

26th Sunday after Pentecost
November 13, 2016
10:30 a.m.

Chimes call us to worship Lucia Unrau, pianist/organist

Welcome, Announcements, Introductions Tig Intagliata, worship leader

Prelude “Praise and Thanksgiving” arr. Dale Wood

Call to Worship

***Invocation**

— PRAISING —

***Opening Hymn** “Come and give thanks to the Giver” HWB 57

***Responsive Reading** Isaiah 65:17-18, 24-25

L: For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.

C: But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.

L: Before they call I will answer,
while they are yet speaking I will hear.

All: The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent -- its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

Special Music “Kyrie Eleison” Becki Slagle Mayo
Jubilate

Time with Children
Hymn

“We plow the fields and scatter” (verse 1) HWB 96

Conversation

Kendra Nickel

Hymn

“We plow the fields and scatter” (verse 2) HWB 96

Pastoral Prayer

George O’Reilly

Special Music

“The Smallest Things”
Chancel Choir James E. Clemens

— PROCLAIMING —

Scripture

Isaiah 62:1-4

Sermon

“Watershed Discipleship and Standing Rock” Todd Wynward

***Hymn**

“For the healing of the nations” HWB 367

— RESPONDING —

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

“This is My Father's World” arr. Mark Hayes

***Hymn**

“God, whose farm is all creation” (verse 1) HWB 391

***Prayer of Dedication**

— SENDING —

***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
Large-print hymnals and bulletins are available on the cabinet next to the parlor.
Please ask an usher if you need assistance.

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: Ruth Naylor, Rich and Gloria Bucher

HOST: Mary Anne Moser

NURSERY WORKERS TODAY: SS – Anita Lehman, Carmen Ordonez, Victoria Woods-Yee

Worship – Sabrina and Kurt Longworth, Anna Biesecker-Mast, Grace Paquin

NURSERY WORKERS NEXT WEEK: SS - Amy Freeman, Mary Pannabecker, AR Ramseyer

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

SOUND SYSTEM: Melissa Friesen

CHANCEL: Wendy Chappell-Dick

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 205

Worship attendance at Maple Crest last Sunday 6

Sunday school attendance last Sunday 80

Spending plan giving Nov. 6, 2016 \$9,009.00

2016 Proposed spending plan \$418,276.00

The offering Nov. 6 totaled \$10,374.66. Money was received for these special funds: Grades K-5 - \$9.49, Sojourners - \$24, Faith and Life - \$14, Freudige - \$50, Young adults - \$17, Capital campaign - \$200, Kitchen services - \$468.17, Deacon's Benevolent - \$20, College scholarships - \$183, Gregg Luginbuhl memorial - \$355, Anna Balmer memorial - \$25.

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 - 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.



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Grace Mennonite Church, Pandora, invites you to attend its annual book sale, bake sale and benefit breakfast on Friday and Saturday, November 18-19. Beginning on Friday at 6:30 p.m., Faith and Life Books will have books, gift items and CDs for sale and the MYF will hold a bake sale. A pancake and sausage breakfast will be served from 8:30-10 a.m., with proceeds to benefit Rally Point Youth Center in Lima. The book and bake sales continue Saturday from 9-11 a.m.

Bluffton University will hold a Holiday Concert featuring the concert band and several instrumental ensembles at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 20 in Yoder Recital Hall. The Concert Band, under the direction of Dr. Roy Couch, assistant professor of music, will perform several selections including *On This Day*, *Star Above*, *Shine Brightly*, *Twas the Night Before Christmas* with a narrator, and a medley of Christmas pop favorites. The instrumental chamber ensembles will also perform.

An exhibit, “Witnessing Martyrdom: The Dramatic Art of Jan Luyken” is on display at Musselman Library, Bluffton University, through November 22. The focus of the exhibit is one of the newly discovered original copper plates used by Jan Luyken to create the images for the 1685 edition of *Martyrs Mirror*. Carrie Phillips, exhibit curator, will present the exhibit catalogue tonight, Nov. 13, at 7 p.m. in Musselman. A readers theatre, “I Have Not Forsaken the Word of God: Jacques d’Auchy’s Confessional Struggle,” will be presented Sunday, Nov. 20, at 7 p.m. in Ramseyer Auditorium.

GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS

Please remember the family of Doris Hamman, who died November 9 at Frieda House, Willow Ridge. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. November 14 at First Mennonite. The family will receive friends following the service and all are invited to stay for a meal and fellowship with the family. A private burial will take place in Ebenezer Mennonite Cemetery.

Please remember TR and Judy Steiner and their family in your thoughts and prayers. TR’s father, Ralph Steiner, Jr., died November 3 at Bridge Hospice Care Center, Findlay. Services were held November 12 at Chiles-Laman Funeral & Cremation Services, Bluffton.

Adan Ortiz continues to face health issues and is in need of transportation to appointments. If you are available as a driver, please call Adan at 419.358-0955.

