Ethiopia – photo from MCC

Join the service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning:

[Zoom link:](#) or call in: Dial 253 215 8782, then enter Meeting ID: 283 224 109#

Or join us via our audio stream: [Spreaker](#)

Welcome to the worship service today.

We hope it is meaningful for you and welcome you to join us again.

As a Christian community, called by Jesus to be inclusive, caring, and peace-minded, we affirm that people of any race, ethnic identity, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, age, economic status, or life situation are welcome to be in full participation in our congregation and in our denomination, MC USA.

Boulder Mennonite Church acknowledges that we are gathering on the traditional territory of Indigenous Peoples. It was inhabited by the Ute, Cheyenne, Arapaho and Ojibwe Peoples. We affirm that settlers have specific responsibilities in the journey of reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship 991

*Gathering Hymn The Garden Needs Our Tending Now 788

RECONCILING

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Singing Healer of Our Every Ill 644

Prayers of the People 989c

GIVING

Offering Invitation/Blessing

*Please place your prayer requests in the basket with your offering.
At home: please type your prayer requests into the “Chat” column on Zoom or send them via email
at least 2hrs prior to the worship service. Or [click here to donate online.](#)*

Offertory Song In the Bulb, There is a Flower 670

Prayer 1022

LIVING GOD’S STORY

Hebrew Scripture Reading Isaiah 55:6-9

“Seek me, the Eternal One, while I may still be found, call upon me while I am near! Let the corrupt abandon their ways, the evil their thoughts. Let them return to the Eternal One, and I will have mercy on them; return to God, for I will freely pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways, my ways,” says the Eternal One. “As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts.”

New Testament Reading Matthew 6:7-13

And when you pray, don’t babble like the Gentiles. They think God will hear them if they use a lot of words. Don’t imitate them. Your God knows what you need before you ask it. This is how you are to pray:

‘Abba God in heaven, hallowed be your name!’

May your reign come; may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven: give us today the bread of Tomorrow.
And forgive us our debts, as we hereby forgive those who are indebted to us.
Don't put us to the test, but free us from evil.'

Meditation

Re-creating with God

SERVING

*Sending Song Sing a New World Into Being 809

*Benediction

Worship in Action: Preparing School Kits

*Please stand as you are able



Resources used in worship:

Scripture adapted from The Inclusive Bible, Priests for Equality

Boulder Mennonite is committed to making our worship space sacred for all. Please refrain from taking pictures of people during the service without their consent. Thank you for your sensitivity to everyone, BMC Church Council.

Thanks to all who contributed to our service today!

Speaker and		Prayers of the	
Worship Leader:	Terry Zimmerly	People:	Toni Diaz Bachus
Readers:	Toni Diaz Bachus, Elvira Glenn	Tech Support:	Steve Voran
Music:	Judy Classen, Peter Ingram	Greeters:	Paul Classen, Lisa Voss
		Snacks:	Cindy Firnhaber

TODAY at BMC

9:30a Worship and School Kit Assembly
 Snacks and mingling

PASTOR: Terry Zimmerly, our transitional minister, is generally in the office 9:30 – 2:30, Tuesday – Friday. Appointments/call-aheads are encouraged. Pastor Terry normally takes Monday as a Sabbath. Contact Terry at: terry@bouldermennonite.org / 319-512-8625 (cell)

DEACONS: Cheri Krause: 510-227-9712; Toni Diaz Bachus: 303-579-4290; Douglas Minter: 303-819-5248

CHURCH ADMINISTRATORS: Susan Graber and Cheri Krause – someone is usually in the office part of the day Tuesday through Thursday. *Please call in or email (info@bouldermennonite.org) announcements by Thursday, 8:00am.*

ECOLOGY TIP: Have you ever thought about all the things that we as humans learn from animals? For example, sit sometime and watch hang gliders floating on the wind currents after they launch from the foothills. Clearly, humans have learned so many techniques like this from birds! Our creator puts invention and delight into our lives through animals!

SCHOOL KIT ASSEMBLY! We invite you all to join us for assembling school kits for MCC (Mennonite Central Committee) today! Such a simple (and fun) way to make a difference in the education and future of children worldwide! Your generous donations last year made **1,022** school kits (and have made a total of **17,319** school kits over the past 21 years!)

We would like to complete 1,000 school kits again this year at a cost of about \$4 to \$5 per kit. To do so, we need EVERYONE's HELP! How? **Donate money toward the purchase of school supplies** by giving a check made payable to BMC with "MCC School Kits" written on the memo line. You may place your check in the Sunday morning offering; you may give your check directly to Bruce Fast, our treasurer; OR donate online by clicking MCC School Kits | Boulder Mennonite Church (<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZKMC/campaign/C-14P6M>) OR give through the PayPal QR code link below.

