

**Youth Sunday
May 14, 2017
10:30 a.m.**

-- GATHERING --

Chimes call us to worship

LuAnn Stuckey

Welcome, Announcements, Introductions

*Worship Leaders:
Seth Andreas, Annaliese Nisly*

Call to Worship

Prelude

“Song to the Moon”

Beth Nan

(Piano Trio: Grace Paquin, Anna Biesecker Mast, Ana Neufeld Weaver)

Invocation

-- PRAISING --

***Hymn**

“Christ is our Cornerstone”

HWB 43

Anna Biesecker-Mast, accompanist

***Responsive Reading**

L: El Shaddai, we come humbly before you this day, seeking not to walk in ways too difficult for us, nor trying to understand things beyond our grasp.

C: Let us quiet ourselves now and sit for a moment in God’s embrace.

L: Like a satisfied infant as its mother’s breast let our souls be tranquil in the embrace of El Shaddai. We sing to you, O God, for you have comforted your children.

C: Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth. Break forth, O mountains, into singing!

All: For El Shaddai has compassion on the children of her womb.

Special Music

“They’ll know we are Christians by our Love”

Douglas Wagner

Youth Bells

Time with Children

Hymn

“Firstborn of Mary!”

STS 37

Conversation

Patrick Estell, Jacob Biesecker-Mast

Hymn

“Firstborn of Mary!”

STS 37

Pastoral Prayer

Wanda Stopher

— PROCLAIMING —

Scripture

I Peter 2:2-10

Elam Suter, Jacob Biesecker-Mast

Senior Statements

*Isaac Andreas, Douglas Nester
Tad Steiner, Levi Schumacher*

--- RESPONDING ---

***Hymn**

“God of Eve, God of Mary”

HWB 492

Congregational Blessing to Seniors *(Read in unison)*

Shannon Thiebeau

May God bless you in this season of transition and grant you wisdom to perceive the path of integrity. May Christ befriend you and bring you relationships to feed your soul. May the Spirit go before you and guard your future so that you might know mercy in trouble, blessings in the ordinary, and faith in all things.

Presenting our Tithes and Offerings & Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

“Sicilienne Opus 8”

Henri Buesser

Sophia Gott, flute; LuAnn Stuckey, piano

--- SENDING ---

***Hymn**

“You shall go out with joy”

HWB 427

Tad Steiner and Isaac Andreas, violin

**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.

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: John Rich, Vicki Laird

HOST: Heidrun Awad

NURSERY WORKERS NEXT WEEK: SS – Elaine Suderman, Marilyn Bishop, Victoria Woods-Yee

Worship – Bruce Steingass, Amy Freeman, Annalise Nisly

NURSERY WORKERS NEXT WEEK: SS – Shelby Cluts, Tig Intagliata, Mitch Kingsley

Worship – Kevin Cluts, Kendra Nickel, Ellie Nickel

SOUND SYSTEM: Art Shelly

CHANCEL: Shannon Thiebeau

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	193
Worship attendance at Maple Crest last Sunday	7
Sunday school attendance last Sunday	78
Spending plan giving May 7, 2017	\$10,042.00
Spending plan receipts as of April 30	\$132,096.87
Spending plan expenses as of April 30	\$133,257.61
2017 spending plan	\$421,146.00

The offering May 7 totaled \$10,976.47. Money was received for these special funds: Pk-5 - \$9.91, Faith and Life - \$16, Young Adults - \$2, College scholarships - \$281, Habitat - \$20, Kitchen service - \$5.56, SHYF - \$400.

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor – Wanda Stopher – 419-551-1079 (cell) -- fmc.wanda@bluffton.edu

Pastoral Associate – George O'Reilly – 402-619-7099 (cell) – 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.



MCC Great Lakes is seeking a Church Relations/Material Resources Coordinator. This position relates to congregations and constituents in eastern Ohio on behalf of MCC, coordinates the MCC Material Resource Center in Kidron, speaks to congregations, schedules speakers, and represents MCC in various settings. This part-time position is .75 FTE. For a full job description, visit mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings. Individuals interested in this position should send a cover letter and current resume when they apply online by May 19. For more information or questions, contact Amber Falcón at 574-534-4133 or AmberFalcon@mcc.org

Did you know that AMBS offers tuition discounts and scholarships (\$1,500 per academic year) to current and former voluntary service workers? Enrollment must occur within five years of completion of the VS assignment. Apply now, or tap a shoulder!

GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS

Willis Sommer is scheduled for surgery on Monday, May 15, at Cleveland Clinic. Please continue to hold Willis, Betty and their family in your prayers.

A funeral service was held yesterday at FMC for Darrel Yoder, who died May 3 at Mennonite Memorial Home. Mary and her family appreciate your prayers and visits. Mary's address is 700 Maple Crest Court, N022, Bluffton.

