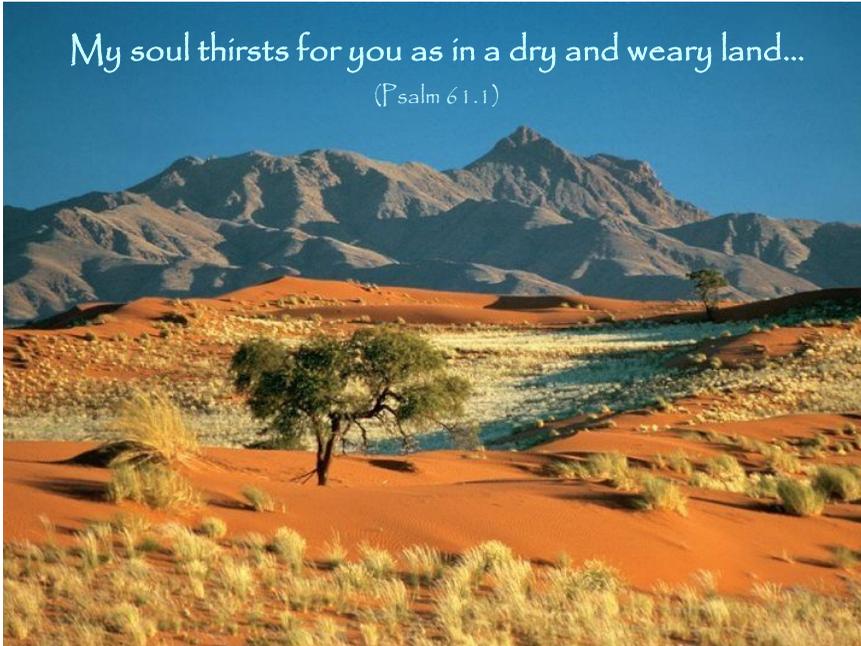


Welcome to
Boulder **Mennonite Church**
Sunday, March 24th, 2019

Third Sunday in the Season of Lent
Mission Sharing: Asher & Lindsey Fast



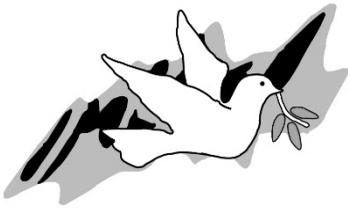
Kalahari Desert, Botswana

Welcome to the worship service today.

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

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

3910 Table Mesa Drive, Boulder, CO 80305
(303) 443-3889 • www.bouldermennonite.org • info@bouldermennonite.org



Boulder Mennonite Church

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

Today: March 24, 2019

- 9:30 am Worship
 Snacks & Fellowship (sanctuary) or Quiet Prayer (room 116)
- 11:00 am Q&A with Lindsey and Asher Fast
 No Children's Christian Education (Spring Break)
- 12:15 pm Finding God Small Group
- 2:15 pm Communication Integrity Small Group

GATHERING

Prelude

***Singing** Hamba nathi (Come, walk with us) STJ 2

***Call to Worship** (adapted from Psalm 63)

Leader: Modimo—God, you are our God. We seek you.

People: Our souls thirst for you as in the Kalahari Desert: a dry and weary land where there is no water.

Leader: We have seen you among us, Modimo, and know the glory of your love.

People: We will bless you as long as we live. You are our Help.

All: *May our souls be satisfied with a rich feast. In the shadow of God's wings we sing for joy, and are upheld. Let us celebrate life. Let us worship God!*

*(*Modimo = "God" in Tswana, a language of Botswana)*

Welcome

CELEBRATING, CENTERING, CONFESSING

Singing The care the eagle gives her young Hymnal 590

Centering, Confession and Reconciliation

Singing

Oh, Lord (God) have mercy

STJ 47

Leader: We are invited to trust in God's ways today. Let us enter into quietness and prayer:

Silence and reflection, then:

Leader: God of life, we listen, for on your Way we find words of life.

People: When we realize that we have paid too much attention to unhelpful voices in our world, we listen for words of life from you and others.

Leader: When we sense the poverty of our souls, we listen for words of life.

People: When our souls hunger for abundant life, for justice and equity in our world, we listen for words of life.

All: *In the morning and in the evening, we will call upon God.*

Leader: Hear these words of assurance: When we trust in God's ways and inscribe them on our hearts, love and faithfulness will never abandon us. God loves us and will direct us in the way of peace!

(adapted from Proverbs 3)

Singing

Oh, Lord (God) have mercy

STJ 47

*Passing the Peace

Offering Invitation/Blessing

Please place written prayer requests in the offering baskets.

