

Children’s Musical – Positive ID
May 1, 2016
10:30 a.m.

— GATHERING —

Chimes call us to worship LuAnn Stuckey
Welcome, Announcements, Introductions Greg Hartzler
Call to Worship
Prelude “Song of Praise” arr. N. Raabe
Invocation
***Opening Hymn** “Holy God, we praise thy name” HWB 121

— PRAISING —

***Responsive Reading** Psalm 67
L: God, have mercy on us and bless us. May you be pleased with us.
C: Then your ways will be known on earth. All nations will see that you have the power to save.
L: God, may the nations praise you. May all the people on earth praise you.
C: May the nations be glad and sing for joy. You rule the people of the earth fairly. You guide the nations of the earth.
L: God, may the nations praise you. May all the people on earth praise you.
C: The land produces its crops. God, our God, blesses us.
All: May God continue to bless us. Then people from one end of the earth to the other will have respect for him.

— OFFERING —

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings
Offertory “Kingsfold” arr. R. Hartsell

Pastoral Prayer

— PROCLAIMING —

Scripture

Elizabeth Kelly

Colossians 1:9-14

Children’s Musical

(See insert for details)

Positive ID

A Musical Drama
Book and Lyrics by Nan Allen
Music by Dennis Allen and Tom Tettke
Directed by Ashton Cluts and Laura Hartzler

Opening Promenade
Positive ID Introduction

Scene 1

Speak the Truth in Love
Compassion

Scene 2

Gotta Have a Heart

Scene 3

Keep In Touch
Uncommonly Good

Scene 4

Compassion (reprise)
Lord Be Glorified

In my life Lord Be glorified, be glorified.
In my life Lord be glorified today.
In my heart Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In my heart lord be glorified today.

Let My Life Be the Praise

— SENDING —

***Hymn** “God of grace and God of glory” HWB 366

***Benediction**

***Postlude** “Cwm Rhondda” arr. D. Cherwien

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

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

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

Associate Pastor – Steve – 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: Gayle Trollinger, Steve Harnish, Jan Wiebe

HOST: Mary Ann Moser

NURSERY WORKERS TODAY: SS – Kevin and Alison King

Worship – Kevin and Alison King, Mary Ina Hooley

NURSERY WORKERS NEXT WEEK: SS – Marilyn Bishop, Melinda, Patrick, Rebecca Estell

Worship – Bruce Steingass, Amy Freeman, Christopher Harnish

SOUND SYSTEM: Kevin Cluts

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	215
Worship attendance at Maple Crest last Sunday	7
Sunday school attendance last Sunday	80
Spending plan giving April 24, 2016	\$4,271.00
2016 Proposed spending plan	\$418,276.00

The offering April 24 totaled \$9,114.98. Money was received for these special funds: Sunday school – \$24, Kitchen service - \$6.98, SHYF - \$50, Capital Campaign - \$100, Deacons' Benevolent Special Fund - \$470, College Scholarships - \$3,925, Mennonite Women – \$89, Facility use - \$75, Habitat - \$50, Health kits - \$55, Wanda Pannabecker memorial - \$25.

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor – Wanda Stopher – 419-551-1079 -- fmc.wanda@bluffton.edu
Associate Pastor – Steven Yoder – 419-369-4753 (h) - fmc.steve@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

Americana and blues, and rock and roll artists. Entrance is free, but donations will be accepted.

The Today's Disciples SS class of Grace Mennonite Church has invited Pandora, Bluffton, Lima, and Elida Mennonite Churches to a program about the Mennonite Disaster Service Detroit project Sunday, May 15, at 7 p.m. at Grace. This will be an informational program with pictures, video, and stories. There are an estimated 5,000 residents in Detroit who cannot afford to hire help to haul away debris left by the August 2014 flooding that caused storm water and sewage backup in basements. Typically, community foundations offer recovery grants to disaster response agencies, but foundations in Detroit have not done so and few agencies are responding. Donations to MDS are needed and very much appreciated. MDS work in Detroit for 2016 is estimated to cost \$680,000. Come prepared to generously support this mission and to enjoy fellowship and refreshments. You may also donate directly to MDS online or mail checks to MDS, 583 Airport Road, Lititz, PA 17543.

Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio is seeking a part-time Volunteer Coordinator. This individual will coordinate the volunteer program on all four campuses; the position includes recruiting, orienting, managing and celebrating volunteers. Submit a resume and application online at mhcoliving.org/why-us/careers, by mail to Doug Luginbill, MHCO, 410 W. Elm St., Bluffton, Ohio 45817, or by email to dluginbill@mhcoliving.org. Deadline: May 15, 2016.

GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS

Happy birthday to Robert Ramseyer, 87, May 8.

We express our condolences to Mary Edmiston and her family on the death of Mary's sister, Susan Sommer, who died April 23 in Tremont, IL. A memorial service was held April 27 at First Mennonite Church, Morton. Memorials may be made to Camp Friedenswald 15406 Watercress Way, Cassopolis, MI 49031-9532 or The Mennonite, Inc. 3145 Benham Ave., Suite 4, Elkhart, IN 46517.

