

Juneteenth ● Father's Day ● Jubilee

June 18, 2023

Gathering

Welcome and announcements Jan Wiebe

Prelude *Sonata in C-sharp Minor, Mvt. I* Beethoven
Ken Graber

Invocation

*Opening Hymns VT 297 *You are Salt for the Earth*
Wendy Chappell-Dick, Everett Collier, & Adam Phillips VT 816 *Guide My Feet*

*Responsive Reading - selections from Psalm 116

One: I love the Lord because God has heard my voice and my supplications.

Many: Because God inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on God as long as I live.

One: What shall I return to the Lord for all God's bounty to me?

Many: I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord;

One: I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's people,

Many: in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

All: Praise the Lord!

Telling God's Story

Special Music *There is a Balm in Gilead* Spiritual
Wendy Chappell-Dick, Everett Collier, & Adam Phillips

Conversation with Children Teri Steinmetz

Hymn VT 752 *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*
(sing coming forward & going back to seats)

Community Prayer Carrie Mast

Scripture Genesis 18:1-15, Genesis 21:1-7 Gene Long

Message *Practicing Hopelessness: An Introduction to Jubilee* Phil Yoder

Living God's Story

*Hymn of Response VT 190 *The God of Sarah Praise*

Offering

Words of Invitation

Offertory *Prelude in D-Flat Major* A. Scriabin

Dedication Prayer

Sending

*Hymn of Sending VT 762 *This Little Light of Mine*

*Benediction

*Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

~ VT - Voices Together (Purple Bound Book)

First Mennonite Church
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First Mennonite Church Office Hours

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

Video: Ray Raeburn

Sound: Chris Gott

Chancel: Anita Lehman, Ari & Jaden Goings

5/28/23 - 6/4/23

Reported Volunteer hours: 19

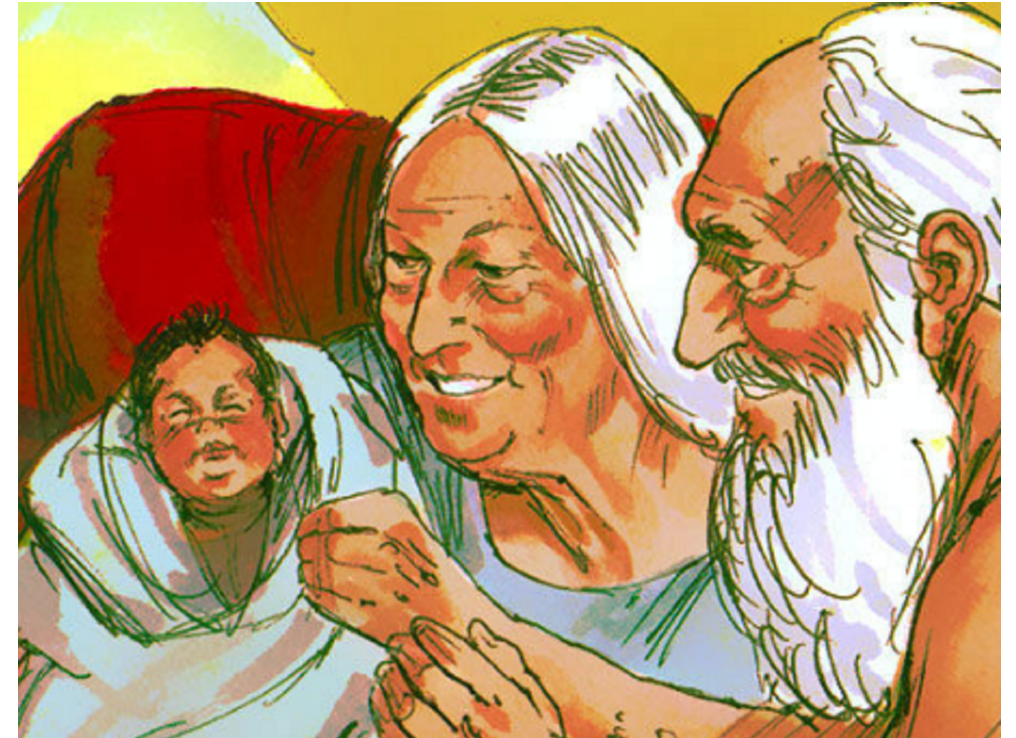
Attendance: 185

Online views ~ Live: 25 Recorded: 40

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.

JUBILEE

CENTRAL DISTRICT



HAPPY
Father's Day

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for the cards, visits and prayers during my time in Blanchard Valley Hospital and rehab at Mennonite Memorial Home. The pastors and members of First Mennonite Church are truly caring people. - **Don Hostetler**

Providing meals for the **Matthews** is one way to help support **Louise and Lawrence** as Louise goes through surgery and subsequent radiation over the next two months. Sign-ups for meals can happen at www.mealtrain.com/trains/dzrq13 or by calling/texting Chaska at 717-621-7282.

