

**Peace Sunday
June 18, 2017
10:30 a.m.**

-- GATHERING --

Chimes call us to worship	LuAnn Stuckey
Welcome, Announcements, Introductions	Paul Neufeld Weaver, worship leader
Call to Worship	
Prelude	“Let Us Rejoice” arr. A.K. Organ
Invocation	
Opening Hymns	Wendy Chappell-Dick
*Responsive Reading	Psalm 116:12-19
L: What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?	
C: I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord,	
L: I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.	
C: Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.	
L: O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds.	
C: I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord.	
L: I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people,	
All: in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!	
Special Music	“Canticle of the Turning” Rory Cooney, traditional Irish Wendy Chappell-Dick, Steve and Monica Harnish

Conversation with Friends

Hymn	“God's Family” (vs. 1)	See insert
Conversation		Lynda Nyce
Hymn	“God's Family” (vs. 2)	See insert

Pastoral Prayer

— PROCLAIMING —

Scripture	Matthew 26:31-35, 47-56	Ruth Early
Sermon	“Shaming the Kingdom of the Sword”	Kyle Miller
*Hymn	“You are salt for the earth”	HWB 226

--- RESPONDING ---

Presenting our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory	“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus” <i>LuAnn Stuckey</i>	G. Boltze/arr. K. Kosche
*Hymn of Dedication	“God, whose giving” - vs. 1	HWB 383

***Prayer of Dedication**

--- SENDING ---

***Peace Pole Dedication**

*Hymn	“We are people of God's peace”	HWB 407
*Benediction		
*Postlude		

**Please stand (remain seated if that is more comfortable for you)*

*HWB – Hymnal: A Worship Book STS – Sing the Story
Large-print hymnals and bulletins are available on the cabinet next to the parlor.*

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: Marilyn and Gary Bishop

HOST: Lynn Miller

NURSERY WORKERS TODAY: SS – Kathy Traucht, Mary Ann Ring

Worship – Bruce Steingass, Amy Freeman, Seth Andreas

NURSERY WORKERS NEXT WEEK: SS – Amy Blount, Victoria Woods-Yee

Worship – Kristen Niekamp, Amy Blount, Grace Paquin

SOUND SYSTEM: Kevin Cluts

CHANCEL: Banner

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	177
Worship attendance at Maple Crest last Sunday	
Sunday school attendance last Sunday	NA
Spending plan giving June 11, 2017	\$5,039.00
Spending plan receipts as of May 31	\$165,251.32
Spending plan expenses as of May 31	\$174,772.00
2017 spending plan	\$421,146.00

The offering June 11 totaled \$8,089.06. Money was received for these special funds: Sojourners - \$10, Deacons Benevolent - \$250, Kitchen service - \$7.90, SHYF convention payments - \$997.43, SHYF (including donations and auction payments) - \$1,571.73, College scholarships - \$150.

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

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.



Bible's prophecy of "beating your swords into plowshares" from Isaiah and Micah. Everyone is invited to "Peacemaker," a worship service at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. Songs, art, stories, and scripture will be shared and a gun will be transformed into a gardening hoe. Learn more about RAWtools at <http://rawtools.org/>.

The Bluffton/Pandora Swiss Community Historical Society, 8350 Bixel Road, is open for tours of the house, garden, summer kitchen, and workshop every Saturday from 1-5 p.m. during June, July and August. The barn will be open on the last Saturday of each month. Admission is \$5 per person; members of the society and children 16 and under are admitted free. More information is available on Facebook at Swiss Community Historical Society. For more information, contact Gary Wetherill at 419-358-1049 or wetherillg@bluffton.edu.

On June 5, Ervin Stutzman invited delegates to the MC USA General Assembly in Orlando to participate in an orientation for the delegate sessions. This was helpful as the business sessions are different this year because of the Future Church Summit. That session was recorded and is available to all who are curious about how this will work. <https://youtu.be/aYaCPAPUVjU>

GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS

Happy birthday to Marilyn Diller, 86, June 21; Elnore Yost, 90, June 23.

Willis Sommer continues in hospice care at Blanchard Valley Hospital, Findlay. Betty and family are with him. Visits may be arranged by texting Betty at 419-236-4403. Cards may be sent to their home.

Willadene Keeney died June 13 in North Newton, KS. Our thoughts and prayers are with her children and their families. No service is planned at this time. Memorials may be made to First Mennonite Church, Bluffton, Mennonite Central Committee, the Raymond and Nora Hartzler Scholarship Fund at Bluffton University or the World Wildlife Fund.

Dottie Long's brother-in-law, KW Dickerson, died in late May, and a memorial service was held June 11 in Amherst. KW was married to Dottie's sister, Catherine. The Longs and their family appreciate your prayers.

We celebrate this morning with Jackson Bush and Emma Caskey, son and granddaughter of this congregation, respectively. They were married yesterday in Goshen, IN.

Congratulations to Ryan and Erin Suderman on the birth of their daughter, Mara, born June 14 in Los Alamos, NM. Mara is a sister to Luke and the granddaughter of Mark and Elaine Suderman.

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.