To read more about the impact of school kits in Ethiopia, read this report from MCC: [School kits help Tigray children return to school after war | Mennonite Central Committee](https://mcc.org/our-stories/school-kits-help-tigray-children-return-school-after-war) (<https://mcc.org/our-stories/school-kits-help-tigray-children-return-school-after-war>)

THIS WEEK ANNOUNCEMENTS can be accessed [here](#) or via this QR code: *They are also posted on the bulletin board in the sanctuary.*



Donate to BMC



Boulder Mennonite Church
is a member congregation of Mountain States
Mennonite Conference and Mennonite Church USA
and in affiliation with the Church of the Brethren

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Boulder Mennonite Church is a vibrant, Jesus-centered community welcoming all people to know God and to be ambassadors of God's love, healing, and peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS for September 20, 2026

Sunday, September 13, 2026:

Attendance: 39, + 1 Online

Offering: \$3,700

THIS WEEK at BMC

- 9/23 Meditation Group, 10:00a. Contact: Sandi Sanborn, 720-530-0659
9/26 Walking Group, 8:00a. Contacts: Karl Ortman, 303-938-9289 and Steve Voran, 303-250-3689

NEXT SUNDAY – September 27, 2026:

- 9:30a Worship: Plant Sunday--bring your favorite plant to worship!
11:00a Farewell picnic for Joan and Ezra Tice after worship at Harlow Platts Park (South Boulder Rec Center)

Speaker:	Terry Zimmerly
Worship Leader:	Cheri Krause
Moment for All:	Judy Classen
Reader:	Joyce Penner
Music:	Susan Graber, Peter Ingram
Prayers of the People:	Cheri Krause
Tech Support:	Alfred Sawatzky
Greeters:	Karl Ortman, Lisa Voss
Snacks:	Elvira Glenn, Sandi Sanborn

COMING UP

- 10/4 Blessing of the Animals—plan to bring your well-behaved pets to worship or bring their picture!
10/11 Congregational Meeting to discuss transitional minister interviews
10/13 Red Cross Blood Drive at BMC. We will need a few volunteers to help.
10/17 [Rocky Mountain Mennonite Relief Sale](#), Douglas County Fairgrounds
10/18 CROP walk, 1:30 in Lafayette
10/18 Heretics Group, 4:00p. Contact: Cheri Krause, 510-227-9712
10/25 Hold this date for an afternoon hymn sing at First Mennonite in Denver!
11/6-8 Workshop on the Doctrine of Discovery with Sarah Augustine at Glennon Heights Mennonite Church – Register [here](#).
11/15 **BMC's annual fundraising auction!** NOTE that this is a week earlier than usual due to the peace concert we are hosting on 11/21.
11/21 Dinner potluck and peace concert at Boulder Mennonite—please plan to attend and help if you can.
7/6-10, '27 MC USA's **MennoCon**, the national convention, Cincinnati, Ohio

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS		SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES
8 – Lisa Voss	12 – Miles Mathis	1 – Suzanne Classen & Ryan Loewer
8 – Maureen Friesen	16 – Susan Graber	
9 – Brenda Fox	20 – Alfred Sawatzky	
12 – Jen Dudenhefer	30 – Willburn Taylor	

~PRAYERS~

- ~ of gratitude for Petra Lisa Voss: the radioactive stress test made a mistake and the catheterization and EKG revealed that Lisa has a very healthy heart!
- ~ for Alana, granddaughter of Paul and Mark McKay, who was in Avista Hospital in labor last Sunday.
- ~ [for needs around the world](#) from Mennonite World Conference (MWC).

~ IN OUR CONGREGATION~

HARVEST OF HOPE DONATIONS: Our congregation donated 70 pounds of food to the Harvest for Hope program this week. Thanks again to Kent Olson and Cornelia Krahm for their delivery!

GOODBYE PICNIC FOR JOAN AND EZRA NEXT SUNDAY: We'll spend some time together after worship next Sunday to send off our dear Ezra and Joan. Please **bring your own picnic lunch** and meet at Harlow Platts Park (at the South Boulder Rec Center), 1360 Gillaspie Dr—just 5 minutes from the church! There are some picnic tables, but you might want to bring blankets and tablecloths, maybe some lawn chairs and lawn games. . . .

Also, please sign the calendar at the back of the sanctuary for Ezra and Joan if you haven't already!

YOUR COINS COUNT! Each year, spare change collected by children, families and churches adds up to more than \$600,000 toward MCC's work around the world. Bring your loose change and bills and add them to our change jar during our offering time. They'll be delivered to the Rocky Mountain Mennonite Relief Sale in October. Thank you!

FROM THE PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE: Here is an updated list of some events and milestones. (Completed items are striked out.)

Also, Bruce Fast (thanks!) created a section for documents related to our pastoral search and congregational meetings, which you'll find in the Members area of the website. Contact the church office if you need the password. – Douglas, Joanna, Steve, Susan, Toni

8/27	Committee meeting—organize and start to plan for next steps
8/30	Congregational Meeting to discuss Part 1 of the transitional minister interviews
9/8	Search committee meets with Terry
9/13	Congregational Meeting to discuss Part 2A of the transitional minister interviews

10/11	Congregational Meeting to discuss the transitional minister interviews
TBD	Congregational survey to determine congregational and pastoral priorities
TBD	Ad released for pastor--all aspects of pastoral role must be defined when the ad is released so Amy Zimbleman, our conference minister, can advise potential candidates.

