

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Weekly Announcements 7-21-2019

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 – On sabbatical through July 31, 2019
- Pastor Theda Good – Monday-Thursday, 9-4, off Friday; 419-549-2417 (cell); 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@bluffton.edu
- Custodian – Mick Hardy, M-F, weekends as needed

Calendar

Sunday, July 21, 2019

9:15 a.m. SS, coffee time
10:30 a.m. Worship, JP Schumacher preaching
5:30 p.m. FMC learning circle
6 p.m. VBS begins, St. John's UCC
6:30 p.m. MC learning circle

July 22-28, 2019

Tuesday (July 23) Morning prayers, 7 a.m.
Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor
Thursday (July 25) **NO CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**
Sunday (July 28) SS, coffee time, 9:15 a.m.
Worship, Elizabeth Kelly preaching,
10:30 a.m.
FMC learning circle, 5:30 p.m.

Happy birthday!!

July 21 Kristen Niekamp
July 21 Brandon Rhodes
July 21 Makayla Suter
July 22 Laurel Neufeld Weaver
July 22 Janet Schroeder
July 23 Cheryl Slotter
July 26 Marsha Weaver
July 27 Phil Blount
July 28 Joan LoBianco
July 28 Daryl Richard

Save these dates!

Pack the Pews: In August we will collect items for the Bluffton Food Pantry as part of Bluffton Area Ministerial Association's effort to help keep the Food Pantry supplied during low donation months. We hope to pack a pew with items the pantry needs. More details to follow. ~ MPS

Elizabeth Nisly will be here at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 4, to share during the SS hour about her summer internship in Mexico with Frontera de Cristo, a Presbyterian binational border ministry with a focus on migration and redefining borders. ~ Mission, Peace and Service

Bruce Yoder and Nancy Frey will be at FMC on Tuesday, Aug. 6, at 6 p.m. for an evening potluck and to share about their mission work in Burkina Faso. ~ MPS

Brazo en Brazo's annual Fiesta Familiar will be held from 4-7 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 8 at Lima Mennonite Church. ~ MPS

Living Thoughtfully, Dying Well is the theme of a workshop being planned for Saturday, Nov. 16. Medical doctor Glen E. Miller, from Goshen, IN, wrote a book with the same title and is the keynote speaker.

Convention delegates pass statement on abuse of child migrants

The Mennonite Church USA delegate body passed a resolution on child separation on Saturday, July 6, the last day of the convention. It was crafted during the convention by delegates who wanted us to address this issue as a church body and, following discussion, was approved with only two dissenting votes. You may read the entire document at <http://mennoniteusa.org/news/mc-usa-condemns-abuse-of-child-migrants-affirms-new-leadership/>. A copy is posted on the "Around FMC" pillar in the fellowship hall.

From Jackie and Elizabeth Wells: A heartfelt thank you from us for all of the support both in prayer and monetary ways. With donations from FMC, we were able to make our house payment without having to file for hardship. It is a real blessing. We invite you to the Greyden Strong Cancer Benefit on Sunday, Sept. 1, at 4 p.m. at the Armory Event Center, Napoleon. *(Jackie's family is holding the fundraiser for their son, Greyden, to help support his ongoing medical expenses in his fight to beat cancer. Greyden, who is now 20 months old, was diagnosed at 9 months with trilateral retinoblastoma. Posters about the event are on bulletin boards around the church.)*

Stephen and Nancy Jacoby will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with a ceremony to renew their vows on Saturday, Aug. 3, at 3:00 p.m., in the chapel at Worthington Presbyterian Church, 773 High St., Worthington. They welcome friends from Bluffton to attend, but no gifts, please. Their mailing address is 210 Stonehend Dr., Powell, OH, 43065.

REMINDERS

Bluffton Community VBS begins today at 6 p.m. at St. John's UCC. If you haven't yet registered, you may do so at the UCC tonight. If you have questions, contact Carrie Mast at mastc@bluffton.edu.

MCC school kit collection continues: Kit supply list is as follows:

- 4 spiral or perforated-pages notebooks (8.5 in x 10.5 in and 70 sheets)
- 8 new unsharpened pencils
- 1 ruler (flat, good quality; must indicate 30 cm; inch markings optional)
- 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
- 1 large eraser
- 2 new black or blue ballpoint pens
- 1 small **all-metal** pencil sharpener, one or two holes (see below)

All-metal sharpeners can be found online at Amazon.com or Bazic.com or in the art supply section of retail stores like Staples. Plastic case pencil sharpeners are not accepted because these are poor quality and do not last as long. **If you cannot find all metal sharpeners**, please pack the kits without them and we will add the sharpeners. **We will collect kits through September.

Sue Schaaf and Jean Miller

FMC's intergenerational trip to tour the Islamic Center is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 3. We will meet at the church at 11:15 a.m. and depart at 11:30. Lunch from The Grape Leaf will be served at the center and includes chicken kabobs, rice, hummus, salad and pita bread. If you prefer an option of vegetable kabob or falafel notify Shelby Cluts or note your preference on the sign-up sheet. Lunch costs \$10 per person and begins at 12:30 p.m. Dress attire is long pants (no shorts or capris) and no sleeveless shirts (short sleeved shirts are fine.) The tour will begin at 2 p.m., after which we'll return to Bluffton. Depending on how many commit to the trip, we will take a bus or arrange other transportation. There is a new sign-up sheet by the office for those who are committing to participate. **The deadline to sign up is Monday, July 29.** Please list each individual person on the sign-up sheet. Please invite family and friends to join us. If you cannot sign up in person, e-mail the church office at fmc@bluffton.edu. If you have questions, contact Shelby Cluts, 419-234-2580 or 419-358-0265.