

# FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

## Weekly Announcements 1-12-2020

First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817  
419-358-5766 | [fmclubffton.org](http://fmclubffton.org) | Office open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday-Friday

- Pastor Wanda Stopher – Monday-Thursday, 9-4, off Friday, 419-551-1079; [wanda@fmclubffton.org](mailto:wanda@fmclubffton.org)
- Pastor Theda Good – Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday; 419-549-2417; [theda@fmclubffton.org](mailto:theda@fmclubffton.org)
- Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, M-F, 8-11 a.m., [mastc@bluffton.edu](mailto:mastc@bluffton.edu)
- Director of Music – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 (cell); [sudermanme@bluffton.edu](mailto:sudermanme@bluffton.edu)
- Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, [fmc@fmclubffton.org](mailto:fmc@fmclubffton.org)
- Custodian – Mick Hardy, M-F, weekends as needed

### Sunday, Jan. 12, 2020

- 9:15 a.m. Sunday school, coffee time  
10:30 a.m. Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching  
Noon Freudige/Sojourners potlucks  
3 p.m. JHY return from winter retreat  
4 p.m. Voices Together celebration, sanctuary  
5:30 p.m. FMC learning circle, AR

### Jan. 13-18

- Monday (Jan. 13) Mennonite Women cancelled  
Tuesday (Jan. 14) Morning prayers, 7 a.m.  
Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor  
Wednesday (Jan. 15) Cherubs, Adult bells, 6 p.m.  
Jubilate, 6:30 p.m.  
Chancel choir, youth bells, 7 p.m.  
Thursday (Jan. 16) Bulletin deadline, 9 a.m.  
Deacons, 7 p.m., parlor  
Sunday (Jan. 19) Sunday school, coffee time, 9:15 a.m.  
Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching, 10:30 a.m.  
FMC learning circle, 5:30 p.m., FH  
Mentoring event, 7 p.m.

### Happy birthday!!

- Jan. 12 – Theo Andreas  
Jan. 12 – Allison Diller  
Jan. 14 – Janet Yoder  
Jan. 14 – Don Hostetler  
Jan. 15 – Miev Chan  
Jan. 15 – Ron Headings  
Jan. 18 – Sabrina Longworth  
Jan. 18 – Darryl Nester  
Jan. 19 – Don Hooley  
Jan. 19 – Mary Ann Moser

**Don't forget...the hymnal celebration** and fundraiser today at 4 p.m. in the sanctuary. We'll sing hymns from our hymnals and the "Voices Together" hymnal coming in fall 2020, and hear FMC musicians and ensembles. Consider making a monetary gift to support the purchase of new hymnals for the church. Childcare will be provided.

**Epiphanytide: In the liturgical calendar,** Christmas is sandwiched between the seasons of Advent and Epiphany, sometimes referred to as Epiphanytide or the Season of Epiphany. Christmas is enriched and even extended by these seasons. In Advent we wait and prepare for the coming of the babe and in Epiphany we explore the various ways God is revealed in scripture and in the coming of Jesus and we examine our own hearts in light of what we discover. The length of the Season of Epiphanytide varies depending on the date of the following Easter and runs to the beginning of Lent. During Epiphanytide this year we will return again and again to the questions: "What do we learn about who God is from these texts? And what does this mean for our hearts and lives today?"

**Mennonite Women will not meet** at FMC on Monday the 13th. See your mailboxes for instructions regarding January activity, as well as a schedule for upcoming months.

### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

**Glennys Henry died January 4** at Mennonite Memorial Home. A memorial service was held January 8 at FMC. Burial was in Maple Grove Cemetery.

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

**The next Red Cross blood drive** at FMC will be held from 1-6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6 in the fellowship hall. To schedule your blood donation appointment, call 1-800-RED-CROSS or go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org), sponsor code "fmenncb1".

### **REMINDERS**

**No previous experience necessary:** You're invited to join a team that will make preparations for and lead worship during the upcoming season of Lent. If you have questions or just want to talk more about what this might entail, please see Pastor Wanda.

**Our junior high youth are at winter camp** at Camp Friedenswald this weekend. Youth attending include Ben Hartzler, Ellie Hartzler, Kaleigh Coffman, John-Paul Nyce Yoder, Theo Andreas, Rebecca Estell, Ethan Blount, Ethan Nickel, Claire Phillips, and Makayla Suter. Their chaperones are Carrie Mast, Greg Hartzler, and Rich Bucher.

**FMC mailboxes:** When placing an item in a mailbox in the fellowship hall, please be sure you put it in the correct mailbox – the slot **UNDERNEATH** the label.

**The January 25 Family Workshop** is postponed. The rescheduled date and details will be announced soon.  
~ Safe Church Committee (Laurel Neufeld Weaver, Megan Coffman, & Carrie Mast)

**You're invited to join** the Faith and Life class discussions of "Faith Talk: a spiritual memoir inviting reflection & dialogue" by Ruth Naylor. The class meets in the parlor at 9:15 a.m.

### **OUR CONNECTIONS**

#### **Central District Conference 2020 Regional Gatherings**

- \*Feb. 8, Central Regional Gathering at Hively Avenue Mennonite Church, Elkhart, IN, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- \*Feb. 15, South Regional Gathering at Raleigh Mennonite Church, Raleigh, NC, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
- \*Feb. 22, West Regional Gathering at Madison Mennonite Church, Madison, WI, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- \*Mar. 14, East Regional Gathering at Cincinnati Mennonite Fellowship, Cincinnati, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

#### **Bluffton University**

Jan. 14 "My Leadership Journey in Health Care," Forum, Ronda K. Lehman, 11 a.m., Yoder Recital Hall.  
Jan. 17 "Genocide of the Mind and Indigenous Resilience," Colloquium, Melissa Michal, 4 p.m., Centennial Hall, Stutzman Lecture Hall.

**Mennonite Central Committee** will kick off its centennial celebration year with a comforter knotting event in Kidron Jan. 17-18. All are invited to participate at Salem Mennonite Church, 3363 Zuercher Road, Dalton, on Jan. 17 from 1-9 p.m. and Saturday, Jan. 18 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Food will be available by donation. If you can't make it to the event, see [greatwinterwarmup.org](http://greatwinterwarmup.org) for information about other locations, host your own event or knot a comforter in your home. For more information contact Sarah Geiser at 330-201-4515 or [SarahGeiser@mcc.org](mailto:SarahGeiser@mcc.org).