Offertory

HEARING

A Moment for All Ages

Toddlers and children through 1st grade may be dismissed for childcare after this time. Older children may use the back of the sanctuary for quiet activities, with parental permission. We love the sounds infants contribute to our worship service!

Gospel Reading

Luke 13.1-9

Hebrew Scripture Reading

Proverbs 3.1-6

Leader: My children, don't ever forget these lessons,
and keep these principles in your heart:

**People: They'll bring you length of days, years of life and above all,
peace and prosperity.**

Leader: Never let love and faithfulness abandon you—
wear them on the tablet of your heart.

**People: Then you'll enjoy kindness and a good reputation
from both God and people.**

Leader: Trust God with all your heart,
and don't rely on your own understanding;

**People: acknowledge God in everything you do,
and God will direct your paths.**

Sharing by Asher & Lindsey Fast

RESPONDING

***Singing**

I hunger and I thirst

Hymnal 474

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

SENDING

Introductions

Announcements

***Benediction**

***Sending Song**

Bwana awabariki (May God grant you a blessing)

Hymnal 422

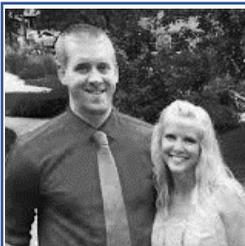
**As you are able, please stand in body, mind, or spirit.*

Resources used in worship:

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture texts are read/adapted from the *Inclusive Bible*, Priests for Equality, 2004
Lent resources from Leader magazine, Winter 2018-119

Thanks to all who contributed to our service today!

Speaker:	Asher & Lindsey Fast
Worship Leader:	Lily Mast
Readers:	Michelene Fast, Ben Lamb
Musicians:	Judy Classen, Randy Spaulding
Moment for All Ages:	Asher Fast
Sound System:	Eldon Mast
Greeters:	Elvira Glenn, Carole Suderman, Laura Minter
Childcare:	Zoe Mast
Snacks:	Gus Gouvas



About our Guest Speakers today:

We welcome **Asher and Lindsey Fast** this morning. They have returned after serving a 2-year service term in Francistown, Botswana collaborate with existing partners and programs to provide life skills, sports ministry, and social alternatives to young people. Their service was through a partnership with **Virginia Mennonite Missions**. Asher is the son of Michelene & Bruce Fast. Blessings to you, Lindsey & Asher! They will

be available for a Q&A time after worship.

March 17, 2019

Attendance: 62 Offering: \$1,291

THIS WEEK

Tues Singing Small Group, 6:30 pm

NEXT SUNDAY – March 31st, 2019

- 9:30 am Worship: Guest Speaker Adam Tice**
Snacks & Fellowship (sanctuary) or Quiet Prayer (Room 116)
- 11:00 am Christian Education for All Ages
Q&A with Adam Tice (Room 114)
- 12:00 pm Introverts Small Group

COMING UP

- March 30 Faith & Life Forum: **Worship and Music Event** (Glennon Heights Mennonite Church)
- March 31 **Adam Tice**, Guest Speaker in morning worship (member of the New Mennonite Hymnal Committee)

- April 7 **SOAR Youth and Adult Choir** sings in our morning worship service!
- April 18 **Maundy Thursday** Communion and Foot Washing @BMC
- April 21 **Easter!** Breakfast @ 9:30am, Worship @ 10:30am, Easter Egg Hunt following worship
- May 12 Drama: “Mary Magdalene” performed by **Mary Sprunger-Froese @BMC** during worship
- July 2-6 *Mennonite Church USA Convention #MennoCon19* (Kansas City, MO)
- August 2-4 *Mountain States Mennonite Conference Annual Assembly* (at BMC!)

~ PRAYERS ~

~ **Laura Minter** offered prayers of thanks to everyone at BMC who has supported me growing up. I am excited to let you know that I have been accepted into **the Goal Inclusion Program at the University of Northern Colorado**.

~ **Gus Gouvas** asked for prayers for **the peoples of New Zealand and Venezuela**.

~ **Anita Jantz** requested prayers for **Dona Laurita**. She lost her 18-year-old daughter to brain cancer.

~ **Jeremiah Osborne-Gowey** asked for prayers of healing for his maternal grandmother **Gladys Hasbargen** who fell and fully broke her ankle. Surgery appears successful, but she’s a do-er. Please pray that she can be still and rest for a while.

~ **Cornelia Krahn** requested that we pray for the end of the death penalty.

~ **Petra Lisa Voss** asked for prayers for **her mother, Isle**, that she will be able to come home next week; also for the **50 victims** of the New Zealand shootings.

