

Camp Friedenswald Day
September 25, 2016
10:30 a.m.

Chimes call us to worship Lucia Unrau, organist

Welcome, Announcements, Introductions Kevin Nickel, worship leader

Prelude “In Our Day of Thanksgiving” arr. Anne Krentz-Organ

Call to Worship

***Invocation**

— **PRAISING** —

***Opening Hymn** “For the beauty of the earth” HWB 89

***Responsive Reading**

L: You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,

C: will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.”

L: For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence;

C: he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

L: You will not fear the terror of the night, or the arrow that flies by day,

C: or the pestilence that stalks in darkness, or the destruction that wastes at noonday.

L: Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name.

C: When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them.

All: With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

Special Music “The Earth Adorned” Waldemar Ahlen
Chancel Chor

Time with Children

Hymn “Jesus loves me” HWB 341

Conversation Naomi Leary

Hymn “Jesus loves me” HWB 341

Presentation of key chains Shannon Thiebeau
Isaac Strahan, Seth Andreas and Andrew Raeburn

Special Music “Blessed Savior, we adore thee” (From HWB 107)
Youth Choir

Pastoral Prayer George O'Reilly

— **PROCLAIMING** —

Scripture 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Sermon “Who is Wise?” Jenna Liechty

***Hymn** “Strong Son of God, immortal Love” HWB 488

— **RESPONDING** —

Presenting Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory “Now” arr. Albert Winan

***Hymn of Dedication** “Praise God from whom” (verse A) HWB 119

***Prayer of Dedication**

— **SENDING** —

***Hymn** “Morning has broken” HWB 648

***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: Gayle Trollinger, Carlin and Sharon Carpenter, Walt Paquin

HOST: Joan Diller

NURSERY WORKERS TODAY: SS – Shelby Cluts, Monica Harnish, Carmen Moser

Worship – Kevin and Alison King, Kevin Cluts

NURSERY WORKERS NEXT WEEK: SS – Hannah Combs, Lu Derstine, Tig Intagliata

Worship – Darby and Jen Benroth, Betty Sommer

SOUND SYSTEM: Kevin Nickel

CHANCEL: 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 241

Worship attendance at Maple Crest last Sunday 6

Sunday school attendance last Sunday 95

Spending plan giving September 18, 2016 \$5,772.00

2016 Proposed spending plan \$418,276.00

The offering Sept. 18 totaled \$6,454.71. Money was received for these special funds: Grades K-5 - \$10.14, Sojourners - \$16, Young Adults - \$5, college scholarships - \$100, kitchen service - \$5.40, Deacons benevolent - \$20, The Mennonite subscriptions - \$518, Mennonite Women comforter project - \$300.

CHURCH STAFF

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

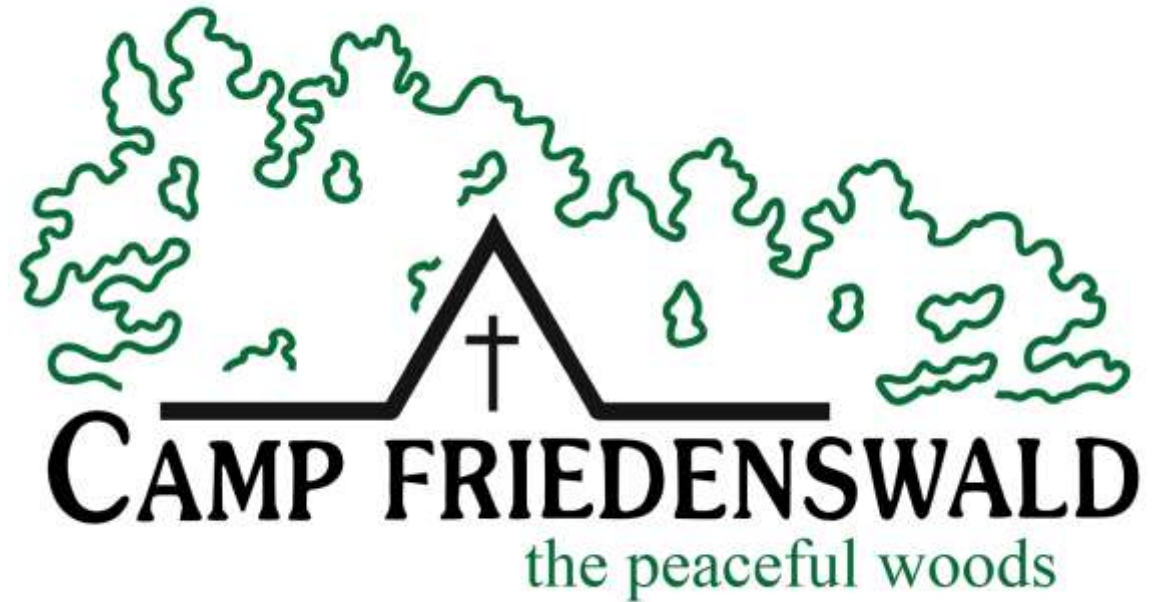
Pastoral Associate – George O'Reilly – 402-619-7099 (cell) – fmc.george@bluffton.edu

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.



dissertation on the role of Central American Mennonite churches in peacemaking. For more information contact Paul Neufeld Weaver at weaverpn@bluffton.edu.

Brazo en Brazo: Attendees at Fiesta Familiar last Sunday enjoyed great weather and the music of the “Amigos de Bluffton.” We send “Muchísimas gracias (Many, many thanks) for your support and participation in the work with the Spanish population these 12 years. May your support continue and may the trees that we planted remind you of your congregation “rooted” and growing in your own geographical area. May the peace pole we dedicated be a symbol of the work of the Holy Spirit forming communities of grace, joy and peace, a place also for newcomers.
-- Paul and Ann Conrad

GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS

As you identify concerns for prayer or expressions of gratitude for kindnesses, we list those here. Please let us know what we may share for you.
– FMC staff

Happy birthday to Alice Ruth Ramseyer, 87, September 27.

