

3rd Sunday after Easter

Music Sunday

April 30, 2023

Gathering

Special Music *Oh, You Can't Get to Heaven* Traditional
Cherub Choir, Laura Hartzler, conductor & Ben Hartzler, accompanist

Welcome and announcements Darryl Nester

Prelude *God of Grace and God of Glory* Paul Manz
Adult Bells, Ray Raeburn, conductor arr. M.L. Thompson

Invocation

*Opening Hymn VT 28 *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

*Responsive Reading - selections from Psalm 146

One: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

Many: I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

One: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God,

Many: who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;

One: who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed;

Many: who gives food to the hungry.

One: The Lord will reign forever,

Many: your God, O Zion, for all generations.

All: Praise the Lord!

Special Music *Saints Bound for Heaven* arr. Shaw/Parker
Chancel Choir, Mark Suderman, conductor

Telling God's Story

Scripture Selections from Psalm 147 Junia Spelman

Special Music *Jesu, Jesu Fill Us With Your Love* arr. Cindy Johnston
Jubilate, Laura Hartzler, conductor & Judy Steiner, accompanist

Conversation with Children Jen Benroth & Ray Raeburn

Hymn VT 359 *Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing*
(v. 1 coming forward & v. 4 going back to seats)

Special Music *Danza* J Wayne Kerr
Adult Bells

Community Prayer Adam Phillips

Special Music *Come to the Water* John Foley/Rich Modlin
Chancel Choir, LuAnn Stuckey, accompanist & Steve Harnish, recorder

Scripture Psalm 148 Jorian Mast & Claire Phillips

Special Music *Dona nobis pacem* Traditional
Youth Choir and Jubilate, Laura Hartzler, conductor

Scripture Psalm 149:1-5 & Psalm 150 Cheri Slotter

Meditation *Praise, Love, Serve* Mark Suderman

Living God's Story

*Hymn of Response VT 131 *Praise, I Will Praise You, Lord*
(Verse 1 in French or English, verses 2 & 3 in English)

Offering

Words of Invitation

Offertory *God of Grace and God of Laughter* Roy Hopp
Chancel Choir, Monica Harnish, violin

Dedication Prayer

Sending

*Hymn of Sending VT 88 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*
(Verse 1 in German or English, verses 2-4 in English)

*Benediction

*Postlude *Rejoice, My Heart, and Sing* arr. J. Blersch
LuAnn Stuckey

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

VT - Voices Together (Purple Bound Book)

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

Lead Pastor

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

Interim Pastor of Christian Education & Administration

Carrie Mast, 419-230-1568
carrie@fmcbluffton.org

Communication Coordinator

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

Director of Music

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

Technology & Media Coordinator

Ray Raeburn, 419-230-2769
ray@fmcbluffton.org

First Mennonite Church Office Hours

- Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
- Carrie's day off - Thursday
- Mark - Monday-Friday 9-11:50 a.m.

Video: Adam Phillips

Sound: Chris Moser

Chancel: Mary Ann Suter

4/17/23 - 4/23/23

Reported Volunteer hours: 40

Attendance: 129

Online views: 26 Live; 35 Recorded

Nursery Workers Today SS: Jan Wiebe & Victoria Woods-Yee

Worship: Sunita Hooley & Jonathan Spelman

Nursery Workers Next Week SS: Monica Harnish & Mitch Kingsley

Worship: Kevin & Shelby Cluts

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.

First Mennonite Church

April 30, 2023



Music Sunday

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark Suderman is our preacher today. He has been on staff at the church as Director of Music since 2006. Prior to Mark's work as Interim Church Administrator, he taught at Bluffton University for 17 years in the music department and then spent 3+ years as Volunteer Coordinator at Habitat for Humanity in Lima.

YOUTH AUCTION TODAY! 3 ways to bid!

1. **Join us in person** for some fun and "needed" items from **4-6 p.m.** this afternoon in the sanctuary! Bring the kids to bid on the children's items, specially priced for small budgets, or have the kids help you select some home essentials!
2. Can't make it in person? **Join us by Zoom!** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88392240484> Youth will be ready to take your bids!
3. Tied up from 4-6 p.m.? **Absentee bidding accepted!** Select an item you're interested in purchasing from the auction tables in the Fellowship Hall, and contact Carrie Mast (419.230.1568, carrie@fmcbluffton.org) with the highest bid you're willing to go. Members of the youth group will bid for you during the auction.

Refreshments available during the auction. Donations welcome!

The **2022 Financial Review** will be this **Wednesday, May 3** at **7 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. All are invited to attend and bring questions! A summary is in your mailbox.

Amy Norris will be available next Sunday, **May 7** to provide information about the **Refugee Welcoming Group** and answer questions. Amy is collaborating with a number of **people at Grace Mennonite Church** including **David Voth, Anna Kauffman, Bill Suter, and Keith Suter. Volunteers are needed** in a variety of ways including transportation, securing housing, helping the family shop on a budget, and more. Pick up information, sign up to be a volunteer, and/or chat with Amy in the Fellowship Hall before worship from 10-10:30 or immediately following worship.

Family Yoga with Emily Hilty! Emily is offering family yoga classes in her backyard on Thursday nights at 6:00 pm starting May 18th. Classes are \$10 per family and are for parents and children to take together. Meet at Emily's house at 182 Sunset Drive. Rain location is FMC. Join us in learning about mindfulness and have some fun practicing yoga with your little one! Email Emily to sign up or with questions: Emily.huxman@gmail.com.

