

# All Saints Service

November 5, 2023

## Gathering

Opening Music	<i>The Story of Paul Bunyan</i> Hannah DeMarco	Helen Marlais
Welcome and announcements		Gerald Mast
Prelude	<i>For All the Saints</i> LuAnn Stuckey	arr. K. Hildebrand
Invocation		
Special Music	<i>Amazing Grace</i> Jubilate, Laura Hartzler (conductor)	Sandra Eithun
*Opening Hymn	VT 126 <i>Holy God, We Praise Thy Name</i> (v. 1 in German, v. 2-4 English)	

\*Responsive Reading - selections from Psalm 34

One: I will bless the Lord at all times;

**Many: God's praise shall continually be in my mouth.**

One: My soul makes its boast in the Lord;

**Many: let the humble hear and be glad.**

One: I sought the Lord, and God answered me

**Many: and delivered me from all my fears.**

One: Look to God, and be radiant, so your faces shall never be ashamed.

**Many: The Lord redeems the life of God's servants;**

**All: none of those who take refuge in God will be condemned.**

## Telling God's Story

Special Music *God Who Watches Over Me* Lensch/arr. Shepperd  
Chancel Choir, Mark Suderman (conductor), LuAnn Stuckey (pianist), Steve Harnish, recorder

In the dawning of my life, resting on my mother's knee, you were there to hear my cry, God who watches over me. All the years I was alone, slowly drifting out to sea, you were there to bring me home, God who watches over me. Though your hand I cannot see, through my life you've come to be God who watches over me. Like a sheep I'd gone astray, lost in darkness all around; then a Shepherd led the way: by whose grace now I am found. When the evening shadows fall and I hear you call for me, I will leave this world behind and your face my eyes will see. God who watches over me...

Conversation with Children Pastor Carrie  
Hymn VT 747 *We Plow the Fields and Scatter*  
(v. 1 coming forward & v. 2 going back to seats)

Offering  
Words of Invitation & Dedication Prayer  
Offertory *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* arr. R. Hartsell  
Community Prayer Pastor Carrie  
Licensing of Chaska Yoder Doug Luginbill  
\*Hymn VT 748 *Take, O Take Me as I Am* (sing twice)  
Scripture Joshua 3 Shelby Cluts

## Living God's Story

Reflection *Who Will Go Before Us?* Pastor Phil  
Service of Remembrance  
Hymn VT 43 *God, Be The Love*  
*Led by Chaska Yoder (voice) Phil Yoder (guitar/voice)*  
Prayer

## Sending

\*Hymn of Sending HWB 636 *For All the Saints* (verses 1, 4, & 8)  
\*Benediction  
\*Postlude *Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus* arr. R. Hillert

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

*~ VT - Voices Together (Purple Bound Book) ~HWB - Hymnal Worship Book (Blue Bound Book)*

*To parents of young children: If you're feeling anxious about having them in church, God put the wiggle in children. Don't feel like you have to suppress those wiggles. Consider sitting closer to the front, where it's easier for your little ones to engage. Quietly explain the parts of worship and actions of the worship leader, musicians, pastor, and others who are involved in the service. Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn their behavior by mimicking you. If you have to leave the sanctuary with your child, please feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."*

**First Mennonite Church**  
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419-358-5766 | [fmcbluffton.org](http://fmcbluffton.org)

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**Custodian** Shawna Yoder  
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**First Mennonite Church Office Hours**  
**Monday - Friday 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.**

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

**Nursery Workers Today SS:** *Carmen Ordonez*  
**Worship:** *Pat Sheidler/Mary Ina Hooley*

**Nursery Workers Next Week SS:** *Mary Edmiston/Tess Eger*  
**Worship:** *Sunita Hooley/Jonathan Spelman*

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



**Video:** Ray Raeburn      9/17/23 - 9/24/23  
**Sound:** Chris Gott      Reported Volunteer hours: 30  
**Chancel:** Carolyn Rich      Attendance: 144  
Online views - Live:25 Recorded:20 Total Viewing Hrs:32

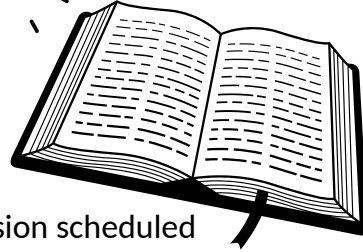
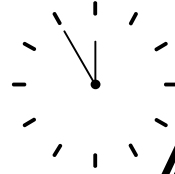
**First Mennonite Church**  
**November 5, 2023**



*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.*



# Ministry Minute!



Are you interested in worship planning? **Worship teams will be forming in 2024 to plan for the year.** Traditionally, worship teams were formed at Advent and Lent, and Worship Commission scheduled worship leaders, scripture readers, and children's time facilitators the rest of the year. Under the new governance structure, several additional teams will be assembled to plan themes or services for other parts of the year. If you're curious or hesitant, reach out to Pastor Phil to hear more about what is involved. There is no requirement for worship planners to be up front!

## Happy Birthday!



- November 5 - Everett Collier
- 8 - Fran Core
- John-Paul Yoder
- 9 - Fred Steiner
- 11 - Lynn Miller
- Evan Sider
- 12 - Jean Miller



*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



## Today, Sunday, November 5, 2023

- Coffee Time, 9 a.m.
- Youth Choir, 8:30 - 9:15 a.m. Children's Choir Room
- Sunday School open to all youth & adults, 9:15 a.m. Assembly Room
- Cherubs, 9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Children's Choir Room
- Worship: Phil Yoder preaching, 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary
- Advent Planning Team, 1:30 p.m. Parlor
- Poor People's Campaign, 2-4 p.m. Fellowship Hall
- Sermon Discussion Circle, meal, 5:30 p.m.; discussion 6-7 p.m.

