

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

January 14, 2024

Gathering

Welcome and announcements Chris Moser

Prelude *Moderato cantabile* excerpt from *Fantasie-Impromptu* Frédéric Chopin
Anne Marie Spelman

Invocation

*Opening Hymn VT 199 *O God, You Search Me*

*Responsive Reading - selections from Psalm 139

One: O God, you have searched me and known me.

Many: You know when I sit down and when I rise up;

One: you discern my thoughts from far away.

Many: You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

One: Even before a word is on my tongue, O God, you know it completely.

Many: You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

All: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Telling God's Story

Conversation with Children Teri Steinmetz

Hymn VT 512 *Let the Children Come to Me*
(Sing coming forward & going back to seats)

Special Music *Praise the Lord* G. F. Handel
Chancel Choir, Mark Suderman (conductor), LuAnn Stuckey (piano)

Recognition of Governance Leadership VT 968

Community Prayer Adam Phillips

Scripture 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Lynn Miller

Message *Being a Responsible Body* Phil Yoder

Living God's Story

*Hymn of Response VT 759 *Take My Life, and Let It Be*

Offering

Words of Invitation

Offertory *Gigue En Rondeau* Jean-Philippe Rameau

Dedication Prayer

Sending

*Hymn of Sending VT 611 *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

*Benediction

*Postlude

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

~ VT - Voices Together (Purple 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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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: *Mary Ina Hooley/Mary Edmiston*

Nursery Workers Next Week SS:
Worship: *Sunita Hooley*

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



Video: Ray Raeburn	12/31/23 - 1/7/24
Sound: Kevin Cluts	Reported Volunteer hours: 17
Chancel: Wendy Chappell-Dick	Attendance: 131
	Online views - Live: 28 Recorded: 26 Total Viewing Hrs: 32

First Mennonite Church

January 14, 2024



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

THIS WEEKEND: JHY Winter Camp is Jan. 12-14 at Friedenswald. Prayers for safe travels and meaningful experiences in the peaceful woods for: **Ryan Blount, Micah DeMarco, Jori Mast, Atticus Prothro, Kendyl Shadbolt, and Carter Steinmetz.**

Sponsors for the weekend are **Joel Steinmetz** and **Carrie Mast.**

MONDAY: The church office will be closed on Monday in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

This **Tuesday**, four FMCers - **Paul and Ana Neufeld Weaver, Jan Wiebe, and Theo Andreas** - will be attending the Peace Service in Washington DC organized by Mennonite Action. If you would like to sign the **Petition for Ceasefire** in Gaza, you can scan the QR code to the right. At the same time as the national event, we will be **hosting a prayer vigil at FMC on Tuesday at noon** for anyone who would like to join in prayer for those at the action, and for peace in Gaza.



If you plan to volunteer at **Our Daily Bread** this **Tuesday**, contact **John or Carolyn Rich** at 419.358.5405. We leave at 10:45 a.m.

PLEASE NOTE: The First Aid and CPR training classes have been moved from Jan 16 to **Jan. 18 at 6 p.m here at FMC in the JHY room in the basement.** The classes are **\$25 each** paid by cash or checks made out to "Safety Crew." You can pre-pay or bring money day of. If you haven't signed up, please do so in the Fellowship Hall.

Nursery Volunteers

Nursery Workers Needed: Click the Nursery Volunteers button on the FMC website or follow the QR code in the nursery section on the back page of the bulletin to sign up to volunteer in the nursery.

What do you know about the **clock** that was above the water fountain? It is currently out for repair (again). Does anyone know the history? Let one of the pastors know!



Ten Thousand Villages (TTV) Valentine's Sale: Valentine's Day is just around the corner and TTV is again preparing a variety of decoratively packaged "Valentine Bundles" for your gift giving. Order forms can be picked up in the Fellowship Hall and are due by Jan. 28 at church or Jan. 29 in the store. Payment is due with the order. Your order may be picked up at TTV on Sat. Feb. 10 or at church on Sun. Feb. 11.

LOGOS Reader's Theater Group Reconvening! During Lent, we will be sharing Scripture through Reader's Theater. If you are interested in joining the group for this season, text, call, or email Carrie Mast: 419.230.1568 or carrie@fmcbluffton.org.

