

**First Mennonite Church  
June 10, 2018**

<b>Chimes call us to worship</b>	Jackie Wyse Rhodes
<b>Welcome and announcements</b>	Mark Suderman
<b>Introductions</b>	
<b>Prelude</b>	
<b>Call to Worship</b>	
<b>*Opening Hymns</b>	Mark Suderman
<b>*Responsive Reading</b>	Psalm 36:5-9 (NRSV)
L: Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.	
<b>C: Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgements are like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.</b>	
L: How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.	
<b>C: They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.</b>	
<b>All: For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.</b>	

<b>Conversation with Friends</b>		
“When we walk with the Lord” (v. 1)		HWB 544
<b>Conversation</b>		JP Schumacher
“When we walk with the Lord” (v. 3)		HWB 544
<b>Community Prayer</b>		Theda Good
<b>Hymn of Response</b>	“Spirit of the living God”	HWB 349
<b>Scripture</b>	Exodus 2:23-3:12; Matthew 6:7-15	Greg Ring
<b>Sermon</b>	“Barefoot Prayers”	Wanda Stopher
<b>*Hymn</b>	“My soul cries out”	STS 124
<b>Presenting our Tithes and Offerings</b>		
<b>Offertory</b>		Jackie Wyse Rhodes
<b>*Hymn</b>	“As saints of old” - verse 2	HWB 386
<b>*Prayer of Dedication</b>		
<b>*Hymn</b>	“Through our fragmentary prayers”	HWB 347
<b>*Benediction</b>		
<b>*Postlude</b>		Jackie Wyse Rhodes

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

*HWB – Hymnal: A Worship Book STS – Sing the Story*

*Please ask an usher for assistance in locating large print hymnals.*

**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  
 Pastor – Theda – Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday  
 Director of Youth Ministries – Shannon -- Tuesday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thursday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.  
 Custodian’s schedule: 7:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.; weekends as needed

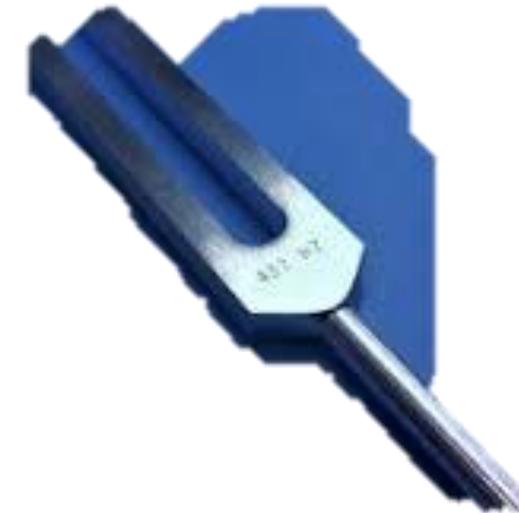
**HOST:** Mary Ann Moser **GREETER:** Todd Rainey  
**NURSERY THIS WEEK: SS** – Greg and Laura Hartzler  
**Worship** – Sabrina and Kurt Longworth, Grace Paquin  
**NURSERY NEXT WEEK: SS** – Anita and George Lehman, Alice Ruth Ramseyer  
**Worship** – Kendra and Ellie Nickel, Kevin Cluts  
**SOUND SYSTEM:** **CHANCEL:** Amy Freeman

**OUR STEWARDSHIP**

Worship attendance last Sunday	FMC-170, MC-7
Spending plan giving June 3, 2018 (includes e-giving)	\$3,539.04
Special fund giving June 3, 2018 (includes e-giving): <i>Pk-5-\$6.57; Faith and Life-\$14</i>	\$1,816.57
<i>Flooring-\$25; College scholar-\$300; Kitchen-\$4; Deacons benevolent-\$175; MCC-\$100</i>	
Total giving June 3, 2018 (includes e-giving)	\$5,355.61
Total spending plan receipts as of May 31, 2018	\$160,317.09
Spending plan expenses as of May 31, 2018	\$158,706.09
2018 spending plan	\$427,441.00

**CHURCH STAFF**

Pastor Wanda Stopher – **419-551-1079 (cell)** -- fmc.wanda@bluffton.edu  
 Pastor Theda Good – **419-549-2417 (cell)** -- fmc.theda@bluffton.edu  
 Youth Ministry Director – Shannon Thiebeau – fmc.shannon@bluffton.edu  
 Director of Music – Mark Suderman – sudermanme@bluffton.edu  
 Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner - fmc@bluffton.edu  
 Custodian – Mick Hardy



*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.*

**The shelves at the Bluffton Food Pantry** need to be restocked. Please check the “Here and Now Pillar” in the fellowship hall for a list of items that are needed and those that are not. **\*Please deliver items to St. John’s United Church of Christ.**

**The Swiss Homestead**, 8350 Bixel Road, Bluffton, will be open 1-5 p.m. every Saturday, June through August. Admission is \$5 for adults. Learn more at [swissmennonite.wordpress.com](http://swissmennonite.wordpress.com).

