

**FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH**  
**Weekly Announcements 9-26-2021**  
**First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817**  
**419-358-5766 | [fmcbluffton.org](http://fmcbluffton.org)**

- **Director of Music/Interim Church Administrator – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 [sudermanme@bluffton.edu](mailto:sudermanme@bluffton.edu)**
- **Pastor Jeff Boehr – 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)**
- **Administrative Assistant – Trustworthy Schumacher, 419-358-5766, [fmc@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:fmc@fmcbluffton.org)**
- **Custodian – Don Burris, 419-788-6157; [dcburris58@gmail.com](mailto:dcburris58@gmail.com)**

**Sunday, September 26, 2021**

Youth Choir 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.

Worship, Lynn Miller 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 27- October 2, 2021**

Tuesday, Sept 28 Morning prayers, sanctuary, 7 a.m.,  
Staff meeting, parlor, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, Sept 29 Cherub Choir 6 p.m. Children's choir room  
Jubilate 6:30 p.m.  
Adult Bells 6 p.m. Assembly room  
Youth Bells 7 p.m.  
Chancel choir 7 p.m. Sanctuary

Thursday, Sept 30 Deadline to submit announcements, 9 a.m.

**Sunday, October 3, 2021**

Worship, Gerald Mast preaching, 10:30 a.m.

Lectionary text: Job 1:1, 2:1-10; Psalm 26; Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16

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

**Happy Birthday!**

**Sept. 27 – Jo Clemens**

**Sept. 28 – Greg Ring**

**Sept. 29 – Del Gratz**

**Sept. 30 - Liana Gott**

**Oct. 2 – Jeffery Strahan**

**A class is forming** for those who are planning to transfer membership to First Mennonite Church or want to join a discussion about considering making a commitment to fellowship at First Mennonite. At this point there are nine persons planning to join the class. If you are interested in joining or want information about the class contact Pastor Jeff at [jeff@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:jeff@fmcbluffton.org) or call 419-236-9150.

**Ministry Opportunities**

~**Nursery Volunteers:** Interested in showing hospitality to families? Sign up to be a volunteer in the nursery [here!](#) Not a fan of Google sign-up sheets? Call the church office to sign up!

~**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!

**Hearing Assist Unit Inventory:** If you are regular user of one of these units, I would like to have you confirm that you have your name on one that is stored in the cabinet between uses. If you keep one in your possession, I would also like to have it recorded in inventory. FMC provides batteries for the units and can provide an ear piece which, for health reasons, becomes a personal item. Please put your name on the regular use list so that it is possible to anticipate availability to new users. Thanks much – Bob Suter

**Sam Diller** will have Aortic Heart Valve Replacement surgery on Thursday, Sept. 30. The family would appreciate prayers for a successful surgery and recovery.

**Prayers are welcomed** for Judy Steiner's mother, Rosalie Dosh. She has been experiencing intense anxiety and is receiving treatment at a hospital in St. Mary's, OH.

**Ray Forman** passed away from malignant melanoma in Ocala FL. For more information contact Kay Forman 352-438-8814.

**Our church will assist** with meals at Our Daily Bread in Lima this Monday, Sept. 27. Please let John Rich know if you can help.

**Columbus Mennonite member, Dr. Ryan Schellenberg, Associate Professor of New Testament at Methodist Theological School in Ohio (MTSO), has published a new book: *Abject Joy: Paul, Prison, and the Art of Making Do*.** Tune in for an MTSO-sponsored book launch 7pm, September 28 over Zoom that will include a presentation by Ryan and responses from fellow scholars who have extensive experience working alongside incarcerated persons. The group will discuss what prison tells us about Philippians and also what Philippians has to say about prison. More information and a sign up link can be found [HERE](#).

### **Reminders**

**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 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](mailto:matthewsa@bluffton.edu) or call 419.303.8057 to arrange the purchase.

**"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](mailto:kangb@bluffton.edu) or the music department office at 419-358-3347.

**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](mailto: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.

### **Our Connections**

**September Reporter:** "Tending Transformation" is the new theme for Central District Conference. In this *Reporter*, Doug Luginbill, conference minister, reflects on what this means for the conference and our congregations. Lifelong peacemaker Doug Hostetter reflects on efforts to transform the response to 9/11 into something that was life-giving and healing.

*-Hard copies available in the Fellowship Hall*

