

**FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH**  
**Weekly Announcements 6-13-2021**  
First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817  
419-358-5766 | [fmcbluffton.org](http://fmcbluffton.org)

- **Pastor Wanda Stopher** – Monday-Thursday, off Friday, 419-551-1079, [wanda@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:wanda@fmcbluffton.org)
- **Pastor Jeff Boehr** – T, F; 419-236-9150, [jeff@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:jeff@fmcbluffton.org)
- **Children and Youth Ministry Director** – Carrie Mast, 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, 419-358-5766, [fmc@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:fmc@fmcbluffton.org)

**Sunday, June 13, 2021**

Sojourners, 9:15 a.m., assembly room

Taste and See, 9:15 a.m., 301

Worship, Wanda Stopher preaching, sanctuary, 10:30 a.m.

Sermon Discussion Circle, meal, 5:30 p.m.; discussion 6-7 p.m.

**June 14-19**

Tuesday, June 15 Morning prayers, sanctuary, 7 a.m.,

Staff meeting, parlor, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, June 16 JHY, church lawn, 3 p.m.

**Sunday, June 20, 2021**

Sojourners 9:15 a.m.; Taste and See, 9:15 a.m.

Worship, Carrie Mast preaching, sanctuary, 10:30 a.m.

Congregational meeting, sanctuary, following worship

Sermon Discussion Circle, meal, 5:30 p.m.; discussion 6-7 p.m.

**Happy Birthday!**

**June 13 – Joan Dailey**

**Judy Diller**

**Dennis Sheidler**

**June 14 – Jenny Moser**

**Ellie Nickel**

**June 16 – Quin Spelman**

**June 19 – Rebecca Estell**

**Laura Hartzler**

**Sunday, June 13**, we return to in-person worship. Copies of details are in the fellowship hall. In solidarity with our children not yet eligible for the vaccine, please wear a mask and maintain a six-foot distance. Bottled water will be available, but we encourage you to bring your own water.

**Returning borrowed hymnals:** As we return to in-person worship on Sunday, June 13, please return the *Voices Together* hymnal that you have borrowed. These hymnals may be returned to the pew in the fellowship hall to the right of the doors to the sanctuary. Jeff Boehr is willing to collect and return hymnals for those not able to bring them in person. If you wish to keep the hymnal, please let the church office know and bring \$29 to help us replace that hymnal at the church.

**Placement of hymnals in pew racks:** We now have four hymnbooks stored in each pew rack in the sanctuary. To store these properly, please note that a spiral-bound book must be paired with one of the main hymnals when placing them in the racks. As we discuss Creation care this summer, this is a good reminder to care for our church building as well – the public space shared and available to all. Let us be grateful for the gifts and materials we have, caring for them wisely and prudently.

**Church Administrative Assistant wanted:** First Mennonite Church is in search of an Administrative Assistant. Duties include: Weekly, monthly and annual routine clerical responsibilities and record keeping, production of church bulletins and other communications (internally and externally), social media & website oversight, work with public, church members and staff team. Hourly wage, up to 36 hours per week. Health insurance available. Contact FMC at [fmc@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:fmc@fmcbluffton.org). Please provide your name and best contact information. An application and job description will be sent to you. ~ Staff Relations

**June 1, 2021 marked the five-year anniversary** of Pastor Steve Yoder's death. As a congregation we will take note of some of the ways his life and ministry continue to impact our life together in a brief ceremony immediately following worship on Sunday, June 13.

**A congregational meeting** with updates for our pastoral transition and to approve the 2021 2<sup>nd</sup> half spending plan will be held Sunday, June 20, immediately following the worship service. Spending plan updates and information will be coming in preparation of the meeting.

**FMC senior high youth** departing for Camp Friedenswald on Sunday, June 13, include: Ben Hartzler, Ellie Nickel, Ethan Nickel, Theo Andreas, and John-Paul Yoder.

**Plant Offering:** Share a plant from your home for the worship service this Sunday, June 13, as we celebrate the Gospel of Plants. Potted plants and flowers will make up our crowd-sourced chancel display. Bring your plant to the sanctuary when we join together for worship Sunday morning. You're invited to bring it forward before worship begins or during the Conversation with Friends. Can't be here? Drop off your plant to the sanctuary any time before Sunday morning, and we'll make sure your plant secures a space in the chancel. All plants can be taken home immediately after worship. Plants left behind will be incorporated into the chancel until picked up.

### **Reminders**

**The church directory** is available on our website; it may be accessed using a password, which you may request from the church office. If you are unable to access the website, request a hard copy from the office. Also, if your contact information has changed, please notify the church office.

**The family of Marilyn Diller** is holding a card shower for Marilyn, who will observe her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 21. Please send cards to Marilyn at 700 Maple Crest Ct., Bluffton.

**VBS volunteers are needed July 18-22!** If interested in helping with walking small groups from station to station on M, T, or W, or assisting with games S-Th, contact Carrie Mast at [mastc@bluffton.edu](mailto:mastc@bluffton.edu) or 419.230.1568.

**Volunteers are needed** to serve lunch at Our Daily Bread in Lima on the last Monday of each month. Volunteers carpool from the church parking lot at 9:45 a.m. The next volunteer opportunity is June 28. For more information, contact John or Carolyn Rich at 419-358-5405.

**Church Custodian needed:** FMC is in need of a custodian. If interested, email [fmc@fmcbluffton.org](mailto:fmc@fmcbluffton.org) and provide your name and contact information. An application and job description will be sent to you.

**Volunteers from First Mennonite** who served with the Mennonite Disaster Service, Western Ohio project in Dayton recently were Ev Collier, Rodney Dyck, Mitch Kingsley, John Mackey, Wendell Miller, and Dennis Sheidler. To learn more about this ongoing project, contact Lawrence Matthews, MDS' church contact for FMC.

**Summer SS for children & youth will not be offered on Sunday mornings.** Alternate times for youth SS will be arranged similarly to last summer: during weekday afternoons at the church either on the lawn under the tree or in classrooms. Topics will include creation care, climate and social justice. For preschool-Grade 5 children, a variety of creation care activities and lessons from the MennoMedia VBS curriculum *Come to the Table* will be organized during weekday and Saturday mornings. The VBS curriculum includes 5 Bible stories from Luke and John emphasizing hospitality to everyone at God's table. The creation care themes will coincide with Sunday morning worship themes.

### **Our Connections**

**The Gift of Love: Doing our part for healing and wholeness in the world:** Join James Wheeler & Linda Herr, Area Directors for Europe & Middle East, on Tuesday, June 22 at 8 p.m. EDT, for a webinar about how MCC partners in challenging settings are speaking love with words and actions. This presentation will highlight various aspects of MCC work in programs in Europe and the Middle East, including refugees and displaced people, basic human needs and material resources. Register for this Zoom presentation at [https://mcc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_8V8Ktrh2R7idNZjs1cr5hg](https://mcc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_8V8Ktrh2R7idNZjs1cr5hg).