

6th Sunday after Pentecost
June 26, 2016
10:30 a.m.

Chimes call us to worship LuAnn Stuckey, organist/pianist

Welcome, Announcements, Introductions Wanda Stopher, worship leader

Prelude “When Morning Gilds the Skies” arr. R. Hartsell

Call to Worship

***Invocation**

— PRAISING —

Opening Hymns Jackie Wyse-Rhodes, song leader

Responsive Reading Psalm 77:11-20

L: Lord, I will remember what you did. Yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago.

C: I will spend time thinking about everything you have done. I will consider all your mighty acts.”

L: God, everything you do is holy. What god is as great as our God?

C: You are the God who does miracles. You show your power among the nations.

L: With your mighty arm you set your people free. You set the children of Jacob and Joseph free.

C: God, the water of the Red Sea saw you. It saw you and boiled up. The deepest waters were stirred up.

L: The clouds poured down rain. Lightning flashed back and forth like arrows.

C: Your thunder was heard in the windstorm. Your lightning lit up the world. The earth trembled and shook.

L: Your path led through the Red Sea. You walked through the mighty waters. But your footprints were not seen.

All: You led your people like a flock. You led them by the hands of Moses and Aaron.

Special Music “Roads” Steve Dobrogosz
Sara Brenner, vocalist; LuAnn Stuckey, accompanist

Time with Children

Hymn “If you believe and I believe” STJ 32

Conversation Melinda Estell

Hymn “If you believe and I believe” STJ 32

Pastoral Prayer Gerald Mast

Commissioning of George O’Reilly Lois Johns Kaufmann

— PROCLAIMING —

Scripture Colossians 3:1-3, Revelation 2:17

Sermon “Journey Man” George O’Reilly

***Hymn** “Away with our fears” HWB 292

— RESPONDING —

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory “There Is a Balm in Gilead” arr. T. Shaw

***Hymn of Dedication** “God of the fertile fields” (vs. 2) HWB 390

***Prayer of Dedication**

— SENDING —

Sending SHYF to serve with SWAP

***Hymn** “The peace of the earth be with you” (Sing twice) STJ 77

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

**Please stand (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: fmcbluffton.org

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

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

Pastoral Associate – George – 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: Mitch and Ann Kingsley, Cheri Slotter, Diane Reichenbach

HOST: Mary Amstutz

NURSERY WORKERS TODAY: SS – N/A

Worship -- Kevin and Alison King, Kevin Cluts

NURSERY WORKERS NEXT WEEK: SS – N/A

Worship – Darby and Jen Benroth, Betty Sommer

SOUND SYSTEM: Melissa Friesen

Chancel: Bev Simon

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

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| Worship attendance last Sunday | 186 |
| Worship attendance at Maple Crest last Sunday | 8 |
| Spending plan giving June 19, 2016 | \$4,365.02 |
| 2016 Proposed spending plan | \$418,276.00 |
| The offering June 19 totaled \$7,746.82. Money was received for these special funds: Capital campaign - \$25, Habitat - \$120, Casket fund - \$50, Deacons' benevolent - \$40, Kitchen service - \$10.50, SS - \$6.30, SHYF - \$175, Steve Yoder memorial - \$2,730, Facility use - \$75, SALT (Ashton Cluts) - \$225. | |

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor – Wanda Stopher – 419-551-1079 -- fmc.wanda@bluffton.edu
Pastoral Associate – George O'Reilly – 402-619-7099 – fmc.george@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

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.



The Bluffton Food Pantry thanks all who generously consider the needs of others. Requested items for summer are: Peanut butter, Spaghettios and similar canned products like Beefaroni Macaroni and Cheese, Tuna Helper, Hamburger Helper, Taco kits, cereals, breakfast items like oatmeal and pancake mix, syrup, ½-gallon juices (orange, cranapple, apple, grape), prepared canned soups, crackers, canned peaches and mandarin oranges, baked beans, salad dressings, ketchup, mustard, salt and pepper, sugar, coffee/tea, canned meats, baking items (such as cake mixes), paper products, deodorant, feminine products, body lotions, shampoo, toothbrushes, pet foods. **Not needed at this time:** Canned green beans, corn and peas, pasta and sauces, canned beans, bath soap and toothpaste.

Brazo en Brazo: Two years ago we were introduced to Seferino y Paula Sis of Guatemala via Skype at the wedding of their son, Byron, to Emma Hernandez. This past Sunday, they were present with Brazo en Brazo to celebrate the birthdays and anniversaries for June. Today they are with the annual Encuentro Familiar at Camp Luz, Kidron, We thank God for these special relationships that develop through Brazo en Brazo. Mark your calendars for the Fiesta Familiar on September 18.

-- Paul and Ann Conrad

Submit a seminar proposal for the Orlando 2017 convention of Mennonite Church USA! Seminars provided by people from across the church are a valued program component. Do you have a 60-minute seminar you'd like to share at the July 4–8, 2017, convention? Complete the seminar submission form at convention.mennoniteusa.org/seminars.

-- MC USA

Mennonite Mission Network requests prayers for the 70 students enrolled at the Toba/Qom Bible Institute in the Argentine Chaco, who are reading the Bible in their own language as they study theology and an overview of the Old Testament. May God touch the students' lives, as many don't participate in any church.

-- MMN

GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS

Happy birthday to Lawrence Burkhalter, 96, June 30.

