

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Weekly Announcements 6-20-2021

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

419-358-5766 | fmcbluffton.org

- **Pastor Wanda Stopher** – Monday-Thursday, off Friday, 419-551-1079, wanda@fmcbluffton.org
- **Pastor Jeff Boehr** – T, F; 419-236-9150, jeff@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, 419-358-5766, fmc@fmcbluffton.org

Sunday, June 20, 2021

Sojourners, 9:15 a.m., assembly room

Taste and See, 9:15 a.m., 301

Worship, Carrie Mast preaching, sanctuary, 10:30 a.m.

Congregational meeting, sanctuary, following worship

Sermon Discussion Circle, meal, 5:30 p.m.; discussion 6-7 p.m.

June 21-26

Monday, June 21 SHY, 3 p.m.

Tuesday, June 22 Morning prayers, sanctuary, 7 a.m.,

Staff meeting, parlor, 9 a.m.

Sunday, June 27, 2021

Sojourners 9:15 a.m.; Taste and See, 9:15 a.m.

Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching, 10:30 a.m.

Sermon Discussion Circle, meal, 5:30 p.m.; discussion 6-7 p.m.

Last Sunday we celebrated returning to in-person worship after over a year of worshipping together virtually. Following a review, Reopening Task Force agreed that people will accomplish safe distancing without roping off benches. We will, however, continue to request that those in worship attendance mask both in solidarity with those who are not able to or eligible to be vaccinated and to enable us to sing together. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Rita Dietrich or Pastor Wanda.

Water Offering: Bring a small jar or bottle of water from your home for the worship service Sunday, June 20, as we celebrate the Gospel of Water. Bring your water to the sanctuary for worship Sunday morning. You're invited to bring it forward during the Conversation to pour it into our bowl of water to join other waters from our FMC community. If you don't want to walk forward during the service or can't be here, drop off your container to the sanctuary any time before Sunday worship, and we'll make sure your water is included. Containers may be retrieved after worship.

Happy Birthday!

June 21 Marilyn Diller

Ken Shenk

June 22 Mel Stettler

June 23 Darrell Huber

Elizabeth Kingsley

Elnore Yost

June 27 Romaine Pannabecker

Church Administrative Assistant: First Mennonite Church is in search of an Administrative Assistant. Duties include: Weekly, monthly and annual routine clerical responsibilities and record keeping, production of church bulletins and other communications (internally and externally), social media & website oversight, work with public, church members and staff team. Hourly wage, up to 36 hours per week. Health insurance available. Contact FMC at fmc@fmcbluffton.org. Please provide your name and contact information. An application and job description will be sent to you. ~ Staff Relations

Church Custodian: First Mennonite Church is in search of a church custodian. Duties include: routine cleaning of the building, light maintenance, set-up for events, outside lawn mowing and snow removal, other duties as agreed upon. Hourly wage starts at \$15/hr depending upon experience. Up to 20 hours/wk. Health Insurance available. Contact FMC at fmc@fmcbluffton.org. Please provide your name and contact information. An application and job description will be sent to you. ~ Staff Relations

A congregational meeting with updates for our pastoral transition and to approve the 2021 2nd half spending plan will be held Sunday, June 20, immediately following the worship service. In preparation of the financial portion of the meeting, please watch this video: <https://bit.ly/3iMmSD7>.

If you are able to help with any custodial tasks during our custodial search, please see the list posted on the custodian closet door in the fellowship hall. All supplies and equipment are in the closet. When you complete a task, initial and date that task. Cleaning of restrooms (upstairs and downstairs) on Saturday afternoons following the Farmer's Market is especially needed. Thank you! ~ Staff relations and Trustees

Keep our JHY campers in prayer as they head to Camp Friedenswald today: Kaleigh Coffman, Xavier Diller, Rebecca Estell, Ethan Blount, Braylon Goings, Ellie Hartzler, and Claire Phillips.

Reminders

Returning borrowed hymnals: If you haven't yet done so yet, please return all borrowed *Voices Together* hymnals. Place them on the pew in the fellowship hall beside the sanctuary doors. Jeff Boehr will collect and return hymnals for those not able to bring them in person. If you wish to keep the hymnal, please let the church office know and send \$29 to replace the hymnal in our supply.

Placement of hymnals in pew racks: We now have four hymnbooks stored in each pew rack in the sanctuary. To store these properly, please note that a spiral-bound book must be paired with one of the main hymnals when placing them in the racks. As we discuss Creation care this summer, this is a good reminder to care for our church building as well – the public space shared and available to all. Let us be grateful for the gifts and materials we have, caring for them wisely and prudently.

The Central District Conference annual meeting will be held via Zoom June 26, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The schedule, details, and registration can be found at <https://mcusacdc.org/annual-meeting-2021/>. As part of the afternoon session, Betty Pries of Credence & Co. will guide the afternoon session, leading participants to consider how the church is building equitable, diverse, and inclusive congregations. This is not limited to delegates but does require registration for the Annual Meeting. [Register here](#). At 4:45 p.m. on Zoom, Melissa Florer-Bixler will talk about her newest book, *How to Have an Enemy: Righteous Anger & the Work of Peace*. There is no charge for this event, but it does require registration. [Register here](#). This has been organized by the CDC Mennonite Women and is open to all.

Our Connections

An evening of writing in circle will be held Wednesday, June 30, at 6 p.m. in the gazebo at 112 N. Main St. Circle will begin at 6:30 and conclude at 8:30. Bring a chair, notebook, and writing instrument. Circle is hosted by Katherine Beckett and Corrie Reed, graduates of the Wellstreams Program for Spiritual Formation and the Art of Spiritual Direction. To register, contact Katherine at kabeckett1001@gmail.com. Cost for this event is \$10. A payment link will be sent upon registration.

A free MCC webinar will be offered on Tuesday, June 22 at 8 p.m. EDT. Join James Wheeler & Linda Herr, Area Directors for Europe & Middle East, to hear how MCC partners in challenging settings are speaking love with words and actions, and how we can all do a part of something bigger than any one of us. This presentation will highlight various aspects of MCC work in programs in Europe and the Middle East, including refugees and displaced people, basic human needs and material resources. More information and registration at mcc.org/mcc-webinar-series.

The June edition of On the Level is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. The current issue includes articles about : MDS and the Brethren Church formalize a partnership of caring, the last houses in the Land of Hope are dedicated, bringing to completion a three year effort, and youth across the U.S. are packing their bags to embark on MDS Summer Youth programs. **Click on this link to read more:** <https://conta.cc/3gsx0PZ>