

First Sunday after Pentecost
May 22, 2016
10:30 a.m.

Chimes call us to worship	LuAnn Stuckey
Welcome, Announcements, Introductions	Mark Suderman
Call to Worship	
Prelude	“Come, Holy Ghost, Lord and God” F.W. Zachau
Invocation	— PRAISING —
*Opening Hymn	“O Lord, our Lord, how majestic” HWB 112
*Responsive Reading	Psalm 8
L: Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in the whole earth! You have set your glory in the heavens.	
C: You have made sure that children and infants praise you. Their praise is a wall that stops the talk of your enemies.	
L: I think about the heavens. I think about what your fingers have created. I think about the moon and stars that you have set in place.	
C: What are human beings that you think about them? What is a son of man that you take care of him?	
L: You have made them a little lower than the angels. You placed on them a crown of glory and honor.	
C: You made human beings rule over everything your hands created. You put everything under their control.	
L: They rule over all flocks and herds and over the wild animals.	
C: They rule over the birds in the sky and over the fish in the ocean. They rule over everything that swims in the oceans.	
All: Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in the whole earth!	

Special Music	“Joshua Fit da Battle of Jericho” <i>Adult Bells</i>	Arr. Kevin McChesney
Mentor Recognition		Ellie Nickel and Paula Luginbill Carol Welty
Time with Children		
Hymn	“He came down” <i>(Sing v.1)</i>	STJ 31
Conversation		Judy Steiner
Hymn	“He came down” <i>(Sing v.2)</i>	STJ 31
Pastoral Prayer	— PROCLAIMING —	Burton Yost
Scripture		Acts 2:42-47
Sermon	“Panorama”	Wanda Stopher
	— RESPONDING —	
*Hymn	“Seeds, scattered and sown”	HWB 454
Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings		
Offertory	“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”	arr. R. Hartsell
*Hymn of Dedication	“Grant us, Lord, the grace” <i>(Sing vs. 1)</i>	HWB 388
*Prayer of Dedication	— SENDING —	
*Hymn	“Heart with loving heart united”	HWB 420
*Benediction		
*Postlude	“All Glory Be to God on High”	J.G. Walther

**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 – Megan Coffman, Kristen and Ryan Niekamp

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

NURSERY WORKERS NEXT WEEK: SS – Greg and Laura Hartzler, Sunita Hooley

Worship – Andrea and Tyson Goings, Seth Andreas

SOUND SYSTEM: Kevin Cluts

Chancel: Anita Lehman

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	191
Worship attendance at Maple Crest last Sunday	0
Sunday school attendance last Sunday	95
Spending plan giving May 15, 2016	\$5,577.00
2016 Proposed spending plan	\$418,276.00
The offering May 15 totaled \$7,429.73. Money was received for these special funds: Sunday school – \$11.75, Kitchen service - \$10.25, Capital Campaign - \$25, Deacons' Benevolent - \$52.50, SHYF – \$86, MDS Detroit - \$100, College Scholarships - \$250, Mennonite Women, 182.23, Clarence Kooker memorial - \$60, Robert Ramseyer memorial - \$500.	

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



will sing VBS songs at the Community Worship Service on Sunday, July 31, on the Presbyterian Church lawn. Our church is responsible for the preschool Bible stories (Amy Blount) and games (Shannon Thiebeau). We need four adult/HS volunteers each of the five evenings to help the preschoolers move from station to station. Please contact Mary Ina Hooley at 419-369-4040 or hooleymi@bluffton.edu to volunteer or for information. Registration forms are in the fellowship hall. Completed forms may be returned to Mary Ina.

GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS

Happy birthday to Robert Stratton, 90, May 28.

Treva Stratton was hospitalized last week with a light stroke. She returned home Wednesday and is recovering well.

Helen Winkler was hospitalized following a fall last week. She appreciates your prayers, cards and visits.

Gregg Luginbuhl was hospitalized at St. Rita's Medical Center for flu and dehydration. He appreciates your prayers and cards.

Dear FMC Family & Friends: We have appreciated your many cards, calls, visits and prayers over the past couple of weeks as we remember the life of my wonderful brother, Mark. L. Moyer. His life was full and generous as he worked to be a real servant leader for Christ. We remember him with smiles and gratitude for having had him in our lives. We ask that you continue to lift up Mark's family and all of us at this time of loss.

-- Sincerely, Mary Ann Ring & family

Thank you to everyone for the cards, spoken concern, food, and offers to help as we went through Bob's death and live with the present.. It is a wonderful blessing to be part of this loving, supportive community.

