# FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

### 101 S. Jackson Street

### Bluffton, Ohio 45817

### Phone: 419-358-5766

### Website: fmcbluffton.org

Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday-Friday

Pastor – Wanda – Monday-Thursday, 9-4, off Friday

Pastoral Associate – George – Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday

Director of Youth Ministries – Shannon -- Tuesday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Custodian’s schedule: 7:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.; weekends as needed

**GREETERS:** Ruth Naylor, Vicki Laird

**HOST:** Amy Freeman

**NURSERY WORKERS TODAY:**Anita and George Lehman, Carmen Ordonez

 ***Worship*** – Kyle and Tara Miller, Annette Heslep

**NURSERY WORKERS NEXT WEEK: SS –** Gerald Mast, Wendy Chappell-Dick, Bobbie Chappell

**Worship** – Carrie Mast, Jacob Biesecker-Mast, Jason Diller

**SOUND SYSTEM**: Kevin Cluts **CHANCEL:** Bev Simon

*The video of the most recent worship service may be viewed on the church’s homepage,* [*www.fmcbluffton.org*](http://www.fmcbluffton.org)*. Videos normally are posted on the Tuesday following the service. Previously recorded worship service videos may be found at* [***tinyurl.com/fmc-videos***](http://tinyurl.com/fmc-videos)

### OUR STEWARDSHIP

Worship attendance last Sunday 164

Worship attendance at Maple Crest last Sunday 9

Sunday school attendance last Sunday 90

Spending plan giving January 15, 2016 $5,620.01

2016 Proposed spending plan $418,276.00

The offering Jan. 15 totaled $6,447.63. Money was received for these special funds, Sojourners - $18, K-5th - $6.62, Grades 9-12 - $5, Freudige - $50, Faithbuilders - $50, Faith and Life - $11, Young Adults - $2, SHYF - $50, Deacons Benevolent - $50, Kitchen service - $9 , College scholarships - $100, Habitat - $120, Trustees - $10, Chris Purves memorial - $100, Alice Gellert memorial - $10, Mennonite Women - $246.

### CHURCH STAFF

Pastor – Wanda Stopher – 419-551-1079 (cell) -- fmc.wanda@bluffton.edu

Pastoral Associate – George O’Reilly – 402-619-7099 (cell) – fmc.george@bluffton.edu

Youth Ministry Director – Shannon Thiebeau – fmc.shannon@bluffton.edu

Director of Music – Mark Suderman Organist Coordinator – Lucia Unrau

Custodian – Mick Hardy

Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker - fmc@bluffton.edu

*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.*

**UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Dr. Lucia Unrau**, pianist and professor of music at Bluffton University, will present a faculty recital at 2 p.m. today in Yoder Recital Hall. ***The performance, which will feature works by Chopin, Mozart and Ginastera, will last 45-50 minutes so those attending will have time to get to FMC for the 3 p.m. Congregational Discernment meeting.*** Unrau has been on the Interlochen Center for the Arts piano faculty since 1993 and has served as camp keyboard coordinator, overseeing the keyboard curriculum, since 2005. She holds a doctorate from the University of Texas-Austin.

**Dr. J. Alexander Sider,** associate professor of religion and Harry and Jean Yoder Scholar in Bible and Religion, will present “If 'God Obviously Makes No Difference to the Universe,' then ‘What Is the Point of Being a Christian?’” in Bluffton University’s colloquium at 4 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27 in Centennial Hall.

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**ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# Interfaith Panel Discussion: Two Christian ministers, a Rabbi and an Imam will discuss “Responses to Violence in the Abrahamic Traditions” on Saturday, Jan. 28, at 3 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church in downtown Lima. Featured panelists includ Pastor Paula Snyder Belousek, Salem Mennonite Church; Imam Shamsuddin Waheed, Masjid al-Islam, Toledo; Rabbi Yosef Zylberberg, Temple Beth Israel-Shaare Zedek, Lima. Moderator is Rev. Mark Rich, Market Street Presbyterian Church, Lima. Audience participation and questions are welcomed.

# World Fellowship Day: It falls annually on the Sunday that is closest to January 21. It marks the date in 1525 when the first Anabaptist baptisms took place in Zurich, Switzerland. Give thanks for all those around the world who boldly seek to follow Jesus Christ. *-- Central District Conference*

**MCC’s Sharing with Appalachia People** program seeks volunteer groups and summer staff. Consider serving with this ministry while learning about life in Appalachia. Groups or individuals can volunteer to serve as week-long volunteers. SWAP also needs summer staff to serve three month assignments. Summer staff is a critical component of SWAP’s successful ministry, as they help facilitate the weekly SWAP service groups. Summer staff varies in age from 19 to 70+ and they receive meals, lodging and a weekly stipend. For more information, visit [swap.mcc.org](http://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/volunteer/swap) or contact Angela Maggard at AppalachiaAdmin@mcc.org or 606-633-5065. *-- MCC*