PEACE SUNDAY

9:15 a.m.	Sunday school, coffee hour
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Kyle Miller preaching Peace pole dedication
Noon	Community class potluck
2-4:30 p.m.	Levi Schumacher graduation party, FH

THIS WEEK

Monday (6-19)	Et Cetera Board, 7 p.m., AR
Tuesday (6-20)	Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor, Swiss Historical Society, 7 p.m., AR
Thursday (6-22)	Pastor visit with residents, Maple Crest, 2:30 p.m. CDC annual meeting, Bluffton University
Friday (6-23)	Menno-Life deadline, 9 a.m. CDC annual meeting, Bluffton University
Saturday (6-24)	CDC annual meeting, Bluffton University

NEXT SUNDAY

9:15 a.m.	Sunday school, Hannah Chappell-Dick reporting on VS Coffee hour
10:30 a.m.	Sunday worship, Kathy Dickson preaching

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

Thank you, Ryan Blount, for designing today's bulletin cover. Ryan is the six-year-old son of Amy and Phil Blount.

Thank you, Alison King, for designing the banner and bulletin covers for the summer worship series on "Bridges Among Us."

Artwork and resources displayed on the back communion table are on loan from The Lion and Lamb Peace Arts Center of Bluffton University to reflect the various conversation topics during the summer worship series. Today's items have special connections to this congregation.

Thank you to everyone who came to the Congregational Gathering on Sunday, June 4. Church Council appreciates your thoughtfulness and your engagement with the position descriptions. As a result, several recommendations were made by Church Council for revisions and were affirmed by Staff Relations. The revised descriptions were affirmed by Church Council and are posted and available today. Not every concern raised was addressed with a formal revision of the position descriptions, but all concerns raised will stay on our minds as we move forward with these descriptions and work to live in to them for the benefit of our congregation and God's kingdom here among us.

-- Kendra Nickel, Church Moderator, on behalf of Church Council

Deadlines: The deadline for submitting items for a Sunday bulletin is **noon on Thursdays**. The deadline for submitting items for the July (2017) Menno-Life is 9 a.m. Friday, June 23.

All are invited to a graduation party for Levi Schumacher **today** from 2-4:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

Report from Hannah Chappell-Dick: Please come June 25 during Sunday school hour to hear a report from Hannah on her work as program coordinator at Back on My Feet of Atlanta, GA. Hannah uses running to aid others in establishing self-sufficiency in their lives.

Copies of the June CDC Focus are available on the literature rack near the library.

Luther Shetler will celebrate his 100th birthday on Saturday, July 1. You are welcome to celebrate with Luther and his family from 2-4 p.m. in the living room and family room at Maple Crest. If you're unable to attend the party, visits at other times and cards are always welcome!

To anyone who uses a sewing machine: A few comforters still need hemming before the comforter dedication in July. Please take one or more so that the job can be finished in time. The comforters are in the eye-level bin back of the kit table. Some are trimmed, but a few also need trimming. Directions are in the kit box. Thank you so much for your help from the Project Committee.

Electronic Giving is an option for giving in support of First Mennonite Church. There is a link, "ONLINE GIVING," at the far right of the red navigation bar on the FMC website. To register, you will need your bank routing and checking account numbers. You'll choose a starting date, as well as frequency. **All forms of donations are still appreciated, whether by cash, check or e-giving.**

Summer options for adult Sunday school

***Adult Bible Study (Menno Media) (assembly room)** -- This class will explore God's urgent call in biblical texts from Exodus, Judges, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Amos and Acts, using the Adult Bible Study quarterly as a starting point for discussion.

***Coffee Fellowship (fellowship hall)**

***Special Topics (location to be determined)** -- Special opportunities for reporting, reflection, and discussion will be offered throughout the summer.

Camp Friedenswald camperships: FMC will provide camperships of 50 percent of camp fees for children and youth. The invoice you receive when you register should reflect the campership. If it does not, please call the Friedenswald office at 269-476-9744. For more information and to register, visit <https://friedenswald.org/summer-camps>.

FMC youth attending high school camp at Friedenswald last week were Levi Schumacher, Antony Kingsley, Braden Conrad, Sarah Theisen, Sophia Gott, Ana Neufeld Weaver, Grace Pacquin, Jacob Mast, Patrick Estell, Isaac Andreas, Seth Andreas, Douglas Nester, Christopher Harnish, and Annalise Nisly. Andy Chappell Deckert, North Newton, KS, also went with the Bluffton youth.

Community vacation Bible school, "Operation Arctic," will be held at English Lutheran Church July 16-20, from 6-8 p.m. Registration will be on July 16 beginning at 5:30 p.m. Children ages preschool-grade 5 are invited to participate. Two volunteers to serve as walkers are needed for each night and volunteers to provide cookies are also needed. Contact Rhonda Winstead, 419-890-7012 or rhondaandwalt@yahoo.com, to volunteer or for more information. **SPECIAL REQUEST: Please begin saving milk jugs to be used to build an igloo at VBS. Drop off location for the milk jugs is yet to be determined.**

RAWtools will hold a blacksmith demonstration at the CDC annual meeting Thursday, June 22. Throughout the afternoon on Thursday, blacksmiths will forge guns into garden tools and by the event's end, they will complete a physical representation of the