

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Weekly Announcements 11-22-2020

First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817

419-358-5766 | fmcbluffton.org | Staff working from home

- Pastor Wanda Stopher – Monday-Thursday, off Friday, 419-551-1079, wanda@fmcbluffton.org
- Pastor Jeff Boehr – T, F; 419-236-9150, jeff@fmcbluffton.org
- Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, 419-230-1568, mastc@bluffton.edu
- Director of Music – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 (cell), sudermanme@bluffton.edu
- Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, 419-358-5766, fmc@fmcbluffton.org

Sunday, Nov. 22, 2020

Children's Zoom, 9 a.m.,

<https://zoom.us/j/93359681335>

Taste and See, Zoom, 9:15 a.m.,

<https://zoom.us/j/342273765>

Sojourners, Zoom, 9:15 a.m.,

<https://zoom.us/j/4193583208>

Faithful Living, Zoom, 9:30 a.m.,

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85741872049?pwd=NG1UcWlyOVJ6RUg4TUdHTE5Wa0lKZz09>

SHY, Mast's backyard, 9:30 a.m., WEAR MASKS

Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching, 10:30 a.m.

Virtual fellowship hall conversation, Zoom, 11:30 a.m.-
12:15 p.m., <https://zoom.us/j/93482279238>

Learning circle, Zoom, 6 p.m.,

<https://zoom.us/j/4193585766>

Nov. 23-28

Monday (Nov. 23) Bible study, Zoom, 8 p.m.,

<https://zoom.us/j/92088366545>

Tuesday (Nov. 24) Morning prayers, Zoom, 7 a.m.,

<https://zoom.us/j/93803392337>

Staff meeting, 9 a.m., Zoom\

Wednesday (Nov. 25) Early bulletin deadline, 3 p.m.

Thursday (Nov. 26) Thanksgiving Day, office closed

Sunday, Nov. 29, 2020

Children's Zoom, 9 a.m.,

<https://zoom.us/j/93359681335>

Sojourners & Taste and See, 9:15 a.m.; Faithful Living, 9:30
a.m.; SHY, 9:30 a.m.

Worship, Jeff Boehr preaching, 10:30 a.m.

Virtual FH conversation, Zoom, 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Learning circle, Zoom, 6 p.m.

Happy Birthday!

Nov. 22 – Lois Andreas, Marty Hostetler,
Paul Klassen

Nov. 23 – Steve Harnish

Nov. 24 – Judy Kingsley

Nov. 25 – Glenn Buller, Sophia Gott

Nov. 29 – Bill Ramsever. Tom Schaaf

Calling all doodlers, designers, creators, and artists – of any age! Gather your favorite art supplies (or your camera!*) and help us visualize our advent theme by creating a perspective drawing as though you're standing "On the Road." A perspective drawing, or "vanishing point" drawing, shows parallel lines appearing to come together at a single point in the distance... the way that a straight road appears to disappear into the horizon. You may find inspiration in the weekly themes of readiness, repentance, restoration, revelation, rejoicing, and radiance. Kids – ask your grownups to draw, color, or paint with you – make it a family doodle night!

Please sign your original work and place in Mary Steiner's mailbox in the fellowship hall between now and December 16. Digital photography can be shared with crp4225@gmail.com. Original artwork will be available for pickup/return in January.

*Photography is also welcome, but PLEASE use extreme caution while using a camera near or on a roadway or in a vehicle. The world is already too risky right now!

A congregational meeting will be held Sunday, Dec. 6 at 2 p.m. via Zoom at: <https://zoom.us/j/4193583208>. The purpose of the meeting is to elect a slate of nominees to serve in the Leadership Circle as described in the revised FMC constitution and to approve a spending plan for the first six months of the coming fiscal year.

Early bulletin deadline

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, items for next week's bulletin must be submitted by 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 25.

Pastoral concerns

Bill Ramseyer has been moved into Willow Ridge at Mennonite Homes of Ohio. He is receiving rehab in response to changing conditions in his health. Our prayers for Bill and Mary are welcomed.

We want to hear your plans!

How is your family adapting your holiday celebrations this year? Are you trying different ways to preserve traditions or celebrate cultures? Will you light Advent candles or sing some favorite carols with family at a distance via Zoom? Will you bundle up and light the fire pit so you can all eat outside? Share your ideas and/or plans with others at FMC in the December Menno-Life. Email Mary Steiner at fmc@fmcbluffton.org or call 419-358-5766 (leave message) by Friday, Nov. 25.

Our Connections

When God calls someone to ministry, a journey begins. Perhaps you are on that journey, and looking for mentors and companions along the way. Central District Conference invites all to join Journey: A Missional Leadership Development Program. This program is for pastors and other congregational leaders who are called without specific training for ministry or who are exploring a call to pastoral ministry. The early application deadline for winter 2021 is December 15. For more information, visit www.ambs.edu/journey or contact Doug Luginbill at confmin@mcusacdc.org or at 574-534-1485.

MCC asks for support for Central American hurricane recovery: Two hurricanes within two weeks have caused extensive flooding in Honduras, Guatemala and Nicaragua. Hurricanes Eta and Iota destroyed crops and forced people from their homes. MCC is working with churches and community organizations to provide emergency food, hygiene supplies and cleanup support. You can donate at mcc.org/eta-iota-relief, 888-563-4676, or at MCC, 21 S. 12th St., PO Box 500, Akron PA 17501.

Bluffton University's fall gospel choir and jazz concert will be streamed for viewing at 6 pm. Saturday, Nov 21 at www.bluffton.edu/mus. At 5:30 p.m., the conductors will give a pre-concert talk with audience members via Zoom. Visit www.bluffton.edu/mus for more information and to access the Zoom meeting. Under the direction of Dr. Crystal Sellers Battle, the gospel choir will celebrate its 10th anniversary with four pieces featuring custom backing tracks. Backing tracks were provided by musicians Wesley Sellers, drums; James Vines, bass and producer; and Terry Davis, keys. Directed by Dr. Andrew Liebermann, the jazz ensemble will present three tunes. By having musicians record multiple parts which were mixed together, this allowed the ensemble to perform tunes scored for a larger ensemble. Since the concert is being held virtually, offerings to benefit music scholarships may be made at www.bluffton.edu/givetomusic.