

Pentecost
May 15, 2016
10:30 a.m.
Out of Chaos, The Spirit Creates!

— GATHERING —

Prelude	“Holy Spirit, Come with Power” <i>Tad Steiner and Isaac Andreas</i>	
Welcome, Announcements, Introductions		Christopher Harnish
Call to Worship		Douglas Nester
*Responsive Reading		
	L: Many voices compete for our attention, filling our ears, hearts and minds.	
	C: Out of our chaos, Holy Spirit, call your people anew.	
	L: Conflict bubbles over; we grab for power and dig in our heels. We are blind and cannot see the way forward.	
	C: Out of our chaos, Holy Spirit, give us new visions and dreams.	
	L: Nations posture for supremacy in this age of endless war; we build shrines to our creativity and bow down to the gods of our own thinking.	
	C: Out of our chaos, Holy Spirit, reform our hearts to worship and serve you alone.	
	L: Barriers of race, language, and gender divide us; we create divisions of class and separate ourselves from one another.	
	C: Out of our chaos, Holy Spirit, fashion your people into one new humanity.	
	L: For the coming of the day of the Lord is near,	
	C: and all who call on God’s name will be saved!	
	All: Thanks be to God!	
Invocation		Christopher Harnish
	— PRAISING —	
*Opening Hymn	“Breathe on me, breath of God” <i>Anna Biesecker-Mast, accompanist</i>	HWB 356
Special Music	“Hymnfest” <i>Youth Bell Choir</i>	arr. Mark Weston

Time with Children Hymn	“Fire of God, undying flame”	STS 103
Conversation Hymn	“Happy Birthday (Dear Church)”	Seth Andreas and Patrick Estell
Special Music	“Joshua fit the battle” <i>Youth Choir</i>	arr. Kirby Shaw
Pastoral Prayer		Wanda Stopher
Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings		Christopher Harnish
Offertory	“Bourée” <i>Isaac Andreas, violin</i>	arr. GF Handel
	— PROCLAIMING —	
Scripture	Acts 2:1-21	Dramatic Reading
Senior Reflections		Elizabeth Nisly Cassidy Bush
Youth Director Reflection		Shannon Thiebeau
	— COMMUNION —	
The Invitation		
Sharing the Bread		
Sharing the Cup		
Prayer of Thanksgiving		
	— SENDING —	
*Hymn	“You shall go out with joy”	HWB 427
*Benediction		Shannon Thiebeau and Seniors
*Postlude	“My soul cries out” <i>Anna Biesecker-Mast, violin, and Grace Paquin, cello</i>	From STS 124