Marilyn Diller's surgery to repair 2 broken arms after a fall last weekend went well. She is progressing better than expected and still she is facing a very long road to recovery. A **card shower** would be much appreciated for Marilyn on her 92nd birthday on Wednesday, June 21. Cards can be sent to Larry & Judy Diller (11575 Bentley Road Bluffton, OH 45817) or put in their church mailbox.

On June 19th, 1865, enslaved African Americans in Texas were informed of the Emancipation Proclamation which President Lincoln had issued. On the 1st Anniversary of the announcement by General Gordon Granger of the Union Army, formerly enslaved African American in Texas celebrated "Jubilee Day" on June 19 to mark their free status. These annual celebrations which included games, music, food and information about their rights as free people have continued into the 21st century, The name combining June and 19th was used in the community celebrations. The chancel display today, focuses on the good news of emancipation.

TODAY! FMC is celebrating all the men in our lives with a **Father's Day Tie Exchange!** Got any ties you don't wear anymore? Bring them in and exchange them for some ties new to you! Don't have any ties you want to part with? No problem! Choose any tie from our collection in the Fellowship Hall. All people of all ages are welcome to participate!



The office will be **closed** on Monday in honor of **Juneteenth**.

Our Daily Bread volunteers will meet at the church this **Tuesday, June 20** at **10:45 a.m.** **Mary Ramseyer** will be driving.

Mark Suderman will be out of the office from June 16-July 9. He will be checking his email periodically during this time.

The Central District Conference Annual Meeting is this week from Thursday, June 22 - Saturday, June 24 on the Goshen College Campus. Delegates representing FMC include **Rich Bucher, Gloria Hernandez Bucher, Carrie Mast, Gerald Mast, Linda Miller, Lynn Miller, Lori Nester, Jan Wiebe,** and **Phil Yoder**. A brief report will be shared during worship on June 25th.

While Pastors Phil & Carrie are attending the **Central District Conference Annual Meeting** Thursday - Saturday, **JP Schumacher** will be on call for **pastoral concerns** that arise. JP can be reached at 567.712.1891.

Camp Friedenswald is hosting Primary (2nd grade) and Pre-Junior (3rd & 4th grades) Camps this week. There are 9 children from FMC departing today for the Peaceful Woods: **Evan Blount, Hannah DeMarco, Noah DeMarco, Madalyn King, Milena King, Simon Phillips, Junia Spelman, Quin Spelman,** and **Savannah Werling**. FMC is also helping staff camp this summer. **Patrick Estell, Ben Hartzler, Ana Neufeld Weaver,** and **Ellie Nickel** are all serving as staff. Ana is serving on the leadership team. Additional volunteers from FMC include **Anne Marie Spelman** and **Amy Shadbolt**. Prayers for a safe and fun week for these campers, staffers, volunteers and the drivers who are transporting campers!

UPDATED DATE: On Sunday, **June 25th**, following worship, Libby Hostetler will lead a short informational meeting on **House Bill 103** which is attempting to standardize Social Studies curriculum with "American Birthright: The Civics Alliance's Model K-12 Social Studies Standards." Come to the Fellowship Hall to hear about the bill and ask all your questions!

Watch Party: Come join us for the showing of the movie **The Wereth Eleven** on Sunday, **June 25th** at **3 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. **Everett Collier**, whose uncle was a member of The Wereth Eleven, will lead a discussion after the movie.

This is an invitation to any **FMC women** who want to join the **Bluffton Women's Choir** in singing a justice song **August 20th**. Email mennofolkmusic@gmail.com for details.

Ministry Minute!



The photo depicts what a shorter pew in the center section would look like. A shortened pew would improve accessibility in multiple ways in our worship space. Interested in getting involved with other projects like this? Consider being part of the **Accessibility Ministry!**



Happy Anniversary!

Tom & Sarah Basinger
June 23



40th
ANNIVERSARY
Greg & Mary Ring
June 18

Happy Birthday!

June 19 - Rebecca Estell

Laura Hartzler

June 21 - Marilyn Diller

Ken Shenk

June 22 - Mel Stettler

June 23 - Darrell Huber

Elnore Yost

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.



First
Mennonite
Church
Bluffton, Ohio

follow us



Today, Sunday, June 18, 2023

Coffee Time, 9 a.m.

Sunday School open to all youth & adults, 9:15 a.m. Assembly Room

Worship: Phil Yoder preaching, 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary

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

This Week

Monday, June 19

Office Closed (Juneteenth Holiday)

Tuesday, June 20

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Staff meeting, 9 a.m. Parlor

Our Daily Bread, 10:45 a.m.

Thursday, June 22 - Saturday, June 24

Central District Conference Annual Meeting, Goshen, IN

Next Sunday, June 25

Worship - Carrie Mast preaching

House Bill 103 discussion, immediately following worship, Fellowship Hall

Watch Party: *The Wereth Eleven*, 3 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Lectionary: Genesis 21:8-21 and Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17; Jeremiah 20:7-13;

Psalm 69:7-10, (11-15), 16-18; Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-38

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.

Parents and caregivers are invited to use the nursery with their young children during Sunday School and worship. The nursery is located in the basement.