

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Weekly Announcements 5-24-2020

First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817

419-358-5766 | fmclubluffton.org | Staff working from home

- **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, 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, 419-358-5766

Sunday, May 24, 2020

Taste and See SS, Zoom, 9:15 a.m., <https://zoom.us/j/342273765>

Sojourners SS, Zoom, 9:15 a.m., <https://zoom.us/j/4193583208>

Worship, Steve Harnish preaching, 10:30 a.m.

Learning circle, Zoom, 6 p.m., <https://zoom.us/j/4193585766>,
contact Carrie Mast for password

May 25-29

Monday (May 25) Memorial Day, office closed

Tuesday (May 26) Morning prayers, Zoom, 7 a.m.,
<https://zoom.us/j/93803392337>

Staff meeting, Zoom, 9 a.m.

Wednesday (May 27) Coffee & tea social hour, Zoom, 3 p.m.,
<https://zoom.us/j/110200533>

Thursday (May 28) Bulletin deadline, 9 a.m.
Council, 7 p.m.

Sunday, May 31, 2020

Sojourners SS, Zoom, 9:15 a.m.

Taste and See, Zoom, 9:15 a.m.

Worship, Carrie Mast and friends preaching, 10:30 a.m.

Learning circle, Zoom, 6 p.m.

The CDC 2020 Annual Meeting will be held June 27 from 9 a.m.-noon ET in a virtual format. More information and a schedule are available at <https://mcusacdc.org/annual-meeting-2020/>.

The first hour will be worship using a pre-recorded video that you may watch at your convenience if you're unable to watch at 9 a.m. From 10-11 a.m. there will be a delegate session via Zoom to take necessary actions, hear the state of the conference address and reports, and end with communion.

From 11-11:45 a.m., there will be an optional delegate session via Zoom with a Q&A session with Glen Guyton and breakout sessions to reflect on the impact of COVID-19 on the church and what we have learned that we might want to carry forward in our congregational lives. Several webinars will be shared later in July and August.

Happy birthday

May 24 – Art Shelly

May 25 – Amy Freeman

Mary Ina Hooley

May 29 – Lu Derstine

Kurt Longworth

May 30 – Chad Paul

May 31 – Bill Croft

Dottie Long

We as a congregation express our deep appreciation and gratitude to **Jeff Boehr**, who led worship for the past 13 weeks with sensitivity, skill, and wisdom. Jeff's steady, honest, and hopeful leadership will be one of the things we remember when we look back on these days.

Pastor Theda would like to organize a **new ministry team** to help facilitate the need for short-term meals for folks who are dealing with illness, surgery, injury, or newborn infants. You don't need to be the one to make the meal, simply have a heart for organizing and helping to meet the need of others. There are some excellent web-based tools to do this; we just need a few individuals who are willing to administer these tools. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Theda at theda@fmclubluffton.org.

Among our congregants

We are delighted that Carter Dyar will be providing limited custodial and lawn mowing services this summer. Welcome Carter!

Tig and Karen Intagliata will be leaving Bluffton at the end of May and moving to the Washington, DC area in order to be closer to one of their sons and his family. Their updated email addresses are: tigintag2@gmail.com and karenintag@gmail.com. We pray for their safe move and wish them well as they take this step forward.

Prayer concerns

JP Schumacher started chemo treatment this week. She will have one treatment every other week for 16 weeks. Her family has started a Caring Bridge page for you to follow her journey at <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/jpschumacher>. Your notes of love and encouragement will be appreciated. JP and her family value your prayers for her wellbeing.

Greyden Wells, the two-year-old son of Jackie and Beth Wells is experiencing a return of his cancer which has spread rapidly. He is under the care of hospice, and the family sincerely appreciates your prayers of love, care, and support for them during this very difficult time. His ongoing story can be followed at <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/greydenjwells/journal>. The Wells' address is 418 County Rd 5A, Napoleon, OH 43545.

Heather Theis had successful uterine surgery this past week and her biopsies all came back benign. She is looking forward to recovering at home. Let's send her our love, care, and prayers for her recovery.

Reminders

Celebrate Summer Psalms worship series by engaging creatively with any of these 150 ancient songs of God's people. Choose a Psalm to illustrate or to write in calligraphy. Create a coloring page for our children. Record a song based on one of the Psalms or set one of them to music of your own. You might use the language of the Psalms to voice a contemporary lament or song of thanksgiving. Write a testimony about your favorite Psalm or record yourself reciting one you've memorized. It will be a Summer Psalm festival! The Psalm(s) you choose need not correlate with the Psalm of focus in worship. Submit your offering to Mark Suderman or Pastor Wanda.

Interested in Bible study this summer? The theme of MennoMedia's summer adult SS quarterly is *Many Faces of Wisdom* and will focus on wisdom literature in the Bible. Options for using the quarterly include joining a SS class via Zoom; having your own Bible study; or organizing a small group to study together virtually, by phone, email or other written correspondence, or in a porch/patio study 6 feet apart. Large print copies and teacher guides are also available. If you would like a copy of your own, contact Carrie Mast. Orders will be placed on Thursday, May 21.

Summer SS for children: FMC is ordering SS leaflets for preschool and primary-aged children to use over the summer. Children should watch the mail for their copies!

Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio needs volunteers to sew gowns on a serger. The fabric will be provided to those willing to cut fabric, arrange pieces into kits, and/or sew gowns. If you are able to help, contact Chris Moser at 419-490-7109 or cmoser@mhcoliving.org.

CDC seeks singers for a virtual ensemble video: Adam Tice is producing a virtual ensemble video of a song for the Central District Conference virtual assembly, and hopes to include singers from across the conference. The basic track and score are provided, as well as instructions. If you're interested in learning more, you may request the details from the FMC office by emailing fmc@fmcbluffton.org.