

**Peace Sunday  
First Mennonite Church  
July 8, 2018**

<b>Music calls us to worship</b>	Laura Hartzler	<b>Community Prayer</b>	Theda Good
<b>Welcome and announcements</b>	Paul Neufeld Weaver	<b>Scripture</b>	Romans 12:1-2; John 8:32, 14:6; 2 Corinthians 5:17 Ruth Early
<b>Introductions</b>		<b>Sermon</b>	“Transformed by God's Spirit of Truth” Julie Hart
<b>Prelude</b>	Laura Hartzler	<b>*Hymn</b>	“For we are strangers no more” HWB 322
<b>Call to Worship</b>		<b>Presenting our Tithes and Offerings</b>	
<b>*Opening Hymns</b>	Lynda Nyce	<b>Offertory</b>	Laura Hartzler
<b>*Responsive Reading</b>	Psalm 34:8, 11-14 (NRSV)	<b>*Hymn</b>	“God, whose giving” – verse 1 HWB 383
L: O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.		<b>*Prayer of Dedication</b>	
<b>C: Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.</b>		<b>*Hymn</b>	“New earth, heavens new” HWB 299
L: Which of you desires life, and covets many days to enjoy good?		<b>Benediction</b>	“Peace Be Unto You” <i>Choral Ensemble</i> Hebrew Melody
<b>C: Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit.</b>		<b>Postlude</b>	
<b>All: Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.</b>		<b>*Please rise in body or in spirit.</b>	
<b>Special Music</b>	Setting of Psalm 51, guitar Phil Hart	<b>HWB – Hymnal: A Worship Book STS – Sing the Story</b>	
<b>Conversation with Friends</b>		<b>Please ask an usher for assistance in locating large print hymnals.</b>	
“Come and see” (v. 1)	HWB 20		
<b>Conversation</b>	Phil Hart		
“Come and see” (v. 2)	HWB 20		

**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  
 Pastor – Theda – Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday  
 Director of Youth Ministries – Shannon -- Tuesday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thursday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.  
 Custodian’s schedule: 7:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.; weekends as needed

**GREETER:** Ann Kingsley  
**NURSERY THIS WEEK: SS** – Pat Sheidler, Shelby Cluts  
**Worship** – Andrea Goings, Amy Blount, Grace Paquin  
**NURSERY NEXT WEEK: SS** –Carmen Ordonez, Tig Intagliata  
**Worship** – Kevin Cluts, Melinda Estell, Patrick and Rebecca Estell  
**SOUND SYSTEM:** Chris Gott

**CHANCEL:** Anita Lehman

**OUR STEWARDSHIP**

Worship attendance last Sunday	FMC-158, MC-4
Spending plan giving July 1, 2018 (includes e-giving)	\$5,458.00
Special fund giving July 1, 2018 (includes e-giving): <i>Flooring-\$850; Sojourners-\$15</i>	\$1,515.75
<i>SHYF -\$25; JHYF-\$25; Kitchen service-\$5.75; Deacons benevolent-\$525; Habitat-\$20</i>	
<i>MDS-\$25; College scholarships-\$25</i>	
Total giving July 1, 2018 (includes e-giving)	\$6,973.75
Total spending plan receipts as of May 31, 2018	\$160,317.09
Spending plan expenses as of May 31, 2018	\$160,652.81
2018 spending plan	\$427,441.00

**CHURCH STAFF**

Pastor Wanda Stopher – **419-551-1079 (cell)** -- fmc.wanda@bluffton.edu  
 Pastor Theda Good – **419-549-2417 (cell)** -- fmc.theda@bluffton.edu  
 Youth Ministry Director – Shannon Thiebeau – fmc.shannon@bluffton.edu  
 Director of Music – Mark Suderman – sudermanme@bluffton.edu  
 Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner - fmc@bluffton.edu  
 Custodian – Mick Hardy



