

Music Sunday

May 1, 2022

Gathering

Welcome and announcements Laurel Neufeld Weaver

Prelude *Hallelujah, Amen* G.F. Handel
Chancel Choir

Invocation

*Opening Hymn VT 80 *We Sing to You, O God*

*Responsive Reading - selected verses from Psalm 100

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

Many: Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.

One: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise.

Many: Give thanks to God, bless God's name.

One: For the Lord is good;

Many: God's steadfast love endures forever,

All: and God's faithfulness to all generations.

Telling God's Story

Special Music *God Sees the Little Sparrows Fall* Traditional
Cherub Choir

Scripture Psalm 33:1-5 Ethan Nickel

Special Music *Exultation* Matthew Compton
Adult Bells

Scripture Psalm 81:1-5 James Gott

Special Music *Prayer For Today* Margaret R. Tucker
Jubilate

Conversation with Children Jeff Gundy
Hymn VT 7 *Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing*
(v. 1 coming forward & v. 4 going back to seats)

Special Music *Amen Siyakudumisa* arr. Cameron F. LaBarr
Youth Choir

Community Prayer Kathy Dickson

Special Music *Thy Kingdom Come* Mark Sirett
Chancel Choir

Scripture Psalm 85:8-11 Julie Mackey

Meditation *When Do Righteousness and Peace Kiss?* Mark Suderman

Living God's Story

*Hymn of Response VT 797 *We Are People of God's Peace*

Offering

Words of Invitation

Offertory *Awake, My Heart, with Gladness* J. Cruger/arr. W. Held
LuAnn Stuckey

Dedication Prayer

Special Music *Blessed Be the Name of the Lord* Dale Grotenhuis
Chancel Choir

Sending

*Hymn of Sending VT 88 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*
(v. 1 in German or English, v. 2-4 in English)

*Benediction

*Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

VT - Voices Together (Purple Bound Book)

First Mennonite Church
101 S. Jackson St, Bluffton OH
419-358-5766 | fmcbluffton.org

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

Communication Coordinator

Trustworthy Schumacher, 419-358-5766
fmc@fmcbluffton.org

Caretaker

Don Burris, 419-788-6157
caretaker@fmcbluffton.org

First Mennonite Church Office Hours

- Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 9:00am-3:30pm
- Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am-4:30pm

Video: Adam Phillips

Sound: Melissa Friesen

Chancel: Jen Benroth

First Mennonite Church is affiliated with the Central District Conference of Mennonite Church USA. The Mennonites are named after Menno Simons, one of our early church leaders, and are rooted historically in the "Anabaptist" movement, which began in 1525, with origins in Switzerland, Germany, and the Netherlands now reaching around the world. Some primary Anabaptist convictions then and now are following Jesus Christ in service to others, rejection of violence and war, and joyful community life.

First Mennonite Church
May 1, 2022

Music Sunday



*Sing to God a new song;
play skillfully, and shout for joy.*

Facebook Live link

<http://tinyurl.com/FMC-on-FB>

Zoom Stream link

<http://tinyurl.com/FMC-zoom>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Making their inaugural debut this morning are 12 new handbells! The money for these bells was donated by Anna Ruth and Mona Reichenbach. The choir and Ray are thrilled to have these additional bells!

The 2022 Central District Conference annual meeting will meet June 23-25, 2022 in Goshen, Indiana at Goshen College, College Mennonite Church. The theme of Tending Transformation will be the focus. Congregations are encouraged to have full delegate strength present at the annual meeting. We will need approximately 10 people to represent FMC. If you are interested in serving as a delegate, contact the church office.

Gifts Discovery and Ministry Participation (GD&MP) would like to have your FMC Ministry Participation Form completed and returned to Greg Hartzler's mailbox in the fellowship hall by Sunday, May 8. Extra forms are available by the mailboxes.

