

**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 5, 2015
10:30 a.m.**

— GATHERING —

Chimes call us to worship Mark Suderman, pianist
Call to Worship, Announcements, Introductions Alice Ruth Ramseyer

— PRAISING —

Invocation
Opening Hymns Mark Suderman, song leader
***Responsive Reading** Psalm 48: 1-3, 9-14

L: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God. His holy mountain,

C: beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth, Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King.

L: Within its citadels God has shown himself a sure defense.

C: We ponder your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple.

L: Your name, O God, like your praise, reaches to the ends of the earth. Your right hand is filled with victory.

C: Let Mount Zion be glad, let the towns of Judah rejoice because of your judgments.

L: Walk about Zion, go all around it, count its towers,

C: consider well its ramparts; go through its citadels, that you may tell the next generation

All: that this is God, our God forever and ever. He will be our guide forever.

Time with Children

Hymn “With happy voices singing” HWB 83
(Sing vs. 1 for coming forward)

Conversation Hymn “With happy voices singing” Carol Welty HWB 83
(Sing vs. 2 for returning)

Special Music “Longing for Light” Bernadette Farrell
Sara Brenner, vocalist; Mark Suderman, accompanist

Pastoral Prayer Gloria Hernandez Bucher

Prayer Response “I bind my heart this tide” HWB 411

— PROCLAIMING—

Scripture Mark 6:1-13

Sermon “Hometown Opposition” Lavon Welty

***Hymn** “How buoyant and bold the stride” HWB 394

— RESPONDING—

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory “Abide With Me” arr. by Ron Loree

***Hymn of Dedication** “Grant us Lord, the grace” HWB 388

***Prayer of Dedication**

— SENDING—

***Hymn** “We are people of God’s peace” HWB 407

***Benediction**

***Postlude** “The Carman’s Whistle” William Byrd

**Please stand, or remain seated if that is more comfortable for you.*

HWB – Hymnal: A Worship Book

STJ – Sing the Journey

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

Christian Education Coordinator: Tuesday 9 a.m. - noon, Thursday Noon - 3 p.m.

Youth Coordinator: Sunday 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Custodian's schedule: 7:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.; weekends as needed

Interim Pastors: Gloria - Mon & Fri 9-4, Tues 8-noon; Lavon - Tues, 8-noon, Wed 9-4, Thurs, Noon-5
Monday - Steve's day off

GREETERS: Mary Ina Hooley, Mary and Fred Steiner, Larry Diller

HOST: Barb Stettler

NURSERY WORKERS TODAY: SS - Tig Intagliata, Shelby Cluts

Worship - Bruce Steingass, Amy Freeman, Grace Paquin, Anna Biesecker-Mast

NURSERY WORKERS NEXT WEEK: SS - Monica Harnish, Meghan Coffman

Worship - John Mackey, Julie Mackey, Ana Neufeld-Weaver

SOUND SYSTEM: Art Shelly

CHANCEL:

The video of the most recent worship service may be viewed on the church's homepage, 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

OUR STEWARDSHIP

Worship attendance last Sunday	274
Worship attendance at Maple Crest last Sunday (FMC DVD)	12
Sunday school attendance last Sunday	22 (K-6)
Spending plan giving June 14, 2015	\$4,838.00
Spending plan receipts as of June 30, 2015	\$179,096.00
Spending plan expenditures as of June 30, 2015	\$190,321.00
2015 Proposed spending plan	\$419,469.00
Weekly offering needed for spending plan	\$7,663.46

The offering June 28 totaled \$5,437. Money was received for these special funds: Sunday school-\$27, Capital Campaign-\$198, SHYF (convention fees) - \$260, Phil Kingsley Memorial-\$50, CDC reimbursements-\$64.

CHURCH STAFF

Associate Pastor - Steven Yoder - 419-369-4753 (h) - fmc.steve@bluffton.edu

Interim Pastor - Gloria Hernandez Bucher - 419-429-2621 (h) - gloriaferdin1946@gmail.com