-- Alice Ruth Ramseyer and 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.

TODAY, May 22, 2016

8 a.m.	Mentor breakfast, FH
9 a.m.	Coffee time, FH
9:15 a.m.	Christian education; Adult fellowship, FH
	CE meeting for parents of nursery-primary age children, choir room
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Wanda Stopher preaching
6 p.m.	Youth end-of-the-year party, Mast's

THIS WEEK

Tuesday (5-24)	Morning Prayers, 7 a.m., sanctuary Staff meeting, 9 a.m.
Thursday (5-26)	Deacons, 7:30 p.m., parlor
Saturday (5-27)	BHS commencement, 7 p.m., BHS

NEXT WEEK

9 a.m.	Coffee time, FH
9:15 a.m.	Christian Education; Adult fellowship, FH
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Richard Bucher preaching
	Scripture: Isaiah 43:15-21, Psalm 96; Galatians 1:1-12; Luke 7:1-10

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We thank LuAnn Stuckey for serving as our organist/pianist today.

Pastor Wanda will be visiting family Friday, May 27 through Monday, May 30. For pastoral care, please contact Ruth Naylor at 419-358-6309.

The church office will be closed on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30.

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

Update on Steve Yoder: Steve remains in the intensive care unit. He is on dialysis because at this time his kidneys are not working. He is alert and eats soft food and is supplemented through a feeding tube. Physical therapy comes and helps to strengthen his body. He has limited visitors. This is an unexpected journey and now we have been here 3 ½ months...*Thank you for the many ways the congregation loves us. Steve and Janet*

This prayer was sent for Steve by a family member:

Loving God,

We pray for all who are living with illness or injury this day that they may be comforted in their suffering and made whole. When they are afraid, give them courage; when they feel weak, grant them your strength; when they are afflicted, afford them patience; when they are lost, offer them hope; when they are alone, move us to their side. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

(Adapted from United Methodist Church Service of Healing)

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 may be put in the offering or given to the church office. The treasurer will deposit them into Steve and Janet's account. Going forward, these direct contributions are not tax deductible for the donor.

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. today at Carrie and Gerald Mast's house, 177 W Kibler St. Please bring a snack/dish to share.

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 the summer we will reflect on some of the stories of the early church in Acts. We will open ourselves to questions

the stories invite us to consider. Please consider reading through the book of Acts in preparation, perhaps keeping a list of your own observations and questions as you read.

Everence has developed a series of educational resources titled "7 steps to integrating faith and finances." The resources are designed to help you identify steps for getting your financial house in order -- from a faith perspective. We encourage you to take a little time with these resources each month as a way of looking at your finances from a faith perspective. Each month, the church office will email these resource documents to those for whom we have an e-mail address. Additionally, paper copies will be available on a table near the office. Our Everence advocate is Willis Sommer.

You are invited to the Mennonite Women End of Year Fellowship Breakfast on Saturday, June 4 at 9 a.m. in the fellowship hall. There will be no specific children's activities as there are several sports conflicts that day. Fran Core will lead devotions, "Fan into Flame the Spark within You." Following devotions, we want to give opportunity for any woman to share how the flame of creativity was sparked in their lives and how they are now passing on that flame to the next generation. Please bring a breakfast dish to share, along with table service. Beverages will be provided.

Black Swamp Benefit: Volunteers are needed to work at the Black Swamp sale and auction on Friday evening, June 17, and Saturday morning, June 18, to sell meat and cheese, and Saturday morning to help carry auction items across the stage during the sale. There is also a need for people to donate baked items, such as cookies, cupcakes, bread and cakes. This is a good opportunity for families to join in on the excitement for raising funds for MCC and Sunshine Homes. If you can help, please contact John Rich.

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.

Community Vacation Bible School will be held at Emmanuel UCC, 8375 Phillips Rd, July 24-28, from 6-8 p.m. for preschool through grade 5. The program is "Deep Sea Discovery -- where kids will know that God is always with them!" Get ready to dive into a life-changing adventure that leads kids deeper into God's love! At Deep Sea Discovery kids will participate in the large-group excitement of Celebration Reef, and in small groups experience God's Word at S.S. Discovery, learn ways to serve others at E.C.H.O Sea Sub, explore the mysteries of the sea through crafts and science at Curiosity Cavern, and enjoy snacks and games at Pelican Pier. There's even a place for little puddle jumpers (preschoolers) at Tide Pool Play Land. Following the week of VBS, the children