

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Weekly Announcements 7-28-2019

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 – On sabbatical through July 31, 2019
- Pastor Theda Good – Monday-Thursday, 9-4, off Friday; 419-549-2417 (cell); theda@fmcbluffton.org
- Children and Youth Ministry Director – Carrie Mast, M-F, 8-11 a.m., mastc@bluffton.edu
- Director of Music – Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368 (cell); sudermanme@bluffton.edu
- Administrative Assistant – Mary Pannabecker Steiner, fmc@bluffton.edu
- Custodian – Mick Hardy, M-F, weekends as needed

Calendar

Sunday, July 28, 2019

9:15 a.m. SS, coffee time
10:30 a.m. Worship, Elizabeth Kelly preaching
5:30 p.m. FMC learning circle

July 29-August 4, 2019

Tuesday (July 30) Morning prayers, 7 a.m.
Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor
Thursday (August 1) Worship, 7 p.m., parlor
Sunday (August 4) SS, coffee time, 9:15 a.m.
Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching,
10:30 a.m.
FMC learning circle, 5:30 p.m.
MC learning circle, 6:30 p.m.

Happy birthday!!

July 29 – Sam Diller
July 29 – Tami Hardy
July 29 – Lawrence Matthews
July 29 – John Rich
July 30 – Quinn Longworth
August 1 – Isaac Strahan
August 2 – Rachel Clemens
August 3 – Elizabeth Nisly
August 3 – Robert Suter
August 4 – Virginia Theis

Pastor Theda will be on vacation in Colorado July 25-August 2. For pastoral care needs, please contact Ruth Naylor at 419-358-6309.

All-church potluck Aug. 13 for the Frey-Yoders

The congregation is invited to an all-church potluck with Nancy Frey and Bruce Yoder on Tuesday, August 13. They will share with us about their time of service in Burkino Faso and their recent move to Canada. Please bring a dish or two to share along with your own table service. Water will be provided. ~ MPS

MCC creating immigration detainee care kits

When people who have been placed in immigration detention centers are released, they often have little more than the clothes they're wearing. Kits containing clothing and hygiene products can help to rebuild their dignity as they transition into life outside the detention center.

MCC is partnering with the South Texas Response Team, a group of pastors working with Catholic Charities Respite Center in McAllen, Good Neighbor Settlement House in Brownsville, Loaves and Fishes in Harlingen, Angry Tias & Abuelas in the Rio Grande Valley, and other partners to distribute kits to people as they leave detention and are taken to bus stations or airports to reconnect with their families.

In lieu of making these kits, we encourage you to make a cash donation at mcc.org/donate, click on Cash for Kits and in the Comments/Instructions box, write "CS Immigration Kits." ~ Mission Peace and Service

All are invited to help Joanne Niswander's family celebrate her upcoming 90th birthday Sunday, August 4, from 2-4 p.m. in the fellowship hall. No gifts, please.

REMINDERS

If you haven't yet confirmed your plans to join FMC's trip to tour the Islamic Center on August 3, **the deadline to sign up is tomorrow, July 29.** We will meet at the church at 11:15 a.m. and depart at 11:30. Lunch, at \$10 each, from The Grape Leaf includes chicken kabobs, rice, hummus, salad and pita bread. If you prefer a vegetable kabob or falafel, tell Shelby Cluts or note preference on the sign-up sheet. Lunch costs \$10 per person. Dress attire is long pants and no sleeveless shirts. The tour will begin at 2 p.m., after which we'll return to Bluffton. If you cannot sign up in person, e-mail the church office at fmc@bluffton.edu. If you have questions, contact Shelby Cluts, 419-234-2580 or 419-358-0265.

Pack the Pews: In August we will collect items for the Bluffton Food Pantry as part of Bluffton Area Ministerial Association's effort to help keep the Food Pantry supplied during low donation months. We hope to pack a pew with items the pantry needs. More details to follow. ~ MPS

Elizabeth Nisly will be here at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 4, to share during the SS hour about her summer internship in Mexico with Frontera de Cristo, a Presbyterian binational border ministry with a focus on migration and redefining borders. ~ MPS

Brazo en Brazo's annual Fiesta Familiar will be Sunday, Sept. 8, from 4-7 p.m. at Lima Mennonite Church. ~ MPS

From Jackie and Elizabeth Wells: A heartfelt thank you from us for all of the support both in prayer and monetary ways. With donations from FMC, we were able to make our house payment without having to file for hardship. It is a real blessing. We invite you to the Greyden Strong Cancer Benefit on Sunday, Sept. 1, at 4 p.m. at the Armory Event Center, Napoleon. (*Jackie's family is holding the fundraiser for their son, Greyden, to help support his ongoing medical expenses in his fight to beat cancer. Greyden, who is now 20 months old, was diagnosed at 9 months with trilateral retinoblastoma. Posters about the event are on bulletin boards around the church.*)

Stephen and Nancy Jacoby will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with a ceremony to renew their vows on Saturday, Aug. 3, at 3 p.m. in the chapel at Worthington Presbyterian Church, 773 High St., Worthington. They welcome friends at the event (no gifts.) Their mailing address is 210 Stonebend Dr., Powell, 43065.

Living Thoughtfully, Dying Well is the theme of a workshop being planned for Saturday, Nov. 16. Medical doctor Glen E. Miller, from Goshen, IN, wrote a book with the same title and is the keynote speaker.

MCC school kit collection of these supplies continues:

- 4 spiral or perforated-pages notebooks (8.5 in x 10.5 in and 70 sheets)
- 8 new unsharpened pencils
- 1 ruler (flat, good quality; must indicate 30 cm; inch markings optional)
- 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
- 1 large eraser
- 2 new black or blue ballpoint pens
- 1 small **all-metal** pencil sharpener, one or two holes (see below)

All-metal sharpeners can be purchased at Amazon.com or Bazic.com. or at stores such as Staples. **If you cannot find all metal sharpeners**, please pack the kits without them and we will add the sharpeners. We will collect kits through September. ~ Sue Schaaf and Jean Miller