

WELCOME TO
FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

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

First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817
419-358-5766 | fmcbluffton.org

Streaming at <http://tinyurl.com/FMC-on-FB> and at
<http://tinyurl.com/FMC-zoom> (passcode: 11111).

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday, January 16, 2022

Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.

Worship, Jeff Boehr preaching, 10:30 a.m.

Communication Audit, 3 p.m. Fellowship Hall

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

Monday, January 17

Communication Audit, 7 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, January 18

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Staff meeting, 9 a.m. Parlor

Wednesday, January 19

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

SHY & JHY, 8 p.m.

Sunday, Jan 23, 2022

Worship – Lynn Miller preaching

Lectionary: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians

12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-30

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

OFFICE NEWS

Jan. 17 - Office closed for MLK Day!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

January 18 – Darryl Nester

January 19 – Don Hooley

Mary Ann Moser

January 21 – Ryan Blount

Kevin King

Todd Rainey

January 22 – Karen Klassen Harder

Amber Steiner

Aaron Shelly

The Ministry Fair scheduled for
January 23 is being postponed until a
later date. Please plan to attend your
regular Sunday School classes.

Our Daily Bread is in need of servers
this Tuesday, Jan 18. Please let John or
Carolyn Rich know if you can help. 419-
358-5405.

Prayer Requests

Keith Brauen fell on Sunday morning (1/9). He is at the Bluffton Hospital and family is asking for prayers for a speedy recovery.

Announcements

Today the Gifts Discernment and Ministry Participation team is starting our Offerings of Affirmation campaign. Please use the two affirmation cards on the pink insert in your bulletin to affirm one or more people in the congregation who you recognize as contributing to the life of our congregation (or having a gift that could contribute to our congregation). It can be an affirmation of work they are doing, a skill they have (demonstrated or unrecognized), a kindness they have shown, etc. Place the affirmations in the offering plate or in Greg and Laura Hartzler's church mailbox (large one at the top of the mailbox stand) any time during the week. The GD&MP team will distribute them to the church mailboxes of the persons being affirmed. Once you receive an affirmation in your mailbox, if you are willing to have it posted on the Offerings of Affirmation display, please place it in the return box on the floor next to the mailboxes.

Pastor Search Committee Update: The pastor search committee was appointed by the Leadership Circle in September 2021 and received specific instructions from the Leadership Circle regarding the search for a Lead Pastor for FMC and the qualities to look for in candidates for this role. Based on guidance from the Leadership Circle and our CDC Conference Minister Doug Luginbill, the committee prepared a cover letter to be shared with potential candidates, as well as advertising copy which has been distributed to relevant publications and institutions. In November the committee received the first batch of completed application profiles, and a few additional profiles have been received since then. The committee reviews all profiles immediately upon receipt to discern the qualifications of the candidates and to invite suitable candidates to interview. The application process is slow, and applicant numbers are small. The pandemic has taken a particular toll on those in caregiving professions, and pastors and others in ministry roles have been impacted along with so many others. The committee is continuing to receive applications and act on these profiles. At this time the committee is also happy to continue to receive candidate recommendations from the congregation and other trusted advisors. The committee is confident that a candidate will emerge from this process soon, and is grateful for your prayers and your patience as we continue to work on this important task together. Pastoral Search Committee: Gloria Hernandez Bucher, Gerald Mast, Ellie Nickel, Adam Phillips, Greg Ring, Rhonda Winstead, Victoria Woods-Yee.

Reminders

Communication audit: All are invited to meet with Marathana Prothro today at 3 p.m. or tomorrow (Monday) 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall to discuss communication platforms and practices at First Mennonite Church.

The Taste and See Sunday School Class will move to Zoom for the next few weeks due to the surge in local Covid cases. You may join from 9-10am on Sunday mornings at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85435232298>.

Our Connections

Money, Faith & You: an online study group

Who do you talk with about money? Who helps you figure out what you really value and how to apply that to your faith and your life? Especially now, in the midst of economic challenges caused by the global pandemic, many of us are confronting decisions we've made (or haven't made) about money and lifestyle. Who are your trusted mentors, friends and fellow searchers? If you're looking for a way to think deeply and with others about these questions, we have an invitation for you: [Money, Faith and You is a six-week online study group](#) for anyone who has ever wondered how to more deeply integrate Christian faith into choices about money, working, and lifestyle. The next group will meet for **six Wednesdays, January 19 through February 23** via video conference, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. E.T. (There's also a group starting in March!)