*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.*

### Sanctuary renovation schedule:

- Ongoing: Painting, pew and chair cleaning and renewal
- July 3: Lift arrived, painting of ceiling in sanctuary began!
- July 25-August 5: Construction of steps and railings
- August 6-19: Hardwood flooring put in (front of sanctuary floor and stage area), sanding and clear coating of wood floor under and in balcony
- August 20-25 or 31: Carpet installed and new rubber stairs by Church St. door

**Jonatan Moser and friends** will host a fundraising meal July 29 in the assembly room to support his work with Mennonite Voluntary Service. Jonatan will serve with MVS in Alamosa, CO, from August 2018–August 2019 as an immigrant assistant case worker and English teacher at the local Immigrant Resource Center. Alamosa’s MVS unit is located in the San Luis Valley, a high-altitude, high-poverty rural area in southern Colorado. The population is a blend of traditional Latino and Anglo settlers, plus newer immigrants from Mexico and Guatemala. If you are unable to join us for the meal at First Mennonite Church and/or would like to make a contribution you may do so to FMC, designated “MVS–Jonatan” or go to <https://mmngiving.formstack.com/forms/VoluntaryService> (MVS-write in Jonatan Moser) or you can contact Chris Moser or Carmen Ordonez for information about supporting Jonatan’s fundraising goal of an additional \$1,500 for MDS. Jonatan is thankful for direct support already received from FMC and others. We are thankful for your prayers and support in the coming year!

**More than 250 people** working in agriculture related companies in nearby Sandusky and Salem, Ohio were arrested, detained and placed in detention facilities by Immigration Customs Enforcement. Many of those now in detention were separated from spouses and children. If you are interested in how to be part of the response to those impacted by the raids, detentions, and separations, please send your email address to Lynda Nyce at [lyndanyce@gmail.com](mailto:lyndanyce@gmail.com).

**You are invited** to attend a fundraiser meal for Jill Steinmetz on Sunday, July 22 in the fellowship hall at Grace Mennonite, Pandora, from noon-2 p.m. Jill will serve with MCC SALT in San Pedro Sulas, Honduras, from August 2018- July 2019. If you are unable to attend the meal or would like to make a tax-deductible contribution toward her fundraising goal of \$5,500, go to <https://donate.mcc.org/registry/jill-steinmetz-honduras> or contact Teri Steinmetz at [steinmetzt@blufftonschools.org](mailto:steinmetzt@blufftonschools.org) or text 419-604-9109. We are so grateful for your prayers and support! (Jill is the granddaughter of Jane Steinmetz.)

~ The Steinmetz family

### *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.*

### CALENDAR

#### Today, July 8, 2018

9:15 a.m. SS, coffee time  
10:30 a.m. Worship, Julie Hart preaching, Middle School cafeteria  
Noon Sojourners/Freudige potlucks

#### July 9-14

Tuesday (7-10) Morning Prayers, 7 a.m. (prayer room upstairs)  
Staff meeting, 9 a.m.  
Trustees, 7 p.m.  
Wednesday (7-11) Stewardship, 6:30 p.m.  
Thursday (7-12) Nurture, 7 p.m.

#### Next Sunday, July 8

9:15 a.m. SS, Coffee time  
10:30 a.m. Worship, George Lehman preaching

### Reminders:

- **Check the literature rack and the Here and Now pillar in the fellowship hall for new items, including the July Prayers for Faith and Learning.**
- **Morning Prayers will be held in the prayer room upstairs throughout the summer. Fellowship will take place afterward in the assembly room.**

*Welcome to our worship service today. If you are a visitor, please sign one of our guest books located at the entrances to the sanctuary. Wireless hearing aids are available. If you would like your children cared for while you worship, our nursery is downstairs in the church. Worship activity bags for children are available.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome **Julie and Phil Hart** to First Mennonite today. Julie will deliver the sermon and Phil will provide music; Julie also spoke during Sunday school. An associate professor of sociology, peace and justice at Ohio Dominican University, Julie is a reservist and speaker with Christian Peacemaker Teams and published a book on antiwar veterans titled "Pathways to Pacifism and Antiwar Activism among US Veterans: the role of moral identity in personal transformation." Phil is a singer-songwriter and also involved with CPT. The Harts attend Columbus Mennonite Church.

