

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

- **Pastor Jeff Boehr** – 419-236-9150, [jeff@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:jeff@fmcbluffton.org)
- **Director of Music/Interim Church Administrator** – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368, [sudermanme@bluffton.edu](mailto:sudermanme@bluffton.edu)
- **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, November 21, 2021**

Youth Choir 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.

Worship, Pastor Jeff Boehr 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.

**November 22 – November 27, 2021**

Tuesday, Nov 23 Morning prayers, sanctuary, 7 a.m.,  
Staff meeting, parlor, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, Nov 24 No Choir Practice

Early deadline to submit announcements, 9 a.m.

**Sunday, Nov 28, 2021**

Worship – Gerald Mast preaching

Lectionary: Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36

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

**Happy Birthday!**

**Nov. 21 – Junia Spelman**

**Nov. 22 – Lois Jean Andreas**

**Marty Hostetler**

**Nov. 23 – Steve Harnish**

**Nov. 24 – Judith Kingsley**

**Nov. 25 – Sophia Gott**

**To my First Mennonite FAMILY...**

Thank you so much for the numerous cards and greetings celebrating my birthday. That was just what I needed! Except for my dear sister Ruth next door, my other sisters, my kids and grandkids were too far away to be here. Blessings!

Fran Core

**Join us for a 'Trunk Sale' Sunday, December 5**, following worship! This year marks the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of what would become MCC's Self-Help Crafts/Ten Thousand Villages. It all began with Edna Ruth Byler, MCC worker based in Akron, Pa. After visiting Puerto Rico, she returned with needlework items and sold them from the trunk of her car. This project grew as she added goods from other countries and expanded her "trunk sales" across the United States. Early connections with First Mennonite include Dick and Margaret Weaver, who were serving in Puerto Rico around the same time. Our committee plans to display examples from these early sales. Please contact one of us if you have items you are willing to lend. If anyone has memories/stories from relatives about the early trunk sales, we welcome those as well. For our trunk sale, cash or check only. Donations are welcome. If you wish to order directly from Ten Thousand Villages online, please use the link [tenthousandvillages.com/bluffton](http://tenthousandvillages.com/bluffton). That way your purchase will allow our local store to receive a percentage of your purchase. *Susan Gratz, Linda Headings, Bill Suter, Lori Nester, Mitch Kingsley*

**The Senior High Youth** is grateful for all of the support for the Youth Auction last Sunday. Besides having a great time gathering together in person and over Zoom for the first time in loooong time, the auction was a raging success bringing in over \$7,000 in contributions. We cannot thank you enough!

**WHAT:** Library Work Session

**WHEN:** Thursday, December 2

**WHO:** Anyone interested in helping with the library

**TIME:** Come and go between 5 and 7 pm as your schedule allows

**WHAT IS HAPPENING:** How-to session with hands-on work, Q&A, etc

### Ministry Highlights

~**Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS)** "is a volunteer network of Anabaptist churches that respond in Christian love to those affected by disaster in Canada and the United States. While the main focus is on clean up, repair and rebuilding homes, this service touches lives and nurtures hope, faith, and wholeness." In 2021, several from FMC helped construct new homes in Dayton following the 2019 Memorial Day tornadoes and two individuals served as long-term volunteers in North Carolina and Louisiana.

Contact Lawrence Matthews at [matthewsl@bluffton.edu](mailto:matthewsl@bluffton.edu).

### Announcements

**Thank you** to those who have already written a draft testimony to support the bipartisan bills for bail reform in Ohio. For those who haven't yet, there is still time! It is likely that the next hearing on the bail bills will be in early 2022. Contact Jan Wiebe for more information ([wiebe.jan@gmail.com](mailto:wiebe.jan@gmail.com)).

**Are you interested** in sharing your gifts of scripture reading with the congregation? We are planning to include readers theatre arrangements of scripture passages for multiple voices (LOGOS-style), as well as opportunities for solo readers, during the season of Advent. We will hold a brief mid-week evening rehearsal for each week's readers. Readers are welcome for just one Sunday, or for multiple Sundays. If you are interested in being a reader or have any questions, please contact Melissa Friesen at [friesenm@bluffton.edu](mailto:friesenm@bluffton.edu) or 419-408-8189.

**It's been two months** now since we said good-bye and we made our way to the top of the mitten in Michigan. We are settling in and making the house our own. Our daughter-in-law, Banysha remains in a wheelchair, but was able to return to work a couple of hours a day on Monday. We are deeply grateful for all your thoughts and prayers and expressions of care. You all remain in our hearts and prayers as you continue to seek God's kingdom reign.

-Wanda and Bret

### Reminders

**The Taste and See SS Class** explores various contemplative prayer practices. A typical class includes time for learning, silence and sharing. We meet upstairs in room 301. Contact Anne Marie Spelman at [spelman.anne.marie@gmail.com](mailto:spelman.anne.marie@gmail.com) with questions. Please join us any time!

**Sojourners Sunday School Class** is an intergenerational group that utilizes the denominational Adult Bible Study materials in class. We meet in the Assembly Room at the bottom of the stairs in the basement. Visitors and new members always welcome. Contact person for the class is Lori Nester [NesterL@Bluffton.edu](mailto:NesterL@Bluffton.edu), 419-358-9650.

**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 using the curriculum "Peaceful Practices. A Guide to healthy communication in conflict". Contact Mary Amstutz if you need the material.

### Our Connections

**Volunteer opportunities** at MHCO. Persons interested may contact Chris Moser at [cmoser@mhcoliving.org](mailto:cmoser@mhcoliving.org), 419-358-1015 ext 263. See *Mission, Peace and Service Bulletin Board*.