

Music Sunday

April 28, 2024

Gathering

Prelude *Days of Elijah* arr. Bill Ingram
Adult Bells, Ray Raeburn (director)

Welcome, Announcements, & Invocation Kathy Dickson

Special Music *Chatter with the Angels* Traditional Spiritual
Cherub Choir, Laura Hartzler (director), Adam Phillips (guitar)

*Opening Hymn VT 182 *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

*Responsive Reading - selections from Psalm 121

One: I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?

Many: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

One: God will not let your foot be moved; God who keeps you will not slumber.

Many: God who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

One: The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

Many: The sun shall not strike you by day nor the moon by night.

All: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

Telling God's Story

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

Conversation with Children Pastor Carrie & Mark Suderman

Hymn VT 550 *God Who Touches Earth with Beauty*
(v. 1 coming forward & v. 5 going back to seats)

Special Music *Sing to the Lord a New Song* Sonja Poorman
Jubilate, Laura Hartzler (director), Anne Marie Spelman (piano)

Scripture Psalm 96:1-6 Anna Hartzler

Special Music *Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Around* Spiritual
Youth Choir, Laura Hartzler (director), Anne Marie Spelman (piano),
Adam Phillips (djembe)

Community Prayer Pastor Phil

Special Music *Sing a New Song* Schütz/arr. Jennings
Chancel Choir, Phil Yoder (string bass), Jan Wiebe (flute)

Scripture Psalms 133 & 138 Betsi Werling

Meditation *Living in Community/Living in Gratitude* Mark Suderman

Living God's Story

*Hymn of Response VT 364 *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

Blessing for Mark and Elaine Suderman VT 962

Offering

Words of Invitation

Offertory *The Ground* Ola Gjeilo

Chancel Choir, LuAnn Stuckey (piano)
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Dedication Prayer

Sending

*Hymn of Sending VT 846 *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

*Benediction

*Postlude *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing* arr. Blersch
LuAnn Stuckey

**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."

follow us:  Bluffton First Mennonite Church  @fmclubffton

Lead Pastor Phil Yoder, 717.869.7624 | phil@fmclubffton.org
 Associate Pastor Carrie Mast, 419.230.1568 | carrie@fmclubffton.org
 Communication Coordinator Trusty Schumacher 419.358.5766 | fmc@fmclubffton.org
 Director of Music Mark Suderman, 419.230.5368 | sudermanme@bluffton.edu
 Technology Coordinator Ray Raeburn, 419.230.2769 | ray@fmclubffton.org
 Custodian Shawna Yoder | shawna@fmclubffton.org

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Phil's day off - Friday Carrie's day off - Thursday

Nursery Workers Today SS: ??
 Worship: Victoria Woods-Yee & Ariana Goings
 Nursery Workers Next Week SS: Mary Edmiston
 Worship: Jonathan Spelman



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

4/14/2024 - 4/21/2024

Attendance last Sunday:	157	Video:	Ray Raeburn
Reported Volunteer hours:	27	Sound:	Kevin Cluts/Jonah Sheets
Online views:	Live: 26 Recorded: 30	Chancel:	Janine Paul
	Total Viewing Hrs: 42		

Leadership Circle	Moderator	Ray Person
	Moderator-Elect	Laurel Neufeld Weaver
	Stewardship Ministry Circle Leader	Kevin Nickel
	Connecting Ministry Circle Leader	Ken Shenk
	Christian Formation Circle Leader	Shelby Cluts
	Deacon	Victoria Woods-Yee
	Deacon	Kathy Dickson
	Deacon	Isaac Schumacher
Treasurer	Rita Dietrich	
Recorder	Carrie Phillips	

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.



April 28, 2024



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dottie Long is recuperating after an accident that led to a hospitalization last week. Please hold **Gene and Dottie** in your prayers as she recovers at home.

Elnore Yost was hospitalized last week at Blanchard Valley in Findlay where she was undergoing tests. She is now at the Mennonite Home undergoing rehab. Please hold Elnore in your prayers.

Elaine Suderman's sister, Norma Brandt, passed away unexpectedly this week. Her husband, Wallace Brandt, remains hospitalized following a stroke he experienced the week prior. We will continue to pray for Elaine & Mark and their family as they grieve and care for Norma and Wally, and as Elaine & Mark continue to prepare for their impending move to Albuquerque.

Last week, a member of the Bluffton community and the Ohio Northern University community passed away unexpectedly. **Forrest Clingerman** was connected to many here at FMC as a friend, colleague, and neighbor. We hold his wife **Gail** and children **Sabina** and **Asa** in our prayers, as well as many among us as they mourn..

Mark and Elaine Suderman would appreciate some help loading their truck and cleaning the house afterwards on Saturday, May 4. Start time is 2 p.m. at 100 Polo Dr.

The **Faithful Living Sunday School Class** is invited to an evening campfire **tonight**, Sunday, Apr. 28 at 7 p.m. at the Yoders' 10315 Columbus Grove Rd. Get your S'mores on!

We are happy to announce that **Camille Lively** has accepted the position of **Director of Music**. Camille has experience directing schools, universities, and churches both here in the US and in other countries. We are excited to have her share her gifts with our community. She will begin her work at FMC on Monday, Apr. 29. On **Sunday, May 5**, we will be commissioning her for the role. Following the worship service we will have a reception to welcome Camille. **All are invited to bring snacks and cookies (finger foods, please) to share!**

Pastors Phil & Carrie will be attending the **CDC Pastor Peer gathering** on Wednesday, May 1, at First Mennonite Church in Wadsworth, OH. They will be out of the office for the day, but available by phone or text.