~ **Habiba and Kabir** (and all the dervishes of the Sufi circle that meets at BMC) offers thanks for the safety of the BMC space for them: “Beloveds: Please convey to Randy and to the church family how grateful we are to be sheltered under your wing, especially in light of recent events. We so much appreciate the feeling of welcome and safety that we experience here.”

~ **Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp** rejoices in a great weekend for our first annual **Women's Retreat at RMMC**. 55 women gathered for fellowship together, hiking, playing in the snow, knitting, dancing and laughing. The atmosphere was energetic and fun, while also being challenged to tend our souls. A big thank you to **Anita Amstutz** for sharing with us. And to our planning committee and resource leaders who helped to make the weekend fabulous!

~ **Christian Peacemaker Teams:** Please pray for a quiet day of remembering the martyrs here in **Al-Khalil (Hebron) on 24 March**, because any time Palestinians gather in public prayer, some Israelis in Hebron perceive it as an act of terror. Pray that agents of the Occupation allow people to gather, remember their dead, pray together, and depart back to their homes in peace without incident. Shalom, salaam, Godwilling.

~ **World Mennonite Conference:** Praise God for the growth of **Uganda Mennonite Church** among people with financial struggles in cities and peri-urban areas. May the Holy Spirit guide the leaders as they seek “partner churches or individuals to stand with us in some of our voluminous challenges,” says bishop Okoth Simon Onyango. “May God sustain us together.”

~ READING~

Luke 13.1-9

¹ When Jesus was preaching, there were people present who told Jesus about some Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their own sacrifices.

² Jesus replied, “Do you think these Galileans were the greatest sinners in Galilee just because they suffered this? ³ Not at all! I tell you, you’ll all come to the same end unless you change your ways. ⁴ Or take those eighteen who were killed by a falling tower in Siloam. Do you think they were more guilty than anyone else who has lived in Jerusalem? ⁵ Certainly not! I tell you, you’ll all come to the same end unless you change your ways.”

⁶ Jesus told this parable: “There was a fig tree growing in a vineyard. ⁷ The owner came out looking for fruit on it, but didn’t find any. The owner said to the vine dresser, ‘Look here! For three years now I’ve come out in search of fruit on this fig tree and have found none. Cut it down. Why should it clutter up the ground?’

⁸ “In reply, the vine dresser said, ‘Please leave it one more year while I hoe around it and fertilize it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, fine; if not, then let it be cut down.’”

~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

Please call in or email (info@bouldermennonite.org) announcements by Thursday, 9:00 am

DEACONS: Elvira Glenn: e_eglenn@netzero.net or 303-666-6331

Steve Voran: 303-499-6843

Carole Suderman: 303-494-8527

PASTOR RANDY'S OFFICE HOURS:

Tues: 10am – 4pm; **Wed:** 10am - 2pm; **Thur:** 10am – 3pm; **Fri:** 10am – 3pm (subject to visitation or meetings): Appointments/call-aheads strongly encouraged. Randy takes Mondays as a Sabbath rest from work—including emails. He responds only in emergencies on Monday.

CHURCH ADMIN BEN'S NEW OFFICE HOURS:

Tues: 11 am - 12 pm, 1 - 3 pm;

Wed: 10 am - 12 pm;

Thur: 10 am - 12 pm, 1 - 3 pm;

Fri: 10 am - 12 pm, 1 - 2 pm

March Birthdays:

1 Gus Gouvas

2 Pablo Ceres

2 Nancy Wolff

3 Grace Ceres

3 Lily Mast

4 Laura Minter

7 Ryan Loewer

16 Nevin McKay Epp

27 Becky Sawatzky

31 Dick Williams

~ IN OUR COMMUNITY ~

BOULDER MENNONITE CHURCH SEEKS PART-TIME CHURCH

ADMINISTRATOR...AGAIN: BMC is seeking someone from the congregation (old or new) to step up as **our next Church Administrator!** This is a fun part-time job at 12 hours per week. You'll get to serve and know the BMC community better, grow and deepen your Christian/Anabaptist/Mennonite identity, and work closely with Pastor Randy, deacons, small groups, etc. Main duties include updating and printing weekly bulletins, email, ordering supplies, answering phones, taking minutes at Church Council meetings. Interested? Please email **Church Chair Berit** at beritjany@aol.com.



EASTER FLOWERS ORDERS: **Boulder Mennonite Church** will take orders for Easter flowers to be displayed at our Easter Service. Our goal is to purchase sustainable, organic daffodils, tulips, hyacinths, etc. You may take them home after the service. An “in honor of” list will be printed for the service. A sign-up sheet is located on the table by the door. Price for each plant will range from \$15-20.

