

15th Sunday after Pentecost
September 6, 2015
10:30 a.m.

— GATHERING —

Chimes call us to worship Lucia Unrau
Prelude “When in Our Music God is Glorified” arr. Sue Mitchell-Wallace
Call to Worship, Announcements, Introductions Don Pannabecker

— PRAISING —

Invocation
Opening Hymn “O for a thousand tongues to sing” HWB 110
***Responsive Reading** Psalm 125

L: Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides for ever.

C: **As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about his people, from this time forth and for evermore.**

L: For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest upon the land allotted to the righteous, lest the righteous put forth their hands to do wrong.

C: **Do good, O Lord, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in their hearts!**

All: **But those who turn aside upon their crooked ways the Lord will lead away with evildoers! Peace be in Israel!**

Time with Children

Hymn “I want to walk as a child of the light” STJ 95
(Sing vs. 1 for coming forward)

Conversation Hymn Jonathan Andreas
“I want to walk as a child of the light” STJ 95
(Sing vs. 2 for returning)

Special Music “On the Lake by Brahms” arr. by Ronald C. Dishinger
Aaron Johnson, trumpet, Lucia Unrau, piano

Pastoral Prayer Don Pannabecker

Response Hymn “Healer of our every ill” HWB 377

— PROCLAIMING —

Scripture Mark 7:24-37

Sermon “Boundary Breaker” Mark Weidner

***Hymn** “God of the Bible” STJ 27
(vs. 1 and 3)

— RESPONDING —

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory “May the Mind of Christ My Savior” arr. Jack Schrader

***Hymn of Dedication** “God, whose giving” HWB 383
(Sing vs. 1)

***Prayer of Dedication**

— SENDING —

***Hymn** “In Christ there is no East or West” HWB 306

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

**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

Interim Pastor -- Lavon -- Tues, 8-noon, Wed 9-4, Thurs, Noon-5

Associate Pastor -- Steve -- Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday

Director of Youth Ministries: Tuesday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

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

GREETERS: Gayle Trollinger, JP and Tim Schumacher,

HOST: Ella Bazzy

NURSERY WORKERS TODAY: SS -- Monica Harnish, Pat Sheidler

Worship -- John Mackey, Julie Mackey, Grace Paquin

NURSERY WORKERS NEXT WEEK: SS -- Lori Nester, Shelby Cluts

Worship -- Kevin Cluts, Meghan Coffman, Ellie Nickel

SOUND SYSTEM: Melissa Friesen

CHANCEL: Carolyn Rich

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	258
Worship attendance at Maple Crest last Sunday (FMC DVD)	7
Sunday school attendance last Sunday	NA
Spending plan giving Aug. 30, 2015	\$4,604.00
2015 Proposed spending plan	\$419,469.00
Weekly offering needed for spending plan	\$7,663.46

The offering August 30 totaled \$5,790.68. Money was received for these special funds: SS - \$7.76, Audio-visual - \$5, School kits - \$150, Kitchen service - \$12.75, Capital Campaign - \$125, SHYF -- 361.58, College Scholarships - \$45, VS Fund - \$200, Kitchen Service - \$10.40, Upper Room - \$2, School kits - \$50, Irene Hamman memorials (kitchen fund) - \$1,270.

CHURCH STAFF

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

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

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

Director of Music -- Mark Suderman

Organist Coordinator -- Lucia Unrau

Custodian -- Mick Hardy

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



representative to the Board of Directors. The board meets at Lima Mennonite Church. Ivan Friesen from Grace Mennonite Church in Pandora has accepted the call to be our chair person.
-- Paul & Ann Conrad

Our free clinic at the Lima YMCA annex needs a volunteer to greet patients as they arrive and call them in to be seen. The clinic is open most Wednesday evenings during the school year from about 5-7 p.m. The position could be shared, and we might be able to arrange a sub once in a while if needed. Contact Bobbie Chappell @ 419-358-4306 for more information.

-- Terry Chappell

GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS

Happy birthday to Betty Engle, 95, September 13.

Happy anniversary to Shirley and Roger Yoakam, 50, September 11.

We offer our condolences to Harvey Bauman and his family, as they mourn the loss of Pauline, who died September 2 at Mennonite Memorial Home. A memorial service will be held at a future date.

We offer our sympathy to Paul Dyck, whose brother, Norman, died September 2.

Wanda Pannabecker is now in room 209 at the Mennonite Memorial Home for rehab for a broken pelvis. Visitors are encouraged and appreciated, as are all of your cards and prayers.

Thanks to all for the opportunity to serve FMC. It has been a challenging, but satisfying experience. Special thanks for the beautiful ceramic bowl created by Gregg Luginbuhl. It is a tangible reminder of my time as one of your interim pastors.