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, NOVEMBER 13, 2016

8:30 a.m.	Youth Choir
9:15 a.m.	Christian education; coffee hour, FH
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Todd Wynward preaching
Noon	Freudige/Sojourners potlucks

THIS WEEK

Monday (11-14)	Memorial service for Doris Hamman, 11 a.m. Mennonite Women project night, 7 p.m.
Tuesday (11-15)	Morning prayers, 7 a.m., sanctuary Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor MW comforter knotting, 9 a.m.-noon
Wednesday (11-16)	Adult Bells, 6 p.m. Youth Bells, Chancel Choir, 7 p.m.
Thursday (11-17)	Congregational Discernment Team, 5 p.m., parlor Community meal, Senior Center, 6 p.m. Council, AR, 7 p.m.
Friday (11-18)	SHYF leaves for Camp F. work weekend

NEXT WEEK

8:30 a.m.	Youth Choir
9:15 a.m.	Christian education; coffee hour, FH
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, George O’Reilly preaching Communion, Noisy Offering

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 Todd Wynward as our preacher today. Wynward is an author, educator, small-scale farmer, wilderness trip leader and Mennonite minister for watershed discipleship affiliated with Mountain States Mennonite Conference. He has been engaged in education reform and social change movements for 20 years and has spent more than one thousand nights outdoors. He and his wife, Peg, founded a wilderness-based public charter school in 2001 and are now creating TiLT, an incubator for earth-honoring, society-changing, despair-erasing Christianity in Taos, NM. His recent book, *Rewilding the Way: Break Free to Follow an Untamed God*, was published by Herald Press. Find more of his writings and doings at taostilt.org and rewildingtheway.com.

Pastor Wanda is out of the office through today. She and Bret are attending their grandson's dedication. Wanda will return to the office on Monday, Nov. 14. Please see Pastor George for pastoral care needs.

The Congregational Discernment Team asks for your help in our ongoing efforts to identify the pastoral leadership needs of our congregation. To understand the identity of First Mennonite Church, we must share our stories with each other, to know our shared story. As part of developing an understanding of our collective past experience, the CDT asks that you, the congregation, complete the two questions on the bulletin insert and then pin your insert to the Blessings Board in the fellowship hall.

November is project month for Mennonite Women, who will knot comforters in the fellowship hall Monday, Nov. 14, at 7 p.m. and Tuesday, Nov. 15, 9 a.m.-noon. On Monday night, the devotional focus will be "Wading in Water" led by Anita Lehman, and Ellie Unruh and Heidrun Awad will provide refreshments. Tuesday noon we will have a presentation by Martha Rothey, who works for the Blanchard Valley Health Foundation. She will speak about the services available at the new Bluffton Hospital Women's Center. This center is important in making the hospital viable. Following knotting on Tuesday, all participants are invited to stay for lunch. Please bring a salad or dessert and table service. Soup, bread and beverages will be provided. Please consider helping with set-up on Sunday at 2 p.m. and on Monday afternoon, if necessary.

Only one month ago the Capital Campaign was short \$9,800. We have received almost \$3,000 since then to reduce this shortage. This is good news, as we do the final "wrap." If anyone would like to still make a contribution, please do. Thank you for support.

-- Stewardship Commission

Next Sunday in the worship service we will receive communion together, an act of faith and love. The service we anticipate is a communion of the reality that in Christ we are made one body, and together we make him present in the world. In preparation we are invited to examine our own hearts, to reconsider and renew our commitment to Jesus, the supper's host; and to one another, our sisters and brothers in Christ Jesus. The Prayer of Confession (*see insert*) offers a way for us to share in common our preparation this week. Another aspect often overlooked is the giving of alms. This is done at FMC by giving to the Deacons Benevolent Fund. Almsgiving is a way of demonstrating how our life together is energized by the life and ministry of Jesus when he healed the sick, fed the hungry and brought relief to the poor. We seek to live faithfully by using our Deacons Benevolent Fund to assist those who have need within the church and in the community.

Get ready to shake and rattle your coins during our Noisy Offering, which supports the Sunshine Community and MCC Black Swamp Benefit. Collect your coins and let them roll into our noisy cans on Sunday, Nov. 20. **Teachable moment for parents and children:** How about a bank visit with Mom or Dad to see how many pennies make a roll of pennies or how paper money turns into a roll of coins? Check this out before the Noisy Offering, and then tell us about your bank visit.

-- Stewardship Commission

A Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 1, from 1-6 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Volunteers are needed for this event: If you can provide cookies, help with registration, make sandwiches, help serve food, or unload and load the truck with their equipment, add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. **To schedule your blood donation appointment**, call 1-800-RED-CROSS or go to redcrossblood.org, sponsor code "fmenncbl."

Wendy and Andy Chappell-Dick expect one to five children to join their household in the coming months. They hope to create a team from FMC who can help with tasks like shopping, transportation, and play dates. If you want to learn more about what the community can expect from the new energy and experiences these children will bring, please meet with Wendy and Andy on Sunday, Nov. 20 at 4 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

The FMC Thanksgiving dinner begins at noon on Thursday, Nov. 24. Please contact Lori Nester (419-358-9650 or nesterl@bluffton.edu) to RSVP and to sign up to bring a dish. Donations will be taken to cover general expenses, with surplus funds to be donated to the Deacons Benevolence Fund.