

20th Sunday after Pentecost
October 11, 2015
10:30 a.m.

— GATHERING —

Chimes call us to worship Lucia Unrau
Welcome, Announcements, Introductions Ken Shenk
Prelude “Beach Spring” arr. Wayne Wold

Call to Worship

***Invocation**

— PRAISING —

***Opening Hymn** “Holy Spirit, come with power” HWB 26
***Responsive Reading** Psalm 22:1-8

L: My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? Why art thou so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

C: O my God, I cry by day, but thou dost not answer and by night, but find no rest.

L: Yet thou art holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

C: In thee our fathers trusted; they trusted, and thou didst deliver them.

L: To thee they cried, and were saved; in thee they trusted, and were not disappointed.

C: But I am a worm, and no man; scorned by men, and despised by the people.

L: All who see me mock at me they make mouths at me, they wag their heads;

All: “He committed his cause to the Lord; let him deliver him, let him rescue him, for he delights in him!”

Special Music “I Want Jesus To Walk With Me” Spiritual arr. by Lloyd Larson
Chancel Choir

Time with Children

Hymn “Jesus loves me” HWB 341
(Sing through once)

Conversation Bruce Steingass

Hymn “Jesus loves me” HWB 341
(Sing through once)

Pastoral Prayer Steven Yoder

— PROCLAIMING —

Scripture Psalm 90 Ken Shenk

Sermon “High Priority” Wanda Stopher

***Hymn** “O God, our help in ages past” HWB 328

— RESPONDING —

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory “Simple Gifts” arr. Dale Wood

***Hymn of Dedication** “What gift can we bring” HWB 385
(Sing vs. 1)

***Prayer of Dedication**

— SENDING —

***Hymn** “God be with you” HWB 430

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

**Please stand, or remain seated if that is more comfortable for you.*

HWB – Hymnal: A Worship Book

STJ – Sing the Journey

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

101 S. Jackson Street

Bluffton, Ohio 45817

Phone: 419-358-5766

Website: fmclubluffton.org

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

Pastor – Wanda – Monday-Thursday, 9-5, off Friday

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

Director of Youth Ministries – Shannon -- Tuesday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

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

GREETERS: Jon and Phyllis Diller, Kevin Cluts, Mary Pannabecker Steiner

HOST: Amy Freeman and Logan Steingass

NURSERY WORKERS TODAY: SS – Kevin and Alison King

Worship – Kevin and Alison King, Kate Pannabecker

NURSERY WORKERS NEXT WEEK: Monica Harnish, Carmen Ordonez

Worship – Bruce Steingass and Amy Freeman, Sunita Hooley

SOUND SYSTEM: Art Shelly

CHANCEL: Anita Lehman

The video of the most recent worship service may be viewed on the church's homepage, www.fmclubluffton.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	271
Worship attendance at Maple Crest last Sunday (FMC DVD)	8
Sunday school attendance last Sunday	75
Spending plan giving Oct. 4, 2015	\$11,450.00
2015 Proposed spending plan	\$419,469.00
Spending Plan receipts as of Sept. 30, 2015	\$261,315.00
Spending Plan disbursements as of Sept. 30, 2015	\$283,985.00
The offering Oct. 4 totaled \$15,026.97. Money was received for these special funds: SS - \$55.31, Kitchen Service \$113, Deacons Benevolent - \$515, Capital Campaign - \$2,185, Habitat for Humanity - \$20, College Scholarships - \$50, The Mennonite subscriptions - \$455, Casket Fund - \$45.	

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 – shannonthiebeau@gmail.com

Director of Music – Mark Suderman

Organist Coordinator – Lucia Unrau

Custodian – Mick Hardy

Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner - fmc@bluffton.edu



P s a l m 9 0 : 1 2

Annual Open House: As a token of our appreciation to all sponsoring churches, the Et Cetera Shop Inc. stores will host a three-hour open house on Sunday, Oct.18. From 2-5 p.m., Et Cetera Shop, Ten Thousand Villages and Book ReViews- will offer substantial savings to shoppers. Et Cetera Shop - save 50% off on everything in the store. Ten Thousand Villages – save 25% off regular priced items and Book ReViews – save 50% off all books. Each store will have an enter-to-win and provide refreshments. Come for great deals and a head start on Christmas shopping.

Grace Mennonite Church, Pandora, will hold its annual book sale November 20-21. Congregations of area Mennonite Churches are invited to attend. If you wish to order materials or books in advance, you may do so through Jilaine Graber at Faith and Life Bookstore, Berne, Ind. She will deliver pre-ordered items to the book sale at Grace. To pre-order, e-mail or call Jilaine at info@faithandlifebooks.com or 260-589-2135. Watch for additional sale details in a forthcoming bulletin.

GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS

Happy birthday to Joan Bauman, 83, Oct. 8, and Elizabeth Shelly, 82, Oct. 10.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Christine Purves as she continues to recover from a fall earlier this week. She was hospitalized briefly but has returned to Willow Ridge. Cards may be placed in her church mailbox or mailed to her at Frieda House, 103 Willow Ridge Drive, Bluffton.

Congratulations to Lauren Paul and Joe Roberts, who were married yesterday at the Schumacher Homestead of the Swiss Historical Society, followed by a reception in FMC's fellowship hall. Lauren is the daughter of Janine and Chad Paul and granddaughter of Ron and Phyllis Friesen.

Congratulations to Abigail Schaaf and Stephen Helfenbein, on the birth of their daughter, Lydia Mabel Helfenbein, on October 5 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Her grandparents are Sue and Tom Schaaf and her great-grandparents were the late Emerson and Ruth Miller.