Congratulations to Jean and Wendell Miller on the birth of their granddaughter, Lucia Fisher, who was born April 27. Her parents are Erika and Mateo Fisher.

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, May 1, 2016

9:00 a.m.	Coffee time, FH
9:15 a.m.	Christian education
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Children's musical, "Positive ID"
Noon	Connections potluck

Today the children's choirs present "Positive ID," a musical drama, during worship. The main theme is about inviting God to be a part of your life and making decisions based on your relationship with Christ. The musical is directed by Laura Hartzler and Ashton Cluts.

THIS WEEK

Tuesday (5-3)	Morning Prayers, 7 a.m., sanctuary Staff meeting, 9 a.m. parlor Education, 6:30 p.m., parlor Trustees, 7 p.m., AR Info meeting for bus drivers, 7 p.m., 301
Wednesday (5-4)	Adult bells, 6 p.m. Jubilate, 6:45 p.m.; Youth bells, 7 p.m.
Thursday (5-6)	Worship, 7 p.m., parlor

NEXT WEEK

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, Wanda Stopher preaching

Scripture: Acts 1:1-14; Psalm 97; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21, John 17:20-26

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

Thanks to Ben Hartzler and John-Paul Yoder for designing today's bulletin cover!

Thank you to LuAnn Stuckey for serving as our pianist/organist today.

We've said it many times before, but we're taking one step at a time on a very uncertain journey. There are highs and lows. This week, Steve returned to ICU in order to treat fluid that has built up around one of his lungs and for testing. This is disappointing, but not at all unexpected. We know that there will be setbacks but we also know that this is part of the care required to move forward. Moving to ICU has actually allowed Steve time to rest and that's a good thing. We are grateful for the care Steve is receiving and for the love and support of so many family and friends. Right now the best way to support us is through continued prayers. We love to receive mail, electronic and otherwise.

On the journey, Steve and Janet

Address: Steve Yoder, J52, c/o Cleveland Clinic, 9500 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44195.

First Mennonite Church is in need of a substitute office worker to be trained to perform church office duties when the Administrative Assistant is absent. If interested, please visit the church office to see a job description and to pick up an application form. Applications must be submitted to the church office by May 22.

-- Ken Shenk, Staff Relations Committee

Reminder: Please bring all posters/signs to the church office to be posted on the church bulletin boards. Items may also be e-mailed to fmc@bluffton.edu.

Please notify the church office if you or a family member is in need of pastoral care. Wanda Stopher is coordinating pastoral care with assistance from Ruth Naylor. Please don't hesitate to call Wanda at 419-551-1079. You may also call Ruth at 419-358-6309.

Ruth Naylor will be participating in the Great Lakes Regional Mennonite Spiritual Directors' Retreat at the Lindenwood Retreat Center, Plymouth, IN, from Monday through Wednesday this week.

Summer music: Pianists, organists, song leaders, musicians of all ages and types: there are opportunities for offering your musical gifts during the worship services this summer. Opportunities include the following:

- Lead the singing for our "opening songs"
- Play piano or organ
- Provide special music during the service, vocally or instrumentally, as a soloist or in an ensemble

Please contact our director of music, Mark Suderman, by phone (419.358.1284) or by email (sudermanme@bluffton.edu.) If you have some specific dates in mind when you could offer your musical gifts, please let Mark know. Thank you!

If you are interested in a manuscript of the sermon Perry Bush shared in worship on April 17, please notify the church office. We will send it electronically but will provide print copies when necessary.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

All are invited to the MCC Alumni and Friends International potluck at 5:30 p.m. today at Grace Mennonite. Speakers are Ben and Beth Weisbrod, MCC Area Directors for Central and West Africa. Please bring an international dish and a plate of cookies to share. Tableware will be provided.

PrimeTimers' monthly lunch is at noon May 3 at St. John's Mennonite Church. The menu is pork roast, mashed sweet potatoes, green bean casserole, salad with maple dressing, rolls and pies. The event is open to those 55 and over and is free. Entertainment will be provided by the Columbus Grove Junior High School choir. PrimeTimers is a ministry of St. John's and Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio.

Bluffton University commencement will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 8 in Sommer Center, with baccalaureate scheduled for 10:30 a.m. in Founders Hall. The musical, "Curtain," which will be presented May 5, 6 and 7 at 7:30 p.m. in Founders Hall. Learn more at: <http://www.bluffton.edu/blufftonalumni/mayday/>.

Three local singer/songwriters will perform Thursday, May 5, at 7 p.m. at the Bluffton Town Hall. Sam Stucky is a graduating senior at Bluffton University. He has been writing songs since his sophomore year of high school and has performed in several groups. Jeff Brassell grew up in Bluffton, and strives to reflect everyday life in his music. Brett Prothro is a recent Bluffton transplant from Wichita, KS, who reimagines jazz, early