

14th Sunday after Pentecost

September 11, 2022

Gathering

Welcome and announcements

Ellie Hartzler

Prelude *Andante (excerpt) from Concerto in E-flat Major*
Ken Graber

W. A. Mozart

Invocation

*Opening Hymn

VT 28 *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

*Responsive Reading - selections from Psalm 14

One: Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God."

Many: They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds;

One: there is no one who does good.

Many: The Lord looks down from heaven on humankind

One: to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God.

Many: They have all gone astray, they are all alike perverse;

One: there is no one who does good, no not one..

Many: O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion!

**All: When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people, Jacob will rejoice;
Israel will be glad.**

Telling God's Story

Conversation with Children

Teri Steinmetz & Carrie Mast

Hymn

VT 516 *Jesus Loves Me*

(sing coming forward & going back to seats)

Community Prayer

Adam Phillips

Scripture

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28 & Luke 15:1-10

Victoria Woods-Yee

Message

Children's Spirituality: Who's Teaching Here?

Carrie Mast

Living God's Story

*Hymn of Response

VT 509 *See the Children Here Before Us*

Offering

Words of Invitation

Offertory

Arietta

Edvard Grieg

Dedication Prayer

Sending

*Hymn of Sending

VT 830 *Go, My Children*

*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

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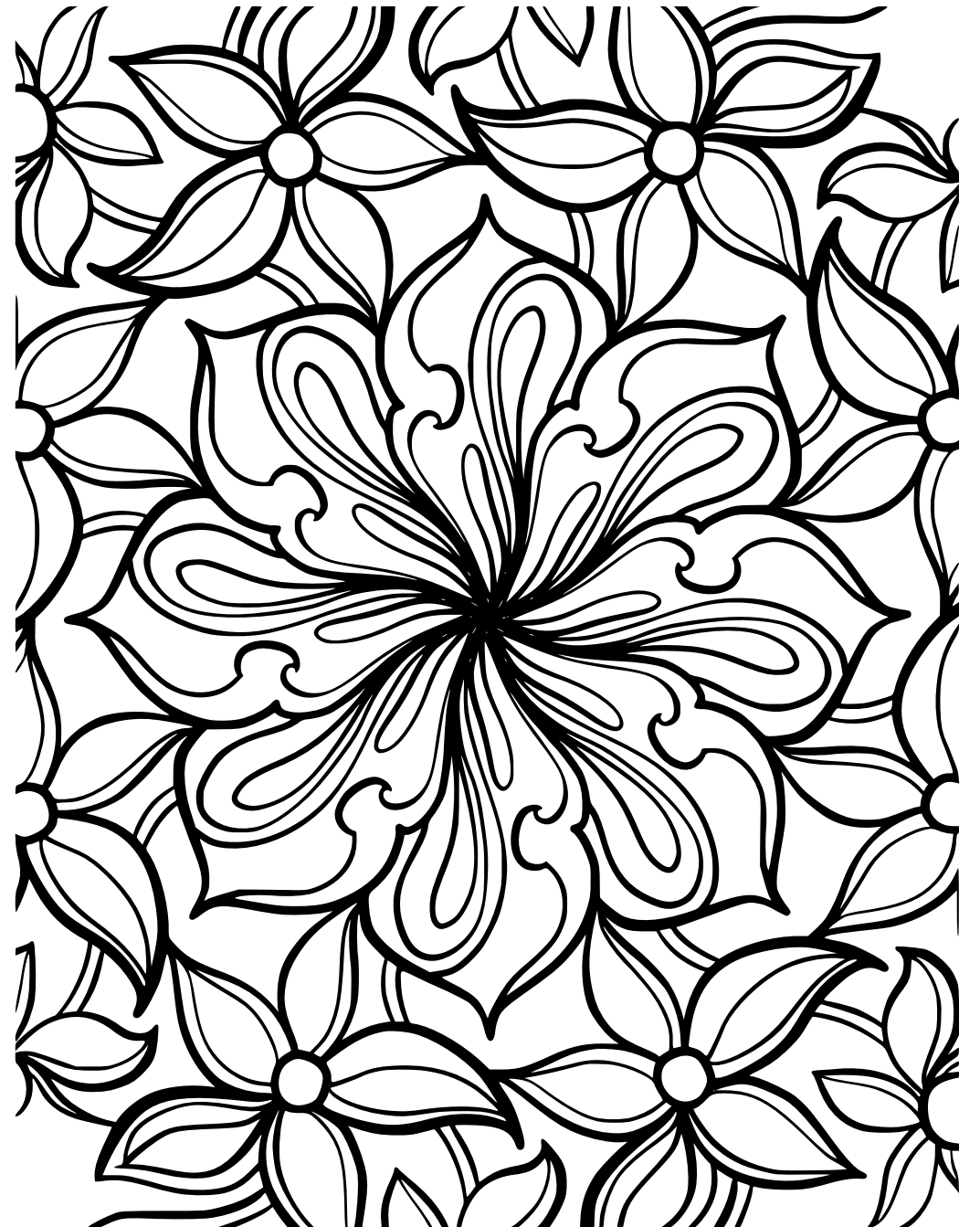
Pastor of Pastoral Care	Jeff Boehr, 419-236-9150 jeff@fmcbluffton.org
Director of Music/Interim Church Administrator	Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 sudermanme@bluffton.edu
Interim Pastor of Christian Education & Administration	Carrie Mast, 419-230-1568 mastc@bluffton.edu
Communication Coordinator	Trustworthy Schumacher, 419-358-5766 fmc@fmcbluffton.org
Caretaker	Don Burris, 419-788-6157 caretaker@fmcbluffton.org
Technology Coordinator	Ray Raeburn, 419-230-2769 rayraeburn@gmail.com

First Mennonite Church Office Hours
• Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Video: Ray Raeburn
Sound: Chris Gott
Chancel: Dottie Long

8/28/22 - 9/4/22
Reported Volunteer hours: 31
Attendance: 133
Online viewers:30

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.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Doug and Paula Luginbill request prayers for Hope Mennonite Church, Wichita, KS where Doug served as pastor from 2002-2009. Their current pastor, **Dave Stevens**, died Sunday morning following a bicycle accident on Saturday. Please hold Dave's family and Hope Mennonite Church in your prayers.

