

Church College Relations Sunday
April 23, 2017
10:30 a.m.

-- GATHERING --

Chimes call us to worship Lucia Unrau

Welcome

Call to Worship Wanda Stopher

Prelude “Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain” arr. Krapf

Invocation

-- PRAISING --

***Hymn** “I know that my Redeemer lives” HWB 277

***Responsive Reading** Psalm 16: 6-11

L: The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.

C: I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

L: I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

C: Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.

L: For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit.

All: You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Special Music “Christ is Risen, Shout Hosanna” *Jubilate*

Time with Children

Hymn “Christ is alive! Let Christians sing!” (vs.1) HWB 278

Conversation Louise Matthews

Hymn “Christ is alive! Let Christians sing!” (vs.2) HWB 278

Special Music “Sonata in E Major, Movement 2” JS Bach, (1685-1750)
Eddie Martin, saxophone

Pastoral Prayer Wanda Stopher

— PROCLAIMING —

Scripture John 20:19-31 Meghan Gibson

Sermon “A mysterious knowing” Jeff Boehr

***Hymn** “We walk by faith” HWB 570

— RESPONDING —

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory “Sonata in E Major, Movement 3” JS Bach, (1685-1750)
Eddie Martin, saxophone

***Hymn of Dedication** “Lift high the cross” (vs.2) HWB 321

***Prayer of Dedication**

— SENDING —

***Hymn** “Thine is the glory” HWB 269

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

**Please stand (remain seated if that is more comfortable for you)*
HWB – Hymnal: A Worship Book STS – Sing the Story
Large-print hymnals and bulletins are available on the cabinet next to the parlor.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bluffton University's spring Instrumental Concert will be held today at 2:30 p.m. at Yoder Recital Hall. The concert will feature the Concert Band, wind chamber ensembles and a combined piece by Ralph Vaughan Williams, featuring the brass and percussion sections of the Concert Band, the University Chorale and organ, performed by Dr. Lucia Unrau. Dr. Mark Suderman will direct the combined piece.

Bluffton University will present "Sondheim on Sondheim," a musical revue, May 5-6 at 7:30 p.m. at Yoder Recital Hall. Dr. Melissa Friesen is director, and Dr. Crystal Sellers Battle is musical director. The musical revue features songs of Stephen Sondheim from various musicals. Tickets at \$15 for reserved seats and \$5 for university students are available at <http://tickets.bluffton.edu> or at Marbeck Center information desk.

Rally Point Youth Center is an afterschool ministry for youth in Lima supported by area Mennonite churches. Volunteers from FMC provide afterschool snacks several times each month. You are invited to support Rally Point on Sunday, May 7, at a chicken barbecue held at St. John Mennonite Church, 15988 Road 4, Pandora. Tickets for carry out or dine in meals are available for \$8 from Louise Matthews at 419.303.8057 or matthewsa@bluffton.edu. See poster on the bulletin board for additional information.

The Jewish and Palestinian Voices for Peace Tour will be at Lima Mennonite on Monday, May 8, at 7 p.m. Amy Schuster, of Jewish Voice for Peace Central Ohio, and Jonathan Kuttub, a Mennonite and Palestinian human rights attorney, will discuss diverse perspectives on Israel-Palestine and prospects for peace in the current political climate. For more information, see the poster on the Upcoming Events bulletin board.

The English Lutheran Church, 111 Grove St., invites all to attend the dedication of their renovated sanctuary, Sunday, April 30, at 3 p.m. Following the dedication, there will be a reception and open house.

GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS

Following a period in the hospital, Ann Shumaker is recuperating at home. She appreciates your prayers.

Welcoming Statement

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.

