

**Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
June 28, 2015  
10:30 a.m.**

**— GATHERING —**

**Chimes call us to worship** Laura Hartzler, organist

**Call to Worship, Announcements, Introductions** Hans Houshower

**— PRAISING —**

**Invocation**

**Opening Hymns** Laura Hartzler and youth

**\*Responsive Reading** Psalm 130

L: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.

**C: Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!**

L: If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

**C: But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.**

L: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

**C: my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.**

L: O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.

**All: It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.**

**Time with Children**

**Hymn** “God who touches earth” HWB 511  
(Sing vs. 1 and 2 for coming forward)

**Conversation** Rhonda Winstead

**Hymn** “God who touches earth” HWB 511  
(Sing vs. 3 and 4 for returning)

**Special Music** “Allegro” Telemann  
*Isaac Andreas, violin, Laura Hartzler, piano*

**Pastoral Prayer** Gloria Hernandez Bucher

**Prayer Response** “The Lord’s Prayer” James M. Bixel  
(Inside back cover of hymnal)

**— PROCLAIMING—**

**Scripture** Mark 5:21-43

**Sermon** “Forget-me-not” Wanda Stopher

**\*Hymn** “Christ is the world’s true light” HWB 334

**— RESPONDING—**

**Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory** “On Eagle’s Wings” Arr. Mark Hayes

**\*Hymn of Dedication** “Praise God from whom” (vs A) HWB 119

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**— SENDING—**

**\*Hymn** “The Lord lift you up” STS 73

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

*\*Please stand, or remain seated if that is more comfortable for you.  
HWB – Hymnal: A Worship Book STS – Sing the Story STJ – Sing the Journey*

## FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

101 S. Jackson Street

Bluffton, Ohio 45817

Phone: 419-358-5766

Website: [fmcbluffton.org](http://fmcbluffton.org)

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

Christian Education Coordinator: Tuesday 9 a.m. - noon, Thursday Noon - 3 p.m.

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:** Todd Rainey, Andrew, Ray and Beth Raeburn, Mary and Fred Steiner

**HOST:** Jo and Bill Croft

**NURSERY WORKERS TODAY: SS** - Ruth Naylor, Joyce Hostetler

*Worship* - Carrie Mast, Karen McCullough, Jacob Biesecker-Mast

**NURSERY WORKERS NEXT WEEK: SS** -

*Worship* -

**SOUND SYSTEM:** Chris Moser

**CHANCEL:** Gary and Lois Wetherill

*The video of the most recent worship service may be viewed on the church's homepage, [www.fmcbluffton.org](http://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](http://tinyurl.com/fmc-videos)*

### OUR STEWARDSHIP

Worship attendance last Sunday	260
Worship attendance at Maple Crest last Sunday (FMC DVD)	8
Sunday school attendance last Sunday	50
Spending plan giving June 14, 2015	\$6,043.00
2015 Proposed spending plan	\$419,469.00
Weekly offering needed for spending plan	\$7,663.46
The offering June 14 totaled \$7,611.28. Money was received for these special funds: Sunday school-\$14.28, Capital Campaign-\$590, MCC - \$30, SHYF (convention fees - \$505, Deacons Fund - \$300, Coffee time - \$9.	

### CHURCH STAFF

Associate Pastor - Steven Yoder - 419-369-4753 (h) - [fmc.steve@bluffton.edu](mailto:fmc.steve@bluffton.edu)

Interim Pastor - Gloria Hernandez Bucher - 419-429-2621 (h) - [gloriaferdin1946@gmail.com](mailto:gloriaferdin1946@gmail.com)

Interim Pastor - Lavon Welty - 419-222-6102 (h) - [lavonw@wcoil.com](mailto:lavonw@wcoil.com)

Youth Ministry Director - Shannon Thiebeau - [shannonthiebeau@gmail.com](mailto:shannonthiebeau@gmail.com)

