

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
Weekly Announcements 3-8-2020

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; wanda@fmcbluffton.org
- Pastor Theda Good – Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday; 419-549-2417; theda@fmcbluffton.org
- Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, M-F, 8-11 a.m., 419-230-1568, mastc@bluffton.edu
- Director of Music – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 (cell); sudermanme@bluffton.edu
- Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, fmc@fmcbluffton.org

Sunday, March 8, 2020

9:15 a.m. Sunday school, coffee time; SS class
on contemplative prayer practices, 301
10:30 a.m. Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching
11:30 a.m. Freudige/Sojourners potlucks
Noon Catechism
5:30 p.m. FMC learning circle, FH

March 9-15

Monday (March 9) MW, 7 p.m., FH
Tuesday (March 10) Morning prayers, 7 a.m.
Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor
Wednesday (March 11) MW sewing, 9 a.m., FH
Cherubs, Adult bells, 6 p.m.
Jubilate, 6:30 p.m.
Chancel choir, youth bells, 7 p.m.
Thursday (March 12) Bulletin deadline, 9 a.m.
Caring Connections, 2:30 p.m., parlor
Trustees, 7 p.m., parlor
Friday (March 13) SHY/JHY leaving for work camp
Saturday (March 14) CDC regional gathering, Cincinnati, 9 a.m.
Guess Who's Coming to Dinner
Sunday (March 15) Sunday school, coffee time; SS class on
contemplative prayer practices, 301, 9:15 a.m.
Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching, 10:30 a.m.
No catechism
JHYF/SHYF returning from work camp, 3 p.m.
FMC learning circle, 5:30 p.m., FH
SHY/JHY meet in fellowship hall to walk to Faithline
at United Methodist Church, 6:50 p.m.

Happy birthday!

March 9 – Shelby Cluts
March 9 – Anna Hartzler
March 13 – Tom Basinger
March 14 – Jonathan Andreas
March 14 – Louise Matthews

Join Mennonite Women on Monday, March 9, at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall for a presentation by Ryn Farmer and Erin Ostling Burkholder of Crime Victim Services. They'll provide an overview of CVS, as well as a detailed look at the Day One program, which provides primary violence prevention work in Allen and Putnam Counties. Refreshments will be provided.

Staffing change: In this transition time, a list of custodial tasks has been created. If you are able to help with any of these tasks, please see the list posted on the custodian closet door in the fellowship hall. All supplies and equipment are in the closet. When you complete a task, please initial and date that task. Thank you!

FMC is in search of a church custodian. Duties include: routine cleaning of the building, light maintenance, set-up for events, outside lawn mowing and snow removal, other duties as agreed upon. Hourly wage, up to thirty hours per week. Contact FMC at fmc@fmcbluffton.org. Please provide your name, contact information and resume.

The 2019 financial review was held March 2. There is a summary sheet in church mailboxes. One side displays some highlights from 2019, and the other side includes a financial update for 2020. Copies of the detailed December 2019 financial report are available in the fellowship hall.

Thank you, Victoria Woods-Yee, for creating all of our bulletin covers throughout this Lenten season.

Thank you First Mennonite Church family for your prayers and support for Tom's brother's family during his recent illness and dying, and to those who supported us with your presence at visitation and the memorial service. The many cards of sympathy and condolences have been a comfort! ~ Sincerely, Sue and Tom Schaaf

The MW project committee invites all to the monthly work morning on Wednesday, Feb. 12, from 9 a.m.-noon, to cut, lay out, and sew comforter tops and kit bags. Bring rotary cutters, rulers, mats, and sewing machines. A sewing machine and several mats with rulers are available. Working as a team is an option. Instruction is available.

Returning today from visiting the US/Mexico border are Theda Good, Monica Harnish, Ana, Laurel and Paul Neufeld Weaver, Jan Wiebe and Theo Andreas, Fran Core, Lynda Nyce, and Melissa Friesen.

Junior and senior high youth and three adults will volunteer at Camp Friedenswald March 13-15. Participants include Claire Phillips, Ana Neufeld Weaver, Jacob Suter, Elam Suter, Ellie Hartzler, Ellie Nickel, Ethan Nickel, Grace Paquin, John-Paul Yoder, Ethan Blount, Walt Paquin, Greg Hartzler, and Carrie Mast.

FMC will celebrate the 100th anniversary of Mennonite Central Committee with comforter knotting April 13-14. If you are able to sew comforter tops prior to the event, you'll find kits on the table in the quilt room, or you may choose fabrics from the large bin on the shelf.

Reminders

Orders for Easter flowers must be submitted and paid for by Monday, March 9. You must retrieve them immediately after worship on Easter; any remaining will be shared with MHCO residents.

CDC East Regional Gathering will be held Saturday, March 14, 9:45 a.m.-3 p.m. at Cincinnati Mennonite.

Taste and See: A Sampling of Contemplative Prayer Practices, an elective class will meet today through April 5. Attend as you are able. Information sheets are available in the fellowship hall.

FMC will host Bluffton Community VBS June 7-11. We'll need volunteers to make decorations and name tags, bake cookies, and prepare the church, and will need many volunteers during VBS, greeting/checking in guests, distributing name tags, walking children between stations, playing music, and leading worship. If you are interested in helping, contact co-organizers Amber Shelly (arshelly11@gmail.com) or Carrie Mast.

A family workshop is Saturday, March 28, from 9:30 a.m.-noon. Topics will include technology, stress management, calming techniques, resilience, and developing a family plan for healthy emotional regulation at home. Erin Bauman of Cornerstone of Hope Christian Counseling will facilitate the workshop. Snacks and supplies will be provided.

Hygiene and relief kit drive: Lists and instructions for both kits are on the bulletin board at the collection area near the library. If you'd like to sew bags, there are sewing directions cards in the kit collection area, as well. Some precut bags and cords are there and donated fabric is welcome.

Be part of a multiage First Mennonite Green Team thinking about and acting on climate change and sustainability practices in our building and faith community. Consider attending Camp Friedenswald's Climate & Community weekend April 17-19; attendance at the retreat is not required of Green Team members. Contact Carrie Mast or sign up in the fellowship hall if interested.

Our Connections

Habitat for Humanity-Lima Area's next build will be in Delphos, their 10th house in Delphos and 56th overall since 1991. Volunteers to help with construction and to provide meals are needed, as are donations. Also needed: a group to provide a monthly meal for 30 ReStore volunteers, and sustaining/ongoing donations of \$10/month. To volunteer or donate, call 419-222-4937, email habitatlima@habitatlima.org or see the website: www.habitatlima.org.

Bluffton University

3- 9 Senior exhibit opens, Grace Albrecht Gallery, Sauder Art Center, displayed through April 3

3-10 *Knowing Yourself in a Selfie World*, Spiritual Life Week Forum, David Stamile, 11 a.m., Yoder Hall

3-10 *Ethical Empowerment: Social Work in the Fabric of Daily Life*, Forum, Rowena Zuercher, 11 a.m., Musselman Library Reading Room

3-12 *Cleveland Brassworks concert*, 7 p.m., Yoder Recital Hall, tickets required

3-13 *Toward Creative-Commons Organic Chemistry Textbooks*, Colloquium, Dan Berger, 4 p.m., Centennial Hall

BU alumni tour of Europe: Brochures about Bluffton University's 2020 alumni tour of Europe featuring Mennonite migrations and led by President Jane Wood and Dr. Gerald Mast are in the literature rack in the fellowship hall.