

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Weekly Announcements 9-8-2019

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; wanda@fmcbluffton.org (new address)
- Pastor Theda Good – Tuesday-Friday, 9-4, off Monday; 419-549-2417; 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@fmcbluffton.org (new address)
- Custodian – Mick Hardy, M-F, weekends as needed

Sunday, Sept. 8, 2019

9:15 a.m. SS, coffee time, 9:15 a.m.
10:30 a.m. Worship, communion, Wanda Stopher preaching, **congregational meeting to follow**
Noon Freudige/Sojourners potlucks
4-7 p.m. Brazo en Brazo, Lima Mennonite
5:30 p.m. FMC learning circle

Sept. 2-7

Monday (Sept. 9) Mennonite Women, 7 p.m., parlor
Tuesday (Sept. 10) Morning prayers, 7 a.m.
Staff meeting, 9 a.m., parlor
Worship, 7 p.m., parlor
Wednesday (Sept. 11) Cherubs, Adult bells, 6 p.m.
Jubilate, 6:30 p.m.
Chancel choir, youth bells, 7 p.m.
Thursday (Sept. 12) Deadline to submit bulletin info, 9 a.m.
Caring Connections, 2:30 p.m., parlor
Nurture, 7 p.m., parlor
Sunday (Sept. 15) Youth choir, 8:30 a.m.
SS, coffee time, 9:15 a.m.
Worship, Brent Schroeder preaching, 10:30 a.m.
FMC learning circle, 5:30 p.m.

Happy birthday!!

Sept. 8 – Rachel Diller
Sept. 8 – Melissa Friesen
Sept. 8 – Denny Phillips
Sept. 11 – Susan Collier
Sept. 14 – Andrea Goings
Sept. 14 – Tim Schumacher
Sept. 15 – Kaden Niekamp

I wish to thank you for affording me a chance to do the children's time both before and during the worship service September 1. I enjoyed this a lot, as well as the service in general. I look forward to a future opportunity to worship with you again. ~ Dr. Alice Warigia Hinga

Camp Friedenswald is holding a

Mentorship Peace Weekend in collaboration with MCC. Jason Boone from the Peace and Justice Support Network is facilitating activities to think about and discuss peace. The following people from FMC are attending this weekend: Melinda & Rebecca Estell, Ana Neufeld Weaver, Carmen Ordonez Moser, and Amber Shelly.

Wednesday night pasta and play begins September 11. All ages are welcome to join in sharing food and play during Noodle Night in the fellowship hall. Bring a side dish if your schedule allows and come and go as you can between 4:45 and 6 p.m.

Pastor Wanda will be out of town Sept. 13-16. She will return to the office on Tuesday, Sept. 17. In case of an emergency, please contact Pastor Theda.

First Mennonite Church will be purchasing the new hymnal, *Voices Together*. This new worship and song collection for the Mennonite Church will arrive in the fall of 2020. If you wish to purchase your own hymnal for use at home, you can save some time and postage by signing up for a hymnal on the table outside the church office. The cost is \$24. Please sign up by September 29.

MORE NEW INFORMATION

Adult nursery workers are needed. If you are willing to help support the youngest members of our church family by engaging in some holy play during worship, please contact Julie Mackey at mackeyjm@embarqmail.com.

REMINDERS

You are invited to attend the Fiesta Familiar today from 4-7 p.m. at Lima Mennonite. This outdoor celebration of Latino and Anglo cultures is sponsored by the five churches supporting the Brazo en Brazo project, an outreach ministry to Hispanics in the Lima area. Food will be served from 4:30-6 p.m. FMC is responsible for providing cookies and for serving food for 30 minutes.

Mennonite Women will meet Monday, Sept. 9, at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall. You'll hear project reports, an introduction to the devotional guide, brainstorm new activities, discuss ministry options and have refreshments.

Save the date: Sunday, Sept. 29 for a 5th Sunday potluck celebrating the new school year. This meal will celebrate students in preschool through university.

The Sunday night learning circle will continue to meet Sundays at 5:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall for a light meal and to discuss the morning's scriptures and sermon. All are welcome.

A new SS class begins today (meeting in the fellowship hall through December 15) to explore the relationship between the Bible and nature. There will be some readings for those who want to prepare, but the readings are not required. Each session will begin with a summary of the reading in combination with a biblical passage, followed by discussion. If you're interested in attending, please contact Ray Person at rperson@onu.edu.

Here are some recommendations from Elizabeth Nisly and Pastor Wanda to learn more about immigration. Tell me How it Ends: An Essay in 40 Questions by Valeria Luiselli; The Death and Life of Aida Hernandez: A Border Story by Aaron Bobrow-Strain; and Border Patrol Nation: Dispatches from the Front Lines of Homeland Security by Todd Miller.

Beginning in October 2019, we will publish M-L every other month. In the October issue, we'll examine the purpose of the Menno-Life and how we see its usefulness as a way to get to know each other, to learn who is doing what, and what/who the church is. The deadline for submitting items for the October issue is Friday, Sept. 20.

IN THE LITERATURE RACK

- The 2019-2020 Christian education flyer listing Sunday school options -- look for the bright orange paper!
- A flyer outlining the upcoming five-Sunday series on Sabbath.
- Coming Soon: Listing of the Revised Common Lectionary texts for worship from Advent 2019 through the end of 2020.

OUR CONNECTIONS

Habitat Lima: The home being built in Elida is fully enclosed and starting to see inside work being completed. The plan is to dedicate the house in early November. Now needed are regular volunteers/volunteer groups at the ReStore, funds for the current build, meals for construction or ReStore volunteers, affiliate sustaining/ongoing donations of \$10 a month. To help or donate, call 419-222-4937, sign up at www.habitatlima.org, or e-mail habitatlima@habitatlima.org

BLUFFTON UNIVERSITY

Sept. 10 "President's Reflections and Bluffton University Initiatives in 2019-20," State of the University Address by Dr. Jane Wood, 11 a.m., Yoder Recital Hall