

**Life Reframed: Choosing
First Mennonite Church
April 7, 2019**

Welcome Shelby and Kevin Cluts

Announcements

Prelude “What Is This Place” arr. Richard Proulx
LuAnn Stuckey

Invocation

*Hymn “Here in this place” HWB 6

*Confession

ALL: We confess, O God, that we are attracted to false gods and easy answers in life.

L: We are vulnerable to temptations that could damage us in ways that are not obvious.

ALL: Forgive our sins that draw us like moths to a flame. Restore us and fill us with godly resolve. In the name of Jesus the Christ, Amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness “The church of Christ in every age”
HWB 403 (vs. 1 & 5)

Scripture Matthew 7:13-29
Kendra Gott, Jorian Mast, and the Cherub Choir

Conversation with friends Wanda Stopher
“Come to me, come to us” STS 60
(v. 1 coming forward, v.2 returning)

Community Prayer STJ 144 Wanda Stopher

Sermon “Choices – beliefs shape practices” Theda Good

Scripture Matthew 7:13-29
Tyson and Braylon Goings

*Hymn “I want to walk as a child of the light” STJ 95

Presenting our tithes and offerings

Offertory “Take My Life that I May Be”
arr. Benjamin Culli

*Hymn of Dedication “God, whose giving” (vs. 1) HWB 383

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn “I bind my heart this tide” HWB 411

*Benediction

Postlude “Jesus, Name of Wondrous Love”
arr. D.N. Johnson

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

HWB – Hymnal: A Worship Book; STJ – Sing the Journey; STS – Sing the Story

Please ask an usher for assistance in locating large print hymnals.

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.

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

Church Staff

- Pastor Wanda Stopher -- Monday-Thursday, 9-4, off Friday; 419-551-1079 (cell); fmc.wanda@bluffton.edu
- Pastor Theda Good -- Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday; 419-549-2417 (cell); fmc.theda@bluffton.edu
- Interim Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, M-F, 8-10 a.m., mastc@bluffton.edu
- Director of Music – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 (cell); sudermanme@bluffton.edu
- Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, M-F, 9-4, fmc@bluffton.edu
- Custodian – Mick Hardy, 7:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m., weekends as needed

Chancel: Beth Boehr

Nursery today, SS: Pat Sheidler, Elaine Suderman

Worship: Sue & Tom Schaaf, Ana Neufeld Weaver

Nursery next week, SS: Melinda, Patrick & Rebecca Estell

Worship: Betsi & Joe Werling, Jacob Biesecker Mast

Our stewardship

Worship attendance last Sunday	FMC-248, MC-6
Volunteer hours (March 31-April 6)	77.5
Spending plan giving April 1, 2019 (includes e-giving)	\$3,239.00
Non-spending plan giving April 1, 2019 (includes e-giving): Freudige-\$100	
Faith/Life-\$7; Kitchen-\$261.43; Deacon’s benevolent-\$500; College	
scholarships-\$200; Capital campaign-\$100; casket-\$450	\$2,118.43
Total giving April 1, 2019 (includes e-giving)	\$5,357.43
2019 spending plan	\$431,854.00

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.

