

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Weekly Announcements 1-20-2019

First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817
419-358-5766 | fmcbluffton.org | Office open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday-Friday

- Pastor Wanda Stopher -- Monday-Thursday, 9-4, off Friday; 419-551-1079 (cell); fmc.wanda@bluffton.edu
- Pastor Theda Good -- Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday; 419-549-2417 (cell); fmc.theda@bluffton.edu
- Interim Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, M-F, 8-10 a.m., mastc@bluffton.edu
- Director of Music – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 (cell); sudermanme@bluffton.edu
- Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, M-F, 9-4, fmc@bluffton.edu
- Custodian – Mick Hardy, 7:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., weekends as needed

Calendar

Today, Sunday, January 20, 2019

9:15 a.m. SS, coffee time
10:30 a.m. Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching
4-7 p.m. Mapping New Path
Together, fundraiser supper provided by youth, childcare available

January 20-26, 2019

Monday (Jan. 21) MLK Day, office closed
Et Cetera Board, 7 p.m.
Tuesday (Jan. 22) Morning prayers, 7 a.m.
Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor
Wednesday (Jan. 23) Adult bells, cherubs, 6 p.m.
Jubilate, 6:30 p.m.
Chancel choir, youth bells, 7 p.m.
Thursday (Jan. 24) Deacons, 7 p.m., parlor
Sunday (Jan. 27) SS, coffee time, 9:15 a.m.
Worship, Theda Good preaching, 10:30 a.m.
Learning circle, supper provided, FH, 5:30 p.m.

It's time to celebrate!

Happy Birthday! Ernie Porzelius is turning 90 on February 1 and you are invited to help celebrate! Open house from 2-4 on Saturday, Feb. 2 in the patio room at Maple Crest.

Joan LoBianco

Weather-related cancellations

As the realities of Ohio winters become quite clear, keep in mind that snow and ice can also play havoc with the schedule at First Mennonite.

If it becomes necessary for us to cancel a function(s) at the church, cancellations will be posted on the church website, on the Bluffton Icon, Lima FOX-WLIO (Hometown Stations,) The Findlay Courier, WFIN, WKXA and 106.3FOX.

If we cancel an event and you know of someone without access to the internet, television or radio, please notify that person.

Preparing to Live?

Often when we hear the words “End of Life” we feel we are planning our death. What we are really doing is planning to live more at ease knowing we have taken care of details which will assist our family and friends if we can no longer make decisions for ourselves.

While talking with a couple who moved into a retirement community, they told me “We have moved here to live, not die.” Even hospice care is all about how we live our final days on this earth.

Creating wills, estate planning, establishing power of attorney, living wills and even memorial service planning helps us live with more confidence and less stress.

If you are interested in helping to plan an informational workshop on such details, please contact Pastor Theda.

Words of gratitude

The family of Burton Yost wishes to thank our church family for their prayers, expressions of sympathy, loving kindness and care following Burton's death. We feel blessed by the support of our Christian fellowship. ~ Elnore Yost and children, Beth Sheldrake, Anita Reimer, Peter Yost

Bluffton University

January 22: Martin Luther King Forum, "Reflections on Community Service and Servant Leadership, Then and Now," Nate Fields '71, organizational development consultant, 11 a.m., Yoder Recital Hall

Through Feb. 15: "Unspeakable," Sana Musasama, Grace Albrecht Gallery, Sauder Art Center

Reminders



Please plan to participate in *Mapping* ways we live into the 5 Priorities **TODAY** from 4-7 p.m. to We will use Open Space Technology, a format which specializes in empowering all attendees to contribute. Curious about OST? Go to the links under the GTF tab on the FMC website or ask

a GTF member. We'll discuss the 5 Priorities and think about how First Mennonite Church can best live into them. What ministries do we need? In what ways should we provide oversight and visioning? What are the essentials? What are you/we passionate about? The 5 Priorities information sheets are printed on green paper and available in the literature racks in the fellowship hall. Three hours is a long time! Refreshments and supper will be provided by the youth as a fundraiser. Childcare will be provided. If you need childcare, please notify Elizabeth Kelly at ekelly.2018@gmail.com for headcount and age appropriate programming.

Today is the final day to sign up for "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 9. You decide whether to host, be a guest, or either.

- Register as a GUEST, indicating the number in your party; or a HOST, indicating the number of people you plan to host) on the table outside the church office by **Friday, Jan.18.**
- Being a GUEST is simple. Sign up and plan to bring a side dish or dessert. Guests will be given directions to the host's home, what to bring, what time to arrive and a contact number.
- HOSTS agree to host a meal in their home for a set number of guests (you name the number.) Hosts will be given the number of guests and will prepare a soup, bread(s) and drinks that adhere to food allergies or requests provided. ~ *Nurture Commission*

Financial Peace University: Planning for the future is hard when you're still paying for the past. Join Kendra Nickel's Financial Peace University group to learn how to beat debt and make a plan for the future. The group will meet in the fellowship hall beginning Tuesday, Jan. 22. Classes are Tuesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. for 9 weeks. Cost is \$109. Childcare is available. Contact Kendra at 419-302-5220 with questions or sign up at <https://fpu.com/1079329>. ~ *Kendra Nickel*

2019 CDC Regional Gatherings: Consider attending one of Central District's Regional Gatherings. All meet from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and include updates about CDC and provide opportunities to get acquainted. Host congregations provide lunch.

- **Jan. 26, 2019**, CDC Central, Open Table Mennonite Fellowship, Assembly Mennonite Church, 1201 S 11th St., Goshen
- **Feb. 9, 2019**, CDC West, Chicago Community Mennonite, 425 S Central Park Blvd., Chicago
- **March 9, 2019**, CDC East hosted by First Mennonite Church, Bluffton

Senior high youth and delegates for MennoCon19 invite you to join a learning circle to study the *Journey Forward: Pathways* curriculum created by MCUSA following the convention in Orlando. The circle will meet March 10, April 14, May 12, and June 9 in the SHY room from 1:30-2:30 p.m.