

19th Sunday after Pentecost

October 16, 2022

Gathering

Welcome and announcements Adam Phillips

Prelude *Voluntary in D* W. Selby/arr. S. D. Wolf
LuAnn Stuckey

Invocation

*Opening Hymn VT 103 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

*Progressive reading of Psalm 111

(Readers up thru age 17)

Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

(add ages 18-39)

Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever. He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the LORD is gracious and merciful. He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

(add ages 40-59)

He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations. The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy. They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

(add ages 60-75)

He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name.

(add ages 76 and up)

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.

His praise endures forever.

Telling God's Story

Conversation with Children Carrie Mast, Phil Yoder
Hymn VT 515 O Little Children, Gather
(v. 1 coming forward & v. 2 going back to seats)

Community Prayer Adam Phillips

Special Music *Set Me As A Seal* Rene Clausen
Chancel Choir
*Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death.
Many waters cannot quench love; neither can the floods drown it. Set me as a seal...*

Scripture Jeremiah 31:27-34; James 3:13-18 Phil Yoder

Message *Wonder, Wisdom, Withness, Witness* Jeff Boehr

Living God's Story

*Hymn of Response VT# 196 *Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom*

Recognition of Jeff Boehr Carrie Mast

Offering

Words of Invitation

Offertory *Pastorale in G* C. Wesley/arr. S. D. Wolff

Dedication Prayer

Child Dedication Eloise Jo Hilty

Sending

*Hymn of Sending VT 519 *God, Give Me Faith like a Child*

*Benediction

*Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

VT - Voices Together (Purple Bound Book)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All are invited to a light reception immediately following worship **today** in honor of **Jeff Boehr** and his work among us over the last 2 years as Interim Pastor of Pastoral Care. Jeff will close his work on staff this month after transitioning his responsibilities to Phil.

Jane Steinmetz is having foot surgery on Tuesday, October 18, in Lima. She would appreciate your thoughts and prayers as she learns to hop, scooter, and rest these next few weeks at home.

Chaska and Phil would like to announce that they are expecting their first child in April! This comes after the grief of infertility and the challenging process of IVF. They invite your prayers and celebration as they move towards parenthood.

Prayers for **Trusty Schumacher** as she **travels** back from Zimbabwe **today** (Sunday).

A **Memorial Service for Joanne Niswander** will be held at First Mennonite Church on **Saturday, October 29**. Visitation will begin at 3:30 p.m. followed by the memorial service at 4 p.m. A light meal will be served following the service. Hold the Niswander family in your prayers as they grieve the loss of Joanne.

Youth Campfire! All JHY & SHY are invited to a hotdog roast at Judy & Larry Diller's farm followed by hide 'n seek on Saturday, October 22, from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Dillers are providing the hot dogs and fixings, and youth can bring a chair and a snack to share!

We will be hosting a **potluck chocolate reception** in honor of **Mark Suderman** next **Sunday, October 23**, to thank him for serving as Church Administrator for the last year. Mark will continue to serve on church staff as Director of Music. All things chocolate are welcome!

On **Sunday, November 13**, we will have **visitors from Central District Conference** to hear stories about our experiences in Christian community and worship here at FMC. This is called Sacred Listening and is being held across churches this year in the CDC. Would you be willing to share a story? More details to come.

Phil will be switching his **day off** this week from Monday to Friday so he can travel with Chaska to her grandfather's 100th birthday gathering.

Mennonite Arts Weekend: "Between: Embracing Vulnerability" is the theme for the sixteenth Mennonite Arts Weekend, **February 3-5, 2023 in Cincinnati, Ohio**. This weekend celebrates the creativity and discipline of Anabaptist Mennonite artists. Presentations and workshops by musicians, visual artists, writers, and craftspeople start on Friday evening and conclude with Sunday morning worship. Activities and workshops designed specifically for Pre-K children through high school are planned throughout the weekend. A nursery will be available. Now is the time to take advantage of the early-bird registration offer and sign-up for limited spaces in workshops. Find the list of presenters and registration, location, and lodging information at <https://mennoniteartsweekend.org/2023maw/>. Come enjoy the fun, connect with friends, and hear **Girl Named Tom**.

The 36th annual **Blaze of Lights** is scheduled for **Saturday, November 26**. **Vocal groups (3-8 members) are being sought to provide all types of Christmas music** before and after the traditional parade. These groups can be a cappella or accompanied by acoustic guitar and should be prepared to sing 3-4 songs. Beginning at 4 p.m., until the start of the parade at 5 p.m., these vocal groups will, independently, roam Bluffton's Main Street sidewalks, alleys, gazebo, businesses, and perhaps the Main Street stage, serenading guests awaiting the beginning of the parade. When the parade finishes, the lighting ceremony will begin on the Presbyterian lawn on Main Street, and the vocal groups will gather inside the ropes on the lawn at the corner of Main & Cherry Streets. When this year's dignitary "Hits the Switch" and the lawn is a Blaze of Lights, the combined vocal groups will help lead the audience in three Christmas carols. To sign up or for more information, please **email Kevin Gratz at kmgratz@gmail.com** or the Chamber at blaze@explorebluffton.com.

Thanks to everyone who attended the Ohio Innocence Project, **NoDeathPenaltyOH Campaign event** in Lima on Tuesday night. FMC's Racial Justice Ministry served as one of the sponsors of the event. At least 100 people attended, and more than 20 folks from First Mennonite. The event included hearing stories of exonerated people who were on death row. Many experienced the stories as powerful, and added energy to the movement to end capital punishment in Ohio.



Happy Birthday!

October 16 - Sunita Hooley
Claire Phillips

October 21 - Joyce Hostetler
Alison King

October 22 - Teri Steinmetz

In response to God's unconditional love for all people, we joyfully and unconditionally welcome you to join us on our journey of faith in Jesus Christ. We are committed to breaking down dividing walls and building community where all are loved and accepted. We believe in active inclusion and invite each one to participate in the life and ministry of our congregation.

follow us



Today, Sunday, October 16, 2022

Youth Choir, 8:30 a.m.

Coffee Time, 9 a.m.

Sunday School for all ages, 9:15 a.m.

Worship: Jeff Boehr preaching, 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary

Reception for Jeff Boehr, following worship Fellowship Hall
Sermon Discussion Circle, meal, 5:30 p.m.; discussion 6-7 p.m.

This Week

Tuesday, October 18

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Staff meeting, 9 a.m. Parlor

Wednesday, October 19

Noodle Night, come and go 4:45-6 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Adult Bells, 6 p.m. Youth Bells, 7 p.m. Assembly Room

Chancel Choir, 7 p.m. Sanctuary

Saturday, October 22

Youth Campfire at Judy & Larry Diller's, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Next Sunday

Sunday, October 23

Worship - Phil Yoder preaching

Reception for Mark Suderman, following worship

Lectionary: Joel 2:23-32; Psalm 65; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14

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

Welcome to our worship service today.

If you are a visitor, please sign one of our guest books located at the entrances to the sanctuary. Wireless hearing aids are available. Worship bags and nursery space are available for young children during worship. Bags can be found hanging on wooden pegs at each sanctuary entrance, and parents are invited to stay in the nursery with their children.