

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Weekly Announcements 1-26-2020

First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817
419-358-5766 | fmcbluffton.org | Office open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday-Friday

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

Sunday, Jan. 26, 2020

9:15 a.m. Sunday school, coffee time
10:30 a.m. Worship, Youth Sunday
5:30 p.m. FMC learning circle, AR

Jan. 20-25

Monday (Jan. 27) Our Daily Bread, leave FMC at 9:15 a.m.
Tuesday (Jan. 28) Morning prayers, 7 a.m.
Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor
MPS, 7 p.m., parlor
Swiss Historical Society, 7 p.m., AR
Wednesday (Jan. 29) Cherubs, Adult bells, 6 p.m.
Jubilate, 6:30 p.m.
Chancel choir, youth bells, 7 p.m.
Thursday (Jan. 30) Bulletin deadline, 9 a.m.
Sunday (Feb. 2) Sunday school, coffee time, 9:15 a.m.
Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching, 10:30 a.m.
Connections potluck, 11:30 a.m., FH
FMC learning circle, 5:30 p.m., FH

Happy birthday!!

Jan. 27-Feb. 2
Jan. 27 Betsi Werling
Jan. 29 Linda Miller
Feb. 2 Ernie Porzelius

As the small group of FMC individuals prepare for their trip to the Mexico border, they will view the documentary, *The Wall*, on Wednesday, Jan. 29, at 8 p.m. All are welcome to join them for the viewing in the fellowship hall. Produced by USA TODAY NETWORK, the film explores the unintended consequences of dividing America. Viewers will be immersed in 2,000 miles of conversations, possibilities, and outcomes on both sides of the borders.

~Mission Peace and Service

Stewardship information appearing differently in bulletin

You may note that the Stewardship information in the bulletin appears differently this week. Volunteer hours are reflected as usual, but our financial stewardship is displayed as the total giving for the month so far, in comparison to the average monthly giving needed to meet our spending plan goals. We will continue to explore different ways of bringing financial updates to you throughout 2020, including these modes of communication: announcements, bulletins, mailbox flyers, videos, SS presentations, and congregational meetings. We invite your feedback; please feel free to contact any Stewardship Commission member with questions and comments.

~Stewardship Commission: Lynn Miller, Andrea Goings, Kendra Nickel, Heidrun Awad, Mark Novak, & Carrie Mast

MORE NEW INFO

Landon Novak took the photo on the cover of today's bulletin from a castle in Slovenia, where the Novaks were traveling recently.

Landon Cluts, second-year medical student at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, will participate in a medical mission trip to San Jose del Negrito, Honduras. He'll join a group of healthcare providers and medical students in providing healthcare to residents of San Jose del Negrito and the area. Landon hopes to raise funds to help offset the costs of the trip. If you'd like to support Landon's efforts, you may do so through his GoFundMe site: <https://www.gofundme.com/manage/family-med-rotation-san-jose-honduras> or donations may be given to Kevin and Shelby Cluts. Thank you for supporting Landon.

"I have been accused of biting the hand that feeds me. Athletics directors aren't supposed to speak out about the perils of sports...During my almost thirty-five years in sports and education, however, I have seen the landscape of youth sports change dramatically. And like many parents I speak with, I've become increasingly concerned about the toll that current youth sports culture is taking on children, young people, and families." ~David King, from the Introduction of *Overplayed: A Parent's Guide to Sanity in the World of Youth Sports*. **You're invited to hear EMU Athletic Director David King present and facilitate a Q&A in the fellowship hall Tuesday, Feb. 18 at 6:30 p.m. Childcare provided.**

Save the date: The family workshop has been rescheduled for Saturday morning, March 28. Look for details in your mailboxes and in the announcements.

Check out the new items in the literature rack: January issue of the CDC Reporter, Prayer Vine, Prayers for Education and Learning, MHCO annual report to founding churches, and NMCC's Intersections.

REMINDERS

In troubled and troubling times, it is more important than ever for us to remain centered and grounded. One way to do that is through prayer. If you are recognizing this need for yourself or on behalf of the world, consider attending Tuesday morning prayers. From 7-7:30 a.m., there is silence, scripture, and prayer. Prayers are followed at 7:30 a.m. with breakfast and fellowship. You're welcome to make this a regular practice, but the invitation is also open for occasional participation as you are able. ~ Pastor Wanda

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, sponsor code "fmenncb1".

Join Faith and Life class discussions of *Faith Talk* by Ruth Naylor. The class meets in the parlor at 9:15 a.m.

Faithful Living class invites all to join them in the room next to the nursery downstairs. Feel free to attend occasionally or regularly. The class is currently discussing Ruth Naylor's book, *Faith Talk*. For more information, contact Greg Ring or any class member.

Bluffton University

January 28 Forum: Student cross-cultural experiences, 11 a.m., Yoder Recital Hall

January 31 Colloquium: *Life in Story: The Construction of Personal Narrative*, Dr. Jane Wood, 4 p.m., Centennial Hall, Stutzman Lecture Hall

Camp Friedenswald

There is still time to register your family for winter family retreat at Camp Friedenswald, scheduled February 14-16. After the busy holiday season and in the middle of winter blues, this camp is a great break for the whole family. Activities include sledding, rides on the tube run, broomball for the kids (and kids-at-heart), eating food prepared by someone else, and rest by the relaxing fireplaces. Childcare is provided. Take your family and friends to reconnect with a fun and relaxing weekend together. Cost: Adults \$120, Ages 4-17 \$40, Ages 0-3 Free, Family Max \$350. To register, go to <https://friedenswald.org/winter-retreats/>