

18th Sunday after Pentecost

October 9, 2022

Gathering

Welcome and announcements

Mark Suderman

Community Prayer

Phil Yoder

Prelude

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing
LuAnn Stuckey

arr. J. Blersch

Scripture

Luke 17:11-19

Judy Diller

Invocation

Message

WHERE ARE THE NINE?

Lynn Miller

*Opening Hymn

VT 76 *Holy, Holy, Holy!*

Living God's Story

*Responsive Reading - selections from Psalm 66

One: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

Many: sing the glory of God's name;

One: give to God glorious praise.

Many: Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!"

One: Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you.

Many: All the earth worships you; they sing praise to you,

All: sing praises to your name."

*Hymn of Response

VT 287 *Jesus Christ Is Waiting*

Recognition of Pastoral Care Team

Offering

Words of Invitation

Offertory

Holy, Holy, Holy

J.B. Dykes/arr. R. Hartsell

Dedication Prayer

Sending

*Hymn of Sending

VT 644 *Healer of Our Every Ill*

*Benediction

*Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

VT - Voices Together (Purple Bound Book)

Telling God's Story

Special Music

Oh, Sing to the Lord a New Song
Chancel Choir, Jan Wiebe, flute

John Leavitt

Conversation with Children

Phil Yoder

Hymn

VT 515 *O Little Children, Gather*
(v. 1 coming forward & v. 3 going back to seats)

First Mennonite Church
101 S. Jackson St, Bluffton OH
419-358-5766 | fmcbluffton.org

October 9, 2022
First Mennonite Church

Lead Pastor Phil Yoder, 717-869-7624
phil@fmcbluffton.org

Interim Pastor of Christian Education & Administration Carrie Mast, 419-230-1568
carrie@fmcbluffton.org

Pastor of Pastoral Care Jeff Boehr, 419-236-9150
jeff@fmcbluffton.org

Communication Coordinator Trustworthy Schumacher, 419-358-5766
fmc@fmcbluffton.org

Caretaker Don Burris, 419-788-6157
caretaker@fmcbluffton.org

Director of Music Mark Suderman, 419-230-5368
sudermanme@bluffton.edu

Technology Coordinator Ray Raeburn, 419-230-2769
rayraeburn@gmail.com

First Mennonite Church Office Hours

- **Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.**
- Monday: Phil's day off
- Thursday: Carrie's day off

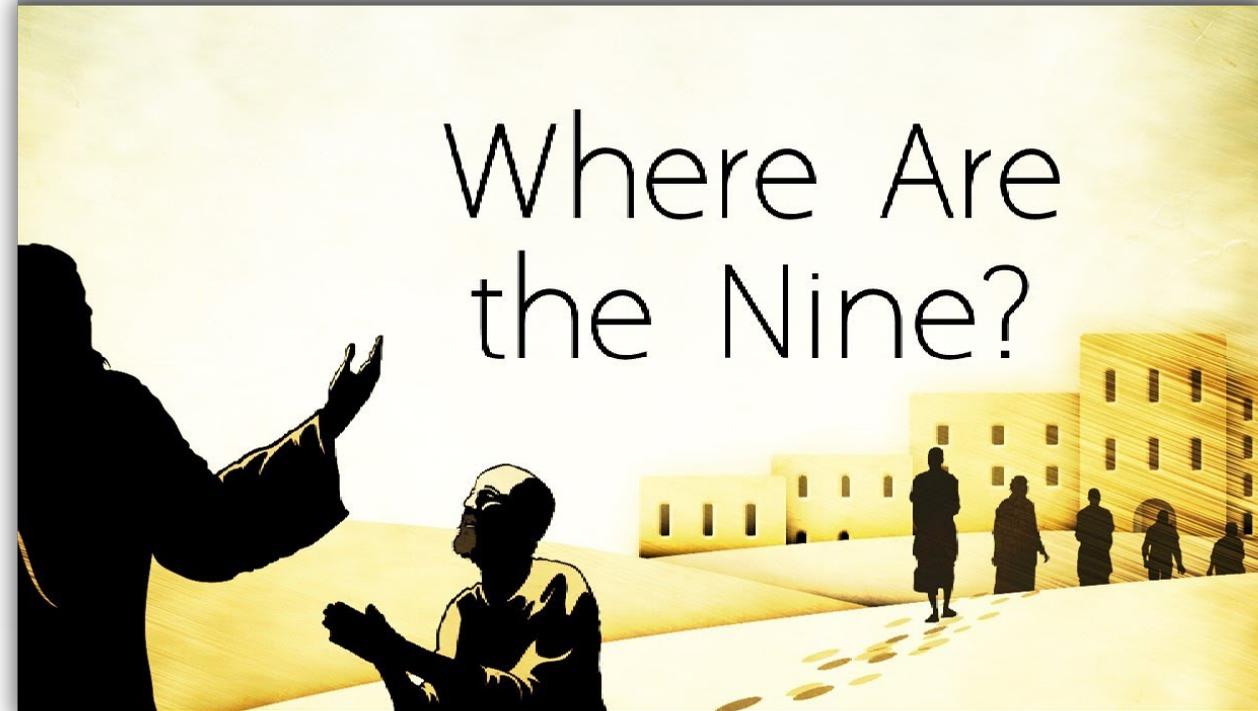
Video: Ray Raeburn

Sound: Chris Gott

Chancel: Heather Thies

9/25/22 - 10/2/22
Reported Volunteer hours: 27.5
Attendance: 200
Online viewers: 55

