

**Second Sunday after Pentecost**  
**May 29, 2016**  
**10:30 a.m.**

**Chimes call us to worship** LuAnn Stuckey

**Welcome, Announcements, Introductions** Jonathan Andreas

**Call to Worship**

**Prelude** “Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior” arr. D.N. Johnson

**Invocation**

— PRAISING —

**\*Opening Hymn** “All people that on earth do dwell” HWB 42

**\*Responsive Reading** Psalm 96

L: Sing a new song to the Lord. All you people of the earth sing to the Lord.

**C: Sing to the Lord. Praise him. Day after day tell about how he saves us.**

L: Tell the nations about his glory. Tell about the wonderful things he has done.

**C: The Lord is great. People should have respect for him as the greatest God of all.**

L: All the gods of the nations are like their statues. They can’t do anything. But the Lord made the heavens.

**C: Glory and majesty are all around him. Strength and glory are in his temple.**

L: Praise the Lord, all you nations. Praise the Lord for his glory and strength.

**C: Praise the Lord for the glory that belongs to him. Bring an offering and come into the courtyards of his temple.**

L: Worship the Lord because of his beauty and holiness. All you people of the earth, tremble when you are with him.

**C: Say to the nations, “The Lord rules.” The world is firmly set in place. It can’t be moved. The Lord will judge the people of the world fairly.**

L: Let the heavens be full of joy. Let the earth be glad. Let the ocean and everything in it roar.

**C: Let the fields and everything in them be glad. Let all the trees sing for joy.**

**All: Let all creation be full of joy in front of the Lord, because he is coming to judge the earth. He will faithfully judge the people of the world in keeping with what is right.**

**Time with Children**

**Hymn** “He came down” STJ 31  
*(Sing v.1)*

**Conversation** Jeff Gundy

**Hymn** “He came down” STJ 31  
*(Sing v.3)*

**Pastoral Prayer** Don Pannabecker

— PROCLAIMING —

**Hymn** “Longing for light” STJ 54

**Scripture** Isaiah 43:16-21

**Sermon** “Being Led by God” Richard Bucher

— RESPONDING —

**\*Hymn** “This is a day of new beginnings” HWB 640

**Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory** “Let All Things Now Living” arr. D.E. Wagner

**\*Hymn of Dedication** “Grant us, Lord, the grace” HWB 388

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

— SENDING —

**\*Hymn** “God be with you” HWB 430

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

*\*Please stand (or remain seated if that is more comfortable.)*  
*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](http://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

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**GREETERS:** Gayle Trollinger, Steve and Christopher Harnish, Isaac Andreas

**HOST:** Mary Ann Moser

**NURSERY WORKERS TODAY:** SS – Greg and Laura Hartzler, Sunita Hooley

*Worship* – Andrea and Tyson Goings, Seth Andreas

**NURSERY WORKERS NEXT WEEK:** SS – *No nursery available*

*Worship* – John and Julie Mackey, Sunita Hooley

**SOUND SYSTEM:** Chris Moser

**Chancel:** Mary Amstutz

*The video of the most recent worship service may be viewed on the church's homepage, [www.fmcbluffton.org](http://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](http://tinyurl.com/fmc-videos)*

### OUR STEWARDSHIP

Worship attendance last Sunday 201

Worship attendance at Maple Crest last Sunday N/A

Sunday school attendance last Sunday 94

Spending plan giving May 22, 2016 \$5,623.00

2016 Proposed spending plan \$418,276.00

The offering May 22 totaled \$6,924.51. Money was received for these special funds: Sunday school – \$73.51, Capital Campaign - \$40, Deacons' Benevolent - \$25, SHYF SWAP - \$350, MCC Black Swamp - 30, College Scholarships - \$33, Robert Ramseyer memorial - \$50, Casket fund - \$450, Kitchen Services - \$250.

