

# FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

## *Weekly Announcements 5-19-2019*

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

- Pastor Wanda Stopher – On sabbatical through July 31, 2019
- Pastor Theda Good -- Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday; 419-549-2417 (cell); [theda@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:theda@fmcbluffton.org)
- Interim Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, M-F, 8-10 a.m., [mastc@bluffton.edu](mailto:mastc@bluffton.edu)
- Director of Music – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 (cell); [sudermanme@bluffton.edu](mailto:sudermanme@bluffton.edu)
- Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, M-F, 9-4, [fmc@bluffton.edu](mailto:fmc@bluffton.edu)
- Custodian – Mick Hardy, 7:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., weekends as needed

### Calendar

#### Sunday, May 19, 2019

9:15 a.m. SS, coffee time, 9:15 a.m.  
10:30 a.m. Worship, Lynda Nyce preaching.  
11:30 a.m. Freudige/Sojourner class potlucks  
1:30 p.m. Paul Dyck visitation, FMC  
3 p.m. Paul Dyck memorial service,  
followed by meal, FMC  
7 p.m. CO conversation, sanctuary  
FMC learning circle canceled

#### May 20-25, 2019

Monday (May 20) Et Cetera Board, 7 p.m., AR  
Tuesday (May 21) Morning prayers, 7 a.m.  
Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor  
Thursday (May 22) Council, 7 p.m., parlor  
Sunday (May 26) SS, coffee time, 9:15 a.m.  
Worship, Lynn Miller preaching,  
10:30 a.m.  
FMC Learning circle, 5:30 p.m.  
Monday (May 27) Memorial Day, office closed

**WANTED:** Vacation Bible School walkers and cookie bakers. St. John's United Church of Christ is hosting this year's Bluffton Community VBS July 21-25. We are looking for people to accompany groups of children to each station from 6-8 p.m. each night. We also need 4 dozen cookies for the final evening when parents, family, and friends are invited to an open house following the VBS program. Contact Carrie Mast if you are able to help: [mastc@bluffton.edu](mailto:mastc@bluffton.edu) or 419.230.1568.

### Happy birthday!!

May 22 – Gayle Trollinger  
May 23 – Kaleigh Coffman  
May 23 – Ann Kingsley  
May 24 – Art Shelly  
May 25 – Amy Freeman  
May 25 – Mary Ina Hooley

**Early deadline: The deadline for the Sunday, May 26 bulletin is 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 22.**

**Conscientious Objector discussion:** Consider joining a CO conversation Sunday evening at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. Perry Bush will facilitate the conversation about conscientious objector status and military draft registration. We are holding this with junior high and senior high youth in mind, both male and female, and their parents, but it is also open to the congregation and friends of FMC.

The conversation will open with some history of the CO status and the considerations of choosing to register as a CO. We'll also review Article 22 on Peace, Justice, and Nonresistance from the Confession of Faith regarding the church's official position, discuss how to register and what kinds of documentation to include in CO files, as well as how the church family can support youth. The meeting, which will last about one hour, will include a presentation and question and answer period.

**Jan and Diana Emmert thank the members** who helped them on very short notice to deal with their house flood on April 25: Bret and Wanda Stopher, Tim and J.P. Schumacher, Hans Houshower, and Mary Pannabecker Steiner. Also, thanks to John and Carolyn Rich and Lynn Miller, who transported them to Findlay several times in March for medical appointments.

**You are invited to celebrate Seth Andreas' graduation** from Bluffton High School on Monday, May 27, from 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at First Mennonite Church. *~ Jan Wiebe and Jonathan Andreas*

**New this week:** The May CDC Reporter shares information about the June 20-22 annual meeting at Milwaukee (WI) Mennonite Church. Copies are available on the hearing aid cabinet in the fellowship hall. After today, copies will be in the literature rack.

## **REMINDERS**

**A memorial service for Paul Dyck** will be held today at 3 p.m. at FMC. A fellowship meal will follow the service. Visitation will be held at the church from 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. A private burial will take place at Maple Grove Cemetery.

**You're invited to join a conversation** on white privilege and racism around a table in the fellowship hall during the Sunday school hour today. Anita Lehman will lead the conversation, which is one of the ministries identified during recent GTF all-church meetings.

**The Adult Summer Sunday School Elective series** will focus on "Covenant Relationships: Ruth to Romans." What can we learn from the stories in the Bible about the ties that bind us together as friends, families, and faith communities? How is the covenant that God made with Abraham fulfilled in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and in our own lives as we follow Christ? How does God's faithfulness help us cope with relationship failures and betrayals? These and many other questions about living in covenant will be addressed in the series that will run from June 2-August 25. Led by Gerald Mast, the class will use the MennoMedia Adult Bible Study and will meet in the assembly room at 9:15 a.m.

**Summer musicians needed** - pianists, organists, song leaders, musicians of all ages and types. There are again opportunities for offering your musical gifts during the worship services this summer (June-August.) Opportunities include:

- Lead the singing for "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, at 419.230.5368 or [sudermanme@bluffton.edu](mailto:sudermanme@bluffton.edu). If you have specific dates in mind, please let Mark know.

**Please drop your extra coins** into the My Coins Count glass jar in the fellowship hall. The money collected will be taken to the Black Swamp Benefit June 15 at Archbold High School. Your donations will go to a program which helps support Mennonite Central Committee's clean water projects around the globe.

**You're invited to enjoy backyard fun** at the Schumacher's, 161 Riley St., at 6:30 p.m. June 13, July 11 and August 8. Invite friends, parking is limited so walk or bike if you can, and bring lawn chairs. If you have questions, contact JP or Tim Schumacher. **June 13:** Create a sculpture, paint a rock creature, build a bird feeder, explore a tunnel or have a fireside conversation. Snack: Floats!

## **Our Connections**

**Join Mennonite Mission Network's** webinar celebrating the 75th anniversary of Mennonite Voluntary Service. Learn how God inspired many to live out their faith through service.

**When:** May 21, 2019, at 7 p.m. EDT and 6 p.m. CDT

**Where:** ZOOM webinar

**What:** 75 years of Mennonite Voluntary Service

**How:** Visit [www.mennonitemission.net/news/MVS-webinar](http://www.mennonitemission.net/news/MVS-webinar) for instructions to join!