

**Easter Two
April 3, 2016
10:30 a.m.**

— **GATHERING** —

Chimes call us to worship Laura Hartzler

Welcome, Announcements, Introductions Jason Diller

Call to Worship

Prelude “How Can I Keep From Singing?” arr. Lorie Line

Invocation

***Opening Hymn** “Come ye faithful, raise the strain” HWB 264

— **PRAISING** —

Responsive Reading Psalm 150

L: Praise the Lord. Praise God in his holy temple. Praise him in his mighty heavens.

C: Praise him for his powerful acts. Praise him because he is greater than anything else.

L: Praise him by blowing trumpets. Praise him with harps and lyres.

C: Praise him with tambourines and dancing. Praise him with stringed instruments and flutes.

L: Praise him with clashing cymbals. Praise him with clanging cymbals.

All: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord.

Special Music “Halle, Halle, Hallelujah” arr. John Bell
Cherub Choir

Time with Children

Hymn “God, who touches earth” HWB 511
(Sing v.1 and 2)

Conversation Carol Welty

Hymn “God, who touches earth” HWB 511
(Sing v.3 and 4)

Pastoral Prayer Doug Luginbill

— **PROCLAIMING** —

Scripture John 20:19-31

Sermon “Thomas--a model of faith?” Tig Intagliata

— **RESPONDING** —

***Hymn of Response** “Will you come and follow me?” STS39

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” Lloyd Larson
Adult Bells

***Hymn of Dedication** “God, whose giving” HWB 383
(Sing vs. 1)

— **SENDING** —

***Hymn** “We walk by faith” HWB 570

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

**Please stand, or remain seated if that is more comfortable for you.
HWB – Hymnal: A Worship Book STS – Sing the Story*

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

101 S. Jackson Street

Bluffton, Ohio 45817

Phone: 419-358-5766

Website: fmcbluffton.org

Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday-Friday

Pastor – Wanda – Monday-Thursday, 9-4, off Friday

Associate Pastor – Steve – Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday

Director of Youth Ministries – Shannon -- Tuesday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Custodian's schedule: 7:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.; weekends as needed

GREETERS: John and Julie Mackey, Larry and Judy Diller

HOST: Joyce Hostetler

NURSERY WORKERS TODAY: SS – Monica Harnish, Tig Intagliata, Judy Diller

Worship – Darby and Jen Benroth, Betty Sommer

NURSERY WORKERS NEXT WEEK: SS – Greg and Laura Hartzler, Carmen Ordonez

Worship – John and Julie Mackey, Elizabeth and Annalise Nisly

SOUND SYSTEM: Don Pannabecker

CHANCEL: Anita Lehman

The video of the most recent worship service may be viewed on the church's homepage, www.fmcbluffton.org. Videos normally are posted on the Tuesday following the service. Previously recorded worship service videos may be found at tinyurl.com/fmc-videos

OUR STEWARDSHIP

Worship attendance last Sunday	285
Worship attendance at Maple Crest last Sunday	4
Sunday school attendance last Sunday	No SS
Spending plan giving March 27, 2016	\$5,935.95
2016 Proposed spending plan	\$418,276.00

The offering March 27 totaled \$8,203.95. Money was received for these special funds: Deacons' Benevolent - \$1,240, MDS Detroit- \$200, MDS-20, Habitat - \$120, Kitchen service - \$13.90, Rejoice - \$83.40, Capital Campaign - \$925, Health kits-70, Easter flowers-\$18, SHYF-\$600.

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor – Wanda Stopher – 419-551-1079 -- fmc.wanda@bluffton.edu
Associate Pastor – Steven Yoder – 419-369-4753 (h) - fmc.steve@bluffton.edu
Youth Ministry Director – Shannon Thiebeau – fmc.shannon@bluffton.edu
Director of Music – Mark Suderman
Organist Coordinator – Lucia Unrau
Custodian – Mick Hardy
Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner - fmc@bluffton.edu



be with you.
As the Father has
sent me,
so I send you.”

John 20:21, NRSV

Sauder Visual Arts Center. The exhibit is a retrospective of Gregg's work over a period of 50 years. A reception from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, May 7 at the gallery. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 1-5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

All are invited to join MCC Great Lakes for a day of workshops, worship and dialogue on Saturday, April 16. Workshop topics include incarceration, conflict transformation education, immigration and racial profiling. The day begins at 9 a.m. with worship and concludes at 5 p.m. Lunch will be provided. The peace gathering will be held at Kidron Mennonite Church, 3987 Co. Hwy. 52/Kidron Rd., Kidron. For more information and to RSVP, visit mcc.org/gl-peace or contact Jorge Vielman at 574-534-4133.

Recording artist and songwriter Adam Cappa kicks off Spiritual Life Week at Bluffton University in a concert Sunday April, 10 at 8 p.m. in Yoder Recital Hall. Cappa will also lead the music during a worship service before the concert at 7 p.m. The service will include a message by Spiritual Life speaker Cyneatha Millsaps, lead pastor at Community Mennonite Church in Markham, Ill. The theme for SLW is "No Longer Strangers: Together in God's Family."

PrimeTimers will hold its monthly lunch at noon Tuesday, April 5, at St. John's Mennonite Church. This month's menu will include springtime chicken salad on a croissant, muffins, fresh fruit, chips, pasta salad and carrot cake. The event is open to all adults 55 and over and is free. Entertainment will be sacred music on piano by Nancy Thomas. PrimeTimers is a ministry of St. John Mennonite Church and Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio.

GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS

Happy birthday to Lawrence Templin, 94, April 4.

Happy anniversary to Eileen and Neil Kehler, 60, April 7.

Dear Friends at FMC: I want to especially thank the youth for moving me and my things from Maple Crest to Mennonite Home. Thanks to many other friends for their kindness and support. It's so great to be in fellowship with Christian friends. -- *John Murray*

Bob Ramseyer continues at the Mennonite Memorial Home. He and Alice Ruth appreciate your prayers and support.

Eileen and Neil Kehler will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on Thursday, April 7. Their family has requested that friends send cards to them at 807 Red Maple Court, Bluffton.

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.

TODAY, April 3, 2016

8:30 a.m.	Youth choir
9:00 a.m.	Coffee time, FH
9:15 a.m.	Christian education
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Tig Intagliata preaching
Noon	Connections class potluck, FH

THIS WEEK

Tuesday (3-5)	Morning prayers Staff meeting, 9 a.m. parlor Trustees, 7 p.m., parlor
Wednesday (3-6)	Cherub choir, 6 p.m.; Adult bells, 6 p.m. Jubilate, 6:45 p.m.; Youth bells, 7 p.m.; Chancel choir cancelled Central Christian Choir concert, Yoder Recital Hall, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday (3-7)	Worship, 7 p.m.

NEXT WEEK

9:00 a.m.	Coffee time, FH
9:15 a.m.	Christian Education; Adult Fellowship, FH
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Wanda Stopher preaching
11:30 a.m.	Children will share "Life Stories" after worship, FH

Scripture: Acts 9:1-6 (7-20); Psalm 30; Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19

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

Wanda Stopher is out of town this weekend and will return to the office tomorrow, Monday, April 4. Please call Ruth Naylor for pastoral care concerns.

Update from Steve and Janet, 03-29-16 – Frequently asked questions

Q: How is Steve doing?

A: Steve is currently able to eat a liquid diet, supplemented with high protein drinks. He walks each day, as part of his surgery rehab, and to build his strength for the heart transplant. There are good days and days that are more challenging. Steve spends most of the morning each day completing his rehab, being monitored, etc.

Q: Has Steve been moved up on the heart transplant list?

A: It's complicated. Steve is high on the priority list for a heart transplant. However, he has not yet sufficiently recovered from the total heart pump surgery.

Q: How long will Steve need to have the total artificial heart pump?

A: We don't know. Although he is high on the priority list there are several factors that will impact the time he will need to wait. First, he must regain strength from the pump surgery, and his other organs need to recover. Second, the heart transplant requires a matching process. Finally, there is no way to tell when a heart that matches will become available.

Q: Is the complete artificial heart pump powered internally?

A: The pump is implanted in Steve's chest, but there are tubes that run to an external power source that runs the pump.

Q: When will Steve be returning home?

A: We don't know the answer to that question. However, it seems clear at this point that Steve won't be returning home in the near future, and he won't return home until after the heart transplant

Q: Is Steve allowed visitors at this time?

A: Visits are not encouraged at this time, in an effort to conserve Steve's strength and to allow him to concentrate his energies on healing and recovery.

Please notify the church office to be included on an e-mail list for midweek congregational updates.

April is project month for Mennonite Women. Comforter set-up will begin on **Sunday, April 10**, at 2 p.m. in the fellowship hall, and continuing on Monday afternoon if necessary. Please consider helping with the setting up of the frames. Comforters will be ready for knotting **Monday, April 11**, at 7 p.m. Mary Amstutz's devotional will focus on the theme, "For Creative Success, the Most Important Audience is the Audience of One." Refreshments will be prepared by Louise Matthews and Julie Mackey. Knotting of comforters will continue **Tuesday, April 12**, from 9 a.m.-noon, followed by lunch together at noon, for which all knotters are encouraged to stay. If able, please bring a salad or dessert to share. Sandwiches and beverages will be provided.

Central Christian High School Concert Choir, Kidron, under the direction of Tim Shue, will perform Wednesday, April 6, at 6:30 p.m. in Yoder Hall. First Mennonite and Grace Church have been asked to provide housing and breakfast for 48 students and four adults. Signup sheets for hosting will be in Fellowship Hall. Hosts will meet their guests in the FMC fellowship hall after the concert.

SHYF reminder: This is a reminder that if your youth is planning to participate in the SWAP trip, their forms and next payment of \$100 (per child) is due **TODAY**, April 3. Checks should be payable to First Mennonite.

Bill and Susie Swartley and Susie's mother, Bea Brunk, will move to Newton, Kansas, this week. We will miss them here at FMC, but wish them well as they move west. Their new address is 9 Circle Drive, Newton, Kansas 67114.

Children and parents are invited to spend a few minutes in the fellowship hall after worship Sunday, April 10, to share pictures from their "Life Stories" books with the congregation.

Delegates are needed for the Central District Conference annual meeting June 23-25 at Columbus Mennonite Church. We can send up to 18 delegates, as well as a high school age youth delegate. If you are interested in serving as a delegate, please notify the church office (fmc@bluffton.edu or 419-358-5766.) For more information, contact Darryl Nester or Kendra Nickel.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bluffton University will hold an exhibit featuring works by Gregg Luginbuhl, professor emeritus, titled "Making My Way," April 11-May 8 in the Grace Albrect Gallery in