Mennonite Mission Network's Albuquerque Service Adventure unit is made up of Luca Hildebrandt, Elijah Lederach, Kimberly Lerche, Lily Schumacher, Austin Troyer, and leaders Bob and Sondra Tolle. Pray for them as they build relationships with each other in community and with the people whom they serve in New Mexico.

First Mennonite Church is affiliated with the Central District Conference of Mennonite Church USA. The Mennonites are named after Menno Simons, one of our early church leaders, and are rooted historically in the "Anabaptist" movement, which began in 1525, with origins in Switzerland, Germany, and the Netherlands now reaching around the world. Some primary Anabaptist convictions then and now are following Jesus Christ in service to others, rejection of violence and war, and joyful community life.

TODAY, October 11, 2015

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
Noon	Sojourner/Freudige class potlucks
2:30 p.m.	Choral and band concert, Yoder Recital Hall
6:30 p.m.	Camp Friedenswald campfire, Bluffton Village Park, all are invited
7:00 p.m.	Fred Suter, Congo Water Project, Grace Mennonite Church

THIS WEEK

Monday (10/12)	Mennonite Women, 7 p.m. Library Committee, 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday (10/13)	Morning prayers, 7 a.m., sanctuary Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor Pastor visit with MMH residents, 2:30 p.m. Stewardship, 7 p.m., 301
Wednesday (10/14)	ILR Pies and Pastries, 1:30 p.m., FH kitchen Cherub choir and Adult bells, 6 p.m.; Jubilate, 6:45 p.m.; Chancel choir and Youth bells, 7 p.m.
Thursday (10/15)	Church Council, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday (10/17)	Geiser/Owsley wedding, 2:30 p.m., sanctuary

NEXT WEEK

8:30 a.m.	Youth choir
9:00 a.m.	Coffee time, FH
9:15 a.m.	Christian Education; Adult Fellowship, FH
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Sara Wenger Shenk preaching Scripture: Job 38:1-7, (34-41); Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c; Hebrews 5:1-10, Mark 10:35-45

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 available downstairs. Worship activity bags for children are available.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PHOTO TIME: Following the worship service today, Fred Steiner will be taking photographs in the parlor. This is for new members and for individuals/couples/families who would like to have a replacement photo on the large bulletin board in the fellowship hall. We will schedule another Sunday for photos in the near future.

Everyone is invited to attend a Camp Friedenswald campfire at 6:30 p.m. today at the Bluffton Village Park shelter house. Naomi and Kevin Leary, the new program and assistant program directors at Camp Friedenswald will lead the event with camp songs and popcorn. The Learys will report on the past summer, as well as some of Camp's plans for the future. Some of our children, youth, and families will share about their experiences at Camp. Please bring lawn chairs or blankets. Rain location will be the fellowship hall.

NEW WEBSITE COMING SOON: FMC will have a new website very soon. Bluffton University senior Josh Burkholder has been working (with some help from the church staff) very diligently to create our new site. Highlights include a slide show on the home page, a calendar that updates directly from our Google calendar, links to our services on Vimeo, link to each bulletin, photos, an inquiry page, directions to the church, and sections about Sunday schools, clubs, choirs, and a password-protected "shares" page. Watch for the website to go live soon.

This year, Venture Club is for children in grades 2-5, meets twice monthly and is led by Laura and Greg Hartzler. Tonight, the children and their parents are invited to attend Camp Friedenswald campfire at the Bluffton Village Park (see previous announcement.) On Sunday, Oct. 18, Venture Club will go to Suter's Corn Maze. They will meet in the church parking lot at 3 p.m. Children should bring \$4.50 for admission. Drivers and chaperones are needed. Please contact Laura at gregphartzler@gmail.com if you are interested in helping.

Mennonite Women will hold the October program in the fellowship hall Monday, October 12, at 7 p.m. Susie Stratton, co-owner of Stratton's Greenhouse, will present "Created in the Image of God Means Being Created to Create." She is planning to have

everyone participate in creating something with plants. Elfreida Ramseyer will share a devotional with us from April Yamasaki's book, "Spark: Igniting Your God-Given Creativity." Judy Diller and Jane Weaver will provide refreshments.

"TIMBREL" MAGAZINE is published quarterly by Mennonite Women USA. Renew your subscription at a group rate of \$13 at the MW monthly meeting or with a designated check in the offering plate by November 9. (Nice gift for someone, too.) Sample copies are in the church library.

Are you interested in transferring your membership to First Mennonite Church? A new member class will be held on October 25 during the Sunday school hour beginning at 9:15 a.m. We will work with the class to schedule two more sessions. Contact Pastors Wanda or Steve if you are interested.

SHYF will host a spaghetti lunch following the worship service on Sunday, Oct. 25 to raise funds for their summer service trip. The location of our trip will be announced at the lunch. Be on the lookout for more information in the coming weeks.

Do you have an interest in our youth ministry but don't know how to get involved? Consider being a youth sponsor! The Senior High Youth Fellowship has a desire and need for sponsors for regular fellowship meetings. If you feel led to work with the young people in our congregation, please contact Shannon Thiebeau at 419-773-9446 or at shannonthiebeau@gmail.com for more information.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fred Suter of Columbus, Ohio, will give an update on the Congo Water Project at 7 p.m. today at Grace Mennonite Church, Pandora. The presentation will include pictures from his most recent trip to Congo. Interested persons from First Mennonite Church are invited to be the guests of Grace Mennonite for this occasion. An offering will be taken to support Fred's work through Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission.

The Bluffton University Music Department will host a choral and instrumental concert at 2:30 p.m. today in Yoder Recital Hall. The concert will feature Camerata Singers and the University Chorale, each conducted by Dr. Mark J. Suderman, and the Concert Band, conducted by Dr. Roy Couch. Admission is free; a free-will offering will be taken for music scholarships.