

God is our refuge and strength
June 5, 2016
10:30 a.m.

Chimes call us to worship	Lucia Unrau
Welcome, Announcements, Introductions	Walt Paquin
Prelude	“The Water is Wide” arr. Peter Terry
Call to Worship	
*Invocation	
*Opening Hymn	— PRAISING — “What is this place?” HWB 1
Scripture	Psalms 121 Ernie Porzelius
Hymn	“In the rifted Rock I’m resting” <i>(Verses 1,3,4)</i> HWB 526
Scripture	Psalms 23 (NKJV)
¹ The LORD <i>is</i> my shepherd; I shall not want.	
² He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.	
³ He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.	
⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You <i>are</i> with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.	
⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.	
⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.	
Hymn	“Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us” HWB 352
Scripture	Psalms 46 Joan Diller

Hymn	“God is our refuge and strength” STJ 26
Time with Children	
Hymn	“If you believe and I believe” STJ 32
Conversation	Laurel Neufeld Weaver
Hymn	“If you believe and I believe” STJ 32
Pastoral Prayer	Doug Luginbill
Special Music	“Pie Jesu” arr. Andrew Lloyd Webber <i>Carol Welty and Andrea Welty Peachey, vocalists; Lucia Unrau, pianist</i>
— PROCLAIMING —	
Scripture	Revelation 21:1-5; Revelation 22:1-5 Wanda Stopher
Hymn	“Oh have you not heard” HWB 606
Silence	
Scripture	Isaiah 40:28-31; Isaiah 43:1-5; Isaiah 65:17-25 Wanda Stopher
*Hymn	“Blest are they” STJ 94
— RESPONDING —	
Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings	
Offertory	“Healer of our Every Ill” Marty Haugen
*Hymn of Dedication	“God of the fertile fields” (<i>vs. 1</i>) HWB 390
*Prayer of Dedication	
— SENDING —	
*Hymn	“We walk by faith” HWB 570
*Benediction	
*Postlude	
<i>*Please stand (remain seated if that is more comfortable for you)</i> HWB – Hymnal: A Worship Book STJ – Sing the Journey	

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

101 S. Jackson Street

Bluffton, Ohio 45817

Phone: 419-358-5766

Website: fmclubluffton.org

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

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

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, Mark and Kay Weidner, Shelby Cluts

HOST: Mary Amstutz

NURSERY WORKERS TODAY: *SS – No nursery available*

Worship – John and Julie Mackey, Sunita Hooley

NURSERY WORKERS NEXT WEEK: *SS – No nursery available*

Worship – Bruce Steingass, Amy Freeman, Douglas Nester

SOUND SYSTEM: Don Pannabecker

Chancel: Anita Lehman

The video of the most recent worship service may be viewed on the church's homepage, www.fmclubluffton.org. Videos normally are posted on the Tuesday following the service. Previously recorded worship service videos may be found at tinyurl.com/fmc-videos

