

Jubilee: The Struggle of Generosity

August 6, 2023

Gathering

Welcome and announcements

Kevin Cluts

Community Prayer

Victoria Woods-Yee

Prelude

Prelude No. 10 in E Major
Laura Hartzler

Robert D. Vandall

Scripture

Genesis 32: 3-31

Jon Rockhold

Invocation

Message

Wrestling with Generosity

Phil Yoder

*Opening Hymns

Tess Eger & David Edmiston

VT 772 *God of Justice*
Peace Like a River

Living God's Story

*Hymn of Response

VT 722 *Help Us To Help Each Other*

*Responsive Reading - selections from Psalm 17

One: Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry;

Many: give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.

One: From you let my vindication come;

Many: let your eyes see the right.

One: I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God;

Many: incline your ear to me; hear my words.

**All: Wondrously show your steadfast love, O savior of those who seek
refuge from their adversaries at your right hand.**

Offering

Words of Invitation

Offertory

When Peace Like a River
Wendy Chappell-Dick

Philip P. Bliss

Dedication Prayer

Sending

*Hymn of Sending

VT 549 *Be Thou My Vision*

*Benediction

Special Music

God, Earth, People
Tess Eger & David Edmiston

Eger and Edmiston

*Postlude

Conversation with Children

Teri Steinmetz

Hymn

HWB 621 *Jesus, Friend So Kind and Gentle*
(v. 1 coming forward & v. 2 going back to seats)

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

~ VT - *Voices Together (Purple Bound Book)*

~ HWB - *Hymnal: A Worship Book (Blue 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

Custodian Shawna Yoder
caretaker@fmcbluffton.org

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

Nursery Workers Today SS: *This could be you!!!*
Worship: *Scan QR code to sign-up.*

Nursery Workers Next Week SS: *Starting this September!*
Worship: *Or contact Mary Edmiston.*



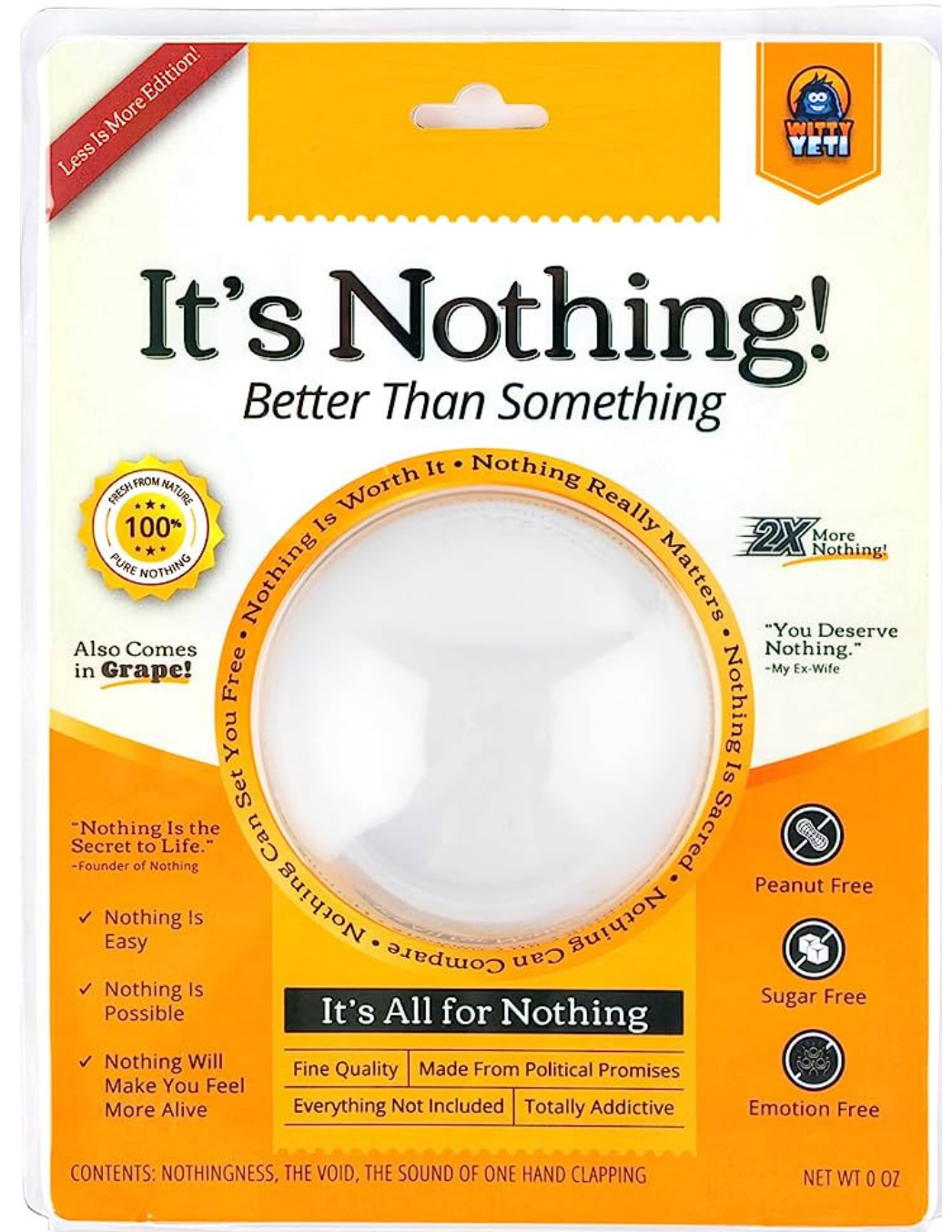
To volunteer in the nursery, sign up here: <http://fmcbluffton.org/nursery-volunteers>