NEW WAY TO SUPPORT BMC AT KING SOOPERS:

King Soopers is revamping their grocery gift card rewards program. Rather than needing a gift card to reload, all you need to do is register your SooperCard online. This new program becomes effective April 1, 2019. After this date, individual purchases will begin counting towards our organization within 7-10 business days of registering. Each time you swipe your SooperCard (or enter your Alt ID), **BMC** automatically starts earning a rebate. King Soopers will pay up to \$125,000 per cycle to participating organizations based on their percentage of spending as it relates to the total spending of all participating King Soopers Community Rewards organizations.



To sign up:

- Go to <http://www.kingsoopers.com>
- Click on “Savings & Rewards” and scroll down to “Community Rewards”
- Click on the ‘Enroll Now’ link.
- If you have an existing account associated with your loyalty card, sign in. If not, please create an account
- Locate the “Find Organization” Box and search for Boulder Mennonite Church or QF875 (our assigned number) and click Enroll.

New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a rewards card. Customers must have a registered King Soopers rewards card account, i.e. SooperCard. If you do not have a King Soopers or rewards card, please pick one up from the customer service desk at any King Soopers. REMEMBER, purchases will not count until you register your rewards card. On March 31st, I will be available to answer any questions or help you sign up. Please let me know what questions you may have.
~ **Becky Sawatzky, Gift Card Coordinator.**

BMC ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SERIES THIS SPRING: This spring, we will be featuring a new series, “Speaking through our Lives,” during adult Christian Education. Please volunteer to speak one Sunday (to a small group during Christian education hour) about your work, a volunteer experience, your studies, a hobby, a trip you’ve taken . . . that

speaks to your faith. This is a wonderful way for our community to learn about each other and the way we speak to our faith through our lives! Please sign-up online at <https://tinyurl.com/BMCAdultEd2019> or with **Becky McKay**.

THE PASTOR CONGREGATION RELATIONS COMMITTEE (PCRC) ANNUAL SURVEY. PCRC (Douglas Minter, Carolyn Clement and Jonathan Falk) covets your

thoughtful and honest input on Congregational life, Pastor Randy's first year of ministry, and your personal involvement in the life of BMC through an annual online survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QYHVGJB>. There will also be paper copies of this survey in the back of the sanctuary along with a designated box to place them in. We are committed to keeping your input in strict confidence and including your name is optional. Please feel free to contact any of us with any questions, etc. and we look forward to hearing from everyone in the BMC community! ~**Douglas Minter, PCRC Chair.**

SOAR! YOUTH AND ADULT CHOIR will sing @BMC on April 7 in our morning worship



service. Led by music director **Emily Martin** (*First Mennonite Church, Denver*), **SOAR!** is a Colorado Based Non-Profit that specializes in serving diverse youth including youth who are in adoptive homes, foster homes, in kinship placement, youth from single parent families as well as those who are challenged by a mental or physical health issues. An inclusive choir, they bridge the gap between youth and adults in song.

Make plans to attend. A basket will be in the back for donations.

FAITH & LIFE FORUM: A WORSHIP AND MUSIC

GATHERING! **March 29-30, 2019.** Everyone is invited to attend the 2019 Faith & Life Forum. We will be exploring the **new Mennonite hymnal** and worship resource, *Voices Together*, that will be available in 2020. On Friday evening (March 29), musicians are invited to gather for playing and singing together. Saturday (March 30, 8am-3:30pm) will center around plenary and break-out sessions and conclude with **an evening hymn-sing** for those who are able to stay. Make plans to attend this exciting event! For more info and to register: <https://mountainstatesmc.org/2019-faith-life-forum/>



ECOLOGY TIP OF THE WEEK: **E. B. White** once said, "I arise in the morning torn

between a desire to improve the world and a desire to enjoy the world. This makes it difficult to plan the day." Many of us Mennonites (and others) do spend lots of time working to 'save the Earth.' It is equally important to enjoy this world we are improving, and this is a great time of year to do that. Go outdoors and listen to the birds sing, breathe the fresh morning air, and delight in discovering crocuses, mini-irises, and other bulbs coming up and blooming! The beauty of God's creation is here for us to enjoy and celebrate!

~ IN THE LARGER COMMUNITY ~

GUEST LECTURE ON IMMIGRATION: **Dr. Miguel A. De La Torre**, leading Latino Theologian & Ethicist will speak to the question: “Why They Come.” A reception will follow the presentation. Sunday, March 31st from 2:30-4 PM at Plymouth Congregational UCC, 916 W Prospect Road, Fort Collins, hosted by the Iliff School of Theology and the Interfaith Solidarity and Accompaniment Coalition of Northern Colorado (ISAAC). This event is open and free to the public. Contributions to ISAAC's immigrant accompaniment programs are welcome.