Interim Pastor - Lavon Welty - 419-222-6102 (h) - lavonw@wcoil.com

Youth Ministry Director - Shannon Thiebeau - shannonthiebeau@gmail.com

Coordinator of Christian Education - Melinda Estell - fmc.melinda@bluffton.edu

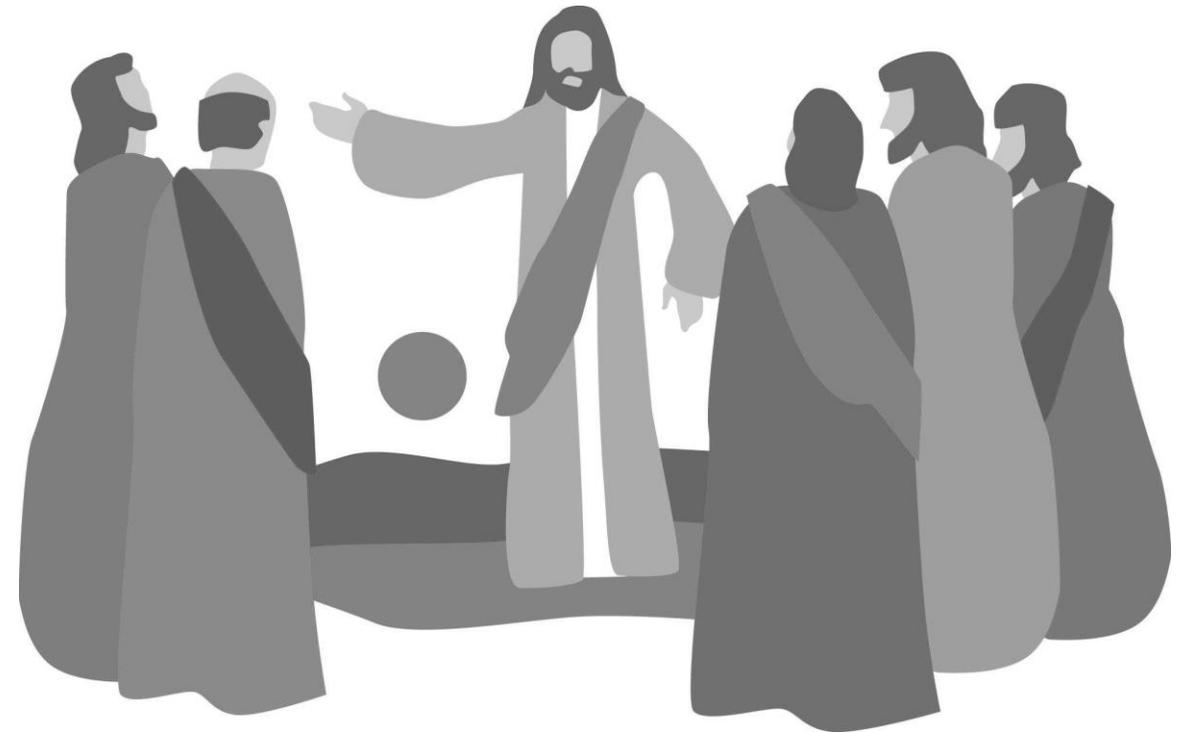
Youth Coordinator - Greg Hartzler - gregphartzler@gmail.com

Director of Music - Mark Suderman

Organist Coordinator - Lucia Unrau

Custodian - Mick Hardy

Administrative Assistant - Mary Pannabecker Steiner - fmc@bluffton.edu



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteer needed at Willow Ridge: One of the elders at Willow Ridge is in need of a volunteer to help him with email correspondence. He has difficulty using his computer and would like someone to type what he dictates. This would be just once a week and the volunteer would use the elder's computer. Anyone interested in helping with this should call Mary Ann Ring, volunteer coordinator, at 419.358.1015, ext 248.

Swiss speakers: Come to Maple Crest in Bluffton and practice speaking and listening to our Swiss language. Enjoy the fellowship and some Swiss chocolate on Tuesday, July 7, at 3 p.m.
-- Rich Bucher

MDS, Detroit, MI project: In August 2014, the Detroit metro area experienced record breaking rainfall causing homes and roadways to become overwhelmed with flood waters. The flood was the largest FEMA declared disaster in 2014, yet it has been largely forgotten - except by those still dealing with its aftermath. Region II opened a response in Detroit in November 2014, and through February assisted in cleaning out over 200 basements. Region II reopened the project in May and volunteers are needed to assist individuals and families who are among the most vulnerable - the elderly, people with disabilities, people with chronic medical conditions, and single parent households. To learn more about this response and to volunteer for two or more days, contact Lawrence Matthews at detroit@mds.mennonite.net or 419-303-8056.

GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS

Happy Birthday to Geneva Shetler, 96, July 8.

Thank you to the person(s) who hemmed the comforters from the last knotting day! All are completed now, and it is time to prepare more tops for the next round. The new kits and instructions for comforter tops include backing, too, and are available in the quilt room.
-- Sarah Basinger

The board of Black Swamp Benefit, Inc. would like to thank the churches for their support of the benefit on June 19-20. So many of you volunteered in some way through making items, donating items, baking food, helping financially, sharing your time or resources, and many other ways. We could not have a successful benefit without you! We are so grateful for your continued faithfulness in supporting MCC and Sunshine Communities. We are looking forward to next year!

-- Karmin Brooks, Administrative Coordinator

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.

