

**FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH**  
**Weekly Announcements 3-29-2020**

**First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817**  
**419-358-5766 | [fmclubffton.org](http://fmclubffton.org) | Office open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday-Friday**

- **Pastor Wanda Stopher – Monday-Thursday, 9-4, off Friday, 419-551-1079; [wanda@fmclubffton.org](mailto:wanda@fmclubffton.org)**
- **Pastor Theda Good – Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday; 419-549-2417; [theda@fmclubffton.org](mailto:theda@fmclubffton.org)**
- **Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, M-F, 8-11 a.m., 419-230-1568, [mastc@bluffton.edu](mailto:mastc@bluffton.edu)**
- **Director of Music – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 (cell); [sudermanme@bluffton.edu](mailto:sudermanme@bluffton.edu)**
- **Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, [fmc@fmclubffton.org](mailto:fmc@fmclubffton.org)**

**Sunday, March 29, 2020**

Taste and See SS will meet by Zoom, 9:15 a.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/342273765>

Sojourners SS will meet by Zoom, 10:30 a.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/4193583208>

Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching, service posted on website by 2 p.m.

Learning circle will meet by Zoom, 6 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/4193585766>

**March 30-April 4**

Tuesday (March 31) Staff meeting, Zoom, 9 a.m.

Morning prayers, Zoom, 7 a.m.

Wednesday (April 1) Evening prayers, Zoom, 7 p.m.

Thursday (April 2) Bulletin deadline, 9 a.m.

Vespers, Zoom, 4 p.m.

**Sunday (April 5)**

Taste and See SS will meet by Zoom, 9:15 a.m.

Sojourners SS will meet by Zoom, 10:30 a.m.

Worship, Palm Passion

Learning circle will meet by Zoom, 6 p.m.

**Happy birthday**

March 31 – Paula Luginbill

April 2 – Rita Dietrich

April 4 – Lawrence Templin

April 5 – Kendra Gott

**How to make contributions to FMC**

Some of you have expressed concerns about how best to submit your contributions to FMC. You may certainly mail them to us at 101 S. Jackson St. Alternately, please consider electronic giving as a safe option.

On the FMC website, there is a link, "ONLINE GIVING," at the far right of the red navigation bar at the top of the page. When registering with Vanco, the faith-based electronic payment organization with which we work, you will need your bank routing and checking account numbers. You'll choose a starting date, as well as frequency. FMC does NOT have access to your personal banking information. Note that you may cancel this option at any time.

**All forms of contributions are much appreciated, whether by cash, check or e-giving.**

**Morning Prayers continues; Evening Prayers, Vespers added**

We will continue to meet for Morning Prayers via Zoom videoconferencing. We are also adding two additional time options.

The prayer schedule is:

Morning Prayers-Tuesday, 7-7:30 a.m.

Evening Prayers-Wednesday, 7-7:30 p.m.

Vespers-Thursday, 4-4:30 p.m.

The same link will be used for all three prayers.

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/296319743>

If you experience difficulty accessing or understanding how to use Zoom, please call or email the church office.

### **New Sunday school alternatives for adults and children**

**The Sojourners class will meet via Zoom** on Sunday, March 29 at 10:30 a.m. The address for this meeting is: <https://zoom.us/j/4193583208>. We will discuss the current lesson on "Leading Justly" in the Adult Bible Study guide from MennoMedia which is drawn from Malachi 2:1-9; 3:5-6. Anyone is welcome to attend, even if you are not a regular attender of Sojourners.

**The contemplative prayer practices class** will resume via Zoom starting Sunday, March 29, at 9:15 a.m. This week we will explore praying through creating art. No artistic skill required! Gather a few sheets of paper and whatever basic art supplies you have on hand (e.g., colored pencils, markers, crayons or paints) before class. Contact Anne Marie Spelman at 309-830-6975 or [spelman.anne.marie@gmail.com](mailto:spelman.anne.marie@gmail.com) with questions. Use this Zoom link to join Sunday morning: <https://zoom.us/j/342273765>

**The Sunday night Learning Circle** will begin meeting virtually Sunday, March 29 at 6 p.m., using Zoom, and will continue to meet at 6 p.m. Sundays until it is possible to meet in person again. The address for the Circle meeting is: <https://zoom.us/j/469808095>

**MennoMedia is making Sunday school** available to you at home! [Read more](#) to find Shine Resources. You can also check out the [Shine FB page](#), which includes links to videos of people reading the children's story from the Shine storybook and other kinds of singing and videos.

**Mennonite Women have canceled** the April 13-14 comforter knotting event. Please continue to sew tops with the hope that we can schedule a new date this summer.

### **Reminders**

**The Thanks to Victoria Woods-Yee** for creating our bulletin covers throughout this Lenten season.

**Chancel and bell choirs** are canceled for the remainder of the academic year. Laura Hartzler has canceled the children's choirs through April and will reevaluate the plan for the rest of the year.

**FMC custodian needed:** Duties include routine cleaning the church, light maintenance, event set up, lawn mowing and snow removal, other duties as agreed upon. Hourly wage, up to 30 hours per week. Provide your name, contact info, and resume to [fmc@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:fmc@fmcbluffton.org) ~ Staff relations, Trustees

**FMC will host** Bluffton Community VBS June 7-11. We'll need volunteers to make decorations and name tags, bake cookies, and prepare the church, and will need volunteers during VBS, checking in guests, distributing name tags, walking children between stations, playing music, and leading worship. If you are interested in helping, contact co-organizers Amber Shelly ([arshelly11@gmail.com](mailto:arshelly11@gmail.com)) or Carrie Mast.

### **Bluffton University**

**The Bluffton University education department** offers free online educational enrichment in response to K-12 school closures in Ohio. Bluffton Study Buddies, Bluffton University education majors including student teachers, will provide academic help and educational games/activities through the Zoom videoconferencing platform. Educational enrichment sessions will be held from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday through at least April 3. Students will be matched with a BU student teacher or education major based on subject need. To review instructions for logging in to Zoom, go to [www.bluffton.edu/studybuddies/](http://www.bluffton.edu/studybuddies/). All online sessions will be monitored by a BU faculty or staff member.

### **Camp Friedenswald**

**The "Climate and Community"** retreat at Camp Friedenswald has been postponed until April 2021. The exact dates will be announced later.