

# FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

## Weekly Announcements 9-22-2019

First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817  
419-358-5766 | [fmcbluffton.org](http://fmcbluffton.org) | Office open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday-Friday

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

### Sunday, Sept. 22, 2019

- 8:30 a.m. No youth choir practice today  
9:15 a.m. SS, coffee time, 9:15 a.m.  
10:30 a.m. Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching  
5:30 p.m. FMC learning circle

### Sept. 23-29

- Tuesday (Sept. 24) Morning prayers, 7 a.m.  
Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor  
MPS, 7 p.m., parlor  
Wednesday (Sept. 25) Cherubs, Adult bells, 6 p.m.  
Jubilate, 6:30 p.m.  
Chancel choir, youth bells, 7 p.m.  
Thursday (Sept. 26) Deadline to submit bulletin info, 9 a.m.  
Pastor visit, Maple Crest, 2:30 p.m.  
Council, 7 p.m., parlor  
Sunday (Sept. 29) Youth choir, 8:30 a.m.  
SS, coffee time, 9:15 a.m.  
Worship, Ray Person preaching, 10:30 a.m.  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday potluck/celebration of students,  
following worship  
FMC learning circle, 5:30 p.m.

**The MW project committee** invites you to a work morning on Wednesday, Oct. 9, from 9 a.m.-noon. Participants will be cutting, laying out, and sewing comforter tops and kit bags. Bring rotary cutters, rulers, mats, and sewing machines. A sewing machine and several mats with rulers are available for those who need them. Working as a team is an option. We plan further work mornings at the same time every second Wednesday of the month. **NOTE:** If you have quilting-weight fabrics to donate to the comforter project, place them on the table in the quilt room. Yardage for backings, about 5 yards, is also needed. A sample of the desired weight is on the Mennonite Women bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

### Happy birthday!!

- Sept. 24 – Jackie Frey  
Sept. 24 – Nathan Heslep  
Sept. 24 – Joanne Niswander  
Sept. 25 – Lyle Burkholder  
Sept. 25 – Ana Neufeld Weaver  
Sept. 27 – Jo Clemens  
Sept. 28 – Greg Ring  
Sept. 29 – Del Gratz

### Church: Community of Conversation

Our conversations are key in deepening our relationships and sharpening our focus. In worship October 13- November 10, we will explore the theme, *Church: Community of Conversation*. **Check your mailboxes today for a brochure with more details, including a schedule of this worship series.**

### Membership class begins Oct. 13

Are you new to First Mennonite Church? Do you want to know more about the church? Are you interested in exploring or refreshing your memory about what it means to be a member of this congregation? You're invited to attend a membership class that will meet from 9-10 a.m., Oct. 13, 20, 27, and Nov. 3. Please contact either Pastor Wanda or Pastor Theda if you have

**Time for a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday potluck! Let's celebrate our students in preschool through university at the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Potluck on Sunday, Sept. 29, immediately after worship. Each student will be recognized along with their parents. Our university students will be our guests so bring an extra dish to share, and your own table service.**

## **REMINDERS**

- Recent changes in the church e-mail system have caused some problems with sending mass e-mails, so you may not receive the usual weekly announcements and/or periodic midweek announcements. We continue to work on a solution. Note that you will find the Sunday announcements and bulletin posted on the church website (click on "Media") on Fridays.
- Pastors Wanda and Theda will make presentations on their recent trips to the US/Mexico border, Sunday, Sept. 29, at 4 p.m. in the fellowship hall.
- A mentor-mentee activity will take place at 7 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 6, in the fellowship hall.
- Adult nursery workers are needed. If you are willing to help support the youngest members of our church please contact Julie Mackey at [mackeyjm@embarqmail.com](mailto:mackeyjm@embarqmail.com).
- We will be purchasing the new hymnal, *Voices Together*, the new collection for the Mennonite Church that will arrive in the fall of 2020. If you wish to purchase your own hymnal through the church order, sign up on the table outside our office. The cost is \$24. Please sign up by September 29.
- The service group of MHCO will hold a bake sale during fall festival Sept. 27-28 at MMH. The sale of baked goods such as cinnamon rolls, cakes, pies, noodles, and breads will be held in the lobby from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. or until supplies last. If you are able to donate home-baked goods, please deliver them to the MMH by 9 a.m. Friday, Sept. 27.

## **OUR CONNECTIONS**

**Habitat Lima:** Volunteers/volunteer groups are needed at the ReStore, funds for the house being built in Elida, meals for construction or ReStore volunteers, affiliate sustaining/ongoing donations of \$10 a month. To help or donate, call 419-222-4937, sign up at [www.habitatlima.org](http://www.habitatlima.org), or e-mail [habitatlima@habitatlima.org](mailto:habitatlima@habitatlima.org).

**MCUSA: You're invited to contribute to the Menno Snapshots blog.** Are there ways that you have participated in or witnessed the peace of God in your community. Contact [KaylaB@mennoniteusa.org](mailto:KaylaB@mennoniteusa.org) if you are willing to share your reflections or recommend someone to share. Visit the blog at [mennoniteusa.org/category/menno-snapshots](http://mennoniteusa.org/category/menno-snapshots).

## **BLUFFTON UNIVERSITY**

Sept. 24 – Forum: Bluffton University students will report on spring 2019 cross-cultural experiences, 11 a.m., Yoder Recital Hall  
Sept. 27 – “Morals Are a Must for Making Money,” colloquium, Dr. Jonathan Andreas, 4 p.m., Centennial Hall