

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Weekly Announcements 11-17-2019

First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817
419-358-5766 | fmcbluffton.org | Office open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday-Friday

- Pastor Wanda Stopher – Monday-Thursday, 9-4, off Friday, 419-551-1079; wanda@fmcbluffton.org
- Pastor Theda Good – Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday; 419-549-2417; theda@fmcbluffton.org
- Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, M-F, 8-11 a.m., mastc@bluffton.edu
- Director of Music – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 (cell); sudermanme@bluffton.edu
- Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, fmc@fmcbluffton.org
- Custodian – Mick Hardy, M-F, weekends as needed

Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019

8:30 a.m. Youth choir
9:15 a.m. SS, coffee time, 9:15 a.m.
10:30 a.m. Worship, Glen Miller preaching, All Saints Day
Noon All-church potluck, celebration of casket-making
5:30 p.m. FMC learning circle

Nov. 18-24

Monday (Nov. 18) Everence reps, 6:30 p.m., FH
Tuesday (Nov. 19) Morning prayers, 7 a.m.
Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor
Riley Creek Homeowners, 7 p.m., AR
Wednesday (Nov. 20) Cherubs, Adult bells, 6 p.m.
Jubilate, 6:30 p.m.
Chancel choir, youth bells, 7 p.m.
Thursday (Nov. 21) Deadline to submit bulletin info, 9 a.m.
Deacons cancelled
CDC pastors, 5 p.m., AR
Community meal, senior center, 6 p.m.
Transgender Day of Remembrance, 7 p.m.
Friday (Nov. 22) SHY, meet at FMC after school to shop at
ReStore and redecorate SH room
Sunday (Nov. 24) Youth choir, 8:30 a.m.
SS, coffee time, 9:15 a.m.
Worship, Glen Guyton preaching, 10:30 a.m.
FMC learning circle, 5:30 p.m.
Reception for Glen Guyton, 7 p.m., FH

Happy birthday!!

Nov. 22 – Lois Andreas
Nov. 22 – Marty Hostetler
Nov. 22 – Paul Klassen
Nov. 23 – Steve Harnish
Nov. 24 – Judy Kingsley

Today we welcome Glen E. Miller to FMC. Glen led yesterday's workshop on *Living Thoughtfully, Dying Well* (he's also authored a book of that title.) He graduated from Goshen College and Western Reserve School of Medicine, and has a master's in theology from Methodist Theological School of Ohio. Glen's work includes years as a doctor of internal medicine and a hospital administrator in Bellefontaine, overseas development with MCC in India, Haiti, Egypt, and Cambodia. He and his wife, Marilyn, are retired and live in Goshen, and attend Assembly Mennonite Church.

Today we observe All Saints Day, which reminds us of the "cloud of witnesses" named in Hebrews 11 and of all the people of God who together form the body of Christ. We invite those who have lost loved ones since our last service Nov. 1, 2018 to light a candle to remember them and give thanks for their lives.

A hearty thank you to Carrie Mast in her role as treasurer, for her time, creativity, and effort in developing, proposing and educating the congregation regarding the 2020 spending plan. All this was done with an eye toward clarification, simplification, and alignment of our spending plan with our 5 Priorities. The 2020 spending plan was approved by congregational vote Nov. 10.

Greyden Wells, age 2, son of Jackie and Beth, will be returning to the hospital for more chemotherapy. The tumor in his good eye is growing dangerously close to his optic nerve. Let us surround them with our love and prayers.

Ann Shumaker continues rehab at St. Rita's Medical Center. She sends thanks for your prayers and cards.

Don Burkholder, brother of Joan Dailey, died Nov. 13 at Betty House, Willow Ridge. Please keep Joan and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

First Mennonite will host the Bluffton community meal at the Senior Center on Thursday, Dec. 5, and volunteers are needed to provide cookies and bread. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer. ~ Mission, Peace and Service

College Scholarship Fund: First Mennonite offers financial assistance to students who attend an Anabaptist/Mennonite college or university. Scholarships are matched dollar-for-dollar by the institutions up to \$1,000, matching 25% above that amount. Scholarships for 2019-20 school year were increased to \$1,500/student/year because funds were available. Eight students are currently receiving FMC scholarships.

*Students/parents: Students currently attending or considering attending a Mennonite college in 2020-21 should contact Louise Matthews (matthewsa@bluffton.edu) by Sunday, Nov. 24. Final college decisions need not be made until spring but Dec. 1 is the deadline to guarantee matching funds.

*Congregation: The "College Scholarship Fund" is dependent on your generous financial support and contributions may be designated as such. Participating students for 2020-21 will receive \$1,000 from FMC for the year unless sufficient funds are available to again offer \$1,500.

~ Church College Relations: Louise Matthews, Mona Reichenbach, Theda Good

SAVE THESE DATES!

December 5: Red Cross blood drive, 1-6 p.m., FH, schedule a donation at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/>. There is a sign-up form in the fellowship hall to help unload/load trucks, serve, provide cookies, etc.

January 25: Saturday family workshop, 9:30 a.m.-noon. Details forthcoming.

You're invited to Mennonite Disaster Service Western Ohio Unit's annual meeting Saturday, Nov. 23, at South Union Mennonite Church, West Liberty. Light refreshments and fellowship begin at 9 a.m., a program from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., lunch included. There will be reporting on the Dayton tornado response and the Logan County flooding and long-term recovery. RSVP to jhilty53@fairpoint.net or call Jon Hilty at 419.722.0900 by Wednesday, Nov. 20. Please include your name and name(s) of others attending. ~ Lawrence Matthews

REMINDERS

Mitch Kingsley will report on his work with MDS in Pine Ridge, SD, during Sunday school today in the fellowship hall.

There will be an all-church potluck after worship today to celebrate the years of casket making and its conclusion. Bring a dish to share and your own table service. A short program will highlight the work and those involved over the many years the caskets were produced.

Brave Space, the student group that supports the LGBTQ community at Bluffton University will hold a Transgender Day of Remembrance event Thursday, Nov. 21 at 7 p.m., beginning at the Lion and Lamb Peace Center, then progressing in a candle walk to First Mennonite where there will be a remembrance service. You are also welcome to meet at the church by 7:30 p.m. for just the service. All are welcome. ~ Pastor Theda

Glen Guyton, Executive Director of MCUSA, will be our guest preacher at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 24. At 6:30 p.m. Glen will share his vision for MCUSA at a reception in the fellowship hall. All are invited.

All are welcome to the FMC Thanksgiving meal at noon Thursday, Nov. 28. Traditional Thanksgiving dishes will be on the menu, but anything is welcome. Donations will be accepted to cover the costs of purchased items. RSVP to Lori Nester and sign up to bring something (419.358.9650, nesterl@bluffton.edu).

BLUFFTON UNIVERSITY

Nov. 17 Youth Night, Student Athletic Advisory Committee, open to community elementary-aged children and their families, pizza and activities 5-7 p.m. Sommer Center,

Nov. 19 "Eyes Wide Open: Reality Bites & How to Deal," forum, Alaina Shearer, 11 a.m., Yoder Recital Hall

Nov. 19 "Why Living My Best Life Depends on You: Camp as a Place of Interconnection and Joy," Alumni Forum, 11 a.m., Stutzman Lecture Hall

Nov. 22 "Finding the Empire at Yale," Colloquium, Dr. Cynthia Bandish, 4 p.m., Stutzman Lecture Hall

Nov. 24 Holiday Collage Concert, 2:30 p.m., Yoder Recital Hall

Nov. 24 Christmas at the Houshower House, tree lighting, carols, hot chocolate, 8 p.m.