

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Weekly Announcements 5-17-2020

First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817

419-358-5766 | fmcbluffton.org | Staff working from home

- 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, 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, 419-358-5766

Sunday, May 17, 2020

Taste and See SS, discussing the Examen, Zoom, 9:15 a.m.,

<https://zoom.us/j/342273765>

Sojourners SS, Zoom, 9:15 a.m., <https://zoom.us/j/4193583208>

Worship, Doug Luginbill preaching, 10:30 a.m.

Learning circle, Zoom, 6 p.m., <https://zoom.us/j/4193585766>,
contact Carrie Mast for password

May 18-24

Tuesday (May 12) Morning prayers, Zoom, 7 a.m.,

<https://zoom.us/j/93803392337> (new link)

Staff meeting, Zoom, 9 a.m.

Wednesday (May 13) Coffee & tea social hour, Zoom, 3 p.m.,

<https://zoom.us/j/110200533>

Thursday (May 14) Bulletin deadline, 9 a.m.

Deacons, 7 p.m.

Sunday, May 25, 2020

Sojourners SS, Zoom, 9:15 a.m.

Taste and See, Zoom, 9:15 a.m.

Worship, Steve Harnish preaching, 10:30 a.m.

Learning circle, Zoom, 6 p.m.

Interested in Bible study this summer? The theme of MennoMedia's summer adult SS quarterly is *Many Faces of Wisdom* and will focus on wisdom literature in the Bible. Options for using the quarterly include joining a SS class via Zoom; having your own Bible study; or organizing a small group to study together virtually, by phone, email or other written correspondence, or in a porch/patio study 6 feet apart. Large print copies and teacher guides are also available. If you would like a copy of your own, contact Carrie Mast. Orders will be placed on Thursday, May 21.

Summer SS for children: FMC is ordering SS leaflets for preschool and primary-aged children to use over the summer. Children should watch the mail for their copies!

Happy birthday

May 19 – Bodey Benroth

Greg Hartzler

May 22 – Gayle Trollinger

May 23 – Kaleigh Coffman

Ann Kingsley

May 24 – Art Shelly

Zoom prayer update: Please note this new link to morning prayers: <https://zoom.us/j/93803392337>. Also, Midday and Vesper prayers have been discontinued for the time being.

Celebrate Summer Psalms worship series by engaging creatively with any of these 150 ancient songs of God's people. Choose a Psalm to illustrate or to write in calligraphy. Create a coloring page for our children. Record a song based on one of the Psalms or set one of them to music of your own. You might use the language of the Psalms to voice a contemporary lament or song of thanksgiving. Write a testimony about your favorite Psalm or record yourself reciting one you've memorized. It will be a Summer Psalm festival! The Psalm(s) you choose need not correlate with the Psalm of focus in worship. Submit your offering to Mark Suderman or Pastor Wanda.

Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio requests assistance from volunteers to sew gowns on a serger. The fabric will be provided to those willing to cut fabric, arrange pieces into kits, and/or sew gowns. If you are able to help, contact Chris Moser at 419-490-7109 or cmoser@mhcoliving.org.

Changes to Central District Conference Annual Meeting

CDC has canceled this year's in-person meeting but is making plans for a virtual meeting to be held Saturday, June 27, from 9-11:45 a.m. Delegate sessions will be held by Zoom. The first hour will be

worship using a pre-recorded video that all may watch at that time or when convenient. Several seminars will be recorded as webinars and shared later in July and August. The worship video, delegate sessions, and webinars will be open to all. More information will be shared soon.

Several persons from FMC have reported receiving emails from a false account pretending to be Pastor Wanda and asking for assistance for a cancer patient. This is a scam. Please do not respond to these emails. If Pastor Wanda needs assistance of this type she will not use email to contact you.

Reminders

We're planning another Menno-Life for June featuring the ways you're all keeping busy in and around your homes. Taking walks or bike rides? How are you celebrating birthdays and anniversaries or other significant events? Exploring new hobbies or rediscovering old ones? Trying new recipes? Please send photos, stories, and recipes (and pictures of the resulting food) to fmc@fmcbluffton.org.

Musicians of all ages/types needed: We hope many will share musical gifts during worship this summer:

1. Video record your musical selection at home and send it to Ray Raeburn to add to our worship video.
2. Come to the church at 11 a.m. on the Wednesday before the Sunday service and be part of the taping of the service. We are working hard to make sure that all who come to each taping session are safe and stay at a good distance from each other.

Opportunities include playing for the service, including opening music, prelude, offertory, and postlude, or providing special music, vocally or instrumentally, as a soloist or in an ensemble. Please contact Mark Suderman at 419.230.5368 or sudermanme@bluffton.edu.

There are many ways to express care and generosity in giving to a more equitable and just distribution of resources. In addition to local organizations, we suggest the following options.

*Global Church Sharing Fund <https://mwc-cmm.org/article/global-church-sharing-fund>

*COVID-19 Congregational Sharing Fund <https://mds.mennonite.net/>; <https://www.everence.com/>; <https://mcc.org/>

- Catholic Charities of RGV <http://sacredheartchurch-mcallen.org/immigrant-assistance/donate-now/>
- ProBar https://www.americanbar.org/groups/departments_offices/FJE/donate/com-imm-probar/
- Team Brownsville <https://www.teambrownsville.org/donate>
- National Butterfly Center <https://nationalbutterflycenter.org/>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gpWc-0l17_s
- World Central Kitchen <https://wck.org/>
- HOLA Ohio: <http://holatoday.org/donate/>
- Ohio Immigrant Alliance: <https://ohioimmigrant.org/fundraising-donate/>

Mennonite Central Committee has announced the U.S. Washington Office's Safe Home, Safe Refuge initiative, part of an advocacy that envisions a world where migrants may choose whether or not to leave their homes, where they are safe on their journey, and find welcome when they arrive. During 2020, the office will study causes of migration, immigration and asylum policy. See <https://mcc.org/safe-refuge> for information.