Video: Ray Raeburn	7/16/23 - 7/23/23
Sound: Melissa Friesen	Reported Volunteer hours: 45
Chancel: Harnishes & Sara Brenner	Attendance: 86
	Online views - Live: 20 Recorded: 35

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

August 6, 2023



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marty Hostetler has been released to the Mennonite Home after a stay at Blanchard Valley in Findlay. Lowell Hostetler has settled at home following a stay at St Vincent's Hospital in Toledo. Prayers for both Marty and Lowell are appreciated.

Marilyn Diller is having a left reverse shoulder replacement on Thursday Aug. 10 at Mercy-St. Rita's. Prayers appreciated

NEXT SUNDAY 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 or sing showing up at 9:30 a.m. If you would like information on what songs will be sung, contact the church office. Worship location is accessible.
- If the weather is bad, we will be at Grace Mennonite Church.
- There will not be transportation offered for Maple Crest Residents.
- Tri-church Men's choir will be singing two songs. If you would like to be a part of it, come and practice at 9:50am. Copies of the music are available in the office.

Our Daily Bread volunteers will meet at the church Tuesday, August 15 at 10:45 a.m. Heidrun Awad will be driving.

Bluffton Schools will host nine high school students and a teacher from Japan from Sept. 21 (Thur.) to 24 (Sun.). Would you be interested in hosting a student? Contact **Ken Shenk** this week for more information at kenshenk@aol.com or 419-889-1804.

Mark Suderman has announced that this next year will be his last as Director of Music at FMC. Both he and Elaine will be retiring at some point in the summer/fall of 2024. Soon after their retirement, they will be moving to New Mexico. Mark is especially looking forward to one more great year with the Chancel Choir. Please consider joining the choir this fall. **Mark and Elaine** will continue to enjoy the wonderful fellowship, worship, and friendship here at church during these next months.

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.

Lists are on the bulletin board by the library or on the MCC website. One change this year is 4 pens, instead of just 2. We will have metal sharpeners available in the supply bin for you to add to your kits, if you want to use them. (If you have extra metal sharpeners that you purchase, you feel free to add them to our supply.) *If donating money, please write "MCC KITS" on the memo line.

The last **Women's Bible Study** on August 23 will consider Genesis 34 and the novel **The Red Tent** by Anita Diamant. Contact the church office if you need a copy of the book.

Ministry Minute!

Transportation ministry

The Transportation ministry is seeking folks interested in transporting residents at Maple Crest to First Mennonite on Sunday mornings. If you would be interested in learning to drive the bus and transporting folks, please contact Judy Diller at diller.larryandjudy569@gmail.com or 419.303.4341.

Happy Birthday!

August 7 - Jeff Gundy
Lowell Hostetler
August 9 - Jan Wiebe
August 10 - Ron Lora
August 11 - Mary Steiner
August 12 - Dick Boehr
Jan Emmert

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



@fmcbluffton



Bluffton First Mennonite Church

Today, Sunday, August 6, 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

Tuesday, August 8

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Staff meeting, 9:30 a.m. Parlor

Next Sunday, August 13

Worship: Tri-Church Worship Service at Pandora Park

303 W Washington St, Pandora, OH

Lectionary: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 and Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b;

1 Kings 19:9-18 ;Psalm 85:8-13; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

~~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.