

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
Weekly Announcements 3-15-2020

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

- **Pastor Wanda Stopher – Monday-Thursday, 9-4, off Friday, 419-551-1079; wanda@fmclubluffton.org**
- **Pastor Theda Good – Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday; 419-549-2417; theda@fmclubluffton.org**
- **Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, M-F, 8-11 a.m., 419-230-1568, mastc@bluffton.edu**
- **Director of Music – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 (cell); sudermanme@bluffton.edu**
- **Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, fmc@fmclubluffton.org**

See the First Mennonite Church website for updates and cancellations.

Sunday, March 15, 2020

*SS cancelled

*Worship service cancelled; service will be available for viewing by 2 p.m. via <http://fmclubluffton.org/>

*Learning circle cancelled

Monday (March 16) Et Cetera board, 7 p.m., AR

Tuesday (March 17) Morning prayers, 7 a.m.

Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor

Wednesday (March 18) Cherubs, Adult bells, 6 p.m.

Jubilate, 6:30 p.m.

Chancel choir, youth bells, 7 p.m.

Thursday (March 19) Bulletin deadline, 9 a.m.

Deacons, 7 p.m., parlor

Community meal at senior center cancelled

Sunday (March 22) Sunday school, coffee time, 9:15 a.m.

Worship, Theda Good preaching, 10:30 a.m.

Catechism, 11:30 a.m.

FMC learning circle, 5:30 p.m., FH

Happy birthday

March 19 – Xavier Diller

March 19 – Elizabeth Kelly

March 19 – Mitch Kingsley

A Family Equipping Workshop will be held

Saturday, March 28, from 9:30 a.m.-noon in the fellowship hall.

The workshop is geared toward families with children, and provides fun, interactive, hands-on learning for the entire family. Children and families will be equipped to manage stress and anxiety through healthy expression of emotions, coping strategies, recognizing strengths, behavior and technology contracts, and family interaction skills.

Families will leave with numerous practical tools to apply immediately in their homes. A plethora of hands-on activities involving creating take home tools make this workshop a must for every family.

The workshop will be led by Erin Bauman, a licensed counselor who works out of the Bluffton office of Cornerstone of Hope, a faith-based counseling center that serves the Bluffton and greater NW Ohio area.

*Reservations are required. Sign up by March 22. See sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall or email Carrie Mast at mastc@bluffton.edu. Brochures are also available by the sign-up sheet.

The FMC catechism class invites you to accompany them to visit Behalt, a cyclorama at the Amish and Mennonite Heritage Center in Millersburg, on Saturday, April 4. Behalt "...illustrates the heritage of the Amish and Mennonite people from their Anabaptist beginnings in Zürich, Switzerland in 1525 to the present day." Transportation has been arranged for the youth and there is space for an additional 12 persons. Costs for the trip include admission to Behalt (\$8 adults, \$5.50 tweens and teens, \$3.25 elementary), optional purchase of cheese at Heini's, and lunch at Der Dutchman in Walnut Creek. Look for an itinerary and sign-up sheet soon.

Thank you, Victoria Woods-Yee, for creating all of our bulletin covers throughout this Lenten season.

Ginger Theis had double bypass surgery at OSU on March 13. Once released from the hospital, she will be at the Mennonite Memorial Home for rehabilitation. Please remember her and her family with your care and prayers for recovery.

Pastor Theda is on vacation through Monday, March 16.

Save the date: The group that recently traveled to the US/Mexico border will share slides, tell stories, and share their experiences on Sunday, March 29, at 7:30 pm.

Reminders

Taste and See: Prayer Practices elective SS class has been cancelled for March 15 and postponed until further notice.

FMC custodian needed: Duties include routine cleaning of the building, light maintenance, set-up for events, outside lawn mowing and snow removal, other duties as agreed upon. Hourly wage, up to 30 hours per week. Provide your name, contact info, and resume to fmc@fmcbluffton.org. ~ Staff relations, Trustees

If you are able to help with any custodial tasks during our custodial search, please see the list posted on the custodian closet door in the fellowship hall. All supplies and equipment are in the closet. When you complete a task, please initial and date that task. Thank you!

Hygiene and relief kit drive: Lists and instructions for both kits are on the bulletin board at the collection area near the library. If you'd like to sew bags, there are sewing directions cards in the kit collection area, as well. Some precut bags and cords are there and donated fabric is welcome.

FMC will celebrate the 100th anniversary of Mennonite Central Committee with comforter knotting April 13-14. If you are able to sew comforter tops prior to the event, you'll find kits on the table in the quilt room, or you may choose fabrics from the large bin on the shelf.

FMC will host Bluffton Community VBS June 7-11. We'll need volunteers to make decorations and name tags, bake cookies, and prepare the church, and will need many volunteers during VBS, greeting/checking in guests, distributing name tags, walking children between stations, playing music, and leading worship. If you are interested in helping, contact co-organizers Amber Shelly (arshelly11@gmail.com) or Carrie Mast.

Join the First Mennonite Green Team, to think about and act on climate change and sustainability practices. Consider attending Camp Friedenswald's Climate & Community weekend April 17-19. (Attendance at the retreat is not required of team members.) Contact Carrie Mast or sign up in the fellowship hall if interested.

Our Connections

Grace Mennonite Church invites all to their comforter knotting day on Friday, March 20, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. No potluck will be held, so knotters are advised to pack a lunch.

Habitat for Humanity-Lima Area's next build will be in Delphos. Needed: monetary donations and volunteers to help with construction and to provide meals. Also needed: group to provide a monthly meal for 30 ReStore volunteers, and sustaining/ongoing donations of \$10/month. To volunteer or donate, call 419-222-4937, email habitatlima@habitatlima.org.

Bluffton University

Campus events cancelled through April 13.

BU alumni tour of Europe: Brochures about Bluffton University's 2020 alumni tour of Europe featuring Mennonite migrations and led by President Jane Wood and Dr. Gerald Mast are in the literature rack in the fellowship hall.