To our loving and caring church family: We would like you to remember us in your prayers as Ron has been diagnosed with Stage 4 pancreatic cancer.
-- Thank you, Ron and Phyllis Friesen

Gregg Luginbuhl has been moved to St. Rita’s Hospice Care. The family appreciates your continuing prayers.

Adan Ortiz continues to face health concerns and appreciates your prayers. He will need transportation to Columbus for treatment on Monday, Oct. 10. Anyone available to drive him to that appointment should contact Adan at 419.358.

I was saddened to learn in early August that my dad, Murray, has cancer. He decided not to have surgery to remove the growth on his neck. He is receiving palliative radiation treatment instead. My family appreciates your ongoing prayer support. *Cards may be sent to Murray at #405, 1414 King St. E., Kitchener, Ontario, N2G 4T8, Canada.
-- Louise Wideman

FMC: Thank you for the potluck last Sunday. The food was good and I had fun talking to members of the congregation. I enjoyed worshipping with you last year, look forward to more this year and had fun getting to know some of you better last summer at camp.
-- Blessings, Justin Berg, sophomore, Bluffton University

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, SEPT. 25, 2016

8:30 a.m.	Youth Choir
9:15 a.m.	Christian education; coffee hour, FH
10:30 a.m.	Worship Service, Jenna Liechty
7 p.m.	Camp Friedenswald facility update, FH

THIS WEEK

Monday (9-26)	Our Daily Bread, 9:45 a.m.
Tuesday (9-27)	Morning prayers, 7 a.m., sanctuary Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor FIRST Night, 6 p.m., FH Swiss Historical Society, 7 p.m., AR
Wednesday (9-28)	Cherub Choir, Adult Bells, 6 p.m. Jubilate, 6:45 p.m. Youth Bells, Chancel Choir, 7 p.m.

NEXT WEEK, WORLD COMMUNION DAY

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 during worship
Noon	Connections potluck, FH

Today we observe Camp Friedenswald Day. We welcome Jenna Liechty Martin, executive director, as our guest preacher. Welcome also to Naomi Graber Leary, camp program director, who will lead the children’s time.

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

Pastor Wanda will be out of the office Friday, 09-23-16 through Friday, 09-30-16. She and Bret are visiting family. Please contact Pastor George for pastoral care needs.

Have you heard about the exciting plans for renewing Camp Friedenswald's oldest facilities, including the boys' cabins, chapel and guest house? You're invited to join camp staff today at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall to see the latest pictures, videos and plans. Hope to see you there!
-- Jenna Liechty Martin

FIRST Night will resume on Tuesday, Sept. 27, with a few changes from past years. We will gather on the last Tuesday of the months September, October, January, February, and March. Meals begin at 6 p.m. and programs at 6:30. The price per meal remains \$4 per person or \$12 per family. **Tickets for just the Sept. 27 dinner will be sold in Fellowship Hall today and in the church office until noon Monday. No reservations will be accepted after noon on Monday.** The menu will include meat and vegetarian lasagnas, tossed salad, frozen fruit w/yogurt and cookies or bars. **Please bring your own table service – including cups and silverware.**

NEEDED: Individuals and/or couples to serve as greeters for the months of October and November. There is sign-up sheet on the table by the church office in the fellowship hall. Please direct all questions to Mary Amstutz.

Are you new to First Mennonite Church? Do you want to know more about the church? Are you interested in exploring or refreshing your memory regarding what it means to be a member of this congregation? If so, you're invited to attend a membership class that will be held during the Sunday school hour at 9 a.m., October 9, 16, 23, and 30. Contact Pastor Wanda or Pastor George if you are interested.

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 below is offered as 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.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, take from us all obstacles that take room from you in our hearts. Forgive our sins, heal our diseases. Restore to us the joy of our salvation. Give those we have sinned against, grace to forgive us and give us grace to forgive those who have sinned against us. Make this holy Supper a foretaste of eternal life with you. Amen.

*-- John D. Rempel, New York City
From Words for Worship; used by permission of Herald Press*

Interplay, a workshop for mentors and mentees, will be held Saturday, Oct. 22 from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Interplay helps to integrate body, mind, heart and spirit, with movement, stories, silence and song. We will be exploring our spiritual lives. Nancy Banman and Stan Scott will lead the workshop. We hope all mentor and mentee pairs can attend.
-- Carol Welty

School Kits: We will collect kits and supplies through the end of September. Our goal is 200 kits, so if you have not yet purchased supplies or are feeling extra generous, please consider contributing. Supply lists and bags are by the bulletin board in fellowship hall. We also have bag material and some precut bag kits for anyone interested in sewing bags. *A reminder – rulers must be flexible to prevent breaking in shipping. We recently received a thank you note from MCC for the 73 health kits our church contributed last spring. Thanks for your generosity.
-- Jean Miller and Sue Schaaf

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mennonite Disaster Service: The work in Detroit from the August 2014 flood continues this fall. Volunteers from First and Grace Mennonite churches are asked to serve in Detroit the week of November 13-18. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, contact Lawrence Matthews at 419.303.8056.

Willi Hugo Perez will speak on "Christians Making Peace in Central America" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27 in Centennial Hall, Bluffton University. Perez is the President of the SEMILLA, The Latin American Anabaptist Seminary in Guatemala, which serves churches in nine countries. Perez's presentation is based on work he did for his doctoral