

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 2015

10:30 a.m.

— GATHERING —

Chimes call us to worship

Jackie Wyse-Rhodes

Call to Worship, Announcements, Introductions

Melinda Estell

— PRAISING —

Invocation

Opening Hymns

Bill Swartley, song leader

***Responsive Reading**

Psalm 48: 1-2, 7-10

L: Then you spoke in a vision to your faithful one, and said: “I have set the crown on one who is mighty; I have exalted one chosen from the people.

C: I have found my servant David; with my holy oil I have anointed him;

L: my hand shall always remain with him; my arm also shall strengthen him.

C: The enemy shall not outwit him, the wicked shall not humble him.

L: I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him.

C: My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with him, and in my name his horn shall be exalted.

L: Once and for all I have sworn by my holiness; I will not lie to David.

C: His line shall continue forever, and his throne endures before me like the sun.

All: It shall be established forever like the moon, an enduring witness in the skies.

Time with Children

Hymn

“With happy voices singing”
(Sing vs. 1 for coming forward)

HWB 83

Conversation

Laurel Neufeld Weaver

Hymn

“With happy voices singing”
(Sing vs. 2 for returning)

HWB 83

Special Music

“Count Your Blessings”

Edwin O. Excell

Don Hooley, Ron Headings and Pat Sheidler, trumpet; Judy Steiner, piano

Pastoral Prayer

Steven Yoder

— PROCLAIMING—

Scripture

Mark 6: 30-34; 53-56

Sermon

“Come Away and Rest”

Steven Yoder

***Hymn**

“O God, in restless living”

HWB 557

— RESPONDING—

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Jackie Wyse-Rhodes

***Hymn of Dedication**

“Grant us Lord, the grace”

HWB 388

***Prayer of Dedication**

— SENDING—

***Hymn**

“God be with you”

HWB 430

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

**Please stand, or remain seated if that is more comfortable for you.*

HWB – Hymnal: A Worship Book

STJ – Sing the Journey

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

101 S. Jackson Street

Bluffton, Ohio 45817

Phone: 419-358-5766

Website: fmcbluffton.org

Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday-Friday

Christian Education Coordinator: Monday, Wednesday 9 a.m.-noon

Youth Coordinator: Sunday 8 a.m. – 9 a.m.

Custodian's schedule: 7:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.; weekends as needed

Interim Pastors: Gloria – Mon & Fri 9-4, Tues 8-noon; Lavon – Tues, 8-noon, Wed 9-4, Thurs, Noon-5

Monday – Steve's day off

GREETERS: Carlin and Sharon Carpenter, Judy and Glenn Buller, Gayle Trollinger

HOST: Jo and Stan Clemens

NURSERY WORKERS TODAY: SS – Pat Sheidler, Elaine Suderman

Worship – Kevin Cluts, Alison King, Ellie Nickel

NURSERY WORKERS AUGUST 2: SS – Monica Harnish and Ruth Naylor

Worship – Phil Blount, Amy Blount, Sunita Hooley

SOUND SYSTEM: Melissa Friesen

CHANCEL: Paula and Doug Luginbill

The video of the most recent worship service may be viewed on the church's homepage, www.fmcbluffton.org. Videos normally are posted on the Tuesday following the service. Previously recorded worship service videos may be found at tinyurl.com/fmc-videos

OUR STEWARDSHIP

Worship attendance last Sunday	210
Worship attendance at Maple Crest last Sunday (FMC DVD)	8
Sunday school attendance last Sunday	NA
Spending plan giving July 5, 2015	\$6,627.91
2015 Proposed spending plan	\$419,469.00
Weekly offering needed for spending plan	\$7,663.46

The offering July 12 totaled \$8,138.18. Money was received for these special funds: Sunday school-\$19.27, Capital Campaign-\$1,303, College Scholarships-\$25, Mennonite Missions-\$160, Kitchen Service-\$3, Janitorial Services-\$400, MPS-\$124.91.

CHURCH STAFF

Associate Pastor – Steven Yoder –419-369-4753 (h) - fmc.steve@bluffton.edu

Interim Pastor – Gloria Hernandez Bucher – 419-429-2621 (h) – gloriaferdin1946@gmail.com

Interim Pastor – Lavon Welty –419- 222-6102 (h) - lavonw@wcoil.com

Youth Ministry Director – Shannon Thiebeau – shannonthiebeau@gmail.com

Coordinator of Christian Education – Melinda Estell – fmc.melinda@bluffton.edu

Youth Coordinator – Greg Hartzler – gregphartzler@gmail.com

Director of Music – Mark Suderman

Organist Coordinator – Lucia Unrau

Custodian – Mick Hardy

Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner - fmc@bluffton.edu



*He said to them,
“Come away to a deserted place
all by yourselves and rest a while.”*

hall. Among the events this year are a 24-hour bike ride, 50th anniversary variety show, 5K run and walk, wood and tool auction, and quilt auction. Access a preview of auction items, learn how to bid and get directions to the sale at www.ohiomccreliefsale.org.

GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS

Happy Birthday to Isaac Tiessen, 88, July 20.

Wanda Pannabecker has returned to Maple Crest, and is now living in Room W147. She is grateful for all of your cards, visits and prayers.