**Thank you card** – You are invited to read the thank you note to FMC from Sarah Geiser, MCC Great Lakes. Find it on the Mission, Peace, and Service pillar in Fellowship Hall

**Greetings from Bangkok, Thailand** – Annalise Klassen Brenneman (a FMC member) and her husband Jacob Brenneman will complete their MCC term in Cambodia in July. June 4 they gave birth to healthy twin daughters, Margaret and Irene, in Bangkok Thailand, where they had gone because of pregnancy-related concerns. Annalise is the daughter of Jim and Karen Harder.

**Welcoming Statement**

*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.*

**CALENDAR**

**Today, June 10, 2018**

9:15 a.m. SS, coffee time  
10:30 a.m. Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching  
Noon Sojourners/Freudige potlucks

**June 11-16**

Tuesday (6-12) Morning Prayers, 7 a.m.  
Staff meeting, 9 a.m.  
Trustees, 7 p.m., parlor  
Wednesday (6-13) Pastor/MMH residents, 2:30 p.m.  
Stewardship, 6:30 p.m., parlor  
Thursday (6-14) Nurture, 7 p.m., parlor

**Next Sunday, June 17**

9:15 a.m. SS, Coffee time  
10:30 a.m. Worship, Laurel Neufeld Weaver preaching

**Reminders:**

**Check the literature rack and the Here and Now pillar in the fellowship hall for recently posted items. New on the Here and Now pillar: List of needed items for food pantry. FMC Pew Restoration Project description (salmon sheet)**

*Welcome to our worship service today. If you are a visitor, please sign one of our guest books located at the entrances to the sanctuary. 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 downstairs. Worship activity bags for children are available.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Summer Worship 2018--Practicing Faith

This summer, our worship series focus on some of the spiritual practices or disciplines that draw us and tutor us in relationship with God and with one another. This series is not a to-do list or a precise recipe for the spiritual life, nor does it cover the breadth of spiritual practices that Christians throughout the ages have incorporated into their lives as they strive first for the kingdom of God. Instead, it is meant to offer glimpses into big and small ways to practice faith. See the literature rack for the schedule of themes in this series.

**You're invited!** Plan now to join FMC as "We Make the Road by Walking." See your mailbox for details:

- Brochure introduction and invitation
- Sept. 2018-Aug. 2019 Worship schedule with scripture texts
- Sheet of ideas for using "We Make the Road..."

Note: One copy (paper or digital) of the book will be made available to each family. To reserve your copy: Sign up in fellowship hall outside the office door OR email the church office at [fmc@bluffton.edu](mailto:fmc@bluffton.edu).

**For those who were unable to attend** the Appreciative Way Congregation-Pastor Review on May 20, this link is the recording of the report by Ken Shenk and Pastor Wanda's response. It is about 24 minutes long. Thanks to Kendra Gott for recording this and Ray Raeburn for making it available via Vimeo.

<https://vimeo.com/user16346560/review/272473917/0a319b9820>

~ *Staff Relations: Ken Shenk, Rich Bucher, Annette Heslep, Elizabeth Kelly*

**The Black Swamp Benefit is June 15-16** at the Fulton County Fairgrounds, Wauseon. Please deposit your spare change in the *My Coins Count* jug in the fellowship hall today! *My Coins Count* benefits MCC water and food projects. Your attendance at the benefit and your donations of quilts, wooden items, and homemade baked goods will benefit MCC and Sunshine Homes. Please place donated items, with forms attached, in the quilt room. Contact John Rich for more information.

### Sanctuary renovation schedule:

*\*Please note that some of these steps/dates may change as work proceeds. We will provide updates when necessary:*

- June 24-August 26: Our worship services will be held at 10:30 a.m. in the Bluffton Middle School cafeteria. Please enter by the double doors across the street from the FMC Jackson Street entrance. Sunday school classes and coffee time will meet in the basement of First Mennonite Church.
- June 17-July 24: Removal of pews, removal of organ and some pipes, plaster repair (if needed), painting, new light bulbs
- July 25-August 5: Construction of steps and railings
- August 6-19: Hardwood flooring put in (front of sanctuary floor and stage area), sanding and clear coating of wood floor under and in balcony
- August 20-25 or 31: Carpet installed, along with new rubber stairs by Church Street door

**The Pew Restoration Project needs you!** Throughout the project there will be tasks for all, including women, men, children and youth. We hope to achieve our goal carried over from the Flooring to Flourish Campaign of 100% participation! Phase 1 of the pew removal and restoration project begins next Sunday, 06-17-18 at 1:30 pm through approximately 7 pm. In this particular phase we will remove bolts from the pew supports, lift pews onto furniture dollies, and roll the pews to their storage location. For an overview of the project and a list of tasks and description of each phase, see the salmon sheet in the literature rack. Sign up now on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. The following will be helpful: power driver for Phillips and flat head screws, open-ended 7/16" wrench. See Jerry Tripp with questions or to talk more about the project.

**MCC kits --** Thank you to all who contributed to our relief kit and hygiene kit drive. Our numbers for kits, money, and supplies collected equal: hygiene kits - 100; relief kits - 21; school kits - 11. (Our hygiene kit numbers were down, but relief kits total considerably more than four hygiene kits each, so we did better than the numbers suggest.) We will start collecting school kits when sales begin in July. The contents for those kits have changed, so look for updated lists in a month or so.