Coordinator of Christian Education - Melinda Estell - [fmc.melinda@bluffton.edu](mailto:fmc.melinda@bluffton.edu)

Youth Coordinator - Greg Hartzler - [gregphartzler@gmail.com](mailto:gregphartzler@gmail.com)

Director of Music - Mark Suderman

Organist Coordinator - Lucia Unrau

Custodian - Mick Hardy

Administrative Assistant - Mary Pannabecker Steiner - [fmc@bluffton.edu](mailto:fmc@bluffton.edu)



## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Swiss Community Historical Society** invites the public to attend the annual Swiss Day potluck, at 12:30 p.m. today at Ebenezer Mennonite Church, 8905 Columbus Grove Rd, Bluffton. Please bring a hot or cold dish to share. Background music will be provided by the band "Silver Threads among the Gold." The program will include the Swiss National Anthem, an update on Phase II of the Capital Campaign "Bringing alive the past by building for the future" and plans for the 175th anniversary celebration of the first Mennonite Church in the Bluffton-Pandora area.

-- Rich Bucher, for the Swiss Community Historical Society

**Swiss speakers:** Come to Maple Crest in Bluffton and practice speaking and listening to our Swiss language. Enjoy the fellowship and some Swiss chocolate on Tuesday, July 7, at 3 p.m.

-- Rich Bucher

**It's not too late to make** a contribution to the Black Swamp Benefit for MCC and Sunshine. There is canned beef and chicken available in the fellowship hall this morning for a donation. Canned meat sold for \$8 a can at the benefit.

**MDS, Detroit, MI project:** On August 11, 2014, the Detroit metro area experienced record breaking rainfall causing homes and roadways to become overwhelmed with flood waters. The flood was the largest FEMA declared disaster in 2014, yet it has been largely forgotten - except by those still dealing with its aftermath. Region II opened a response in Detroit in November 2014, and through February assisted in cleaning out over 200 basements. Region II reopened the project in May and volunteers are needed to assist individuals and families who are among the most vulnerable - the elderly, people with disabilities, people with chronic medical conditions, and single parent households. To learn more about this response and to volunteer for two or more days, contact Lawrence Matthews at [detroit@mds.mennonite.net](mailto:detroit@mds.mennonite.net) or 419-303-8056.

## GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS

**Happy Birthday** to Larry Burkhalter, 95, June 30; Luther Shetler, 98, July 1; Irene Hamman, 94, July 1.

**Happy Anniversary** to Mary Ann and Clarence Kooker, 64, June 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.*

## TODAY, June 28, 2015

9:00 a.m.	Coffee time, FH
9:15 a.m.	Sunday school classes for children and youth, adult Bible study (AR), fellowship time (FH)
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Wanda Stopher preaching
Noon	Community class potluck
12:30 p.m.	Swiss Day potluck, Ebenezer Mennonite Church

## THIS WEEK

Monday (29)	Our Daily Bread, volunteers meet in church parking lot at 9:30 a.m.
Tuesday (30)	Morning prayers, 7 a.m., Sanctuary Staff meeting, 9:00, Parlor
Wednesday (1)	AED refresher course, FH
Thursday (2)	MPS, 8 a.m., Parlor
Friday (3)	<b>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</b>

## NEXT WEEK

9:00 a.m.	Coffee Time, FH
9:15 a.m.	Sunday school classes for children and youth, adult Bible study (AR), fellowship time (FH)
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Lavon Welty preaching <b>2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10, Psalm 48, 2 Corinthians 12:2-10, Mark 6:1-13</b>

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

**We welcome pastoral candidate,** Wanda Stopher and husband Bret. Wanda is a 1981 graduate of Bluffton College. She received her Master of Divinity degree from AMBS and was ordained in 2006. She served as Associate Pastor at Central Mennonite Church from 2004-2013. Currently she is serving as the Regional Pastor for the Ohio Conference of the Mennonite Church USA. We welcome Wanda to the pulpit this morning.

