

**FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH**  
**Weekly Announcements 3-7-2021**

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

419-358-5766 | [fmclubluffton.org](http://fmclubluffton.org) | Office closed due to Covid; staff working from home

- Pastor Wanda Stopher – Monday-Thursday, off Friday, 419-551-1079, [wanda@fmclubluffton.org](mailto:wanda@fmclubluffton.org)
- Pastor Jeff Boehr – T, F; 419-236-9150, [jeff@fmclubluffton.org](mailto:jeff@fmclubluffton.org)
- Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, 419-230-1568, [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, 419-358-5766, [fmc@fmclubluffton.org](mailto:fmc@fmclubluffton.org)

**Sunday, March 7, 2021**

Children's Zoom, 9 a.m., <https://zoom.us/j/93359681335>  
Sojourners, Zoom, 9:15 a.m., <https://zoom.us/j/4193583208>  
Faithful Living, Zoom, 9:30 a.m., <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85741872049?pwd=NG1UcWlyOVJ6RUg4TUdHTE5Wa0lKZz09>  
Race and Ethnicity, Zoom, 9:15 a.m.,  
<https://zoom.us/j/92632252996>  
Taste and See, Zoom, 9:15 a.m., <https://zoom.us/j/342273765>  
SHY, Zoom, 9:30 a.m.  
Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching, 10:30 a.m.  
Virtual fellowship hall conversation, Zoom, 11:30-12:15,  
<https://zoom.us/j/93482279238>  
Learning circle, Zoom, 6 p.m., <https://zoom.us/j/4193585766>

**March 8-13**

Monday, March 8 Racial Justice, Zoom, 7 p.m.  
Tuesday, March 9 Morning prayers, Zoom, 7 a.m.,  
<https://zoom.us/j/93803392337>  
Staff meeting, Zoom, 9 a.m.  
Thursday, March 11 Deadline to submit items for the weekly announcements, 9 a.m.

**Sunday, March 14, 2021**

Children's Zoom, 9 a.m.; Sojourners 9:15 a.m.; Faithful Living, 9:30 a.m.; Race and Ethnicity, 9:15 a.m.; SHY, 9:30 a.m.; Taste and See, 9:15 a.m.  
Worship, Mark Suderman preaching, 10:30 a.m.  
Virtual FH conversation, 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.  
Learning circle, Zoom, 6 p.m.

**Happy Birthday!**

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

**We are very happy** to welcome Carmen Ordonez Moser as she joins the church staff as Bookkeeper this month, and Don Hooley as he begins volunteering to assist in preparing the monthly financial reports and other analysis of our church finances. They join the treasurer team comprised of Rita Dietrich, Carrie Mast, and Lowell Hostetler in tending to the financial matters of the church. This new collaborative approach to the treasurer work is moving us toward sustainable governing structures in our church life.

**Please note** that we will not be taking orders for Easter flowers this year. We do plan to have palms for Palm Sunday and will distribute those to the homes of children in the congregation.

**Especially for kids:** Each week's Conversation with Friends can be viewed on a private YouTube channel especially for FMC kids. Check them out here:  
[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8GP3BoW44SIRI\\_VMRsBOh8\\_szrfmDska](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8GP3BoW44SIRI_VMRsBOh8_szrfmDska)

**To view and hear** a collaboration between two FMC artists, Julian Harnish and Beth Boehr, follow this link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AkGgTDLUm3E>

**Corrine Boehr has moved to Betty House**, Willow Ridge, and is turning 90 on March 23! Her family would love to have anyone who can, send her a card, greeting, note, well-wishes to shower her with love for this transition. Send to: Corrine Boehr, Betty House, 101 Willow Ridge Dr., Bluffton, Oh 45817.

**Bobbie Chappell had surgery** this week to help heal a hairline fracture in her femur. She is healing well and back living at Willow Ridge.

### **Reminders**

**The Racial Justice Ministry** will hold its next gathering on Monday, March 8 at 7 p.m. Doug Luginbill will report on what other Central District churches have been doing to study and address questions of racial justice. One of the more unique actions is *A Reparative Act* developed by Shalom Community Church, Ann Arbor. Trevor Bechtel, Shalom pastor, will join us to describe the history of this intriguing response both to church history and too-often noted patterns of decision making control when white and black/brown Christians are working on programs to increase racial justice. Note the new Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/96516134635>.

**All are invited to attend** the Central District Conference Board of Directors' next mid-year gathering via Zoom Saturday, March 27, from 9:30-11:45 a.m. ET. Register [here for the meeting](#). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

**Worship at First Mennonite Church** is both the result of careful planning and preparation, and a participatory act of all those who engage in the service. A Worship Planning ministry is now being formed to plan worship in collaboration with the Pastor of Christian Formation and the Music Director. Special attention in this ministry will be given to the task of inviting and including the diversity of people and gifts in the congregation. See Pastor Wanda for more information or to express interest in joining this ministry.

### **Our connections**

**You're invited to join MCC Great Lakes** for two virtual MCC Alumni & Friends gatherings, which will feature first-hand stories from current and recently returned MCCers.

- **Wednesday, March 10 at 7:30 p.m. EST** Andrew and Katie Geddert, former MCC reps for Ukraine, will share stories from MCC's work in Ukraine. More information and registration at: [mcc.org/gl-ukraine-webinar](http://mcc.org/gl-ukraine-webinar).
- **Sunday, March 21 at 2 p.m. EST** Vurayayi Pugeni and Thelma Sadzamari, MCC area directors for Southern and Central Africa and Nigeria, will share stories about MCC's work there. More information and registration at: [mcc.org/gl-africa-webinar](http://mcc.org/gl-africa-webinar).