

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Weekly Announcements 5-10-2020

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

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

- **Pastor Wanda Stopher** – Monday-Thursday, 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, 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

Sunday, May 10, 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, 10:30 a.m.

Learning circle, Zoom, 6 p.m., <https://zoom.us/j/4193585766>,
contact Carrie Mast for password

May 11-16

Tuesday (May 12) Morning prayers, Zoom, 7 a.m.,

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3794797132>

Staff meeting, Zoom, 9 a.m.

Wednesday (May 13) Coffee & tea social hour, Zoom, 3 p.m.,

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

Thursday (May 14) Bulletin deadline, 9 a.m.

Midday prayers, Zoom, noon,

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3794797132>

Vespers, Zoom, 4 p.m.

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3794797132>

Sunday, May 17, 2020

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

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

Worship, Doug Luginbill preaching, 10:30 a.m.

Learning circle, Zoom, 6 p.m.

Happy birthday

May 11 – Stan Clemens

Ruth Early

Mary Ann Suter

May 13 – Judy Steiner

May 15 – Evan Blount

Lori Nester

May 16 – Ellie Hartzler

We're planning another Menno-Life for June featuring the ways you're all keeping busy in and around your homes. Taking walks or bike rides? How are you celebrating birthdays and anniversaries or other significant events? Exploring new hobbies or rediscovering old ones? Trying new recipes? Please send photos, stories, and recipes (and pictures of the resulting food) to fmc@fmcbluffton.org or post on your Facebook pages and tag Bluffton First Mennonite Church.

Congratulations to First Mennonite's six graduating seniors, now completing high school from home. We wish you all the best and look forward to staying in touch with you!

Patrick Estell, son of Melinda and John Estell

Jacob Biesecker-Mast, son of Gerald and Carrie Mast, and Sue and Bill Trollinger

Sophia Gott, daughter of Liana and Chris Gott

Ana Neufeld Weaver, daughter of Laurel and Paul Neufeld Weaver

Danielle Novak, daughter of Jeanne and Mark Novak

Grace Paquin, daughter of Rhonda Winstead and Walt Paquin

FMC hiring the following:

*Individual needed to do light janitorial duties (dusting, sweeping, cleaning restrooms, sanitizing, etc). This position is for approximately 5 hours per week.

*Summer help to mow lawn and do light yard work (weeding, pruning.)

Individuals interested in either position should send name, contact information and wage quote to fmc@fmcbluffton.org.

Changes to Central District Conference Annual Meeting

CDC has canceled this year's in-person meeting but is making plans for a virtual meeting to be held Saturday, June 27, from 9-11:45 a.m. Delegate sessions will be held by Zoom. The first hour will be worship using a pre-recorded video that all may watch at that time or when convenient. Several seminars will be recorded as webinars and shared later in July and August. The worship video, delegate sessions, and webinars will be open to all. More information will be shared soon.

Reminders

Summer Psalms 2020: The Psalter has been described as humanity's words to God and God's words to humanity – the Psalms speak both to us and for us in our life with God. The conversation ranges from profound praise to utter desperation and doubt. This summer in worship we will devote ourselves to the Psalms, of which there are 150. This is where you come in. You are invited to request a Psalm that you'd like for us to consider as the focus of worship during this block we're calling Summer Psalms. Please submit your Psalm request along with your name to Pastor Wanda before May 10.

Encouraging Generosity and Connection There are many ways to express care and generosity in giving to a more equitable and just distribution of resources. In addition to local organizations, we suggest the following options.

Global Church Sharing Fund provides funds to MWC member and associate member churches in Africa, Asia, and Latin America/Caribbean, for ministries that advance the life and mission of their churches:

<https://mwc-cmm.org/article/global-church-sharing-fund>

COVID-19 Congregational Sharing Fund was recently launched by a joint effort of Mennonite Disaster Service, Everence, and Mennonite Central Committee. The fund is to aid churches facing financial crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Grants prioritize racially and ethnically diverse churches serving in historically under-resourced communities, i.e. communities and households that are underbanked, underinsured and/or uninsured. Contributions may be made through the websites of any of the three agencies: <https://mds.mennonite.net/>; <https://www.everence.com/>; <https://mcc.org/>

Additional giving options:

- Catholic Charities of RGV <http://sacredheartchurch-mcallen.org/immigrant-assistance/donate-now/>
- ProBar https://www.americanbar.org/groups/departments_offices/FJE/donate/com-imm-probar/
- Team Brownsville <https://www.teambrownsville.org/donate>
- National Butterfly Center <https://nationalbutterflycenter.org/>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gpWc-0ll7_s
- World Central Kitchen <https://wck.org/>
- HOLA Ohio: <http://holatoday.org/donate/>
- Ohio Immigrant Alliance: <https://ohioimmigrant.org/fundraising-donate/>

Musicians of all ages/types needed: We hope many of you will offer your musical gifts during worship services this summer (June-August) in one of the following ways:

1. Video record your musical selection at home and send it to Ray Raeburn to add to our worship video.
2. Come to the church at 11 a.m. on the Wednesday before the Sunday service and be part of the taping of the service. We are working hard to make sure that all who come to each taping session are safe and stay at a good distance from each other.

Opportunities include playing for the service, including opening music, prelude, offertory, and postlude, or providing special music during the service, vocally or instrumentally, as a soloist or in an ensemble. Please contact Director of Music Mark Suderman at 419.230.5368 or sudermanme@bluffton.edu. Let him know if there are specific dates on which you could participate.