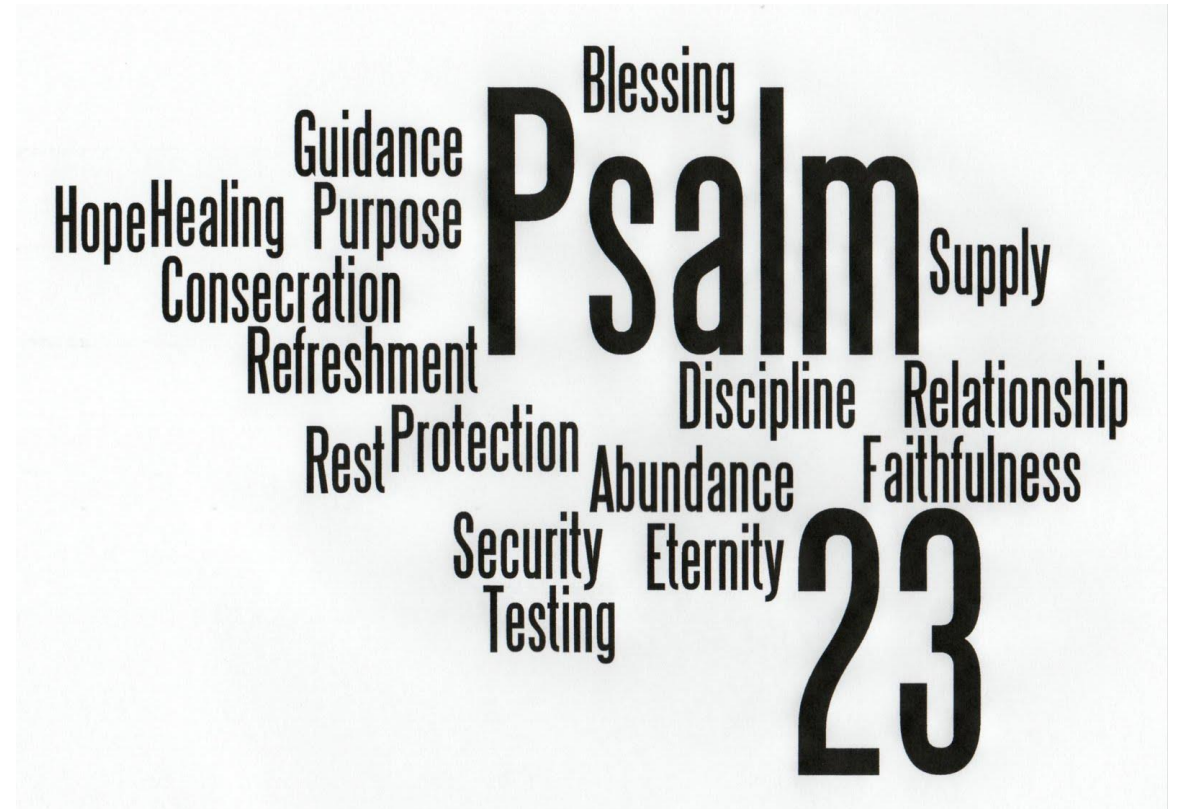
OUR STEWARDSHIP

Worship attendance last Sunday	182
Worship attendance at Maple Crest last Sunday	5
Sunday school attendance last Sunday	59
Spending plan giving May 29, 2016	\$3,953.00
2016 Proposed spending plan	\$418,276.00

The offering May 29 totaled \$5,524.66. Money was received for these special funds: Sunday school – \$39.91, Capital Campaign - \$100, Deacons' Benevolent - \$25, SHYF - \$1,180, MDS Detroit - \$50, Clarence Kooker memorial - \$25, Kitchen Services - \$176.75.

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor – Wanda Stopher – 419-551-1079 -- fmc.wanda@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 Steiner - fmc@bluffton.edu



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

PrimeTimers will hold its monthly lunch Tuesday, June 7 at noon at St. John Mennonite Church, 15988 Road 2, Pandora. Wendy Chappell-Dick will entertain with dulcimer music. PrimeTimers is a free luncheon for those 55 and older. It is a ministry of Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio and St. John Mennonite.

Reflections on church planting. Four video profiles of church planters and a series of blogs offer glimpses into creative initiatives highlighted at Sent 2016: A gathering of Mennonites planting Jesus-centered communities, held March 31–April 2, 2016, in the New Orleans area. More than 100 Mennonite church planters, coaches, conference leaders and others met for the national church planting summit, representing a wide range of settings and backgrounds. Sponsors: Mennonite Mission Network and Mennonite Church USA. See: mennoniteusa.org/sent.

Lauren Francisco of Mennonite Mission Network works as an expressive arts counselor at Eastwood Primary School in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. Pray for her as she listens to stories of victims of neglect and trauma, and empowers them to be creators. --

GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS

Happy birthday to Margaret Tiessen, 85, June 11, and Eileen Kehler, 83, June 12.

Happy anniversary to Margaret and Richard Weaver, 73, June 8; Mary and Darrel Yoder, 66, June 10; and Joyce and Don Hostetler, 56, June 11.

Halle Steingass will have hip replacement surgery on Monday, June 6. Please remember Halle in your prayers as she recovers.

We express our sympathy to the family of Tori Miller Bowers, who died May 30 at her home in Bellefontaine. A memorial service was held yesterday at First Mennonite. Tori is a niece of Bob and Linda Suter, Bill and Mary Ann Suter, Jolene and Dennis Oxender, and a cousin to Beth Raeburn, Peter Suter, Kari Suter Miller, Emily Suter Wiebe and Luke Oxender.

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.

TODAY, June 5, 2016

9 a.m.	Coffee time, FH
9:15 a.m.	Christian education; Adult fellowship, FH Option 1: Equestrian Program, FH; Option 2: Bible study, AR
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
Noon	Connections potluck, FH
2-6 p.m.	Visitation for Pastor Steven Yoder, Chiles-Laman

THIS WEEK

Monday (6-6)	Memorial Service for Pastor Steven Yoder, 11 a.m., sanctuary Fellowship Meal (all are invited), following service, FH
Tuesday (6-7)	Morning prayers, 7 a.m., sanctuary CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED Education, 6:30 p.m., parlor Trustees, 7 p.m., AR
Wednesday (6-8)	Stewardship, 8 p.m., parlor
Thursday (6-9)	MPS, 6:30 p.m., parlor Nurture, 7 p.m., library