Pastor Carrie is nearing the completion of her **Graduate Certificate** in Theological Studies. She will be taking her last class during an intensive term of study on the AMBS campus from May 6-17. During that time, she will be available by text or email, but her response time may be delayed.

Ana Neufeld Weaver will be performing her senior piano recital Sunday, May 12, at 4 p.m. in the Reith Recital Hall at the Goshen College Music Center. The recital is free and open to all - no tickets needed.

Looking to deepen your connection with both your faith and your community? Join us for a young adult women's Bible study discussion group. We will be meeting the first Tuesday of the month starting on May 7 from 8-9 p.m. Please reach out to Emily Hilty if interested and to join our email list. Emily.huxman@gmail.com

Mental Health Matters: May is Mental Health Month. On May 5, 12, and 19, our worship and Sunday School time will be focused around perspectives on mental health. Each of these Sundays:

- there will be a guest speaker joining one of the children and youth SS classes to talk about mental health.
- an elective SS class in the sanctuary will feature folks from our congregation sharing their experiences with mental health. Come ready to hear folks' experiences and learn more about mental health. There will be opportunities for discussion and questions.
- worship will emphasize aspects of mental health themes including an introduction through a biblical lens and caregiving. Guest speaker Eric McKee will close out the series.

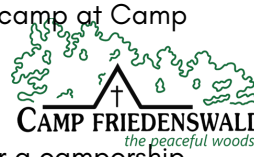
The worship planning team for this series includes **Karen McCullough, Janet Schroeder, Jax Gott, Liana Gott, Mark Suderman, Pastor Phil, & Pastor Carrie.**

Last call for **MCC hygiene and relief kits**. Please have any supplies, monies, or completed kits in by the end of April. If giving money, please mark the envelope or check with "MCC kits." Kit lists and bags are on the bulletin board by the library.



Ten Thousand Villages will host a card-making activity and children's sale on Sunday, May 12 at noon. Children may shop for Mother's Day gifts for suggested donations from \$2 - \$20. Artisans have been paid in full. Card making supplies are available at no charge.

FMC offers 50% camperships for children and youth to attend summer camp at Camp Friedenswald. Email your receipt to Pastor Carrie (carrie@fmcbluffton.org) to receive the discount. You can turn in the receipt even if you haven't fully paid yet. If you know of a child or youth outside of FMC who would like to attend camp, contact Pastor Phil or Carrie to make arrangements for a campership.



Camp needs volunteers in April/May. Throughout the spring they will serve over 1,000 area school children as part of their Outdoor Education program, and they need help feeding them! They are seeking volunteers to help with food preparation, meal service, and dishes. Contact Kenda or call 269.476.9744 for more information. Housing and meals provided.

The **CDC Annual Meeting** is **June 20-22** at College Mennonite Church on the Goshen College campus. We are still looking for a few more delegates. If you have interest, let Pastor Phil know.



VBS

The 2024 Bluffton Community VBS theme is **Hometown Nazareth** at the Bluffton Family YMCA July 21-25 from 6-8 p.m. each evening.



register here

Formerly known as *Marketplace 29 AD*, the VBS will include role playing as members of the 12 tribes of Israel, shopping in the marketplace, listening to Bible stories at Mary's House, and playing games. Use the QR code to register or pick up a form in the Fellowship Hall.

Adults and youth, there are several ways to help: donate paper towel tubes, be a shopkeeper in the Marketplace, be a Tribe Leader or an Assistant Tribe Leader, or help prepare the items the shopkeepers will sell in the marketplace. A great crew is already forming: **Pastor Phil, Gary Wetherill, Laurel Neufeld Weaver, Sally Roth, Lu Derstine, Gloria Hernandez Bucher, and Pastor Carrie.** If interested in helping, contact Pastor Carrie.



April 29 - Kari Diller
Lena Skilliter
April 30 - Amy Shadbolt

May 1 - Pat Althaus
Tess Eger
Adam Phillips
Sue Schaaf
May 4 - Ray Raeburn

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.

Ministry Minute!

Fun Committee - It's not an oxymoron! We're looking for a few people to help coordinate some all-church recreational activities that could include something like roller skating, Bluffton YMCA rental, hikes, baseball games, campfires, bowling, Cedar Point trips, or whatever you arrange! If you are interested in being part of this planning group, contact Connections Circle Leader Ken Shenk: text, call, or email: 419.889.1804 | kenshenk@aol.com. If you have ideas or are interested in helping organize one specific activity, still contact Connections Circle Leader Ken Shenk. If you only want to participate in the activities, encourage someone you know to join the Fun Committee, and they should contact Connections Circle Leader Ken Shenk.



Today, Sunday, April 28, 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: Mark Suderman preaching, 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary
All church potluck, noon Fellowship Hall
Program to celebrate Mark & Elaine Suderman, 1 p.m. Sanctuary

This Week

Monday, April 29

Staff meeting, 9:30 a.m. Parlor

Tuesday, April 30

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Wednesday, May 1

CDC Pastor Peer gathering, 10-2 p.m. at First Mennonite, Wadsworth, OH
Jubilate 3-3:45 p.m. Children's Choir Room
Noodle Night, come and go 4:45-6 p.m. Fellowship Hall
Adult Bells, 6 p.m. Bell Choir Room
Chancel Choir, 7 p.m. Sanctuary
SHY, 7:30 p.m.

Next Sunday, May 5

Worship: Phil Yoder, preaching
Lectionary: Acts 10:44-48 , Psalm 98 , 1 John 5:1-6 , John 15:9-17
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.

