

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
Weekly Announcements 9-19-2021
First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817
419-358-5766 | fmcbluffton.org

- **Director of Music/Interim Church Administrator – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 sudermanme@bluffton.edu**
- **Pastor Jeff Boehr – 419-236-9150, jeff@fmcbluffton.org**
- **Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, 419-230-1568, mastc@bluffton.edu**
- **Administrative Assistant – Trustworthy Schumacher, 419-358-5766, fmc@fmcbluffton.org**
- **Custodian – Don Burris, 419-788-6157; dcburris58@gmail.com**

Sunday, September 19, 2021

Youth Choir 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.

Worship, Gloria Hernandez Bucher preaching, 10:30 a.m.,
Sanctuary, streaming simultaneously at <http://tinyurl.com/FMC-on-FB> and at

<http://tinyurl.com/FMC-zoom> (passcode: 11111).

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

September 20- September 25, 2021

Tuesday, Sept 21 Morning prayers, sanctuary, 7 a.m.,
Staff meeting, parlor, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, Sept 22 Cherub Choir 6 p.m. Children's choir room
Jubilate 6:30 p.m.

Youth Bells 6 p.m. Assembly room

Adult Bells 7 p.m.

Chancel choir 7 p.m. Sanctuary

Thursday, Sept 23 Deadline to submit announcements, 9 a.m.

Sunday, September 26

Worship, Lynn Miller preaching, 10:30 a.m.

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

Happy Birthday!

Sept. 21 – Elfrieda Ramseyer

Sept. 22 – Leah Niekamp

Sept. 24 – Jackie Frey

Nathan Heslep

Joanne Niswander

Sept. 25 – Lyle Burkholder

Ana Neufeld Weaver

Ken Graber, our pianist this morning, grew up in Freeman, South Dakota. He spent most of his career teaching piano, including teaching at St. Olaf College in Minnesota for many years. He and his wife Ruth, a Bluffton native and former public health nurse, have recently relocated here to Bluffton and are excited about being part of our congregation.

Cards are in the pews to record your volunteer hours and can be placed in the offering plate. The volunteer hours are also important offerings to the church to be recognized.

Ministry Opportunities

~**Nursery Coordinator:** Responsible for scheduling nursery volunteers during both the SS hour and the worship hour, overseeing that snacks are stocked, and the nursery, toys, and equipment are well-maintained. Occasional recruitment of new volunteers is needed.

~**Greeters & Hosts Coordinator:** Schedules greeters and hosts each Sunday.

~**Weekday Christian Education (WCE) Coordinator:** Serves as contact for the community WCE program that brings K-6th grade children to our building for class once a week to study the Bible. Schedules volunteer walkers from FMC to walk children back and forth from their classrooms to the church.

~**Library Circulation Volunteer:** Checks in returned books, re-shelves books, files cards in catalog, assists in processing donated and new books, maintains library space, and works with the Library Committee.

~**Sunday School Sub:** Interested in supporting Christian Formation for our children and youth but can't make a long-term commitment to teaching? Consider adding your name to the sub list!

Ken and Natalie Shenk have a new granddaughter, Cleo Fu Shenk, born on September 11. Cleo's parents are Jay Shenk and Janet Fu of Perrysburg, Ohio.

Church Scholarship Fund: Seven students are currently attending Mennonite colleges and have received \$500 FMC scholarships for this semester for a total of \$3500 from First Mennonite Church to support Mennonite education. Students include Nthathi Phetlhu and Therisanyo Phetlhu attending Bluffton University, Ana Neufeld Weaver attending Goshen College and Seth Andreas, Cassidy Bush and Sophia Gott attending Eastern Mennonite University [EMU]. The next disbursement is due on December 1 to fulfill our commitment for the second semester to include Isaac Andreas who will continue at EMU. Please continue your generous support of this important connection with our college students and Mennonite institutions. Designate donations as *Church Scholarship Fund*.

***Swords to Plowshares* by Lisa Weaver, illustrated by Amanda Huston and published by The Lion and Lamb Peace Arts Center:** This picture book shares the early connections between artist and teacher John P. Klassen, the relief efforts of Mennonite Central Committee in Russia and Bluffton University. Consider purchasing a copy of this book for yourself or as gifts @ \$10 each. Pay with cash or make checks payable to The Lion and Lamb with Plowshares in the memo line. All proceeds go to The Lion and Lamb book fund. Books will be available in the fellowship hall. Contact Louise Matthews in person, email matthewsa@bluffton.edu or call 419.303.8057 to arrange the purchase. Excerpts from the book:

She [Isaak's mother] said. "I think Mr. Klassen is saying he wants to change violence into goodness. But I don't know how he will do that. We'll just have to wait and see."

Isaak's father said, "A lot of people wondered why John Klassen left the big farm where he grew up and studied to be an artist. I was one of those who questioned his decision. Now I am beginning to understand why it is important for the world to have artists. John Klassen could see a way to transform fear into courage, and despair into hope."

"Messiah" rehearsals begin at Bluffton University: All are welcome to join rehearsals for Bluffton University's 126th performance of Handel's "Messiah" from 7-8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays each week starting Sept. 28 in the Gilliom Room of Mosiman Hall. The performance, directed by Dr. Bo Young Kang, will be held in Yoder Recital Hall at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 12. Masks are required during rehearsals. For more information, contact Dr. Kang at kangb@bluffton.edu or the music department office at 419-358-3347.

Interested in purchasing singing masks? Here are a few links to try:

- a. *The Singers Mask* <https://www.broadwayreliefproject.com/singersmask/p/style-01-pjkne>
- b. *Sing-Safe Singer's Mask* <https://www.jwpepper.com/Sing-Safe-Singer%27s-Mask/11335409.item#.YTfLwd8pCUk>
- c. *Resonance Singer's Mask* <https://www.mymusicfolders.com/product/resonance-singers-mask-with-disposable-biofilters/>
- d. [*Mask for Singers, Performers*](#), from Amazon

Reminders

The Leadership Circle and Staff Relations is pleased to announce that the following have agreed to serve on the Search Committee: Rhonda Winstead (chair), Gloria Bucher, Gerald Mast, Ellie Nickel, Adam Phillips, Greg Ring, and Victoria Woods-Yee.

The Faithful Living Class welcomes all who would like to discuss the Salt & Light curriculum. We begin SS at 9:20 a.m. If you have questions, contact Greg Ring at h.greg.ring@gmail.com or by calling 419-379-5310.

Faith & Life SS Class meets in the parlor from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. Alex Sider is teaching this fall. Contact Mary Amstutz if you need the material.

MCC Kit collection will continue through September. Kit lists are available on the bulletin board by the library.

~ Sue Schaaf and Jean Miller