The annual **Martin Luther King Jr. Forum** at **Bluffton University** is free and open to the public. Pastor Steve Terry, New Life Church of God, Fort Wayne, Ind., will present, "The Impact of a Positive Attitude," at **11 a.m. on Jan. 16** in Yoder Recital Hall. During the presentation, Terry will draw from Philippians 2:5 and 4:8 to show how a positive attitude like that of Jesus Christ makes a lasting impact in life.

FMC is hosting a **Red Cross Blood Drive** on **Thursday, Jan 25.** A volunteer sign-up sheet is located in the Fellowship Hall.

It is time to **renew our Anabaptist World subscriptions.** Subscriptions are \$39, and payments can be made by check (designated for Anabaptist World) or through our online giving. If you are interested in ordering a subscription to receive the group discount, contact the church office. **Payment is due Jan. 28.**

On Saturday, **Jan. 27**, FMC & Grace Mennonite will be hosting an all new **Winter Bible School** from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. **Dr. Ryan Schellenberg**, a Mennonite scholar of the apostle Paul from Methodist Theological Seminary of Ohio, will be sharing his expertise on Paul's experience in prisons and how that may relate to issues of mass incarceration today.

Saturday will feature a meal, music, discussion, and **children's programming at The Lion & Lamb**, as well. Sunday will include an elective Sunday School class, and a sermon from Ryan. Register at FMC's website or by scanning this QR code:



CDC UPDATES:

1. The **Central District Conference office has moved** to the MC USA office in Elkhart. The new mailing address is P.O. Box 1199, Goshen, IN 46527. Phone and email remain the same: office@mcusacdc.org and (574) 534-1485.
2. The **CDC Mid-Year Gathering** will be Saturday, **Feb. 3** from 9-11:30 a.m. via Zoom.
3. The **CDC Annual Meeting** will be **June 20-22** at College Mennonite Church, Goshen, IN. If you are interested in serving as a delegate, contact Pastor Phil.

Mennonite
Public
Educators
Thursday, January 25, 2024 - 7pm Eastern
"CRT, Social-Emotional
Learning, & book banning"
There is no cost, but registration is required
to share the Zoom link.
Contact info@MennoniteEducation.org.
join us!

The next meeting of the **Mennonite Public Educators** group is **Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024, at 7 p.m.**

This group is intended for all Mennonite education professionals working in public school settings. The conversation topic will be "CRT, Social-Emotional Learning, & book banning." Registration is required. Email info@MennoniteEducation.org to receive registration information.

FMC LEADERSHIP

Thank you to all who participated in ministries at FMC this past year. Today during the service, we will be recognizing those who are leaving Leadership roles from last year, and those who are beginning them.



Thank you to...

Elizabeth Kelly for your years on Staff Relations Committee.
Rich Bucher for your years serving as the Stewardship Circle Leader.
Adam Phillips for your years serving as a Deacon.

We are excited to have...

Mitch Kingsley join the Staff Relations Committee.
Kevin Nickel begin as the Stewardship Circle Leader.
Isaac Schumacher start as a Deacon.

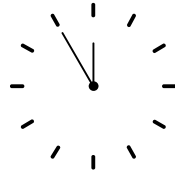
Happy
Birthday

January 14 - Mary Amstutz
Don Hostetler
Isaac Schumacher
January 15 - Miev Chan
Ron Headings
January 18 - Darryl Nester



January 19 - Don Hooley
Mary Ann Moser
January 21 - Ryan Blount
Kevin King
Todd Rainey

Ministry Minute!



Today, Sunday, January 14, 2024

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.
Cherubs, 9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Children's Choir Room
Worship: Phil Yoder preaching, 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary
Sojourners SS Class potluck, noon Assembly Room
JHY return home from Winter Camp, between 3 & 4 p.m. Church parking lot
Sermon Discussion Circle, meal, 5:30 p.m.; discussion 6-7 p.m.

This Week

Monday, January 15

OFFICE CLOSED for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Tuesday, January 16

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Staff Meeting, 9:30 a.m. Parlor

Our Daily Bread, leave church at 10:45 a.m.

Wednesday, January 17

Maple Crest Bible Study, 2 p.m.

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.

Thursday, January 18

Et Cetera Gala, Fellowship Hall & Assembly Room

CPR & First Aid Training, 6 p.m. JHY Room

Next Sunday, January 21

Worship: Senior Sunday

Lectionary: Jonah 3:1-5, 10, Psalm 62:5-12, 1 Corinthians 7:29-31, Mark 1:14-20

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.



follow us