Gloria Hernandez Bucher had surgery June 23 at Riverside Hospital, Columbus. Surgery went well and she expects to return home on Monday, June 27. Gloria and Rich appreciate your thoughts and prayers.

Thank you to all who came and supported me at my fundraiser dinner. It was a real success and I could not be more appreciative of the love and support I received from all!

--Ashton Cluts

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, June 26, 2016

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| 9 a.m. | Coffee time, FH |
| 9:15 a.m. | Christian education; Adult fellowship, FH Option 1: Betty's Place, FH; Option 2: Bible study, AR |
| 10:30 a.m. | Worship Service, George O'Reilly preaching |
| 12:30 p.m. | Swiss Day, Ebenezer Mennonite Church |

THIS WEEK

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| Monday (6-27) | Volunteers leave FMC parking lot for Our Daily Bread, 9:15 a.m. |
| Tuesday (6-28) | Morning prayers, 7 a.m., sanctuary Swiss Historical Society board, 7 p.m., AR |
| Thursday (6-30) | Pastors meet with Maple Crest residents, 2:30 p.m., MC living room |

NEXT WEEK - PEACE SUNDAY

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| 9 a.m. | Coffee time, FH |
| 9:15 a.m. | Christian Education; Adult fellowship, FH Option 1: Jackie Wells, Strangers No More, FH; Option 2: Bible study, AR |
| 10:30 a.m. | Worship Service, Mark Rupp preaching Scripture: Colossians 3:1-3; Revelation 2:17 |

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

Thank you to LuAnn Stuckey for serving as our organist/pianist and to Sara Brenner for providing special music.

We welcome Lois Johns Kaufmann, outgoing Central District pastor, to First Mennonite today. Lois is here to lead Pastor George O'Reilly's commissioning during the worship service.

Pastor Wanda will be out of the office Monday through Wednesday, June 27-29. Pastor George will be in the office and can also be reached by phone at 402 619 7099 (cell). Please contact him with pastoral care needs.

Today we send off those participating in the SHYF SWAP service trip to Harlan, KY. Youth include Seth Andreas, Anna Biesecker-Mast, Isaac Andreas, Christopher Harnish, Antony Kingsley, Douglas Nester, Levi Schumacher, Cassidy Bush, Elizabeth Nisly. Adults include Shannon Thiebeau, Mitch Kingsley and Heather Theis. Today at 7 p.m., the group will load the vehicles in the church parking lot and make sure that everyone has the appropriate items packed. Parents are urged to be there to make sure that the leaders have accurate contact information. On Monday, June 27, the group will meet in the church parking lot at 9:30 a.m. for prayer and last minute details. They will return on Saturday, June 2.

We have received many notes from the wider church over the past month – notes sharing our loss and sadness and others sharing gratitude. As we receive them, we will continue posting the notes on the pillar near the kitchen in the fellowship hall.

Camp Friedenswald primary camp was held June 20-22 and junior high camp was June 20-25. FMC primary campers included Ethan Blount and Ollie Combs. Those attending junior high camp included Sophia Gott, Annalise Nisly, Ana Neufeld Weaver, Grace Paquin, Patrick Estell and Jacob Biesecker-Mast.

Phone number correction: Please note that Dave Moser's cell phone number is different than that printed in the directory. His correct number is 419-889-5074. New addresses for

Bess and Sara Moser are: Bess: 44 Concord Ave., # 5, Somerville, MA 02143; and Sara: 259 North St., Saco, ME 04072.

FMC will observe Peace Sunday on July 3 with the theme "Strangers no More" as we host Jackie Wells' art display of that title, and Mark Rupp as our guest preacher. Jackie's artwork highlights portraits of LGBTQ people within the Mennonite Church, including our congregation, affirming that they are not strangers but belong in our community. First Mennonite will host the art display through the month of July and we will close with a Blau Rock Cafe July 24 from 4-7 p.m. The theme of the café is "Strangers no More," although not all performances must connect to the theme. Spoken word, skits, magic, music and more are welcome. Contact wendy@mennofolk.org if you would like to perform.

Getting Started

Pastor Wanda and Pastor George are both very glad to be partnering together with the people of First Mennonite in the ministry in which you have been engaged over the years. While Pastor Wanda and Pastor George will work collaboratively together across shared areas of ministry we have together begun identifying and clarifying some of each one's responsibilities for various aspects of our work.

Pastor George will have primary responsibility in the areas of crisis care and funerals, and will serve as first contact person for calls or contacts around these areas of concern or need. Pastor George has considerable experience in these areas and knows well the importance of finding support when such concerns arise, and finds these to be satisfying arenas of ministry to use his gifts among God's people.

Please call on us as you have need or questions: Office (419) 358-5766

Pastor Wanda Stopher: Cell (419) 551-1079

Pastoral Associate George O'Reilly: Cell (402) 619 7099

May God bless and lead as we join in this partnership of being God's People together.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Swiss Community Historical Society will celebrate Swiss Day today at Ebenezer Mennonite Church. The event begins with displays of local artifacts at 12:30 p.m. and a potluck dinner at 1 p.m. Bring table service and a hot and cold dish to share. A presentation on John U. Amstutz will begin at 2 p.m. At the conclusion of the program, the Schumacher homestead, 8350 Bixel Rd., will be open for visitors.