

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
Weekly Announcements 7-4-2021

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, July 4, 2021

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

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

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

Sermon Discussion Circle will not meet

July 5-10, 2021

Monday, July 5 Church office closed

Tuesday, July 6 Morning prayers, sanctuary, 7 a.m.,

Staff meeting, parlor, 9 a.m.

Deacons, parlor, 7 p.m.

July 6-10 MennoCon 21, SHY and delegates attending

Sunday, July 11, 2021

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

Worship, Ray Person preaching, 10:30 a.m.

Congregational information meeting, 3:30 p.m., FH (childcare provided)

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

Happy Birthday!

July 7 – Isaac Andreas

Michael Treece

July 8 – Gerald Mast

July 9 – Anita Lehman

July 10 – T.R. Steiner

Heather Thisis

During this time of transition, the

Leadership Circle will meet with Staff Relations for the purpose of addressing future staffing needs for the congregation. We have started our meetings together and want to provide an opportunity for input from the congregation.

We have planned an informational meeting and discussion for Sunday, July 11, from 3:30-5 p.m., in the fellowship hall. Childcare will be provided. If possible, please let Ray Person (r-person@onu.edu) know that you will need childcare. Also, we will provide the congregation with a Zoom link, for those who are unable to attend in person. Look for an email for more information.

MennoCon21 here we come! SHY will depart on Tuesday, July 6, and will return on Saturday, July 10. Youth attending include Theo Andreas, Kendra Gott, Ben Hartzler, Ellie Nickel, Ethan Nickel, and John-Paul Yoder, and sponsors are Chris Gott and Carrie Mast. **FMC's delegates participating in the virtual delegate session are Gerald Mast and Walt Paquin.**

Keep Kari Diller in your prayers as she spends this week at Camp Friedenswald.

No JHY this week; Carrie will be with SHY at MennoCon21.

The Reopening Task Force continues to focus on protocols that we believe will help keep us safe, paying special attention to the most vulnerable among us. Therefore, we ask that those who gather for worship wear masks through the end of July in solidarity with our children who are not yet eligible to receive the vaccine. We will reconsider this at the end of July. Please contact Rita Dietrich or Pastor Wanda if you have questions.

Reminders

Pastor Jeff will be in the office at the church for consultation or visits on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to noon. Feel free to stop in or make an appointment. Appointment times can be planned for other days of the week except Sundays and Mondays.

Bluffton Community VBS registration forms are available on the table in the FH. The week will be in a hybrid format. Sunday, July 18, and Thursday, July 22, will be family nights from 5:30-8 p.m. (arrive no later than 7:25 to begin stations). Families will travel through stations to do crafts, play games, sing, hear a Bible story, and eat a snack. For kids ages 4-7, in-person VBS is scheduled Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in groups of 8 with adult walkers. For kids over 8 years old, packets will be available for pick up on Sunday night to complete at home Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Families are invited to return on Thursday to complete the week together in the stations.

VBS walkers needed! Due to the hybrid format, groups consist of only 8 children each, aged 4-7. If you are able to help out Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday evening, July 19, 20, or 21, contact Carrie Mast at 419.230.1568 or mastc@bluffton.edu.

If you are interested in supporting Bluffton University international students with occasional needs that arise, you may give to the International Student Assistance Fund through FMC. Checks can be made out to FMC. Be sure to designate checks by writing ISAF on the memo line.

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

Our Connections

Your help is needed with the Mennonite Disaster Service, Western Ohio project in Dayton, which is part of the Tornado Survivors Pathway to Home Ownership Project following the 2019 Memorial Day tornadoes. Leadership for this project is provided by the Western Ohio Unit officers. The first of two homes have been framed/roofed/sided and windows/doors installed. Tasks yet to be completed include: siding on the unattached garage, interior painting, vinyl flooring, installing kitchen cabinets and bath vanities. We need a group of individuals with at least one experienced leader to volunteer for one of these tasks. The timeframe is roughly the third week of July into August, until completed. To learn more about how you can support this project, contact Lawrence Matthews at matthewsL@bluffton.edu.