**I will be taking some time off** to visit friends in Colorado. I will be gone July 9-17. Please contact Pastor Wanda with any pastoral care needs during this time. I look forward to returning to the work here at First Mennonite on Wednesday, July 18. ~ *Pastor Theda*

### Children and Youth Ministry

As announced in May, Shannon Thiebeau will conclude her work as Director of Youth Ministries on August 19. Encouraged by Church Council, Staff Relations Committee has developed a plan and gained Council approval to move toward hiring a part-time Interim Children and Youth Ministry Director. The intent of this interim position is two-fold:

- To provide coverage of youth ministry leadership in a one year interim period while the congregation explores questions of governance and structure and the implications for staffing
- To use this interim time deliberately as a time of dreaming, exploration and even experimentation regarding ways to empower and support the congregation's ministry in two areas: Children's ministry and Youth ministry

You are encouraged to read the job description posted outside the church office.

~ *Staff Relations Committee (Ken Shenk, Annette Heslep, Rich Bucher, Elizabeth Kelly, Pastor Wanda)*

**FMC youth at Camp Friedenswald July 2-7:** Theo Andreas, Kaleigh Coffman, Xavier Diller, Rebecca Estell, Benjamin Hartzler, Ellie Hartzler, Ethan Nickel and John-Paul Yoder.

**If you have not yet requested a copy** of "We Make the Road by Walking," which we will use for the 2017-18 year, sign up at the middle school cafetorium on Sunday morning or in the fellowship hall or request one at [fmc@bluffton.edu](mailto:fmc@bluffton.edu). Information about using the book is available on the literature rack in the fellowship hall.

**Governance Task Force** invites the congregation to engage with us in a process of re-envisioning our structure for organizing church life, resource management and mission. August Menno-Life will include more information as well as a timeline for congregational gatherings over the coming year. This is the work of the church, not of a small group of people. We look forward to discovering the way together!

~ *Greg Hartzler, Elizabeth Kelly, Gerald Mast, and Pastor Wanda*

**Avoid long lines and receive a coupon for a free ice cream cone** when you submit your Vacation Bible School registration to the United Methodist Church office before Friday, July 14. Download a registration form at <http://blufftonfumc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2018-VBS-Registration-Form.pdf>. This year's theme is Game On! VBS will be July 22-26 from 6-8pm. All ages will attend the opening each evening; preschoolers will then have their sessions at FMC. We need three volunteers to help with walking. For more information, contact Victoria Woods-Yee at [meaira2001@yahoo.com](mailto:meaira2001@yahoo.com) or Amber Shelly at [arshelly11@gmail.com](mailto:arshelly11@gmail.com).

**We plan to have a photo history** of the sanctuary renovation process. Leah Schroeder is our official photographer, but others may send photos to [fmc@bluffton.edu](mailto:fmc@bluffton.edu).

**Sunday morning drivers needed:** FMC needs 2-3 additional drivers and helpers for the MHCO bus on Sunday mornings. The bus transports members from Mennonite Memorial Home, Maple Crest and Willow Ridge to the church and back after church. The helper assists the driver in helping passengers on and off the bus. Interested individuals should call or text Mona Reichenbach at 419-230-9187 or call 419-358-6016 or e-mail [monalou@roadrunner.com](mailto:monalou@roadrunner.com).

**Lost and Found:** There's been a lot of moving and shaking going on around here! This is what we know about where things have landed:

- Hearing assist units are available just inside the doors as you enter the cafetorium. Please return to the container provided at the end of each service.
- Offering envelopes, worship bags, and the guest book are available inside the doors as you enter the cafetorium. Hymnals are just inside the doors to the cafetorium. Please return to the racks following worship each week.
- Sign-up sheets to receive your family copy of "We Make the Road by Walking" are in fellowship hall near the church office and just inside the doors to the cafetorium.
- Literature rack is in the fellowship hall outside the church office.
- Mailboxes are in the fellowship hall directly in front of the office door.
- MCC kit collections remain just outside the library doors.