A memorial service for **Lawrence Templin** will be held here at First Mennonite Church September 16 at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. The service will be live streamed. Follow the regular Worship Service link on the church website. A meal will follow the service in the Fellowship Hall.

JP Schumacher's brother Paul Porzelius passed on September 7 after a long battle with his health. Prayers for the family as they grieve this loss.

The Faith & Life SS Class meets in the Parlor at 9:30 a.m.. Bible study this quarter will be "God's plan for Freedom & Justice" led by Alex Sider. Any questions, contact **Mary Amstutz at 419-302-0399**. Please join us.

The Faithful Living class welcomes visitors to attend our class on Sunday mornings in Fellowship Hall at 9:15. Come as often as your schedule allows and bring a friend. We will be using a blend of the 2022 fall curriculum along with discussion topics of interest. If you have questions, please contact **Greg Ring at: h.greg.ring@gmail.com** or by calling **419-379-5310**.

The Freudige Sunday School class will be studying the book All Authority Has Been Given to Me: Hearing and Seeing Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew by Tim Lehman. Anyone interested in joining us is welcome. If you would like a book (roughly \$16), contact **Mary Edmiston at edmistonmary100@gmail.com** or **419-230-9659**.

The Sojourners Sunday School class meets for Bible study each week in the basement Assembly Room. The class uses MennoMedia's Salt & Light curriculum, and various members serve as teachers. Contact **Lori Nester** with questions at **nesterl@bluffton.edu** or **419-358-9650**.

Carpool to Camp: Anyone interested in carpooling to **Women's Retreat** September 16-18 can sign up in the Fellowship Hall.

MCC School kit collection ends today, September 11.

Pennies really do count! Your donations to the water jug added up to **\$805.65!** Thank you for supporting MCC's water project!

Current needs for the **Bluffton Food Pantry** are canned fruit, canned meat, chunky soups, and cereal. If possible, get the pop-top opening for the canned goods. Donations can be left in the box **outside the office door**.

Music Ensemble Rehearsals begin: Please consider offering your musical gifts to this important part of worship for our congregation and encourage others to join. We gladly welcome new additions to the ensembles and will greatly enjoy the return of former members.

- **Chancel Choir** (adults of all ages) begins on Wednesday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m. (Mark Suderman, director) – sanctuary.
- **Adult** (adults of all ages) and **Youth** (Grades 7-12) **Bells** - meet at 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. respectively (Ray Raeburn, director) – Assembly Room.
- Information about **Cherub Choir**, **Jubilate**, and **Youth Choir** coming soon!

Noodle Night is back! All are welcome to come and go as your schedules allow on Wednesday evenings between 4:45 and 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall for pasta, red sauce, and applesauce. Bring a dish to share or just show up! There is always plenty!

Baby Quilts/Blankets. There is a need for baby blankets and quilts. If you are interested in making one, please contact Sarah Basinger at 419-358-2879.

The Bluffton Released Time **Weekday Christian Education** program, which has been graciously hosted by First Mennonite Church for many years, will be changing location to the First United Methodist Church this school year.

Dr. Gerald J. Mast, professor of communication at Bluffton University, will present the Colloquium, "**Recovering True Evangelical Faith: How Menno Corrects the Anabaptist Vision,**" at 4 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 16 in Centennial Hall's Stutzman Lecture Hall.

Rehearsals for Bluffton University's 128th performance of Handel's "Messiah" will be held from 7-8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays each week **starting Sept. 20** in the Gilliom Room of Mosiman Hall on campus. From high school students to adults, all are invited to join the chorus, which includes Bluffton students, faculty, staff and community members. There is no cost to participate. **The Messiah will be performed in Yoder Recital Hall at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 11.** and conducted by Dr. Bo Young Kang. For more information, contact Dr. Kang, kangb@bluffton.edu or the music department office at 419-358-3347.

Happy Birthday!

September 11 - Susan Collier
September 12- JD Sider
September 14 - Andrea Goings
Tim Schumacher
September 15 - Kaden Niekamp
September 17 - Mary Edmiston
Jane Steinmetz



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.

follow us



Today, Sunday, September 11, 2022

Coffee Time, 9 a.m.

Sunday School for all ages, 9:15 a.m.

Worship: Carrie Mast preaching, 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary

Sojourners SS Potluck, noon Assembly Room

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

This Week

Tuesday, September 13

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Staff meeting, 9 a.m. Parlor

Wednesday, September 14

Noodle Night, come and go 4:45-6 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Adult Bells, 6 p.m. Youth Bells, 7 p.m. Assembly room

Chancel Choir, 7 p.m. Sanctuary

Friday, September 16

Memorial service for Lawrence Templin, 11 a.m. Sanctuary

Meal to immediately follow in Fellowship Hall

Saturday, September 17

SHY, Youth Group Day, 1-8 p.m., hosted by Bluffton University

Next Sunday

Sunday, September 18

Worship – Lynn Miller preaching

Lectionary: Jeremiah 8:18-9:1; Psalm 79:1-9; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13

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.