

What Is Your Jubilee?

August 27, 2023

Gathering

Welcome and announcements Walt Paquin

Prelude *Hail, O Source of Every Blessing* arr. B. Culli
LuAnn Stuckey

Invocation Gerald Mast

*Opening Hymns VT 76 *Holy, Holy, Holy!*
VT 22 *What is this Place*

*Responsive Reading - selections from Psalm 124

One: If it had not been the Lord who was on our side

Many: —let Israel now say—

One: if it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when our enemies
attacked us,

**Many: then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was
kindled against us;**

One: then the flood would have swept us away; the torrent would have gone
over us;

Many: then over us would have gone the raging waters.

All: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Telling God's Story

Special Music *A Living Prayer* Alison Krauss
Kathy Dickson (voice), Adam Phillips (guitar)

Conversation with Children Phil Yoder

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

Offering

Invitation and Prayer

Offertory *Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus* arr. K. Kosche

Community Prayer Pastor Phil

Scripture Exodus 1:8-22; Romans 12:1-8 Jorian Mast

Message *The Antidote to Insecurity* Carrie Mast

Living God's Story

*Hymn of Response VT 758 *Who Will Speak a Word of Warning*

Communion

Sending

*Hymn of Sending VT 847 *You Shall Go Out with Joy* (sing twice)

*Benediction

*Postlude

**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

First Mennonite Church

August 27, 2023

Lead Pastor Phil Yoder, 717-869-7624
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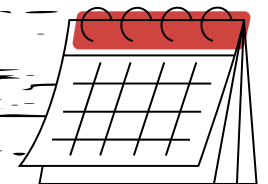
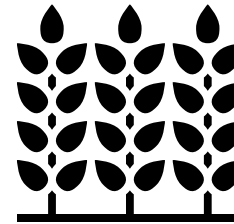
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First Mennonite Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

~ Phil's day off - Friday ~ Carrie's day off - Thursday

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	8/13/23 - 8/20/23
Sound: Kevin Cluts	Reported Volunteer hours: 29
Chancel: Harnishes	Attendance: 145
	Online views - Live: 28 Recorded: 15

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

Thank you for your prayers and care for my mom as she has faced cancer and continues with surgery recovery and treatments (and joins the livestream often.) Even as I/we missed a lot at FMC this summer, we felt your love. Thank you.

~ **Kathy Dickson (and Alex, Evan, and JD)**

TODAY: We will be partaking in **Communion**. An opportunity to **give alms** to support the Mutual Aid Fund will be available. Baskets for this offering will be located at the entrances to the sanctuary. The Mutual Aid Fund provides assistance for individual needs in our church and community. In the last months, this fund has provided housing and groceries to many people. Thank you for your ongoing support.

TODAY: There will be a **congregational meeting** immediately following worship for consideration of the following motion from Leadership Circle: First Mennonite Church, Bluffton calls Carrie Mast as Associate Pastor to begin a 3-year term starting on Sept 1, 2023.

Noodle Night Returns THIS WEEK! Join us on Wednesday evenings between 4:45 and 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for pasta, red sauce, applesauce, and popsicles. Bring a dish to share or just show up! There is always plenty!

The **Gifts Discernment & Ministry Participation ministry** will meet on **Wednesday at 7 p.m.** in the Parlor.

The **MCC school kit drive** is winding down. Please have all kits, supplies, and monies turned in to the church by the end of August.

Sunday School for all ages begins on Sunday, September 3. Due to the holiday weekend (Labor Day), children and youth will be combined and will gather on the lawn. If the weather is not conducive to gathering outside, we'll gather in the ViP Room.

Continued Learning Elder Organization. **J.P. Schumacher** has organized a new series of courses for individuals who would like to continue learning past the traditional student age. **C.L.E.O.** will provide four weekly courses beginning Monday, September 11 here at FMC. Register at <http://fmcbluffton.org/2023-c-l-e-o-fall-registration-form/> or pick up a form in the office. Speakers are **Fred Steiner, Gerald Mast, and Ruth Naylor.**

Music Ensemble Rehearsals 2023 - Music Ensemble Rehearsals to begin in September: note the dates, times, locations, and ages for the church's music ensembles. Please consider offering your musical gifts to this important part of worship for our congregation and encourage others to join. We would gladly welcome new additions to the ensembles and will greatly enjoy the return of former members.

- Chancel Choir (adults of all ages) begins on Wednesday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m. (Mark Suderman, director) - sanctuary.
- Adult Bells (adults of all ages) and Youth Bells (Grades 7-12) - both begin on Wednesday, September 6 at 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. respectively (Ray Raeburn, director) - assembly room.
- Cherub Choir (3 yr. olds-2nd graders) begins on Sunday, September 10 at 9:15-9:45a.m. (Laura Hartzler, director) - children's choir room.
- Jubilate (3rd-5th graders) begins on Wednesday, September 13 at 3:00-3:45pm (Laura Hartzler, director) - children's choir room.
- Youth Choir (6th grade and up) will meet on Sunday, September 10 at 8:30-9:15a.m. (Laura Hartzler, director) - children's choir room.
o Parents with new children in a choir are welcome to stay as needed.

MCC's Seek Discipleship Program in Cambodia: Seek is a 6-month intentional discipleship program for 18-20-year-olds, with an Anabaptist flavor. Participants will live with a small group of other young adults, exploring what it means to grow as a follower of Jesus. They will study Scripture, volunteer locally, and experience life in the community. The cohort will consist of 6-10 international participants and will run from January 15 - June 24, 2024, in the rich and beautiful setting of Cambodia. More information and an online application are available at mcc.org/seek. Accepting applicants until October 1 or the cohort is filled.

Ministry Minute!

TECH ASSISTANCE MINISTRY

- Calling All Techies! With the ever changing landscape of technology in our world, there is an increasing need for assistance with a variety of

technology issues within our congregation. If you are willing to be part of a list of people that would be willing to help congregational members with their problems, please contact Ray or Trusty in the church office.

Some possible issues that members may need assistance with include: internet/WiFi, computer problems, Zoom/video conferencing help, cell phone or tablet assistance, etc...Additionally, if you find yourself in need of such assistance, do not hesitate to contact Ray or Trusty.



Ray Raeburn, 419-230-2769
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Trustworthy Schumacher, 419-358-5766
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Happy Birthday!

August 27 - Gary Wetherill

August 28 - Jerry Tripp
Perry Bush

August 29 - Cassidy Bush

September 2 - Elysia Bush



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



BACK to SCHOOL



Today, Sunday, August 27, 2023

Coffee Time, 9 a.m.

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

Worship: Carrie Mast preaching, 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary

Congregational Meeting, immediately following worship Sanctuary

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



This Week

Monday, August 28

Staff meeting, 9:30 a.m. Parlor

Tuesday, August 29

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Wednesday, August 30

Noodle Night, come & go between 4:45 & 6 p.m. Fellowship Hall

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

Next Sunday, September 3

Worship: Phil Yoder preaching

Lectionary: Exodus 3:1-15 and Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b; Jeremiah 15:15-21

Psalm 26:1-8; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

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.