**Our Daily Bread volunteers needed:** If you can assist with serving at Our Daily Bread tomorrow, June 29, please notify John Rich. The car pool leaves from the church at 9:30 a.m.

**The church office** will be closed Friday, July 3. Bulletin announcements must be submitted by noon Wednesday, July 2.

**Congregational meeting:** On July 12, immediately following the worship service, a congregational meeting will be held to vote on extending a call to Wanda Stopher to serve as our pastor. For those who are unable to attend that meeting, ballots will also be available at Mennonite Memorial Home and Maple Crest, and in the church office. If you cannot pick up a ballot, contact moderator Darryl Nester ([nesterd@bluffton.edu](mailto:nesterd@bluffton.edu)) or the office ([fmc@bluffton.edu](mailto:fmc@bluffton.edu)) and one will be sent to you. We will keep a list of the names of those who vote early, and their ballots will be counted along with those cast at the congregational meeting.

**The Black Swamp Feature Quilt** made it full circle back to Bluffton. Winning first prize at the Sauder Village Quilt Show, the quilt created by Sarah Basinger was purchased by Todd Rainey at the Black Swamp Benefit. You may enjoy it this Sunday and next in the fellowship hall.

**FMC children attending** Pre-Junior Camp at Camp Friedenswald June 22-27 included Kate Pannabecker, Milo Combs, Allison Diller, Theo Andreas, Ben Hartzler, Landon Novak, John Paul Yoder, and Elam Suter.

**A one-hour information/refresher** course on the use of our Automated External Defibrillator will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 1. The one-hour program is open to all who would like to learn or review operation of the device. -- *Bill Swartley*

**Attention Soccer Fans!** We have an opportunity to see Columbus Crew play Chicago Fire Sunday, July 19 at their home stadium. The match starts at 5 p.m. We need at least 20 people to attend and we may have the possibility to meet one of the players to discuss how their faith has impacted their sports career. Seats are \$20 per person. If you are interested, please sign up by Wednesday, July 8, on the sign-up sheet located on the table in the fellowship hall. Contact Shannon Thiebeau at 419-773-9446 or at [shannonthiebeau@gmail.com](mailto:shannonthiebeau@gmail.com) for more information.

## Kansas City 2015

**The 2015 MC USA Convention** is scheduled June 30-July 5 in Kansas City. FMC delegates to Kansas City 2015 include Steve Harnish, Melissa Friesen, Wendy Chappell-Dick, Hannah Chappell-Dick, George Lehman, and Perry Bush. Details about the conference can be found at <http://convention.mennoniteusa.org/>. The convention programs for both youth and adults will include worship, work, opportunities for learning and more. Pink Menno will hold a symposium of workshops and seminars at convention. Kerry Bush is part of the leadership team and Sara Chappell-Dick has received a scholarship from Pink Menno to attend the convention. Details about Pink Menno's schedule may be found at <http://pinkmenno.org>.

**Mission Sunday is July 12.** We will welcome our Mission Partners, Bruce Yoder and Nancy Frey, and their children, Jeremiah and Deborah. Please join us on Saturday, July 11 at 7 p.m. for an informal conversation with the Frey Yoder family, who will share about their work and life serving in Burkina Faso. On July 12, Bruce will lead adult Sunday school, and Nancy will be with the children's Sunday school. They will give both the sermon and children's time during the worship service. The Frey Yoders are partnering with Mennonite and African Initiated church partners across West Africa and they minister in biblical and theological training among church leaders.

**Brazo en Brazo:** Many times Alex has said how much the prayer circle at the close of Brazo en Brazo's worship service means to him. He has also expressed his appreciation for the fifth Sunday hymn sings and how he was moved by "I am the Bread of Life." Last Sunday, as we gathered for worship, he told Paul that he wants to prepare for baptism. Before the sermon he shared his decision with the congregation. We will share the progress toward the baptism celebration as it develops. -- *Paul and Ann Conrad*