**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: Monica Harnish, Lori and Darryl Nester

HOST: Mary Ann Moser

NURSERY WORKERS TODAY: SS – Hannah Combs, Lu Derstine, Sunita Hooley

Worship – Alison King, Melinda Estell

NURSERY WORKERS NEXT WEEK: SS – Megan Coffman, Kristen and Ryan Niekamp

Worship – Amy Blount, Kendra and Ellie Nickel, Annalise Nisly

SOUND SYSTEM: Melissa Friesen

Chancel: Mary Amstutz and Gary Wetherill

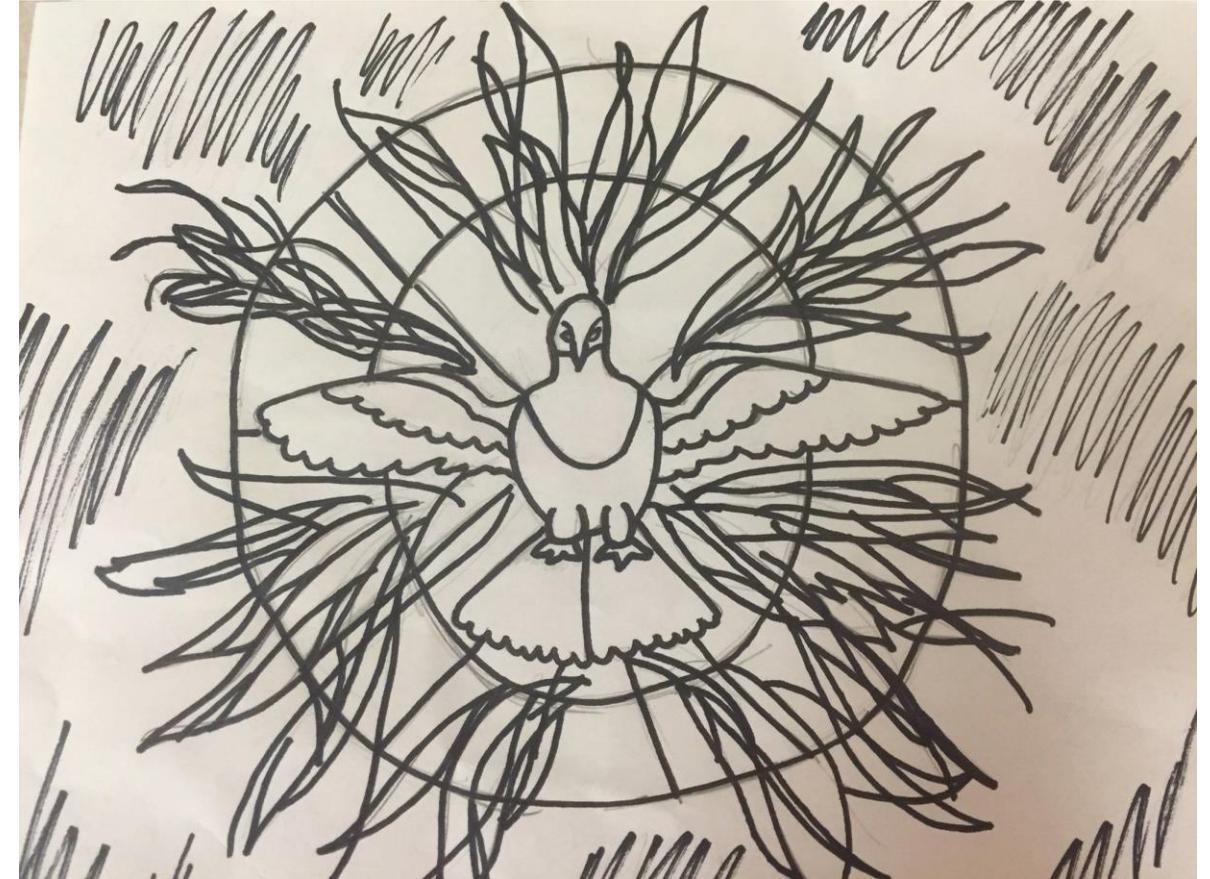
The video of the most recent worship service may be viewed on the church's homepage, www.fmcbluffton.org. Videos normally are posted on the Tuesday following the service. Previously recorded worship service videos may be found at tinyurl.com/fmc-videos

OUR STEWARDSHIP

Worship attendance last Sunday	193
Worship attendance at Maple Crest last Sunday	0
Sunday school attendance last Sunday	95
Spending plan giving May 8, 2016	\$6,533.37
2016 Proposed spending plan	\$418,276.00
The offering May 8 totaled \$8,827.11. Money was received for these special funds: Sunday school – \$62.69, Kitchen service - \$6.05, Capital Campaign - \$25, Deacons' Benevolent Special Fund - \$1,920, College Scholarships - \$150, Habitat - \$30, MCC projects - \$100, Upper Room - \$2.	

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



Youth End-of-the-Year Party – SHYF and JHYF will celebrate the end of the school year with games and fellowship from 5-7 p.m. Sunday, May 22 at Carrie and Gerald Mast's house, 177 W Kibler St. Please bring a snack/dish to share.

First Mennonite Church is in need of a substitute office worker to be trained to perform church office duties when the Administrative Assistant is absent. If interested, please visit the church office to see a job description and to pick up an application form. Applications must be submitted to the church office by May 22. -- Ken Shenk, Staff Relations

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Disciples class of Grace Mennonite Church invites all to an informational program about Mennonite Disaster Service's Detroit project **today** at 7 p.m. at Grace. Donations to MDS are needed and much appreciated. Come prepared to generously support this mission and to enjoy fellowship and refreshments. You may also donate directly to MDS online or mail checks to MDS, 583 Airport Road, Lititz, PA 17543. **Please designate Detroit in the memo line.**

GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS

Happy birthday to Helen Winkler, 90, May 18.

We offer condolences to Mary Ann Ann Kooker and her family. Clarence died May 11 at Bridge Hospice Care Center, Findlay. Funeral arrangements are incomplete.

Please pray for the family and friends of John Yoder, 18-year-old grandson of Darrel and Mary Yoder. John was one of three young people killed in an automobile accident on May 10. John is son of Mark and Debbie Yoder of Denver, CO.

Here at Camp Friedenswald, we are very thankful that David Nester is going to serve on our staff this summer. We could not make it through the summer without our summer staff. Thank you for the spiritual guidance you have provided David. Please keep David in your prayers this summer. -- Blessings on your congregation, Kevin Leary

Thank you for the many kind words and notes you sent our way after the death of my sister, Susan Lehman Sommer. Though she dealt with cancer for many years, she saw cancer as a gift because it taught her to live fully every day. She was able to find God in everything...even in the unpleasant things... -- Mary and Mike Edmiston

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, May 15, 2016

9 a.m.	Coffee time, FH
9:15 a.m.	Christian education; youth prep for worship, sanctuary
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Youth Sunday
11:30 a.m.	SHYF/JHYF cupcake sale fundraiser, FH
Noon	Community class potluck
6 p.m.	SHYF Bible study scavenger hunt, Nature Preserve