-- Gloria Hernandez Bucher

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, September 6, 2015

9:00 a.m.	Coffee time, FH
9:15 a.m.	Christian Education; Adult fellowship, FH
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Mark Weidner preaching
Noon	Connections potluck
7-8 p.m.	SHYF/JHYF Kick-off, senior high classroom

THIS WEEK

Monday (9-7)	OFFICE CLOSED, Labor Day
Tuesday (9/8)	Morning prayers, 7 a.m., Sanctuary Staff meeting, 9 a.m., Parlor
Wednesday (9/9)	Pastoral visit with MMH residents, 2:30 p.m. Cherub choir and adult bells, 6 p.m.; Jubilate, 6:45 p.m.; Chancel choir and youth bells, 7 p.m.
Thursday (9/10)	Senior Concerns, 2 p.m. Stewardship, 7 p.m. Nurture, 7 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY

8:30 a.m.	Youth choir
9:00 a.m.	Coffee time, FH
9:15 a.m.	Christian Education; Adult Fellowship, FH
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Scripture: Proverbs 1:20-33, Psalm 19, James 3:1-12, Mark 8:27-38

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

We welcome **Mark Weidner** to our pulpit today.

Pastor update: Lavon Welty is out of town until Wednesday, Sept. 9.

Sharing a meal together is one way our church family provides hospitality and fellowship. We are hosting a potluck meal in Fellowship Hall following the worship service on Sunday, Sept. 20 to welcome Bluffton University students. Please plan to bring plenty of food to share and your own table service. College students will be our honored guests: food, drink and table service will be provided for them. Everyone is welcome.

Mennonite Women -- 2015-2016 year begins! Rediscover the joys of being created in God's image and nurture your own creative Spirit. "Spark: Igniting Your God-Given Creativity," this year's devotional book by April Yamasaki, brings a down-to-earth look at our perceptions of creativity and ourselves. Be surprised at ways you are creative and weren't aware. We want to welcome women of all ages to put our meetings on their calendars--second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. Program guides for the year can be found in your church mail box. Together we will discover God's creative Spirit at work. The first program will be Monday, Sept. 14, at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall. In her presentation, Anita Lehman will introduce us to this year's theme of creativity. Anne Buller will lead our devotions. Refreshments will be provided by Joan Diller and Joyce Hostetler. The devotional book will be available for purchase at this meeting for \$10. You may also reserve your copy by contacting Barb Stettler at [419 358 5252](tel:4193585252) or e-mail: stettlermb@bluffton.edu.

Anyone interested in sewing is invited to make a comforter top in preparation for the November knotting days. The project committee needs a minimum of six or seven additional tops for the two-day function. Kits (some with backing included) are on the table next to quilting frames in the quilt room. Fabrics for piecing and borders are in bins on the shelves, but you are certainly welcome to use fabrics from your own stash. Completed tops go in the bin on a shelf behind the kits table. Thank you for your help.
-- Pat Sheidler and Sarah Basinger

School kits: We currently have 134 complete kits. We need more people to make bags; there is fabric in a labeled plastic tub in the quilt room. We have many supplies on hand, but need much more! We have only until the end of September to meet our goal of 200, but passing that goal would be fantastic!
Ginger Theis

There will be a resourcing workshop on Sunday, Sept. 20 for anyone involved with or interested in doing the Children's Time. If you would like to get new planning ideas, learn different ways to read a story, or how to make the scripture/theme relevant, this is for you! The workshop will begin immediately after the college student potluck. Please RSVP to Steve Yoder for planning purposes.

Mary Amstutz and Barb Stettler have asked to be relieved of their duties as First Night coordinators after many years of service. Unfortunately, the Nurture Commission has been unable to find a replacement for them at this time. As a result, First Night will not be scheduled this fall. We will continue to look for a coordinator for spring. If you are interested in talking about the coordinator position, or know someone who would be a good fit for the position, please contact any member of the Nurture Commission.

There are extra copies of the fall issue of "**Rejoice**," a daily devotional guide, in the literature rack. The daily readings and prayers cover the months of September through November.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bluffton University will host a conference on "Mennonite Education: Past, Present and Future" Oct. 16-18. Open to the public, the conference will celebrate the publication of "Peace, Progress and the Professor: The Mennonite History of C. Henry Smith," by Dr. Perry Bush, a Bluffton professor of history who will be among the conference's three keynote speakers. About 50 workshops and panel and roundtable discussions on Mennonite education topics are also planned. The registration fee is \$65 before Sept. 30 and \$75 thereafter; meals are extra. Go to www.bluffton.edu/conference/ for more information and to register.

BRAZO en BRAZO: Plans for Fiesta Familiar (Family Festival) Sunday, Sept. 20, from 4-7 p.m. at Lima Mennonite Church include this year's theme, I Thessalonians 5:11 "...encourage each other..." Cornelio and Armando will be grilling the meat for us. See publicity poster on the pillar in the fellowship hall for more information. Questions, suggestions, etc., may be given to Judy Kingsley, the First Mennonite