First Mennonite Church is affiliated with the Central District Conference of Mennonite Church USA. The Mennonites are named after Menno Simons, one of our early church leaders, and are rooted historically in the "Anabaptist" movement, which began in 1525, with origins in Switzerland, Germany, and the Netherlands now reaching around the world. Some primary Anabaptist convictions then and now are following Jesus Christ in service to others, rejection of violence and war, and joyful community life.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

We would like to **thank the church** for your prayers, cards, visits, food, etc. during Wendell's recent surgery and recuperation. He is making good progress and is hoping to join you all again soon. Thank you!
~ **Wendell and Jean Miller**

Trusty Schumacher is spending time in Zimbabwe with her family for the funeral of her grandmother, Etta Ndlovu. Trusty will **return on October 16**.

Greg Ring's father, Herman Ring passed away on Oct 3rd while in hospice at Blanchard Valley. The Ring family expresses its gratitude for the prayers and phone calls from this community.

The Taste and See Sunday school class is revamping after a break! All are welcome to join any or all Sundays in room **301** starting **October 9**. This is a community for honest sharing and listening about our spiritual journeys in a nonjudgmental space. Rotating leaders will facilitate a variety of class times. Sometimes the leader will share something meaningful from their own lived experience and then facilitate a discussion on that. Other class times will be a discussion on a question of faith. Some class times will provide space for extended silent prayer/reflection/meditation and then have time for sharing. For questions or for a schedule of upcoming topics, contact Fred Steiner at fsteiner@roadrunner.com.

Our **MCC school kit** collection for this year finished with **201 kits collected**. Thank you for your participation and generosity with this project.

First Mennonite Church's **Racial Justice Ministry** is partnering with other organizations to sponsor a **free** event on **October 11 at 7 PM** at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Lima, featuring the voices of exonerees who spent years on death row facing execution for crimes they didn't commit. Additional partners sponsoring the event include the Lima Interfaith Coalition, Bluffton University, Lima Mennonite Church, Allen County Justice Coalition, Ohio Innocence Project, NoDeathPenaltyOH Campaign, and others. The purpose of the event is to heighten awareness of the abolition movement and bi-partisan bills before Ohio's House and Senate to repeal the broken death penalty system. Three exonerees, Kwame Ajamu, Derrick Jamison, and Ray Krone, will share parts of their journeys from arrest to death row to exoneration. **If you are interested in carpooling to Lima, meet in the church parking lot at 6:15 PM (or contact Jan Wiebe).**

A big thank you to **Rodney Dyck** for repairing the hymnal racks in the Sanctuary.

MCC Buckets of Thanks: This Thanksgiving, show your gratitude and provide hope to those in need by collecting relief supplies for MCC. The supplies you donate will fill a "Bucket of Thanks" for people affected by conflict or disaster around the world. For more information, including supply lists and a ready-to-use curriculum for children, visit: mccbuckets.org.

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.

Sales are closed for the event tickets but **raffle tickets** are still available for **MHCO's Inaugural Gala!** This fundraising event will benefit the Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio Benevolent Care Fund, which provides support to care for older adults who have outlived their resources. **Raffle tickets may be purchased locally** at your nearest MHCO community **or by scanning the QR codes** below. For more information about the Gala, contact Chris Moser at 419-358-1015, x263.



\$30
EA
(plus online fees)

Raffle Prize 1



RAFFLE TICKETS

\$10
EA

(plus online fees)
Scan to purchase
& for info about
the prizes

Raffle Prize 2



As an adjunct faculty, **Carrie Mast** will be participating in the **Great Adventure** in the Great Smoky Mountains of Tennessee with other Bluffton University faculty, staff, and first-year students **October 8-11**. This fall break retreat is part of the curriculum of the course *Becoming a Scholar*. Carrie will return to the office on Wednesday, October 12.

Bluffton's English Lutheran Church will hold an **Organ/Piano Recital** on Sunday afternoon, **October 16, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.** It is part of the church's 150th sesquicentennial church celebration and will feature Scott Edwards on the organ and Sandy Miller on the piano. They will be playing selections of hymn arrangements celebrating the church's liturgical year. All are invited to attend this event. A reception will be held in the church's fellowship hall immediately following the recital.



Happy Anniversary!

October 10
Bruce & Amy Freeman
40 years

Happy Birthday!

October 10 - Betty Shelly
October 11 - John Mackey
October 14 - Beth Raeburn
Mary Ann Ring
October 15 - Phil Yoder



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 9, 2022

Coffee Time, 9 a.m.

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

Worship: Lynn Miller preaching, 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary

Sojourners SS Class Potluck, noon Assembly Room

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

This Week

Tuesday, October 11

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Staff meeting, 9 a.m. Parlor

Racial Justice Ministry event in Lima, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, October 12

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

Senior High Youth, 8 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Thursday, October 13

MHCO Gala, 6-7:30 p.m. The Centre

Next Sunday

Sunday, October 16

Worship – Jeff Boehr preaching

Lectionary: Jeremiah 31:27-34; Psalm 119:97-104; 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5; Luke 18:1-8

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.