BEATING GUNS BOOK TOUR: **Shane Claibourne, Mike Martin, and friends** are launching a thirty-seven-city Beating Guns Book Tour in March 2019. Each of these events will feature a live transformation of a gun into a garden tool. The tour kicks off on March 9 in Philadelphia, stopping in more than 35 cities during the pre-Easter season of Lent, when many Christians reflect on the sanctity and gift of life. The events will also feature speakers, music, and stories. Holding the shameful record for most gun deaths at about 38,000 per year, it's clear that this country is in the midst of an epidemic. Bestselling author and activist Claiborne, and Martin, a Mennonite pastor turned blacksmith, offer a Christian response to the crisis, transcending the rhetoric of “thoughts and prayers” with concrete ways to address the problem. To learn more, pick up a copy of their now-available *Beating Guns: Hope for People Who Are Weary of Violence*.

GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION (GVP) CONFERENCE: 20 YEARS FROM COLUMBINE TO PARKLAND. **GVPedia** will host this conference in downtown Denver April 5-7. It will cover a wide range of important topics like urban gun violence, police violence, and differing GVP strategies. Other topics covered will be gun suicide, domestic gun violence, gun myths, new research, gun law implementation and enforcement, and a history of the gun violence prevention movement over the last 20 years. Best yet, it's free (including meals) and it's possible to register for specific days, if you aren't able to attend the entire conference. Registration and more info here. Space is limited. Email penny@gvpedia.org for more information.

GUN-VIOLENCE PREVENTION RESOURCE FOR LENT: In this season of Lent, **Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)** recognizes the hostilities and violence in our hearts and actions. This comes in contrast to the fullness we know God longs for us to have. We know God wants all God's children to have abundant life (John 10:10), which includes life that is free of violence. In the U.S., more than 100,000 people are shot each year, resulting in more than 35,000 deaths – through murder, suicide and accidents. Since we believe God has made all people in God's image, we also believe that God mourns

whenever life is lost. A recent MCC resource, *A Loaded Conversation*, offers tools for worship, action and structured conversation around this difficult issue. We may not all agree on how best to regulate guns, but we commit to remaining in conversation. Furthermore, we can agree that the killing of God's children is wrong. In this Lenten season, we invite you to join us in prayer, education and action regarding hostilities in our hearts and lives. Download *A Loaded Conversation* now at <https://mcc.org/mcc-lenten-reflection-gun-violence-prevention>.

100% FREE. 100% BOULDER: BOULDER CITY COUNCIL OPEN HOUSE will be on Thursday, April 4, 5 - 7:30 pm. Join us April 4 at Boulder Justice Center for a citywide open house where you can learn about major city projects and enjoy free food and fun. **"What's Up" Boulder** is an opportunity to learn about your city's top projects and services in an enjoyable atmosphere. See clear timelines, impacts and engagement opportunities for City of Boulder projects. Better understand the services that are available and how to connect with them. Come a little early, from 4 to 6 p.m., to chat with your elected officials about issues that matter most to you. Can't make the event? You can provide your feedback online, 24/7, at www.beheardboulder.org on a variety of city projects and initiatives.

CO JEWISH FOOD-FEST on Sunday, April 7, 10:00 - 2:00 at the Boulder Justice Center. Come enjoy a dynamic day of eating, "learnshops", farm tours, and more. It's a delicious, multi-sensory experience at the intersection of Judaism, food, and sustainability to leave you inspired and empowered. Experience how Jews do food in the 21st century! Sunday, April 7, 10:00 - 2:00 at the Boulder JCC. Just \$5 in advance and \$10 at the door. Get all the details and tickets here.

LAST CALL FOR YOUTH VENTURE APPLICATIONS: Give your congregation's youth a glimpse of the global church! Youth ages 15-22 can join a team of peers to explore and engage in the movement of God in Peru, Benin, and Indonesia through Youth Venture. Openings are still available for trips in July. To learn more, check out www.MennoniteMission.Net/YouthVenture, or contact Lauren at 574-523-3022. Hurry! Application deadline is April 1.

EPIC'S CAMPAIGN TO HONOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY: Would you consider joining EPIC's campaign to honor inspiring women between March 8 and our annual program updates July 20 in Nederland? See www.epicprojects.org, write Barry at BarryBartel@EPICProjects.org, call 303-503-7886, or visit the EPIC Facebook page.