Thank you for your recent gift of \$183 via Central District Conference. Your support is an investment in church leadership preparation. -- *AMBS*

On behalf of SEMILLA, Latin American Anabaptist Seminary, we want to thank you for your give of \$200, designated to help women in their education toward church leadership roles. (*FMC Mennonite Women made this donation.*)
-- *Jerry and Leonor Kennell*

Participants in Mennonite Voluntary Service are concluding their terms or preparing for a second year of service. Pray that they will be blessed as they continue into a life of service, building on what they experienced over the past year.

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.

TODAY, July 19, 2015

9:00 a.m.	Coffee time, FH
9:15 a.m.	Sunday school classes for children and youth, SHYF will report to adults on the MC USA convention (FH), NO adult Bible study, fellowship time (FH)
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Steven Yoder preaching
Noon	Community class potluck

THIS WEEK

Monday (20)	Et Cetera board, 6:30-9 p.m., FH
Tuesday (21)	Morning prayers, 7 a.m., Sanctuary Staff meeting, 9 a.m., Parlor

NEXT WEEK

9:00 a.m.	Community Worship Service, Presbyterian Church lawn -- bring chairs and blankets Scripture: 2 Samuel 11:1-15, Psalm 14, Ephesians 3:14-21, John 6:1-21
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Welcome to our worship service today. Please sign and pass the friendship pads in the pews. Wireless hearing aids are available. If you would like your children watched over while you worship, our staff will care for them in the nursery available downstairs. Worship activity bags for children are available.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New lead pastor -- Following a strong positive vote of the congregation (187 yes, 6 no, 5 abstentions), Wanda Stopher has accepted the call to be our new lead pastor. We are working on determining details for the next steps (e.g., her start date, and date for the installation service.) As we move forward, please continue to pray for Wanda and our church. If you have any questions, please contact moderator Darryl Nester (nesterd@bluffton.edu, or 419-358-9650).

Sunday school events for July:

- **Today:** There will be no Adult Bible study. The senior high youth will report on the MC USA convention to adults in the fellowship hall. Junior high youth will report to class as usual. Elementary and preschool children will be learning about the Middle East with Heidrun Awad.
- **July 26:** The Community Worship Service will be held at the Bluffton Presbyterian Church, so there will be no Sunday school or services at FMC.

The Adult Bible Study taught by Jackie Wyse Rhodes will not be held during the remainder of July, due to presentations by our mission partners on July 12 and MCUSA presentations on July 19. **There are no services at FMC on July 26 because of the community worship service.** Bible study will resume on August 2 and continue until August 16.

Bluffton Community Vacation Bible School will be held TODAY through July-23 from 6-8 p.m. at Bluffton Presbyterian Church. Registration forms are available in the fellowship hall. Registration is free for youth age four to grade five (grade completed). Children may be registered at the beginning of tonight's session. This year's curriculum will feature Bible Blast from the Past, and each day will begin with an introduction to the Bible story and daily theme, followed by participation at other sites including:

- Timeless Truth Tent where kids will explore the Bible story in interactive ways;
- Backtrack Bazaar where kids have time to move around, have fun, and enjoy snacks;
- Discovery Ruins where kids discover ancient arts and facts through science and crafts;
- Mission Quest Cave where kids are encouraged to serve others.

The Bluffton Community Worship Service will be held at 9 a.m. Sunday, July 26 on the Bluffton Presbyterian Church lawn. Participants are asked to bring lawn chairs and blankets. In case of inclement weather, the service will be held in the middle school cafeteria. Pastor Gloria Hernandez Bucher will participate in leading the service. **Note: There will be no Sunday school or worship service at First Mennonite that day.**

The congregation is invited to share in an international breakfast potluck on Sunday, Aug. 9, at 9:15 a.m. to celebrate our international Sunday school theme and Mennonite World Conference. Please bring a main dish, fruits, breads or cheeses from other countries, as well as your own table service. The recipe book "Extending the Table" has many international recipes. Traditional American breakfast foods and gluten free foods are also welcome. Coffee, tea and juice will be provided. We encourage you to wear clothing from other countries for this event. *-- Christian Education Commission*

You may follow the progress of FMC member, Jackson Bush, and two of his college friends, as they bicycle cross-country raising funds for the Mennonite Central Committee U.S. (MCC U.S.) family education program. You can track their progress by reading their blog at <https://mennobiketour.wordpress.com/>.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Bluffton Area Ministerial Association and the Bluffton Area Community Assistance Program will again provide free school supplies to children who are on the free and/or reduced lunch program in the Bluffton school district. The supplies will be provided from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Aug. 1, at St. John's United Church of Christ. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to call the church to enroll a child in this program. Call 419-358-5641 for more information.

Volunteer needed at Willow Ridge: One of the elders at Willow Ridge is in need of a volunteer to help him with email correspondence. He has difficulty using his computer and would like someone to type what he dictates. This would be just once a week and the volunteer would use the elder's computer. Anyone interested in helping with this should call Mary Ann Ring, volunteer coordinator, at 419.358.1015, ext 248.

The Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale and Auction will be held July 31 and August 1 at the Buckeye Event Center in Dalton. Brochures are available on a table in the fellowship