Summer Psalms of Disorientation
First Mennonite Church
July 19, 2020

Welcome and Announcements — Doug Luginbill

Prelude — *Shall We Gather at the River* — arr. J. Leavitt
LuAnn Stuckey

Invocation

Hymn — *Jesus, help us live in peace* — STJ 52

Responsive Reading — From HWB 696

L: God of love and justice, we long for peace within and peace without.

P: We long for harmony in our relationships, for serenity in the midst of struggle, and for commitment to each other's growth.

L: We long for the day when our homes will be a dwelling place for your love.

P: Yet we confess that we are often anxious; we do not trust each other, and we harbor violence.

L: We are not willing to take the risks and make the sacrifices that love requires.

P: Look upon us with kindness and grace. Rule in our homes and in all the world;

ALL: show us how to walk in your paths, with mercy.

Conversation with Friends — Judy Buller

Community Prayer — Theda Good

He's a Chain Breaker — Zach Williams
Wendy Chappell-Dick

Scripture — Psalm 35 — Paul Neufeld Weaver

Sermon — *Breaking Chains, Making Chains* — Darryl Nester

Hymn — *God of grace and God of glory* — HWB 366

Presenting our Tithes and Offerings
Prayer of Dedication

Offertory — *There Is a Balm in Gilead* — arr. J. Leavitt

Hymn — *The church of Christ in every age* — HWB 403

Benediction

Postlude — *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* — arr. T. Shaw

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

Parts of our service were pre-recorded. Participants are following safe-distancing practices.

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.

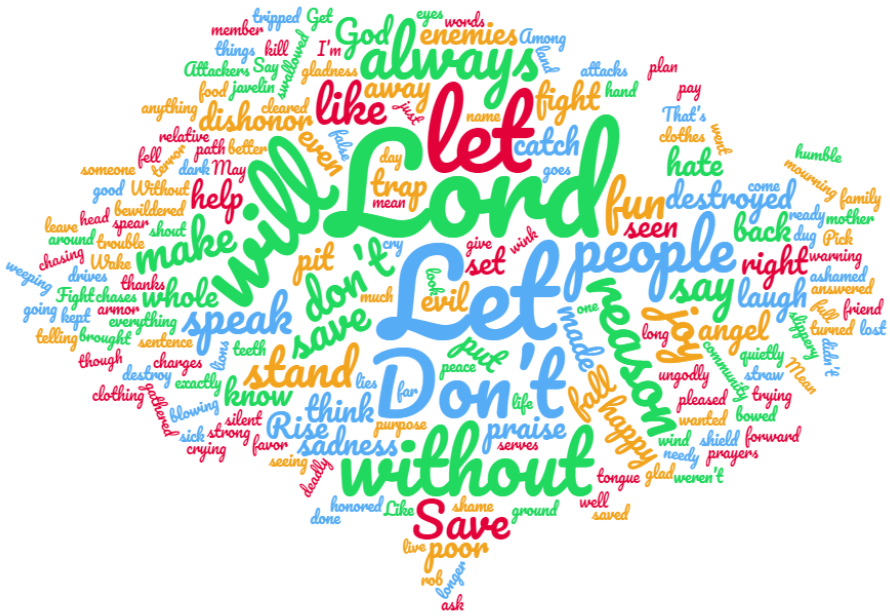
First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson St., Bluffton, Ohio 45817
419-358-5766 | fmcbluffton.org | Office open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. M-F

Church Staff

- **Pastor Wanda Stopher – WFH Monday-Thursday, 9-4, off Friday;419-551-1079; wanda@fmcbluffton.org**
- **Pastor Theda Good – WFH Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday; 419-549- 2417; theda@fmcbluffton.org**
- **Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, Zooming M-F, 419-230-1568, mastc@bluffton.edu**
- **Director of Music – Mark Suderman, WFH 419-230-5368; sudermanme@bluffton.edu**
- **Administrative Asst. – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, WFH M-F, 9-4, fmc@fmcbluffton.org**

Video editor: Ray Raeburn
Drone video: Seth Andreas
Photos for video: Rae Staton
Sound: Art Shelly
Camera: Glen Buller
Chancel: Wendy Chappell Dyck

<u>Our stewardship</u>

Total spending plan giving July 2020 to date	$13,731
Avg monthly offering needed to meet 2020 spending plan	$37,136

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.