THIS WEEK

Monday (5-16)	Et Cetera Board, 6:30 p.m., AR
Tuesday (5-17)	Morning Prayers, 7 a.m., sanctuary Staff meeting, 9 a.m.
Wednesday (5-18)	Adult bells, 6 p.m.
Thursday (5-19)	Council, 7:30 p.m., parlor

NEXT WEEK

8 a.m.	Mentor breakfast, FH
9 a.m.	Coffee time, FH
9:15 a.m.	Christian Education; Adult Fellowship, FH
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Wanda Stopher preaching
5 p.m.	SHYF/JHYF end-of-year party, Mast's

Scripture: Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15

Did someone say "cake?" To celebrate the birthday of the church, SHYF and JHYF will be selling cupcakes as a fundraiser in the fellowship hall following worship today. Cupcakes will be \$1.50 each or \$8 per half dozen. Mini cupcakes will be \$.50 each or \$5 per dozen.

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

We thank Judy Steiner and Laura Hartzler for sharing their piano playing gifts and assisting us during the service today.

-- *JHYF, SHYF, Shannon Thiebeau and Carrie Mast, sponsor*

Today as part of our observance of communion, there are baskets at the doors for special offerings toward the Deacons' Benevolent Fund. These offerings assist those in need both within the church and the community.

Update on Steve Yoder: Steve remains in the Intensive Care Unit, and continues to receive dialysis. He is stable, but the challenge remains to balance the needs of all his organs and systems. We're understanding in new ways just how long and difficult this journey will be. Your love and prayers expressed in so many ways, continue to encourage us along the way.

-- *Steve and Janet*

Address: Steve Yoder, J52, c/o Cleveland Clinic, 9500 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44195.

The financial plan for Steve and Janet includes ending salary paychecks with the May payroll. Contributions to date for Steve and Janet will provide the equivalent salary support until expected disability payments begin. The procedure for contributing to Steve and Janet will also change. Effective immediately, **check contributions for Steve and Janet should be written directly to Steven Yoder.** Checks can continue to be put in the offering or given to the church office. The treasurer will deposit them into Steven and Janet's checking account. Going forward, these direct contributions are not tax deductible for the donor.

SHYF will have a Bible study scavenger hunt today from 6-7 p.m. at the Nature Preserve. Please dress appropriately and bring a device with a camera. We will meet and depart at the nature preserve by the parking lot closest to the Matthews' house.

Thank you to Joyce Hostetler for being sure that the comforters are trimmed and ready to be hemmed. Quite a few - even some from last fall's knotting session - remain in the quilt room for hemming. The goal is to finish by the end of June and start preparations for

the next knotting day in fall. Please help meet that goal and take home a comforter to finish!

-- *Mennonite Women Project Committee*

There will be a Mentor's Breakfast, Sunday, May 22, from 8-9 a.m. in the fellowship hall. We will discuss Ch. 2: You Can Be a Spiritual Guide, from "When A Teen Chooses You." This will also be a time to share ideas and activities to do with our youth.

All parents of children in the nursery, preschool and primary age groups are invited to attend a parents' meeting with the Christian Education Commission on Sunday, May 22, at 9:15 a.m. in the chancel choir room. Carol Welty and other CE members will facilitate the meeting.

As a community of faith, we know who we are in part as we reflect on the story of God's relationship to the world. We find our way as God's people here and now as we allow God's story to shape us and guide us today. Throughout this summer in worship we will reflect on some of the stories of the early church in Acts. We will open ourselves to the questions the stories invite us to consider. Please consider reading through the book of Acts in preparation, perhaps even keeping a list of your own observations and questions as you read.

Make your change count! Through MCC, we can bring life-giving food and water, sanitation and the ability to grow crops to developing countries. Deposit your donations in the jug by the mailboxes in the fellowship hall. Let's make the jug overflow before it goes to the Black Swamp Benefit.

Get ready for summer at Camp Friedenswald! This summer's theme is "Who is Wise?" and focuses on 1 Corinthians 1:18-31. Listed below is the camp schedule for the summer:

High School (Grade 9-12): June 13-18

Jr. High Camp (Grade 7-8): June 20-25

Primary Camp (Grade 1-2): June 20-22

Pre-Junior Camp (Grade 3-4): June 27-July 2

Junior Camp (Grade 5-6): July 4-9

Family Camp 1: July 11-15

Family Camp 2: July 18-22

Camperships are available from FMC to offset the cost of camp fees for children and youth; camperships for summer 2016 are \$145 for full week camps, \$90 for half-week camps. Please contact Mary Ina Hooley (hooleymi@bluffton.edu) with questions. For more information and to register, visit <https://friedenswald.org/summer-camps/> or call 269-476-9744. Parents are responsible for planning transportation for their youths' week of camp. Facebook might be a good way to create sign-ups.