

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
Weekly Announcements 4-12-2020

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., 419-230-1568, mastc@bluffton.edu**
- **Director of Music – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 (cell); sudermanme@bluffton.edu**
- **Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, fmc@fmcbluffton.org , 419-358-5766**

Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020

Taste and See SS, Zoom, 9:15 a.m.,
<https://zoom.us/j/342273765>

Sojourners SS, Zoom, 9:15 a.m.
<https://zoom.us/j/4193583208>

Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching, service available by
10:30 a.m.

Learning circle will meet by Zoom, 6 p.m.
<https://zoom.us/j/4193585766>

April 13-18

Monday (April 13) Church office closed, Easter Monday

Tuesday (April 14) Morning prayers, Zoom, 7 a.m.
Staff meeting, Zoom, 9 a.m.

Wednesday (April 15) Coffee & tea social hour, Zoom, 3 p.m.,
<https://zoom.us/j/110200533>
Evening prayers, Zoom, 7 p.m.

Thursday (April 16) Bulletin deadline, 9 a.m.
Vespers, Zoom, 4 p.m.

Sunday (April 19)

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

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

Worship, Tig Intagliata preaching, 10:30 a.m.

Learning circle, Zoom, 6 p.m.

Three prayer options continue via Zoom

We will continue to meet for Morning Prayers via Zoom and have added two time options.

The prayer schedule is:

Morning Prayers-Tuesday, 7-7:30 a.m.

Evening Prayers-Wednesday, 7-7:30 p.m.

Vespers-Thursday, 4-4:30 p.m.

The same link will be used for all three prayers:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/296319743>. If you need assistance with Zoom, please contact the church office.

Happy birthday

April 13 – George Lehman
Kendra Nickel

April 14 – Sarah Basinger
Jorian Mast

April 15 – Seth Andreas
Basilda Rockhold

April 16 – Jen Benroth
Carla Richard

April 19 – Julie Mackey

Easter worship

Our Easter morning worship service will be available by 10:30 a.m. Sunday, April 12. It will again be a video but will include congregational singing retrieved from previous recordings of worship at FMC.

Watch US/Mexico border trip presentation via Zoom

See and hear a presentation about the US/Mexico border Sunday, April 19 from 4-5 p.m. The group from FMC who traveled to south Texas March 3-8 will share their experiences. To join the presentation, follow this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/601942413>.

~ Theda Good, Lynda Nyce
Jan and Theo Andreas, Fran Core
Paul, Laurel & Anna Neufeld Weaver
Melissa Friesen. Monica Harnish

Ginger Theis is grateful to be home after her triple bypass surgery and a few weeks of rehabilitation at Mennonite Memorial Home.

Thank you to Ray Raeburn for his work in editing our Sunday morning worship videos over the past few weeks, adding hymns and special music to the taped services.

A hearty thank you to all who led worship or facilitated during this Lenten season. Special thanks to those who planned: Visuals-Wendy Chappell-Dick, Bulletin covers-Victoria Woods-Yee, Worship Leader-Jeff Boehr, Conversation with Friends-Carrie Mast, Music-Mark Suderman and Pastors Theda and Wanda. May our worship during these days have brought deep joy to the heart of our God.

The Central District Conference board has canceled the annual meeting June 25-27 at Oak Grove Mennonite Church, Smithville. The board asks delegates and participants to keep the morning of June 27 open, as they discuss the possibility of doing something electronically. Details are forthcoming. "Our theme, 'Spirit, bless our souls with yearning,' has likely taken on new meaning during this season. We pray that out of this unwelcome crisis, Christ's spirit might bless us with something truly hopeful and unexpected."

Coffee/tea social hour!

Zoom in for coffee and tea social hour:

Coffee & tea via ZOOM will be offered on Wednesday afternoons at 3 p.m.

This will simply be a social hour hosted by Theda and Wanda. Link for this meeting is

<https://zoom.us/j/110200533>.

Sojourners class will meet via Zoom on Sunday, April 12, at 9:15 a.m. The address for this meeting is: <https://zoom.us/j/4193583208>. We will discuss the current lesson on "Resurrection Hope" in the Adult Bible Study guide from MennoMedia which is drawn from I Corinthians 15. All are welcome.

Taste and See class will meet at 9:15 a.m. Sunday, April 12 on Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/342273765>. Join us this Sunday as we learn about the Examen as a form of discernment. Many Christians practice a daily examen, as

introduced by St. Ignatius of Loyola in the 1500s. In the form we will learn, it is a simple yet profound way to reflect back over a day, a season, or a year, and notice God's movement in your life. Practicing a regular examen can help you notice what tends to move you toward greater faith, hope, and love, as well as what seems to continually draw you away from faith, hope, and love. What you discover will likely be unique and encouraging. Many couples, friends, and families share this practice together each evening or on a regular basis. We will discuss how to invite your children/grandchildren into the practice of the examen as well.

Reminders

MennoMedia offers Sunday school to you at home! [Read more](#) to find Shine Resources and follow the [Shine FB page](#), which includes links to videos of individuals reading the children's story from the Shine storybook, as well as singing and videos.

Sunday night Learning Circle will meet via Zoom at 6 p.m. Sundays until it is possible to meet in person again. Circle will meet at <https://zoom.us/j/4193585766>.

Contributions: Please consider electronic giving as a safe alternate to the traditional offering plate contributions. From the FMC website at fmcbluffton.org, click on *ONLINE GIVING*, at the far right of the red navigation bar at the top of the page and follow the instructions. **If you prefer not to use the electronic option, please mail your contributions to FMC or slide them under the office door. All forms of contributions are much appreciated, whether by cash, check or e-giving.**

From MPS: The siege of Gaza has created restrictions on the availability of food, water, medical care, commerce, and industry for about 1.8 million people. Mennonite Palestine Israel Network invites Mennonite congregations to “twin” with people confined in the Gaza Strip. MennoPIN seeks to build reconciliation in Israel and Palestine. Mission, Peace, & Service is wondering if there are people in our congregation who would like to explore the twinning effort. Interested persons should contact Mitch Kingsley at kingsleym@bluffton.edu.

From MC USA:

Equipping, the monthly newsletter from MC USA may be read at this link:

<https://mailchi.mp/mennoniteusa/equipping-february-3072977?e=3fe36e5a27>