

MennoCon 2023: Be Transformed

July 16, 2023

Gathering

Welcome and announcements Carrie Mast

Prelude Arabesque (excerpt) R. Schumann
Ken Graber

Invocation Phil Yoder

Convention Report: Worship Phil Yoder

*Opening Hymns VT157 *Come to Me, O Weary Traveler*
VT 347 *I Know That My Redeemer Lives*
Jeff & Marlyce Gundy

*Responsive Reading - selections from Psalm 119
One: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
Many: I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to observe your righteous ordinances.
One: I am severely afflicted; give me life, O God, according to your word.
Many: Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord, and teach me your ordinances.
One: Your decrees are my heritage forever;
Many: they are the joy of my heart.
All: I incline my heart to perform your statutes forever, to the end.

Convention Report: Seminars Shelby Cluts, Gerald Mast

Telling God's Story

Conversation with Children Rebecca Estell & Phil Yoder
Hymn VT 550 *God Who Touches Earth with Beauty*
(v. 1 coming forward & v. 4 going back to seats)

Special Music *The Maker* Daniel Lanois
Jeff & Marlyce Gundy

Convention Report: Delegate Sessions Adam Phillips

Community Prayer Carrie Mast

Scripture Romans 12:1-8 Melinda Estell

Youth Reporting Video
Ethan Blount, Theo Andreas, Claire Phillips, Ethan Nickel, Ellie Hartzler

Convention Reports Ethan Renick, Jax Gott, John-Paul Yoder

Living God's Story

*Hymns of Response VT 456 *Oceans*
VT 551 *Beautiful Things*
Chris Gott, bass; Adam Phillips, cajon; Phil Yoder, piano/guitar

Convention Report: Finances Carrie Mast

Offering
Words of Invitation
Offertory *Andantino--Rubato* A. Scriabin
Dedication Prayer

Sending

*Hymn of Sending *Trading My Sorrows (Yes Lord)* Darrell Evans

*Benediction

*Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

~ VT - Voices Together (Purple Bound Book)

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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: Adam Phillips
Sound: Chris Gott
Chancel: Carrie Mast

7/2/23 - 7/9/23
Reported Volunteer hours:2.5
Attendance: 127
Online views - Live: 26 Recorded: 34

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
July 16, 2023



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Bluffton Community VBS begins tonight! Children aged 4 - 5th grade are invited to join a week of Bible stories and fun at the English Lutheran Church Sunday - Thursday evenings from 6-8:00 p.m. Thank you to **Mary Ina Hooley, Sunita Hooley, Miev Chan, Jorian Mast, & Carrie Mast** for volunteering each night and to **Gloria Hernandez Bucher** for baking cookies!

Our Daily Bread volunteers will meet at the church Tuesday, July 18 at 10:45 a.m. Pat Sheidler will be driving.

Pastor Phil is taking his quarterly Sunday off on July 23.

Annual Tri-Church Worship Service: First, Grace, and Lima Mennonite Churches will gather together for the second annual Tri-Church worship service on Sunday, **August 13**. Worship will be held at **10:30 a.m.** in the Pandora Village Park with a potluck following.

- Bring your own chairs, blankets, table service, and a dish to share (no electricity for crockpots; water will be provided).
- There will be a pick-up one pitch softball game (using tennis balls), and a disc golf tournament. There are also basketball and shuffleboard courts. (bring your equipment)
- Bring an envelope for your offering or designate your check accordingly. Members can designate offerings to their home congregation or as a love offering to the Village of Pandora.
- Hymn accompaniment is organized by Wendy Chappell-Dick and will consist of anyone who wants to play an instrument showing up at 10 a.m. If you would like information on what songs will be sung, contact the church office.
- Worship location is accessible.

MCC School Kit Drive: "Back to School" sales are starting up again. School kit supplies are much cheaper and easier to find at this time. MCC is hoping to collect 10,000 school kits during the month of August. We will collect kits starting now through the end of August. Kits have changed slightly. See list on the bulletin board by the library or on the MCC website.

Red Cross Blood Drive Tuesday, July 18 at First Methodist Church from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Registration is online.

The Maker **by Daniel Lanois**

Oh, oh deep water, black and cold like the night
I stand with arms wide open,
I've run a twisted line
I'm a stranger in the eyes of the Maker

I could not see for the fog in my eyes
I could not feel for the fear in my life
And from across the great divide, In the distance I saw a light
Jean Baptiste's walking to me with the Maker

My body is bent and broken by long and dangerous sleep
I can't work the fields of Abraham and turn my head away
I'm not a stranger in the hands of the Maker

Brother John, have you seen the homeless daughters
Standing there with broken wings
I have seen the flaming swords
There over east of Eden
Burning in the eyes of the Maker x3

Trading My Sorrows (Yes Lord) **by Darrell Evans**

I'm trading my sorrow
I'm trading my shame
I'm laying it down for the joy of the Lord

I'm trading my sickness
I'm trading my pain
I'm laying it down for the joy of the Lord

Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes Lord x6

Ministry Minute!

Youth Ministry!

Thank you to Pastor Carrie, Chris Gott, and Melinda Estell for traveling with our youth to the Mennonite Church USA Youth Convention. Chris successfully and safely transported our 10 youth for a total of over 24 hours of driving! He also braved several roller coasters on his 50th birthday. Pastor Carrie did a lot of planning over the last years, from fundraising to logistics. Thank you to all that donated to make this meaningful trip possible. - Pastor Phil



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.



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Bluffton First Mennonite Church

Today, Sunday, July 16, 2023

Coffee Time, 9 a.m.

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

Worship: Convention Reporting, 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary

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

Bluffton Community VBS begins, 6-8 p.m. English Lutheran Church

This Week

Monday, July 17

Bluffton Community VBS, 6-8 p.m. English Lutheran Church

Tuesday, July 18

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Staff meeting, 9 a.m. Parlor

Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen, 10:45 a.m.

Bluffton Community VBS, 6-8 p.m. English Lutheran Church

Wednesday, July 19

Bluffton Community VBS, 6-8 p.m. English Lutheran Church

Thursday, July 20

Bluffton Community VBS, 6-8 p.m. English Lutheran Church

Next Sunday, July 23

Worship: Carrie Mast preaching

Lectionary: Genesis 28:10-19a and Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24;

Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19 or Isaiah 44:6-8 and Psalm 86:11-17;

Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-42

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.