

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Weekly Announcements 5-31-2020

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

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

June 1-6

Tuesday (June 2) Morning prayers, Zoom, 7 a.m.,

<https://zoom.us/j/93803392337>

Staff meeting, Zoom, 9 a.m.

Thursday (June 4) Bulletin deadline, 9 a.m.

Worship, 7 p.m.

Sunday, June 8, 2020

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

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

Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching, 10:30 a.m.

Learning circle, Zoom, 6 p.m.

Summer Psalm challenges

Do you have a favorite Psalm? During our Summer Psalm series we're inviting you to share a little testimony or story about your favorite Psalm and why it's especially meaningful to you. Call or email Pastor Wanda to make your offering.

As part of our Summer Psalms worship series, why not read through the entire Psalter? If you read two Psalms a day, you will complete the book in 75 days, before summer's end. If you read five a day, you will complete the book in one month. This link provides a reading schedule to even out the reading a bit, as some Psalms are longer than others! <https://bibleplan.org/plans/psalms-in-a-month/>.

Happy birthday

May 31 – Bill Croft

Dottie Long

Worship today is led by our youth and children. It is a significant source of hope, inspiration and encouragement to be led by them on this day when we celebrate the birth of the church. Carrie Mast, our Children and Youth Ministry Director has organized them and provided guidance.

Thanks to Savannah Werling for creating today's bulletin cover.

Thanks also to Ari Goings for her drawing, now displayed on the children and youth pillar in the fellowship hall. The girls drew their pictures in response to Carrie Mast's request for drawings of fire.

Congratulations to Amy Blount and Jeff Shadbolt, who were married May 23 in a small, family ceremony. Their children are Ethan, Ryan, Kendyl, Cameron, and Evan.

Congratulations to Bret and Wanda Stopher on the birth of their grandson, Teodor Ray, born to Lane Stopher and Banysha Arsenov on May 28.

Prayer concerns

Robert Flick passed away on May 25. Earlier this month he had fallen and had suffered a broken hip. A private family burial was held May 28. Bob was the father of Kathy Traucht, Tom, and Mark.

Other new information

Kerry Bush and boyfriend, Jeff Roseberry will move to Bluefield, WV, in mid-June. Jeff has accepted a systems engineer position in the area and they're very excited for this new opportunity. Thoughts, prayers, and well wishes are appreciated. Kerry's email address is 09bushk@gmail.com and cell phone number is 419-792-0290.

From Jenna Liechty Martin, Camp Friedenswald: We recently received a gift from your congregation (through CDC) and I want to express sincere gratitude for the continued support provided by the congregation. We are sad that we won't be seeing campers from Bluffton this summer, but will look forward to when we might gather again. And, if you haven't seen it, I want to share an opportunity to [take a virtual spring hike](#) at Friedenswald!

Mission, Peace and Service Commission invites you to participate in an MCC webinar "Church efforts to address immigration" on Tuesday, June 2, at 2 p.m. The webinar will include MCC staff, partners and church leaders from around the country, who will provide current information on what is happening and how things are in light of COVID-19. How are faith communities responding? How are policies and protocols affecting these ministries? And, what are some ways in which each of us can get involved and support their work during this time? [Register here for the webinar.](#)

Reminders

Pastor Theda is organizing a new ministry team to help facilitate meals for those 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.

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 to music of your own, 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. The Psalm(s) you choose need not correlate with the Psalm of focus in worship. Submit your offering to Mark Suderman or Pastor Wanda.

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. Several webinars will be shared later in July and August.

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@fmclubluffton.org.