

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Weekly Announcements 6-23-2019

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 – On sabbatical through July 31, 2019
- Pastor Theda Good – Monday-Thursday, 9-4, off Friday; 419-549-2417 (cell); theda@fmcbluffton.org
- Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, M-F, 8-11 a.m., mastc@bluffton.edu
- Director of Music – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 (cell); sudermanme@bluffton.edu
- Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, fmc@bluffton.edu
- Custodian – Mick Hardy, M-F, weekends as needed

Calendar

Sunday, June 23, 2019

9:15 a.m. SS, coffee time
9:15 a.m. Journey Forward circle, SH classroom
10:30 a.m. Worship, Jackie Wyse-Rhodes preaching
12:30 p.m. Swiss Day, Ebenezer Mennonite
5:30 p.m. FMC Learning circle

June 24-30, 2019

Tuesday (June 18) Morning prayers, 7 a.m.
Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor
Thursday (June 27) Council, 7 p.m., parlor
Sunday (June 30) SS, coffee time, 9:15 a.m.
Worship, Kathy Dickson preaching, 10:30 a.m.
Church picnic, Bluffton Village Park, noon
FMC learning circle, 5:30 p.m.

Happy birthday!!

June 27 – Douglas Nester

June 27 – Romaine Pannabecker

June 28 – Shannon Thiebeau

June 29 – Lauren Roberts

June 30 – Lawrence Burkhalter

Chancel art reflects worship theme

The chancel art hanging on the podium is a visual response to the theme guiding our worship in the book, *We Make the Road by Walking*, by Brian McLaren. It starts with Pentecost on June 9 and runs through August 25, considering being “alive in the Spirit of God.” Artist Anita Lehman invites the congregation to take a closer look at some point to consider the images and the meaning you may notice.

WANTED FOR VBS: Empty toilet paper tubes and one more walker. Empty toilet paper rolls can be placed in the white tub by the mailboxes in the fellowship hall.

We have filled most of the slots for walkers, but still have one opening left on Sunday. If you can volunteer to accompany a group of children from station to station on Sunday night, let Carrie Mast know at 419.230.1568 or mastc@bluffton.edu.

Don't forget the picnic!!

The annual church picnic will be held at noon on **Sunday, June 30**, at the **Bluffton Village Park**. Please bring a hot and a cold dish to share, as well as table service for your family. Water will be provided. Games for children of all ages will include a water balloon toss and a pudding eating contest. Come and enjoy the fun and fellowship.

~ Nurture

MORE NEW INFORMATION!

Campers and staff: Strong FMC representation at Camp Friedenswald

FMC youth who attended senior high camp two weeks ago at Camp Friedenswald included Ellie Nickel and Seth Andreas. Those at junior high camp last week were Theo Andreas, Allison Diller, Ben Hartzler, and John-Paul Yoder. Primary campers last week included Ryan Blount, Ezekiel Coffman, Ariana Goings, Jorian Mast, Kaden Niekamp, and Leah Niekamp. Our graduates now serving on the camp staff include Isaac Andreas, Seth Andreas, Douglas Nester, Christopher Harnish, and Justin Berg (BU grad who was active here.) FMC adults who volunteered at camp included Carrie Mast, campus pastor during senior high camp; Kristen Niekamp and Amy Blount, primary camp.

REMINDERS

Swiss Day today: You're invited to participate in Swiss Day today at 12:30 p.m. at Ebenezer Mennonite Church. Bring a hot and cold dish to share. The program "Swiss Roots and Beaver Branches - A Bluffton Family Tree" will be presented by Carrie Phillips, archivist at Bluffton University.

Summer SS options include coffee time in the fellowship hall, Adult Bible Study group in the assembly room, a class focusing on white privilege and racism in room 303, senior high & junior high youth in their usual rooms, children 3 years – 5th grade in the ViP room for Veggie Tales videos. Schedules are available outside the church office.

Shared items list on website: First Mennonite has a list of items that members own and are willing to share with others. This list, "Shared Items," is on the FMC website under the "Resource" tab located at the top of the page. The page is password protected so if you wish to access it, you'll need to request the password from Mary Pannabecker Steiner in the church office. We are in the process of updating the list, so we've e-mailed the list to those whose items appear on it. Please let us know if your items are still available. Also, if you have items you're willing to share that are not on our list, please notify the church office.

OUR CONNECTIONS

Friends at First Mennonite Church: Thank you for your recent gift to MCC! Your gift helps change lives around the world. A gift to where needed most supports the breadth of MCC's work. Through this gift of hope, you are meeting urgent needs, helping to build peace and investing in long-term change in communities. In Lebanon, a kindergarten run with MCC support offers a strong start in schooling for young Syrian and Palestinian refugees. Read more stories of how your partnership, with MCC is blessing people around the world at <https://mcc.org/stories>.

~ Blessings, Sarah Geiser, MCC Great Lakes, Church Relations Associate for Ohio, MCC Great Lakes

Dear Friends: Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,550. We are truly grateful for your ongoing support of MCC. Together we are sharing God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ.

~ Ron Byler, MCC U.S. Executive Director

Everence youth savings week: Youth can jump start their savings during Youth Savings Week, July 8-12. They can earn an extra \$5 when they deposit \$15 in one new or existing account with Everence. Its youth savings account is currently at 4% APY for the first \$1,000. Find details and activities at Everence locations at everence.com/youth-savings-week.