~ ACROSS THE ANABAPTIST COMMUNITY ~

MEDA EVENT IN DENVER: Join us Thursday, October 8, in Denver for “Making AI Useful in Your Business, Safely,” an evening exploring where AI can genuinely save you time and what pitfalls to watch for along the way. Hosted by Jeremy Showalter, Chief Business Officer at Swan Bitcoin and MEDA board member, and (our own) **Teresa “T” Troester-Falk**, founder of BlueSky Privacy and a two-decade veteran of privacy law, the session brings together business and governance perspectives on practical AI use. Info and registration [here](#).

MC USA RESOLUTION GUIDELINES FOR THE 2027 DELEGATE ASSEMBLY: The MC USA Executive Board has appointed a new Resolutions Committee and published its “Guidelines for Developing Organizational Resolutions and Church Statements in Mennonite Church USA” for the 2027 Delegate Assembly. Read more [here](#).

MENNO SNAPSHOT: In [Finding courage on the road less traveled](#) Caleb Stoltzfus writes: My grandfather, Glenn Martin, was a conscientious objector during the Vietnam War from 1964-1966. He did his 1-W alternative service in Indianapolis, Indiana, at a Goodwill store.

FROM MCC NATIONAL PEACE AND JUSTICE MINISTRIES: At a recent [MCC Peace Camp](#) in Chicago, young adults came from across the U.S. to learn new ways to turn their faith into action, embodying nonviolent resistance in the face of increasing oppression and militarism. One way participants put theory into practice was with a prayer service outside the Broadview Detention Center. For some, it was their first experience with nonviolent action.



Peace Camp participants before a prayer vigil at Broadview Detention Center. MCC photo/Michael Bracey

Another way to turn faith into action is to advocate for policies that reflect Christ’s call for peace, justice and compassionate generosity. Expand your peacebuilding skills and be inspired to action:

- [Faithful witnessing in turbulent times](#) (Sep. 21 webinar)
- [Put your sword away: Peace in a time of violence](#) (spring/summer Peace & Justice Journal)
- [How can Anabaptists respond to authoritarianism?](#) (guide)

- [Current U.S. advocacy campaigns](#)

MENNONITE ACTION INVITATION: Mennonite Action has become an important spiritual home for people who want to publicly take action in support of a world modeled by the revolutionary love and life of Jesus. The new Executive Director, Lina Blount, is thrilled to join this powerful community of Mennonites, Anabaptists, Christians, and friends fighting for liberation for all of God’s children. Join us by participating in an action, [joining a mass meeting](#), [donating](#) to support our work, or [following along with our work on the Senate NDAA](#).

CO WEBINAR: Conscientious Objection: Understanding the Legacy and What it Means Today webinar, Tuesday, October 6 at 6 p.m. MDT. This webinar will provide space to reflect on what it means to be a Conscientious Objector (CO), remember its history, learn about how to declare CO status, and how to connect with MCC Central States and other churches around the topic of CO. Register at mcc.org/co-today and contact beckyteiwes@mcc.org for more information.

HOPE, NOT HATE: Summer intern Emily Phillips shares on “Hope, not hate,” while advocating for climate policy and “Why mining reform demands a role in our climate response” for the [Anabaptist Climate Collaborative August newsletter](#).

ANABAPTIST DISABILITIES NETWORK OCTOBER WEBINARS: [Children as Docents in a World of Wonder with Dr. Benjamin Conner](#), Wednesday October 14 at 2 pm EDT/1 pm Central on Zoom and [Thy Tender Care: What Caregiving and Disability Can Teach Us about the Kingdom of God](#) with author John van Sloten, Wednesday October 28 at 11 am EDT/10 am Central on Zoom.

TAKE CLIMATE ACTION FOR NEPAL: [Urge Congress](#) to fulfill U.S. international climate finance commitments in the FY2027 budget appropriations bill!

~ IN THE LARGER COMMUNITY ~

CROP WALK, OCTOBER 18! Laura Minter has already set up our Boulder Mennonite team online, so you can go there to register and begin raising funds. We will also have paper envelopes available for checks and cash. If you can’t walk, you can still collect contributions or support one of our walkers. 75% of the money raised goes to Church World Service (international work), 24% to Community Food Share (local), and 1% to Bread for the World, which advocates for legislation to assist hungry people. Last year, Boulder County raised over \$55,000, and Boulder Mennonite was a huge part of that. Let’s join with our sister churches in this ecumenical effort to “pray with our feet”!

ANTIRACISM OPPORTUNITY: Dr. Ibram X. Kendi’s books have become required reading throughout the last decade and SURJ (Showing Up for Racial Justice) is thrilled that he will be joining a conversation in a special webinar, [“How to be antiracist in the authoritarian age”](#) on September 28 at 6 pm MT to talk with us about his latest book and what our antiracism work looks like in 2026 and beyond.