**Making It Real**

**First Mennonite Church**

**March 3, 2019**

Welcome Victoria Woods-Yee

Announcements

Prelude “Will you come and follow me”   
 *Wendy Chappell-Dick*

Invocation

\*Hymn “If you believe and I believe” (sing twice) STJ 32

\*Responsive Reading Psalm 103:1-5 (NRSV)

L:  Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

**C: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits—**

L: who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

**C: who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

**ALL: who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.**

Scripture         I John 1:1-2:6                Mark Suderman

Special Music            “If Ye Love Me” Thomas Tallis  
 Chancel Choir

Conversation with friends Bruce Steingass “Jesus Loves Me” (*sung a cappella)*

Community Prayer Theda Good

Scripture       Hebrews 11:1-8        Steve Phillips   
 Mark 2:1-19 Rita Dietrich

Sermon “On Belonging” Wanda Stopher

\*Hymn “Will you come and follow me”   STS 39

Presenting our tithes and offerings

Offertory “They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love” *Wendy Chappell-Dick*

\*Hymn of Dedication  “Praise God from whom” HWB 119  
 (vs. A)  
\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn “Lord Jesus, you shall be my song” STJ 14

\*Benediction

Postlude “What wondrous love is this”

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

*HWB – Hymnal: A Worship Book; STJ – Sing the Journey; STS – Sing the Story*

*Please ask an usher for assistance in locating large print hymnals.*

*In response to God’s unconditional love for all people, we joyfully and unconditionally welcome you to join us on our journey of faith in Jesus Christ. We are committed to breaking down dividing walls and building community where all are loved and accepted. We believe in active inclusion and invite each one to participate in the life and ministry of our congregation.*

**NFirst Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson St., Bluffton, Ohio 45817**

**419-358-5766 | fmcbluffton.org | Office open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. M-F**

**Church Staff**

* Pastor Wanda Stopher -- Monday-Thursday, 9-4, offN Friday; 419-551-1079 (cell); fmc.wanda@bluffton.edu
* Pastor Theda Good -- Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday; 419-549- 2417 (cell); fmc.theda@bluffton.edu
* Interim Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, M-F, 8-10 a.m., mastc@bluffton.edu
* Director of Music – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 (cell); sudermanme@bluffton.edu
* Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, M-F, 9-4, fmc@bluffton.edu
* Custodian – Mick Hardy, 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., weekends as needed

**Host:** Lynn Miller **Greeter:** JP Schumacher

**Chancel:** Wendy Chappell-Dick

**Nursery today:** Anita and George Lehman

**Worship:** Amy Freeman and Bruce Steingass

**Nursery next week:** Judy Diller, Pat Sheidler

**Worship:** Kathy Dickson, Andrea Goings, Grace Paquin

**Our stewardship:**

Worship attendance last Sunday FMC- 225, MC-6  
Volunteer hours (Jan. 27-Feb. 24) 418.5

Spending plan giving Feb. 24, 2019 (includes e-giving) $22,119.00

Special fund giving Feb. 24, 2019 (includes e-giving): Faith/Life-$6

Faithful Living-$11.32; SHY-$285; Kitchen-$9.65; Deacons-$250;

MW-$138; Habitat-$750; College schol-$750; Building fund-$100;

Flooring-$25; ISAF-$100 $2,434.97

Total giving Feb. 24, 2019 (includes e-giving) $24,553.97

2019 spending plan $431,854.00

*First Mennonite Church is affiliated with the Central District Conference of Mennonite Church USA. The Mennonites are named after Menno Simons, one of our early church leaders, and are rooted historically in the “Anabaptist” movement, which began in 1525, with origins in Switzerland, Germany, and the Netherlands now reaching around the world. Some primary Anabaptist convictions then and now are following Jesus Christ in service to others, rejection of violence and war, and joyful community life.*

****