

**“Spirit of Hope”
First Mennonite Church
August 25, 2019**

Music calls us to worship	Jackie Wyse-Rhodes
Welcome	Daryl Nester
Announcements	
Prelude	Jackie Wyse-Rhodes
Invocation	
*Opening hymns	Gerald Mast
*Responsive reading	Psalm 126:1-6 (IB)
L: When God brought us captives back to Zion, we thought we were dreaming! Our mouths were filled with laughter then, our tongues with songs of joy.	
C: And from the nations we heard, “Their God has done great things for them.” Yes—God has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.	
L: Now set our captive hearts free, O God! Make them like streams in the driest desert!	
C: Then those who now sow in tears will reap with shouts of joy;	
L: those who go out weeping as they carry their seed for sowing	
ALL: will come back with shouts of joy as they carry their harvest home.	
Conversation with friends	Jeff Gundy
“For the beauty of the earth” HWB 89 (vs. 1 coming forward and vs. 5 returning to seats)	

Community prayer	Theda Good	
Scripture	Revelation 19:11-16; 22:1-7	Jason Diller
Sermon	“Come”	Wanda Stopher
*Hymn	“Beyond a dying sun”	HWB 323
Presenting our tithes and offerings		
Offertory		Jackie Wyse-Rhodes
*Hymn	“Lord, thou dost love” v. 4	HWB 387
*Prayer of dedication		
*Hymn	“Come, we that love the Lord”	HWB 14
*Benediction		
Postlude		
<i>*Please rise in body or in spirit.</i>		
<i>HWB-Hymnal: A Worship Book; STJ-Sing the Journey; STS-Sing the Story</i>		
<i>Please ask an usher for help locating large print hymnals.</i>		
<i>Today’s worship coordinates with “We Make the Road by Walking,” Chapter 51.</i>		

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 | fmclubffton.org | Office open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. M-F

Church Staff

- Pastor Wanda Stopher – Monday-Thursday, 9-4, off Friday; 419-551-1079; wanda@fmclubffton.org (new e-mail address)
- Pastor Theda Good – Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday; 419-549- 2417 (cell); theda@fmclubffton.org (new e-mail address)
- Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, M-F, 8-11 a.m., mastc@bluffton.edu
- Director of Music – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 (cell); sudermanme@bluffton.edu
- Administrative Asst. – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, M-F, 9-4, fmclubffton.org (new e-mail address)
- Custodian – Mick Hardy, 7-10 a.m., weekends as needed

Host: Melinda Estell

Greeter: Todd Rainey

Chancel: Anita Lehman

Sound: Art Shelly

Nursery today: Gerald Mast, Cheri Slotter

Worship today: Carrie Mast, Jacob Biesecker-Mast, Grace Paquin

Nursery next week: Judy Buller, Victoria Woods-Yee

Worship next week: Kendra & Ellie Nickel, Ana Neufeld-Weaver

Our stewardship

Worship attendance last Sunday	FMC-158, MC-4
Volunteer hours	90
Spending plan giving August 18 2019 (w/e-giving)	\$5,104.00
Non-spending plan giving August 18, 2019 (w/e-giving):	\$614.76
Kitchen-\$204.76; SHYF-\$100; Casket-\$50; School kits-\$40;	
Memorials-\$20; College scholarships-\$150; ISAF-\$50	
Total giving August 18, 2019 (includes e-giving)	\$5,718.76
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.