Dorothy Houts has returned to Bluffton. Her address is 137 Vance St., Apt. 105, Bluffton, and her new phone number is 567-226-1145.

Ron and Linda Headings' new address is 1888 South 1300 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84105.

Ella Bazy has moved to Michigan. Her new address is 2520 56th St. SW, Wyoming, MI 49418. Her winter address in Arizona remains the same.

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.

Youth Sunday

8 a.m.	Youth Choir
8:15 a.m.	Jubilate
8:30 a.m.	Youth Bells
9:15 a.m.	Sunday school, coffee hour
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Youth Sunday
11:30 a.m.	Silent auction concludes; cupcake sales, FH
Noon	Freudige/Sojourners potlucks

THIS WEEK

Monday (5-15)	Et Cetera Board, 7 p.m., AR
Tuesday (5-16)	Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor
Wednesday (5-17)	Search Committee, 7:30 p.m., Room 301
Thursday (5-18)	Summer worship planning, 10:30 a.m., parlor Pastor's meeting with Maple Crest residents, 2:30 p.m., MC Council, 7 p.m., parlor
Friday (5-19)	M-L deadline, 5 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY

8:30 a.m.	Mentor-Mentee breakfast, FH
8:30 a.m.	Youth choir and Jubilate
9:15 a.m.	Sunday school, coffee hour
10:30 a.m.	Sunday worship, Wanda Stopher preaching

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

“Connecting” is one of the five priorities determined during our Congregational Discernment process. How do we connect with visitors to First Mennonite? Today we begin a new way of extending our hospitality to our guests by placing **Guest Books** at the three main entrances into the sanctuary. We ask that our visitors sign one of the guest books and include a mailing address or e-mail address. This enables me to follow up with a note of appreciation. FMC regular attenders are asked to take time to welcome guests and encourage them to sign a guest book. To simplify this process – and to focus more on welcoming guests – we have removed the Friendship Pads from pews in the sanctuary. This is an experiment; at the end of the summer, we will evaluate the process and will welcome your suggestions on how to make it more effective. – *Pastor Wanda Stopher*

JHYF and SHYF are selling cupcakes after the worship service this morning in the fellowship hall. Forgot to buy or make something for Mother’s Day? Homemade cupcakes are a great gift!

Silent Auction: Today is the LAST day to bid on items in the youth auction! Bidding ends at 12:30 p.m. today. The winning bidders can pay and pick up their items from 2-4 p.m. today, Tuesday (5/16) and Friday (6/19) from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and next Sunday (5/21) from noon-2 p.m. Any other arrangements should be made by contacting Shannon Thiebeau.

Christian Education will host a Mentor-Mentee Breakfast at Sunday, May 21 at 8:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. This breakfast is for all mentor-mentee partners and will a time to visit and discuss plans for a summer event, as well as next year’s schedule. – *Pastor George O’Reilly*

My Coins Count (MCC): Do you have loose change in your pockets? Drop it in the My Coins Count 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.

The deadline for submitting announcements for the June Menno-Life is Friday, May 19. Please send all items to Mary Pannabecker Steiner at fmc@bluffton.edu.

Our music doesn’t stop just because the choirs are taking a break!

Summer musicians are still needed: Pianists, organists, song leaders, musicians of all ages and types.

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. Thank you!

First Mennonite joins other congregations in our region (Grace Mennonite, Lima Mennonite, Cincinnati Mennonite Fellowship, Emmaus Road Fellowship, and Shalom Community) to serve as host congregations for the Central District Conference annual meeting June 22 – 24. All activities will be held at Bluffton University. The weekend will open with a golf outing and RAWTools event. RAWTools will lead worship in Founders Hall on Thursday evening. Volunteers will be needed for many tasks. Watch the bulletin for announcements about serving as host homes. We need help providing childcare for nursery- and preschool-age children. Hosts may also be needed to help with services such as set up/clean up for snack times, serving as ushers in worship, assisting guests with mobility concerns and other needs as they arise. Contact Lori Nester for more information. – *Lori Nester*

The Big Read: Join others across CDC to peruse and ponder the pages of “Trouble I’ve Seen” by theologian, blogger, and activist Drew G. I. Hart. Written for each member of the church, the book encourages new ways of seeing and discussing racism. Consider participating in *The Big Read* as preparation for the annual meeting in June where Hart will lead a plenary session and an afternoon seminar/book discussion. Consider participating in The Big Read with your Sunday school class or small group. Books and a free, downloadable study guide are available through MennoMedia: <http://www.heraldpress.com/titles/TroubleIveSeen/Praise/>.

First Mennonite has been invited to participate in the Bluffton Relay for Life June 23-24 at BFR Sports and Fitness Center. There are many ways to participate as a team or individual, by purchasing a luminary in memory or honor of a survivor, walk/run some laps and make a donation, purchase food, or bid on items at the auction. For more information, see the flyer posted on the bulletin board by the Jackson Street door.