

**FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH**  
**Weekly Announcements 5-23-2021**

**First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817**  
**419-358-5766 | [fmcbluffton.org](http://fmcbluffton.org) | Staff working from home**

- **Pastor Wanda Stopher – Monday-Thursday, off Friday, 419-551-1079, [wanda@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:wanda@fmcbluffton.org)**
- **Pastor Jeff Boehr – T, F; 419-236-9150, [jeff@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:jeff@fmcbluffton.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@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:fmc@fmcbluffton.org)**

**Sunday, May 23, 2021**

Children's Zoom, 9 a.m., <https://zoom.us/j/93359681335>  
Sojourners, Zoom, 9:15 a.m., <https://zoom.us/j/4193583208>  
Taste and See, Zoom, 9:15 a.m., <https://zoom.us/j/342273765>  
Worship, Youth Sunday, livestream Facebook Live, 10:30 a.m.  
Learning circle, Zoom, 6 p.m., <https://zoom.us/j/97864060444>  
*(Note that this is a new link.)*

**May 24-29**

Tuesday, May 25 Morning prayers, Zoom, 7 a.m.,  
<https://zoom.us/j/93803392337>  
Staff meeting, Zoom, 9 a.m.

Saturday, May 29, SHY, 9:30 a.m.

**Sunday, May 30, 2021**

Children's Zoom, 9 a.m.; Sojourners 9:15 a.m.; Taste and See, 9:15 a.m.  
Worship, Gerald Mast preaching, livestream Facebook Live, 10:30 a.m.  
Learning circle, Zoom, 6 p.m.

**From the Reopening Task Force**

**We will continue, as a congregation, to follow the COVID-19 Guidelines for Gathering posted on the FMC website, including the wearing of masks, with one exception: Small groups, with everyone vaccinated, may relax the rules for masking, social distancing, and eating and drinking. Also, the results of the vaccination survey indicated that as of May 19, 158 persons reported as fully vaccinated.**

**Pastor Wanda will be out of the office Wednesday, May 26 through Tuesday, June 1. For pastoral care emergencies, please contact Jeff Boehr.**

**Happy Birthday!**

**May 23 – Kaleigh Coffman  
Ann Kingsley**

**May 24 – Art Shelly**

**May 25 – Amy Freeman**

**Mary Ina Hooley**

**May 29 – Lu Derstine**

**Kurt Longworth**

**May 30 – Chad Paul**

**Today, May 23, we observe Youth Sunday. Join the SHY and the Spirit as music, scriptures, and stories are shared, and seniors are honored.**

**To improve the quality** and viewing experience of our livestream worship we have switched from Zoom to Facebook Live. You need not have a Facebook account to access the new link. You may access the live stream from the church's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/blufftonfirstmennonitechurch/> or at: <https://fb.me/e/1qn1WtZGz> The video will still be posted on the website following the livestream. If you have questions, contact the office at [fmc@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:fmc@fmcbluffton.org) or 419.358.5766.

**The Suter family would like to welcome you** to celebrate Jacob's graduation from Pandora-Gilboa High School with us. We'll have an open house on Saturday, June 5, from 5-9 p.m. at our home, 17623 Road 4, Pandora.

~ Pete, Kim, Jacob, Elam and Makayla Suter

### Reminders

**Church Custodian wanted:** First Mennonite Church is in search of a church custodian. Duties include: routine cleaning of the building, light maintenance, set-up for events, lawn mowing and snow removal, other duties as agreed upon. Hourly wage, up to twenty hours per week. Health Insurance available. Contact FMC at [fmc@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:fmc@fmcbluffton.org). Please provide your name and best contact information. An application and job description will be sent to you.

~ Staff Relations

**2021 Camperships:** After registering and paying for Camp Friedenswald summer camps, parents may email their receipts to Carrie Mast at [mastc@bluffton.edu](mailto:mastc@bluffton.edu) to be reimbursed for 50% of the registration cost.

**Instrumentalists and singers, musicians of all ages and types:** there are opportunities for offering your musical gifts during the worship services this summer (and throughout the year.)

Opportunities include:

- Play an instrument for the prelude, postlude, offertory, or as an obbligato instrument with hymns or ensembles
- Provide special music during the service, vocally or instrumentally, as a soloist or in an ensemble

During this time of COVID-19, whether we are gathered in person or recording a service, we will take safety precautions for your music presentation. Special thought to placement in the sanctuary, especially for wind instruments and singing, will be implemented. If you are willing to offer your musical gifts or have any questions, please contact Mark Suderman, director of music, at 419.358.5368 or [sudermanme@bluffton.edu](mailto:sudermanme@bluffton.edu). If you have some specific dates when you could offer your musical gifts, please let Mark know.

### Our Connections

**Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio** has provided contact information for visitation, employment and volunteer opportunities.

- **Visitation:** Call to arrange an appointment for your visit. <https://mhcoliving.org/indoor-visitation-update/>
- **Employment opportunities:** Including positions for Life Enrichment Coordinator, Maintenance, Child Care, Dietary, Home Health and Nursing. <https://mhcoliving.org/careers/>
- **Volunteer Activities:** We are starting indoor volunteering opportunities at all our campuses. More info at: <https://mhcoliving.org/volunteer-opportunities-at-mhco/>

**Join MCC on a virtual learning tour** to the borderlands between Mexico and the U.S. on June 28-July 2 from 3-6 p.m. EST each day. This tour is designed to engage participants with the reality of immigration from a different perspective. Through Zoom video conversations, participants will hear first-hand from folks on the ground about the complexities of the U.S. immigration system, U.S. immigration policies that have worked to dismantle the asylum-seeking process, and the human factor on various sides of the spectrum. The cost of the learning tour is \$75. More information and registration at [mcc.org/gl-virtual-borderlands](https://mcc.org/gl-virtual-borderlands).

**Join Mennonite Central Committee** for a free webinar featuring Raymond Chang on Wednesday, May 26, at 1 p.m. EDT. Chang, the president of the Asian American Christian Collaborative, will examine historical and present day examples of how racism impacts Asian Americans in the church. This webinar is part of MCC's yearlong study of *Color of Compromise* by Jemar Tisby. Register at [mcc.org/webinar-raymond-chang](https://mcc.org/webinar-raymond-chang) to receive the webinar link. For more information and past webinars in the series, visit [mcc.org/color-of-compromise](https://mcc.org/color-of-compromise).