CHURCH COLLEGE RELATIONS SUNDAY

8:30 a.m.	Youth Choir
9:15 a.m.	Sunday school, coffee hour
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Jeff Boehr preaching
Noon	College scholarship lunch
6 p.m.	SHYF/JHYF Youth Sunday planning

THIS WEEK

Tuesday (4-25)	Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor
Wednesday (4-26)	Cherub Choir, Adult Bells, 6 p.m. Jubilate, 6:45 p.m. Youth Bells, Chancel Choir, 7 p.m.
Thursday (4-27)	Deacons, 7 p.m., parlor

NEXT SUNDAY

8:30 a.m.	Youth choir
9:15 a.m.	Sunday school, coffee hour
10:30 a.m.	Music Sunday worship

Welcome to our worship service today. Please sign and pass the friendship pads in the pews. Wireless hearing aids are available. If you would like your children watched over while you worship, our staff will care for them in the nursery downstairs. Worship activity bags for children are available.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We observe Church/College Relations Sunday today. Thank you to Jeff Boehr, who grew up at FMC and is a student at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, for bringing the sermon. Also, thanks to Eddie Martin, who is providing special music, and Meghan Gibson, scripture reader. Eddie is a sophomore from Goshen, IN, double majoring in music education and music performance. His main instrument is saxophone, but he is also a singer. Meghan is a sophomore from Pandora also double majoring in music education and music performance. Her main instrument is voice, but she is also a percussionist. Those interested in hearing about FMC's college scholarship fund are invited to attend a light lunch by MK Catering in the fellowship hall. A brief time will follow lunch with a report to highlight our Mennonite College Scholarship Fund.

Thanks to all who have offered auction items for the youth fundraising auction. Auction items include a set of 2 quilted placements, homemade desserts, the "restored" stool from the Lenten children's time, and nights of childcare. The format for this fundraiser has been changed to a silent auction. We will not be holding a formal auction event, but you will register your bids in the auction display in the fellowship hall beginning on April 30. Please let Shannon Thiebeau (fmc.shannon@bluffton.edu) know today if you have auction items to be included.

From Lavon and Carol Welty: In 2002, Dorothy Nickel Friesen invited us to attend FMC until our plans clarified for our next steps. Now after 15 wonderful years as members of FMC those plans have clarified. On Tuesday we will be moving to Goshen, IN. Thus today is our last Sunday as regular attenders here. Our new address is 1417 Hampton Circle, Goshen, IN 46526. Our cell phone numbers will remain the same (we are dropping land line service.) Our new bedroom and bath in our basement is ready for hosting any who need a place to stay while in Goshen. We wish God's blessings on FMC as it moves forward and we look forward to occasional visits back to Allen County and FMC.

Ron Headings has accepted an interim position at Westminster College in Salt Lake City, Utah. Ron will begin this new role May 1 and Linda will join him after the school year ends. Their son Jake begins an internship May 15 in Urbana, IL as part of his graduate program at the University of Illinois. Their son Luke will complete his senior year at Manchester University in Indiana next year. The Headings plan to return to Bluffton in 1 to 2 years.

Penny Power: Do you have loose change in your pockets? Drop it in the Penny Power jug in the fellowship hall to help bring water and food to third world countries through Mennonite Central Committee. Together, we can make a difference in the world.

Host homes are needed for the Central District Conference annual meeting June 22-24 at Bluffton University. The host congregations are asked to provide some accommodations for delegates who wish to stay in someone's home during the conference. This will be lodging only for Thursday and Friday night. All meals will be available at BU including breakfast. If you are interested in hosting delegates please contact Jill or Jon Hilty at 419-384-3390 or jhilty@ohioautomotive.com, or sign up at FMC in the fellowship hall. Initial deadline is April 30, although we may continue to add names after CDC registration opens.

-- Lori Nester

Summer Music -- Pianists, organists, song leaders, musicians of all ages and types: There are again opportunities for offering your musical gifts during the worship services this summer.

Opportunities include:

- Lead the singing for our opening songs
- Play piano or organ
- Provide special music during the service, vocally or instrumentally, as a soloist or in an ensemble

Please contact our Director of Music, Mark Suderman, at 419.230.5368 or at sudermanme@bluffton.edu. If you have some specific dates in mind when you could offer your musical gifts, please let Mark know. Thank you!

Hygiene Kits: MCC has made an urgent call for hygiene kits! We presently have 164 kits. Can we get 200 kits? (We are planning on ending this drive by early May.)

Hygiene Kit Contents - NEW items, in original packaging

- 1 adult-size toothbrush (individually wrapped)
- 1 large bar bath soap
- 1 fingernail clipper (good quality)
- 1 hand towel (dark color)

Content lists, bags, and fabric and directions for sewing bags are presently on the cart and bulletin board by the library. If you can sew, please continue to make bags throughout the summer. Our supply is running low and we will need around 200 for school kits this fall.