Have you written an affirmation for anyone this week? Consider someone who you have observed extending the ministry of FMC into the community. The pink Gifts of Affirmation cards are in the sanctuary pew pockets and may be placed directly into the mailbox of those being affirmed after they are completed. Take a few home with you to complete during the week when you think of someone to affirm.

Prayers for **Treva Stratton's** family are welcome. Treva passed away Tuesday at Mennonite Memorial Home. Visitation will be held at the English Lutheran Church Sunday, May 1, from 2-4 p.m. A memorial service will immediately follow at 4 p.m.

Thank you for making the **2022 Ohio MCC Comforter Bash** a success! Many volunteers gathered in Kidron, Ohio, last weekend and knotted 129 comforters! MCC thanks you for your part in providing warmth and hope to people around the world. We appreciate the effort and hard work that was done by many hearts and hands before, during and after the event. Check out a photo gallery from the event at: mcc.org/ohio-comforter-bash-photos. Save the date for next year's event on April 21-22, 2023.

Mentor pairs! There will be a group cook-out at the Steiner's (Amber and Evan) house on Sunday, May 15, at 5:00pm for all mentor pairs who can attend! More information will be coming soon via email in the following week. Let's celebrate the warmer weather by gathering together as a group again!

On January 19, 1974 Et Cetera Thrift and Self Help opened in Bluffton and just look at what has transpired since then - almost 50 years ago. Do you want to be involved in planning the grand celebration? If so, we can use your help. We want to start planning now because the events are set to begin in January of 2024. There are many ways you can be involved. Fill out the sheet in the Fellowship Hall and put it in Karen McCullough's mailbox. Thank you for your interest.

Join the Faithfully LGBTQ+ elective SS class led by Katie Kuntz-Wineland in the Fellowship Hall followed by a Q&A session over lunch after worship today, May 1.

Summer Music

Pianists, organists, song leaders, musicians of all ages and types: there are opportunities for offering your musical gifts during the worship services this summer (June-August).

Opportunities include:

- * Lead the singing for "opening songs" - choose 2 hymns, talk briefly about them if you wish, and lead them (or ask Mark to lead them)
- * Provide special music during the service, vocally or instrumentally, as a soloist or in an ensemble.

Please contact our Director of Music, Mark Suderman, by phone (419.230.5368) or by email: sudermanme@bluffton.edu. If you have some specific dates in mind when you could offer your musical gifts, please let Mark know. Thank you!

In response to God's unconditional love for all people, we joyfully and unconditionally welcome you to join us on our journey of faith in Jesus Christ. We are committed to breaking down dividing walls and building community where all are loved and accepted. We believe in active inclusion and invite each one to participate in the life and ministry of our congregation.

Happy Birthday!

May 1 - Pat Althaus

Adam Phillips

Sue Schaaf

May 4 - Ray Raeburn

May 6 -Jacob Biesecker- Mast

Patrick Estell

May 7- Pat Sheidler

Justin Paul

follow us



Today, Sunday, May 1, 2022

Youth Choir, 8:30 a.m.

Coffee Time, 9 a.m.

Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.

Faithfully LGBTQ+ Elective SS Class, 9:15 a.m. Fellowship Hall

Worship: Mark Suderman, 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary

Sermon Discussion Circle, meal & discussion

This Week

Tuesday, May 3

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Staff meeting, 9 a.m. Parlor

Wednesday, May 4

Noodle Night

Cherub Choir, 6 p.m. Jubilate, 6:30 p.m. Children's Choir room

SHY & JHY, 7:45 p.m.

Next Sunday

Sunday, May 8

Worship - Nthati Phetlhu preaching - Book of Ruth

Lectionary: Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

Sermon Discussion Circle, meal & discussion

Welcome to our worship service today.

If you are a visitor, please sign one of our guest books located at the entrances to the sanctuary. Wireless hearing aids are available. Worship bags and nursery space are available for young children during worship. Bags can be found hanging on wooden pegs at each sanctuary entrance, and parents are invited to stay in the nursery with their children.