

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Weekly Announcements 3-17-2019

First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817
419-358-5766 | fmcbluffton.org | Office open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday-Friday

- Pastor Wanda Stopher -- Monday-Thursday, 9-4, off Friday; 419-551-1079 (cell); fmc.wanda@bluffton.edu
- Pastor Theda Good -- Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday; 419-549-2417 (cell); fmc.theda@bluffton.edu
- Interim Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, M-F, 8-10 a.m., mastc@bluffton.edu
- Director of Music – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 (cell); sudermanme@bluffton.edu
- Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, M-F, 9-4, fmc@bluffton.edu
- Custodian – Mick Hardy, 7:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., weekends as needed

Calendar

Sunday, March 17, 2019

9:15 a.m. SS, coffee time
10:30 a.m. Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching, 10:30 a.m.
2 p.m. Margaret Weaver visitation
4 p.m. Weaver memorial service, fellowship meal after service
4 p.m. “Songs of Conscience and Peace: Music of the Great War Era,” Yoder Recital Hall
5:30 p.m. FMC learning circle cancelled
6:30 p.m. Maple Crest learning circle

March 18-24, 2019

Monday (Mar 18) Isaac Villegas, 5-8 p.m., FH Et Cetera Board, 7 p.m., AR
Tuesday (Mar 19) Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor Financial Peace U, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday (Mar 20) Adult bells, Cherubs, 6 p.m. Jubilate, 6:30 p.m. Chancel, youth bells, 7 p.m.
Thursday (Mar 21) Adriel, 10 a.m.-noon, parlor Adriel, noon-6 p.m., FH Community dinner, 6 p.m., senior center Deacons, 7 p.m., parlor
Friday (March 22) Menno-Life deadline
Saturday (March 23) All-church activity night, BFR, 6-8 p.m.
Sunday (Mar 24) SS, coffee time, 9:15 a.m. Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching, 10:30 a.m. Learning circle, 5:30 p.m.

Pastor Theda will be off next week, March 19 – 25. She'll be back in the office on Tuesday, March 26.

Happy birthday!!

March 18 Evan Sider

March 19 Xavier Diller, Elizabeth Kelly, Mitch Kingsley

March 21 Annette Heslep

March 23 Corrinne Boehr, Ben Hartzler, Evan Steiner

March 24 Jim Dillman

All are invited to CCR potluck

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the congregational potluck on Sunday, March 31, following the worship service. Bring food to share and your own table service. Drinks will be provided.

The potluck is in lieu of Church/ College Sunday, and the luncheon and informational meeting held each spring, and is sponsored by the Church/College Relations committee: *Louise Matthews, chair, Jacob Litwiller, Mona Reichenbach, Theda Good*

MPS/CDC sponsor discussion, potluck with Isaac Villegas on sanctuary

Mission, Peace and Service and CDC will hold a potluck supper and discussion with Isaac Villegas on “Churches of Refuge: offering sanctuary as civil disobedience” Monday, March 18, in the fellowship hall. Supper is 5:30 p.m. and a discussion at 6:30 p.m.

Villegas, pastor of Chapel Hill (N.C.) Mennonite Fellowship, will share the story of his church's work of offering sanctuary to Rosa Del Carmen.

Those attending are asked to bring food to share.

Our condolences to Dick and Elfrieda Ramseyer in the death of Elfrieda's brother, Bob Landes, on Wednesday, March 13, 2019, in Arizona.

Spring comforter-knotting days are approaching and Mennonite Women wishes to emphasize that all interested individuals are invited to help with this important mission. Please flag April 8 and 9 on your calendars for frame-loading, knotting, and fellowship! Details will follow in the near future.

Eighteen comforters from First Mennonite Church are on their way to Camp Friedenswald, thanks to Doug Luginbill who took them to Goshen and arranged for their delivery to Camp, where they'll be used on beds.

Phone directories are in mailboxes today. To obtain the electronic version of the directory, please contact the church office at fmc@bluffton.edu.

REMINDERS

FINAL DAY: Today is the last day to submit an order for Easter flowers. Order forms are on the table next to the church office.

Get active with FMC at BFR! Wondering where spring is? Need to release a little steam building up from the winter blahs? FMC is renting Bluffton Family Recreation Center on Saturday, March 23 from 6-8 p.m. Everyone of all ages is invited to walk the track, shoot baskets, play pickleball, chat on the sidelines or just generally tear around for two hours.

If you haven't yet completed the survey that was placed in mailboxes last week, please do so now. The survey is intended to help us shape the future of children and youth ministry at FMC as we live into the 5 Priorities. Everyone in the congregation is asked to participate by completing and signing the survey. Please return surveys by Sunday, March 24, to the box labeled "Children and youth ministry surveys" and located near the mailboxes. Additional copies of the survey are on the table outside the church office. **Please join Staff Relations for conversation in Room 301, March 17 or 24, at 9:30 a.m.

The senior high youth will hold a Blau Rock Café on Saturday, March 30, from 3-7 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Guests may come and go as schedules allow. The café is a coffeehouse event featuring a variety of musical performances, poetry readings, skits, jokes and more. This event is open to the community so please bring friends. There are three tiers of admission:

- Tier one: \$130 for table of six or \$25/ticket for one hour of entertainment; includes heavy hors d'oeuvres, and a dedicated server
- Tier two: \$50/table or \$10/ticket for one hour of entertainment; light hors d'oeuvres, and youth servers
- Tier three: Free; popcorn and a chair, no table
- Additional refreshments will be available a la carte and upgrades in seating are available. Seatings for tiers one and two begin at the top of every hour. Tiers one and two must specify the hour they wish to attend. For more info or to reserve a table, contact Carrie Mast at masc@bluffton.edu or 419.358.5766.



Mapping the Path session summary sheets and work captured on newsprint are posted on the FMC website, <http://www.fmcbluffton.org/> Click on the GTF tab to find a page of photos and information from the first Open Space event. One significant learning was that many of us don't know what FMC is already doing within the

congregation, the community, and in the world. **Also, please save the date for the second event, Making the Path, on Sunday, April 7.** We will use information from Mapping the Path to consider ways we are already in ministry, some ministries we might re-imagine, and new ministries to imagine.

OUR CONNECTIONS

Bluffton University

Through March 31 "Voices of Conscience" exhibit, Musselman Library

March 17 "Songs of Conscience and Peace: Music of the Great War Era" Crystal Sellers Battle and Wendy Chappell-Dick, 4 p.m., Yoder Recital Hall

March 19 "Telling Difficult Stories: Reporting on Sexual Violence" Forum, Marie Osborne, anchor and reporter, WJR Radio, Detroit, 11 a.m., Yoder Recital Hall