## This Week

### Monday, November 6

Staff meeting, 9:30 a.m. Parlor

### Tuesday, November 7

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

### Wednesday, November 8

- 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
- SHY, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Fellowship Hal

### Friday & Saturday, November 10 & 11

Work Day at Camp Friedenswald  
depart Friday at 3:30 p.m. / return Saturday at 9:30 p.m.

### Next Sunday, November 12

- Worship: Terry Hermsen, Jeff Gundy, Guillermo Salas-Suarez,  
David Stefano & Laurie Anderson
- Sojourners SS Class potluck, noon
- Lectionary: Josh. 24:1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Matt. 25:1-13
- 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. Child care is available during Sunday School and worship for young children in the nursery located in the basement.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Diana Emmert's** memorial service will be Saturday, **Nov. 11 at 11 a.m.** at **St. Mary's** Catholic Church in Bluffton. Visitation will precede the service beginning at 10 a.m. Following the service, the meal and sharing time will be at **FMC**.

Today during worship, we honor the lives of loved ones who have died with a **Remembrance Service**. In addition to recognizing members of the FMC family who have joined our great cloud of witnesses this past year, an invitation will be extended to anyone who would like to come forward to name a family member or friend who has died and light a candle as part of this service.

**Chaska Yoder** will be **licensed** today for her work as a chaplain. CDC Conference Minister **Doug Luginbill** will lead her licensing.

**The Advent Planning Team** will meet in the Parlor at 1:30 p.m. today, Nov. 5.

**The Poor People's Campaign:** A National Call for Moral Revival is uniting people across the country to challenge the evils of systemic racism, poverty, the war economy, ecological devastation, and the nation's distorted moral narrative of religious nationalism. The Campaign has been hosting regional events to talk about our movement and hear your concerns and accomplishments in your community. We invite you to join us for a **Meet & Greet today**, Nov 5 from **2 to 4 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall.

**Daylight Saving Time Ends Saturday Night!** Turn your clocks back and enjoy an extra hour of sleep before church this Sunday!



### NEXT SUNDAY:

- Poets and singers/songwriters **Terry Hermesen** and **Jeff Gundy** will lead worship with musicians **Guillermo Salas-Suarez** and **David Stefano** and poet **Laurie Anderson**. Together they will offer hope and artful insights into creating a regenerative world in the face of climate crisis.
- The **Annual Congregational Meeting** will begin immediately following worship. Report booklets are in your mailboxes.
- In conjunction with the congregational meeting, **Communion** will be shared next Sunday. A chance to **give alms** to support the Mutual Aid Fund will also be available.

Friday & Saturday: An **intergenerational group** from FMC will be **volunteering** at **Camp Friedenswald** on Saturday. The group will depart from the church parking lot at 3:30 p.m. Friday afternoon and will return Saturday night.

**Bluffton University** presents *Paragon Springs* as this year's Fall Play. Go see some familiar FMC faces: **Chris** and **Jax Gott** are cast members, and **Dr. Melissa Friesen** is directing the production. Performances are Thu-Sat at 7:30 p.m. and Sun. at 2:30 p.m. Purchase tickets at: <https://bubeavers.hometownticketing.com/embed/event/129/seating?es=ccg5k9vsuav5vh8954vpkq6fp4>.

**Rick Skilliter**, Ohio certified prevention specialist, will present the **Forum**, "Living in Mental Wellness," at **11 a.m.** on **Tuesday, Nov. 7** in Yoder Recital Hall. During this Forum, the former Bluffton police chief discusses the importance of **reducing stigma** for those living with or supporting someone living with **mental health** and **substance abuse challenges**. The presentation is free and open to the public.

**Dr. Gerald J. Mast**, professor of communication at Bluffton University, will present the **Colloquium**, "**The Conversion of Menno Simons to a Penitential Faith of Power and Works**," at **4 p.m.** on **Friday, Nov. 10** in Centennial Hall's **Stutzman Lecture Hall**. During the presentation, Mast will share new understandings of the theological premises for what Menno Simons called "true evangelical faith." Menno Simons is the early sixteenth-century Dutch reformer after whom the Mennonite church is named. Mast is working on a book-length study of Menno's life and writings that is currently being serialized in the historical journal "Pennsylvania Mennonite Heritage." This event is free and open to the public.

**Save the date for the Ohio MCC Comforter Bash March 8-9!** A handmade comforter provides not only warmth, but also a tangible message to people that their needs are not forgotten. Join others of all ages at Fairlawn Mennonite Church in Apple Creek, OH to knot comforters. We invite you to make comforter tops (60" x 80") and backs (65" x 85"). Comforter backs and tops should be marked for Sarah or MRC and dropped off by February 1 at the MCC Material Resources Center in Kidron (4080 Kidron Road). For more information, visit [mcc.org/ohio-comforter-bash](http://mcc.org/ohio-comforter-bash).

**Mennonite Central Committee** is looking for an **Executive Assistant** to aid our International Program Department. If you have administrative gifts to support the global relief, development and peace efforts of MCC, apply by November 13. More information at [mcc.org/ip-executive-assistant](http://mcc.org/ip-executive-assistant).