FMC at **Findlay Pride Event:** A small group of individuals are exploring having a resource booth at the Findlay Pride Event on Saturday, **June 3rd, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.** Please let us know if you are interested in helping with this project by contacting Carrie Mast (419.230.1568) or Ray Person (419.358.0481). Even if you cannot be present on June 3rd, there will be ways you can help before the event.

At a congregational meeting in 2021, we decided to seek a Lead Pastor. We also decided that once that position was filled, we would later evaluate pastoral needs, and we created an interim Associate Pastor role. Phil has been in the Lead Pastor role, and Carrie has been in the interim Associate Pastor role for about six months. Leadership Circle wants to gather information from the congregation about the current pastoral model. The **May 7th congregational meeting** immediately following worship is a **discovery/discussion/Informational time** for the congregation to begin the next steps of this process. No decisions or voting will occur at this meeting. Sub sandwiches from Subway and chips will be available for a **light lunch** and we will proceed with the meeting in the Fellowship Hall. We hope to be **finished by 12:30**. Children are welcome to join adults for lunch. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Ray Person, moderator: 419.358.0481.

Thank you for making the 2023 Ohio **MCC Comforter Bash** a great success! We surpassed our goal and knotted a total of 220 comforters thanks to the help of 240 volunteers on Friday and 135 volunteers on Saturday. MCC is grateful for your part in providing warmth and hope to people around the world. Save the date for next year's event on March 8-9, 2024, at a new location at Fairlawn Mennonite Church in Apple Creek.

Welcome to **Flora Saloma Yoder** born April 14, 2023 to Pastor Phil & Chaska. If you wish to provide a meal, please visit <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/dz08wv>.

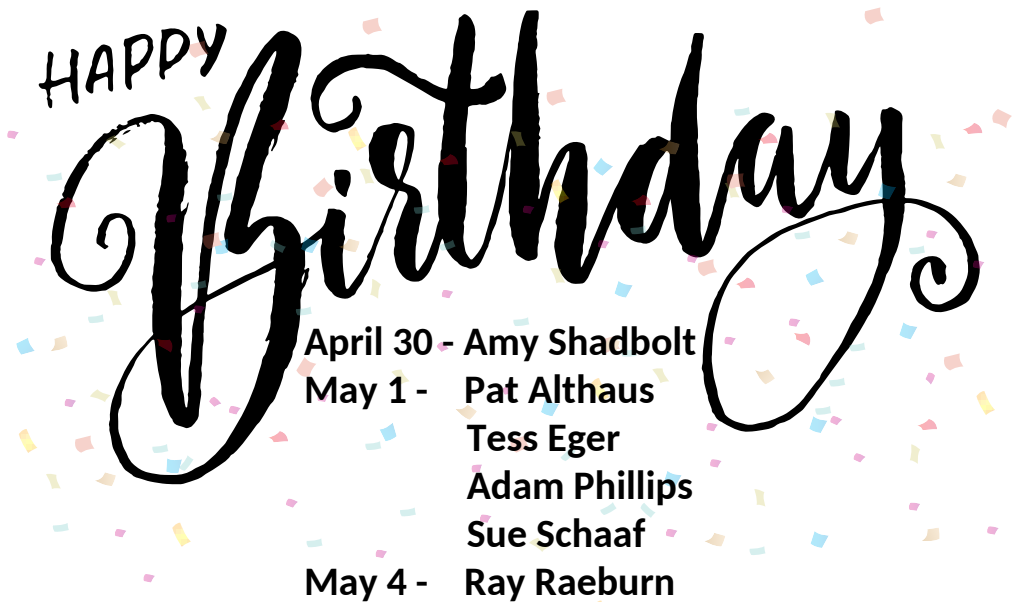
Volunteers needed at Ten Thousand Villages!

1. clerks/Fair Trade ambassadors
2. back room help with processing merchandise for off-site sales;
3. working with groups who come for presentations, classes, etc.;
4. writing articles for a newsletter;
5. social media marketing;
6. store maintenance projects.

For more information, contact Marcie Allen, (manager.bluffton@tenthousandvillages.com); (419) 358-7233), FMC reps Karen McCullough (karenmccullough1@gmail.com, 419-234-5915) or Lori Nester (nesterl@bluffton.edu, 419-358-9650).

Ministry Minute!

Are you interested in supporting families with young children? The Nursery Coordinator role is open for the 2023-24 year. We are grateful to Jonathan Spelman for coordinating nursery care during this past year. To find out more or to volunteer, contact the church office.



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, April 30, 2023

Youth Choir, 8:30 a.m.

Coffee Time, 9 a.m.

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

Worship: Mark Suderman preaching, 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary

Youth Auction, 4-6 p.m. Sanctuary

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

This Week

Monday, May 1

Gifts Discernment & Ministry Participation, 7 p.m. Parlor

Tuesday, May 2

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Staff meeting, 9 a.m. Parlor

Wednesday, May 3

Jubilate 3:15-4 p.m., Cherub Choir 4:45-5:30 p.m.

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

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

2022 Financial Review Meeting, 7 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Next Sunday, May 7, 2023

Worship - Lynn Miller preaching

Lectionary: Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-13

Congregational Meeting - after worship (sub sandwiches provided)

Catechism Class w/ Potluck, 12 p.m. Assembly Room

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

Welcome to our worship service today.

Visitors are invited to sign one of our guest sheets located at the entrances to the sanctuary.

Wireless hearing aids are available. **Worship bags** for children can be found hanging on wooden pegs at each sanctuary entrance. **Child care is available** during Sunday School and worship for young children in the nursery located in the basement.