### CHURCH STAFF

Pastor – Wanda Stopher – 419-551-1079 -- [fmc.wanda@bluffton.edu](mailto:fmc.wanda@bluffton.edu)

Associate Pastor – Steven Yoder – 419-369-4753 (h) - [fmc.steve@bluffton.edu](mailto:fmc.steve@bluffton.edu)

Youth Ministry Director – Shannon Thiebeau – [fmc.shannon@bluffton.edu](mailto:fmc.shannon@bluffton.edu)

Director of Music – Mark Suderman

Organist Coordinator – Lucia Unrau

Custodian – Mick Hardy

Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner - [fmc@bluffton.edu](mailto:fmc@bluffton.edu)



and enjoy snacks and games at Pelican Pier. There's even a place for preschoolers at Tide Pool Play Land. Following the week of VBS, the children 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](mailto:hooleymi@bluffton.edu) to volunteer or for information. Registration forms are in the fellowship hall. Completed forms may be returned to Mary Ina.

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PrimeTimers will hold its** monthly lunch Tuesday, June 7 at noon at St. John Mennonite Church, 15988 Road 2, Pandora. The menu will include hamburgers/hot dogs, macaroni salad, baked beans, watermelon and cake. Wendy Chappell-Dick will entertain with dulcimer music. PrimeTimers is a free luncheon for those 55 and older. It is a ministry of Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio and St. John Mennonite.

### GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS

**Happy birthday to** Mary Ann Kooker, 86, June 1, and Esther Brauen, 86, June 2.

**Happy anniversary to** Phyllis and Ron Friesen, 55, June 2.

**In our prayers...**

- \* **Marlyce and Jeff Gundy and their family.** Rudy Martens, father of Marlyce, died on Monday, May 23, in Surrey, British Columbia. He was 90. A memorial service will be held in Surrey in July.
- \* **Rich and Gloria Bucher and their family.** Rich's mother, Lucille Bucher, died May 24 at Mennonite Memorial Home. Services were held Friday at Grace Mennonite Church, Pandora.
- \* **Gregg Luginbuhl,** who returned to St. Rita's Medical Center last week for treatment of pneumonia.

### 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 29, 2016

9 a.m.	Coffee time, FH
9:15 a.m.	Christian education; Adult fellowship, FH
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Richard Bucher preaching
2-5 p.m.	Cassidy Bush graduation party, FH

### THIS WEEK

Monday (5-30)	<b>Memorial Day, Office Closed</b> Elizabeth Nisly graduation party, 2-4 p.m.
Tuesday (5-31)	Morning prayers, 7 a.m., sanctuary Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor Swiss Historical Society, 7 p.m., AR
Thursday (6-2)	Worship, 7 p.m., parlor
Saturday (6-4)	Mennonite Women end-of-year breakfast, 9 a.m., FH

### NEXT WEEK, CAMP FRIEDENSWALD DAY

9 a.m.	Coffee time, FH
9:15 a.m.	Christian Education; Adult fellowship, FH
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Jenna Liechty preaching <b>I Corinthians 1:18-31</b>

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 welcome Richard Bucher** as our guest preacher today. Rich will portray Joseph Stuckey, the prominent Amish bishop in central Illinois from 1864-1902. He was instrumental in leading his people to join the Mennonite Church in the 1870s.

**Pastor Wanda** is visiting family 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.

**Update on Steve Yoder:** Steve remains in ICU at Cleveland Clinic. He has moved from receiving dialysis continuously to intermittent dialysis. His current status on the heart transplant list is Temporarily Inactive. As always, thank you for your continued support on this journey and for your prayers.

-- 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 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.

**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.

**The Nisly family** invites you to join in an open house to celebrate Elizabeth's graduation from high school on Monday, May 30, from 2-4 p.m. in the church fellowship hall.

**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. We have also placed some paper copies on a table in the fellowship hall. Our Everence advocate is Willis Sommer.

**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 "Make your change count" jug by the mailboxes in the fellowship hall. Let's make the jug overflow before it goes to the Black Swamp Benefit. **\*\*Mark your calendar:** Sunday, June 12, we will have a "noisy" offering to collect your coins for MCC water and food programs. Bring your coins to dump into cans as we pass them down the pews, then empty them into the big container for **My Coins Count**.

**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