

5th Sunday of Easter

May 15, 2022

Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Carrie Mast

Community Prayer

Jeff Boehr

Prelude

First Arabesque
Anne Marie Spelman

Claude Debussy

Scripture

Acts 11:1-18

Ruth Naylor

Invocation

Katie Kuntz-Wineland

Message

Let Me Tell You a Story

Katie Kuntz-Wineland

*Opening Hymn

VT 454 *Wade in the Water*

Living God's Story

*Responsive Reading - by HP Rivers

One: Blessed are the wanderers, seeking affirmation.

Many: Blessed are the worshipers, praying from closets, pulpits, pews, and hardship.

One: Blessed are the lovers of leaving – leaving family and familiarity, leaving tables where love is not being served.

Many: Blessed are those who stay.

One: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice– for they will be satisfied.

Many: Blessed are the queer disciples of truth– living, breathing, sacred reflections of Divine Love.

Renaming Liturgy for James Gott

*Hymn of Response

VT 670 *In the Bulb There Is a Flower*

Offering

Offertory

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Arranged by Chris Rice

Words of Invitation

Dedication Prayer

Sending

*Hymn of Sending

VT 36 *Let Us Build a House*

*Benediction

*Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

VT - Voices Together (Purple Bound Book)

Telling God's Story

Special Music

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!
Cherub Choir and Jubilate

Caribbean Traditional

Conversation with Children

James Gott

Hymn

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

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First Mennonite Church Office Hours

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

Video: Ray Raeburn

Sound: Chris Gott

Chancel: James Gott

Bulletin cover: Katie Kuntz-Wineland

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.

5/1/22 - 5/8/22

Reported Volunteer hours: 32



LET ME TELL YOU A STORY...

FAITHFULLY LGBTQ+
WORSHIP SERVICE

First Mennonite Church- Bluffton, Ohio
Sunday, May 15, 2022

Facebook Live link

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

Zoom Stream link

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Faithfully LGBTQ+ series concludes today! Join the elective SS class in the Sanctuary at 9:15 a.m. followed by worship planned by our series host Katie Kuntz-Wineland. For SS, come with ideas and questions that help us collectively answer, "What then shall we do next?"

Lawrence Templin was hospitalized early this week at Blanchard Valley Regional Health Center in Findlay. He has been diagnosed with cancer and will be in palliative care at BVRHC until he is able to be home under Hospice Care. Prayers for Lawrence and his family are welcomed.

Tuesday morning (5/17/22) is your opportunity to serve at Our Daily Bread in Lima. We leave from the church at 10:45 a.m. Contact John or Carolyn Rich 419-969-4965.

Delegates Needed! The 2022 Central District Conference annual meeting will meet June 23-25, 2022 in Goshen, Indiana at Goshen College, College Mennonite Church. If you are interested in serving as a delegate, contact the church office.

It's time to empty your piggy banks and fill the "My Coins Count" jug in Fellowship Hall. All money goes to MCC water and food projects.

Watch Party! The MCUSA **Special Delegate Session** is slated for May 27-30. Laurel Neufeld Weaver, Carrie Mast, Walt Paquin, and Ray Person are representing FMC to vote on 4 separate resolutions, one of which FMC is a sponsoring congregation. These delegates are extending an invitation to all who are interested in attending a webinar watch party describing each of the resolutions. There will be conversation to consider, discuss, and discern how best to represent the FMC congregation on each of the resolutions. Join the delegates in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Camperships still available! Turn in your Camp Friedenswald receipt to receive a 50% campership. Email your receipt to Carrie Mast (mastc@bluffton.edu), or drop off your printed receipt to her mailbox.

Check out the note from our Conference Pastor, Doug Luginbill, in the Fellowship Hall.

Ohioans For Sustainable Change is calling for individuals to serve on our board, as other volunteers, or other committee members. This is the Ohio Chapter of Ohio Interfaith Power and Light. You can learn more about OFSC and open positions on the Board of Directors, Development Committee, and Program and Publicity committee on our website: <https://ohioansforsustainablechange.com/get-involved/> If you are interested in being more involved and/or interested in serving on the board, please fill out the interest survey:<https://ohioansforsustainablechange.com/.../interest-survey/> If you have additional questions, please ask Kathy, current vice-chair of the board: dicksonkathy1@gmail.com.

The mystery of the purple "love notes" around the church has been solved...Last week during Sunday School the 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders were given the task to fill in the blank for the sentence Love Is _____. The answers were so thoughtful and uplifting they thought it would be fun to share!

Who: Mentoring Pairs

What: Cook-out (hotdogs and sides) and yard games (horseshoe pit, corn hole, croquette, disc golf putting, and table games)

Where: Amber and Evan Steiner's*

When: This Sunday, May 15th, at 5:00pm

Why: Celebrate the warmer weather, soon-to-be end of the school year, and get together as a larger group after so long! Don't forget to bring a side dish or dessert and lawn chair!

**If needed for inclement weather, an email will be sent no later than 3:00pm Sunday to change the location to the church Fellowship Hall so we can still meet safely indoors!*

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.

Summer Music

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

Opportunities include:

- * Lead the singing for "opening songs" and share briefly about them
- * Provide special music during the service, vocally or instrumentally

Please contact our Director of Music, Mark Suderman, by phone (419.230.5368) or by email: sudermanme@bluffton.edu

The Pictorial Church Directory photo session is fast approaching. Each family photographed will receive a FREE family portrait and the opportunity to select a portrait package that meets their needs. Please make your appointment in the Fellowship Hall. The dates are July 8-10, 2022. We need to schedule as many people for July 9th as we can. If you need to schedule for the 8th or 10th, or can not make it to any of the dates, please contact the office.

Happy Birthday!

May 15 - Evan Blount
Lori Nester

May 16 - Ellie Hartzler

May 17 - John Templin

May 18 - Dick Ramseyer

May 19 - Bodey Benroth
Greg Hartzler

follow us



Today, Sunday, May 15, 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. Sanctuary

Worship: Katie Kuntz-Wineland preaching, 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary

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

This Week

Tuesday, May 17

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Staff meeting, 9 a.m. Parlor

Wednesday, May 18

Noodle Night

SHY & JHY, 7:00 p.m. Whippy Dip trip & packing MCC kits

Next Sunday

Sunday, May 22

Worship: Ray Person preaching

Lectionary: Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5; John 14:23-29

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

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.