

5 PRIORITIES: Nurture Faith Within Relationships

September 10, 2023

Gathering

Welcome and announcements Kendra Nickel

Prelude *La fille aux cheveux de lin* Claude Debussy
Anne Marie Spelman

Invocation

*Opening Hymn VT 101 *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns*

*Responsive Reading - selections from Psalm 149

One: Praise the Lord!

Many: Sing to the Lord a new song, God's praise in the assembly of the faithful.

One: Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their Monarch.

Many: For the Lord takes pleasure in the people;

One: God adorns the humble with victory.

Many: Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.

All: Praise the Lord!

Telling God's Story

Conversation with Children Teri Steinmetz

Hymn VT 516 *Jesus Loves Me*
(sing coming forward & going back to seats)

Community Prayer

Carrie Mast

Scripture

Galations 2:11-21

Rodney Dyck

Message

Engage Feedback, Nurture Faith

Phil Yoder

Living God's Story

*Hymn of Response

VT 556 *I Bind My Heart This Tide*

Offering

Words of Invitation

Offertory *Sonatina in C Major, Op. 157, No. 4, Mvt. II: Vivo* Fritz Spindler

Dedication Prayer

Sending

*Hymn of Sending

VT 813 *Heart with Loving Heart United*

*Benediction

*Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

~ VT - Voices Together (Purple Bound Book)

First Mennonite Church
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Lead Pastor Phil Yoder, 717-869-7624
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Custodian Shawna Yoder
shawna@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: *Carmen Ordonez/Cheri Slotter*
Worship: *Sunita Hooley/Trusty Schumacher*

Nursery Workers Next Week SS: *Amy Shadbolt*
Worship: *Mary Edmiston/Tess Eger*

Nursery sign-up here: <http://fmcbluffton.org/nursery-volunteers>



Video: Ray Raeburn	8/27/23 - 9/3/23
Sound: Melissa Friesen	Reported Volunteer hours: 30
Chancel: Rodney Dyck	Attendance: 123
	Online views - Live: 23 Recorded: 22

First Mennonite Church

September 10, 2023



ENGAGE FEEDBACK, NURTURE FAITH
'FIVE PRIORITIES'

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 the many and varied ways you cared for both of us during my unexpected journey with breast cancer, our recent move and Lawrence's resignation. We've been navigating this time of uncertainty without a map, surrounded by incredible support and encouragement from the body of Christ. It feels like we've been on the receiving-end of Jubilee living. We humbly accept your love and care with gratitude.

~ Louise & Lawrence Matthews

New address: **405 Basel Avenue, Bluffton OH 45817**

New emails: louisemathews46@gmail.com lawrence.matthews@myyahoo.com

To First Mennonite Congregation: A note of thanks for your cards, help, prayers, thoughts, and patience throughout Lowell's cracked vertebrae and the restrictions that went with his recovery. A special "thanks" to our pastoral staff for their attention - it's comforting to have someone to turn to in times of need. Again, thank you for answered prayers. We're terribly tardy, we know, but wanted to see how long healing took.

Lowell and Marty Hostetler

PS - Lowell's brace is now off - and restrictions gone too - with the consent of his neurosurgeon.

TUESDAYS: Yoga with Emily: Join **Emily Hilty** on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall as she leads yoga lessons. Classes are an hour and will run from September 5 - to October 17. Classes are \$12/ session. Come as you are, no experience needed. If interested contact Emily at warriorfromwithin1@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY: We will be assembling the **MCC school kits** during Noodle Night on **Sept. 13 from 4:45-6:00 p.m.** Please come to help pack the kits anytime during that period, regardless of whether or not you are planning to eat at Noodle Night.

CHOIR INFO:

- **Chancel Choir** (adults of all ages) begins this Wednesday at 7 p.m., Sanctuary.
- **Adult Bells** (adults of all ages) Wednesdays at 6 p.m., Assembly Room
- **Youth Bells** (Grades 7-12) Wednesdays at 7 p.m., Assembly Room
- **Cherub Choir** (3 yr. olds-2nd graders) begins this Sunday from 9:15-9:45 a.m., Children's Choir room
- **Jubilate** (3rd-5th graders) begins this Wednesday from 3:00-3:45 p.m., Children's Choir room
- **Youth Choir** (6th grade and up) begins this Sunday 8:30-9:15a.m., Children's Choir room

o Parents with new children in a choir are welcome to stay as needed.

WHAT: JHY Un-Lock-In Friday & Saturday!

WHEN: 5:45 p.m. Friday - 10 a.m. Saturday

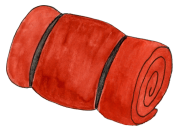
WHERE: Meet in Fellowship Hall & we'll move downstairs to the JHY room for the rest

ACTIVITIES: Service project (serving & cleaning up for Rich Bucher's class reunion), Minute-To-Win-It games, video games, learning a spiritual practice, making snacks, and more!

WHAT TO BRING: Snacks to share, sleeping bag, toothbrush?

MEALS: Supper, movie theater popcorn, and breakfast provided

RSVP: Text or email Carrie Mast: 419.230.1568 or carrie@fmcbluffton.org



All Mentor pairs are invited to a mentoring event **next Sunday**, September 17th at **3:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall to welcome our new members! We will have a "snack potluck", so please coordinate with your mentor pair to bring something to share with the group. Check your email for more information coming your way!

Charlene Coughlin Bluffton University '05, president of TWIST Creative, will present "Marketing and Mental Health - The Industry's Impact on Individuals and Communities" for Bluffton's weekly Forum program. During the **11 a.m. event on Sept. 12** in Yoder Recital Hall, Coughlin will draw from her leadership of the Cleveland brand and design agency. The Forum will connect to Bluffton's yearlong exploration of the theme: **Exploring the Continuum of Emotional Wellness**. The presentation is free and open to the public.

Ministry Minute!

Our **Safe Sanctuary** policy requires at least 2 adults present or nearby when meeting with children and youth. Our **SHY group** often meets on Wednesday nights in the Fellowship Hall from 7:30-9:30 p.m. The **JHY group** often meets on a weeknight once a month from 6:30-7:45 p.m. If you would be interested in helping once in a while by **just being present** (or getting involved if you like!), let Carrie Mast know: 419.230.1568 or carrie@fmclubluffton.org.



September 13
Ryan & Alicia DeMarco



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.

Happy Birthday!

September 12 - JD Sider
September 14 - Andrea Goings
Tim Schumacher
September 15 - Kaden Niekamp



follow us



Today, Sunday, September 10, 2023

Youth Choir, 8:30 - 9:15 a.m. Children's Choir Room
Coffee Time, 9 a.m.

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

Cherub Choir, 9:15 a.m. Children's Choir Room

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

Sojourners SS Class & College Students potluck, noon Assembly Room

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

This Week

Monday, September 11

C.L.E.O , 9 a.m. Parlor

Staff meeting, 9:30 a.m. Library

Tuesday, September 12

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Yoga with Emily, 6 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, September 13

Jubilate 3:00 - 3:45 p.m. Children's Choir Room

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

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

Chancel Choir, 7 p.m. Sanctuary

Friday & Saturday, September 15-16

JHY Un-Lock-in , 5:45 p.m. - 10 a.m. Fellowship Hall & JHY Room

Next Sunday, September 17

Worship: Phil Yoder preaching

Mentoring Event, 3 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Lectionary: Exodus 14:19-31 and Psalm 114 or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21;

Genesis 50:15-21 and Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

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.