NEXT WEEK

9 a.m.	Coffee time, FH
9:15 a.m.	Christian Education; Adult fellowship, FH
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Wanda Stopher preaching
5:30 p.m.	Ashton Cluts fundraiser dinner, FH (Rescheduled) Scripture: Acts 3: 1-10

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 downstairs. Worship activity bags for children are available.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are all incredibly saddened by the death of Pastor Steve. Our hearts break for Janet and their family, and as a congregation we express our love and support in this time of grief. A memorial service for Steve will be held Monday at 11 a.m. at First Mennonite Church, Pastors Wanda Stopher and Lavon Welty officiating. A private burial will be in Maple Grove Cemetery, Bluffton at a later date. Visitation will be today from 2-6 p.m. at Chiles-Laman Funeral & Cremation Services, Bluffton. All are invited to a fellowship meal at FMC on Monday, following the service. ***Please note: The fellowship meal will be a congregational potluck. Sandwiches and beverages will be provided; the congregation is asked to bring side dishes, salads, fruit and desserts.***

“Pie Jesu” English Translation

Merciful Jesus, Father, who takes away the sins of the world, grant them rest, grant them rest...Lamb of God, Father, who takes away the sins of the world, grant them rest, grant them rest everlasting.

Please note: The church office will be closed on Tuesday, June 7.

RESCHEDULED: All are invited to my fundraising dinner Sunday, June 12, at 5:30 p.m. in fellowship hall. This meal is to help me raise funds for my upcoming term with SALT through MCC in South Africa where I will be working at Camp El Olam and Hope Valley Farm School. The meal will include a variety of South African traditional foods that are popular at the camp. I also hope to share more about my assignment. Thank you for all of your support, thoughts, and prayers. (Online donations may be made at <https://donate.mcc.org/registry/ashton-cluts-south-africa>.) -- Thank you, Ashton Cluts

Menno-Life schedule: The Menno-Life will be distributed via mailboxes and e-mail on the following dates for the remainder of 2016. Please note deadline for submission of items in parentheses after each date.

June 5 (complete)

July 3 (June 24)

August 7 (July 29)

September 4 (August 26)

October 2 (September 23)

November 6 (October 28)

December 4 (November 25)

Margaret Tiessen has moved to Leamington, Ontario, to be near her family. Her new address is: Chartwell Leamington Retirement Residence, 1 Henry Ave., Leamington, ON Canada N8H 5P1.

Everence has developed a series of educational resources titled “7 steps to integrating faith and finances.” The resources are designed to help you identify steps for getting your financial house in order -- from a faith perspective. We encourage you to take a little time with these resources each month as a way of looking at your finances from a faith perspective. Each month, the church office will email these resource documents to those for whom we have an e-mail address. Paper copies are available in the fellowship hall. Our Everence advocate is Willis Sommer.

Black Swamp Benefit: Volunteers are needed to work at the Black Swamp sale and auction June 17-18. There is also a need for donations of baked goods. This is a good opportunity for families to join in on the excitement for raising funds for MCC and Sunshine Homes. If you can help, please contact John Rich.

Make your change count! Through MCC, we can bring life-giving food and water, sanitation and the ability to grow crops to developing countries. Deposit your donations in the “Make your change count” jug by the mailboxes in the fellowship hall. Let's make the jug overflow before it goes to the Black Swamp Benefit. ****Mark your calendar:** Sunday, June 12, we will have a "noisy" offering to collect your coins for MCC water and food programs. Bring your coins to dump into cans as we pass them down the pews, then empty them into the big container for **My Coins Count**.

Community Vacation Bible School will be held at Emmanuel UCC, 8375 Phillips Rd, July 24-28, from 6-8 p.m. for preschool through grade 5. The program is “Deep Sea Discovery -- where kids will know that God is always with them!” At Deep Sea Discovery kids will participate in the large-group excitement of Celebration Reef, and in small groups experience God’s Word at S.S. Discovery, learn ways to serve others at E.C.H.O Sea Sub, explore the mysteries of the sea through crafts and science at Curiosity Cavern and enjoy snacks and games at Pelican Pier. FMC is responsible for preschool Bible stories and games. We need four adult/HS volunteers each of the five evenings to help the preschoolers move from station to station. Please contact Mary Ina Hooley at 419-369-4040 or hooleymi@bluffton.edu to volunteer or for information. Registration forms are in the fellowship hall. Completed forms may be returned to Mary Ina. Children will sing VBS songs at the Community Worship Service on Sunday, July 31, on the Presbyterian Church lawn.