

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
Weekly Announcements 10-10-2021
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, October 10, 2021

Youth Choir 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.

Worship, Racial Justice, Bail Reform, Death Penalty Abolition, 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.

October 11 - October 16, 2021

Tuesday, Oct 12 Morning prayers, sanctuary, 7 a.m.,
Staff meeting, parlor, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, Oct 13 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, Oct 14 Deadline to submit announcements, 12 p.m.

Sunday, October 17, 2021

Worship - Jackie Wyse-Rhodes

Lectionary text: Job 38:1-7, 34-41; Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c;
Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45

This time of transition isn't only about pastors and governance structures. You may notice the pulpit as the most recent change in our sanctuary. We will be trying out this new-to-us pulpit in the upcoming weeks as we explore life somewhere between the old pulpit, the size of which tended to diminish smaller bodies and occasionally required using a stool for some of us, and of the more recent lecterns, which had slender frames and revealed knocking knees for others of us. Besides offering a broader expanse to hold our notes and Bibles, this pulpit is an example of how we are living into our new highly participatory governance structure which encourages us to try different approaches when something isn't working and evaluate the results. Thank you to Don Burris for his leadership and time over several weeks of researching and searching for something just right after a number of staff discussions considering the lecterns, as well as procuring this pulpit, and then outfitting it to accommodate our sound system. May we continue to make this new governance road by walking - and exploring our gifts together!

Large print bulletins and hymnals available on the table in the Fellowship Hall or ask an Usher for help.

Happy Birthday!
Oct. 11 – Laura Strahan
Oct. 14 – Beth Raeburn
Mary Ring
Oct. 16 – Sunita Hooley
Claire Phillips

Ministry Opportunities

~**Community Meal Coordinator:** needed 2x a year. Serve as the contact for FMC's scheduled meals at the Senior Citizens Center. Two people are already on the volunteer list ready to assist with planning the meals and helping prepare and serve the meals. Contact Walt Paquin at paquinw@bluffton.edu or 419-889-1516 if you are interested in having your name next to the Community Meal ministry on the Connecting Circle Ministry sheet!

Prayer Requests

Elaine and Mark Suderman request prayers for Elaine's brother, Robert Regier, who has inoperable pancreatic cancer. For those who remember David and Tracey Sawatzky, Robert is Tracey's father.

Announcements

Currently, Ohio's justice system allows finances – rather than threat level -- to determine whether someone is released pretrial. This system of cash bail is incredibly harmful to those individuals who remain in jail unnecessarily, and is wasteful to taxpayers as well. Go online to support the bipartisan bill to advance bail reform in Ohio. <https://action.aclu.org/send-message/advance-bail-reform-and-support-sb-182>
- Racial Justice Ministry

Ohio Death Penalty Information: Get information about and register for the Death Penalty Abolition for Faith Week! October 8th -17th! Registration link here: <https://bit.ly/2Y6bz0U>

In an effort to make sure we have all ministries up to date, please check the list on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall and if a ministry is missing please let your Circle Leader or Shelby Cluts know so the information can be updated. Thank you! From: Leadership Circle

For those of you who are contact persons for a ministry, there is going to be a Retreat on October 16, 2021 from 9:00 am -12:00 pm. If you cannot attend please try to have a representative from your ministry present. This will be a time for Circle Leaders to meet with you and work will be done to put some procedures in place to facilitate communication and help us to learn how the new structure works. If you have any questions, please contact your Circle Leader or Shelby Cluts.

Reminders

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.

Our Connections

Brazo en Brazo is considering entering into a more intentional church-planting effort. The proposal being considered is to begin Spanish language Bible studies weeknights in a number of communities around the area, including Bluffton and Pandora. Would you be interested in supporting or being involved in this ministry? Contact Paul Neufeld Weaver 419-296-9462 or weaverpn@bluffton.edu

Camp Friedenswald – Weekend Getaways: Come on your own for a relaxing weekend or bring the family and friends to reconnect in the peaceful woods.
Available Weekends - **October 15-17, November 5-7.**

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.*

Mennonite Men | Knowing Your Narrative | Oct. 26, Nov. 6 & 16

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary and Mennonite Men present a three-part, hybrid event on masculinity, faith and equity, facilitated by Ben Tapper. [Register here.](#)