TODAY, July 5, 2015

9:00 a.m. Coffee time, FH
9:15 a.m. **NO Sunday school classes for children and youth today**
Adult Bible study (AR), fellowship time (FH) will be held
10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Lavon Welty preaching
Noon Connections class potluck

THIS WEEK

Tuesday (7) Morning prayers, 7 a.m., Sanctuary
Staff meeting, 9 a.m., Parlor
Thursday (9) Senior concerns, 2 p.m., AR
Stewardship, 7 p.m., 301
Nurture, 7 p.m., Parlor
Saturday (11) Informal conversation with Mission Partners, Frey Yoder family,
7 p.m., FH

NEXT WEEK

9:00 a.m. Coffee Time, FH
9:15 a.m. Sunday school classes for children and youth, adult Bible study
(AR), fellowship time (FH)
10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nancy Frey and Bruce Yoder preaching
2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19, Psalm 28, 2 Ephesians 1:3-14, Mark 6:14-29

Welcome to our worship service today. Please sign and pass the friendship pads in the pews. Wireless hearing aids are available. If you would like your children watched over while you worship, our staff will care for them in the nursery available downstairs. Worship activity bags for children are available.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mission Sunday is July 12. We will welcome our Mission Partners, Bruce Yoder and Nancy Frey, and their children, Jeremiah and Deborah. Please join us on Saturday, July 11 at 7 p.m. for an informal conversation with the Frey Yoder family, who will share about their work and life serving in Burkina Faso. On July 12, Bruce will lead adult Sunday school, and Nancy will be with the children's Sunday school. They will give the sermon and children's time during the worship service. The Frey Yoders are partnering with Mennonite and African Initiated church partners across West Africa and they minister in biblical and theological training among church leaders.

Sunday school events for July:

- **Today:** There will be NO Sunday school classes for children and youth in preschool through grade 12. Adult Bible study with Jackie Wyse-Rhodes will meet as usual.
- **July 12:** Our mission partners, Bruce Yoder and Nancy Frey, will present to adults, youth and children.
- **July 19:** FMC delegates and participants at the MCUSA convention will report to adults and high school youth in Fellowship Hall. Junior high youth will report to class as usual. Elementary and preschool children will be learning about the Middle East with Heidrun Awad.
- **July 26:** The Community Worship Service will be held at the Bluffton Presbyterian Church, so there will be no Sunday school or services at FMC.

Congregational meeting: On July 12, immediately following the worship service, a congregational meeting will be held to vote on extending a call to Wanda Stopher to serve as our pastor. For those who are unable to attend that meeting, ballots will also be available at Mennonite Memorial Home and Maple Crest, and in the church office. If you cannot pick up a ballot, contact moderator Darryl Nester (nesterd@bluffton.edu) or the office (fmc@bluffton.edu) and one will be sent to you. We will keep a list of the names of those who vote early, and their ballots will be counted along with those cast at the congregational meeting.

The following youth attended junior camp at Camp Friedenswald June 29-July 4: Ellie Nickel, Seth Pannabecker, Logan Nussbaum, and Jacob Suter. In all, approximately 35 children and youth from FMC attended Camp Friedenswald this summer. On their behalf, I would like to thank the congregation for their financial and prayer support. You have helped the young people of this congregation grow physically, emotionally and spiritually.
-- Melinda Estell, Christian Education Coordinator

Are you looking for a place to serve the church and the Lima community? First Mennonite Church needs someone to represent the church on the board of Brazo en Brazo. Please contact Wendy Chappell-Dick (chairperson of MPS) or Pastor Steve Yoder if you would like to know more about this opportunity to make a difference in the lives of people in the Hispanic community in Lima.

Bluffton Community Vacation Bible School will be held July 19-23, from 6-8 p.m. at Bluffton Presbyterian Church. Registration forms are available in the fellowship hall. Registration is free for youth age four to grade five (grade completed). Please return completed forms to Melinda Estell's mailbox.

Gregg Luginbuhl's 2015 Summer Mud course included six persons from FMC. Check the display case in the assembly room to see some of the results.

Are you a soccer fan? We have an opportunity to see Columbus Crew play Chicago Fire Sunday, July 19 at their home stadium. The match starts at 5 p.m. We need at least 20 people to attend and we may have the possibility to meet one of the players to discuss how their faith has impacted their sports career. Seats are \$20 per person. If you are interested, please sign up by Wednesday, July 8, on the sign-up sheet located on the table in the fellowship hall. Contact Shannon Thiebeau at 419-773-9446 or at shannonthiebeau@gmail.com for more information.

Free 2006 Centennial DVDs: There is a stack of DVDs of the 2006 FMC centennial celebration on a table by the office door. These are free, so please help yourselves!

MWR congregational reporter needed: As Ron Geiser has transferred his membership from FMC, he is no longer providing FMC reports to Mennonite World Review. Reports are submitted six times per year. If you would like to take on this responsibility, please contact the church office for more details.