

Mental Health Matters

May 5, 2024

Gathering

Opening Music	<i>Song of the Wind</i> Quin Spelman(cello)	Folk Song
Welcome and announcements		Jax Gott
Prelude	<i>Prelude in D-flat Major, Raindrop</i> Anne Marie Spelman (piano)	Frédéric Chopin
Invocation		
*Opening Hymn		VT 7 <i>Come Let us All Unite To Sing</i>

*Responsive Reading – prayer from Rev. Dr. Richard Bott, United Church of Canada

One: We recognize, God of all life, all people, all places;

Many: that many of us continue to not understand issues of mental health—our own, and that of others’.

One: For so many broken reasons stigma is placed upon folks living with mental health difficulties,

Many: building walls of isolation,

One: rather than the support and love

Many: of beloved community;

One: the support and love of radical belonging;

Many: the support and love that Jesus exemplified,

One: over and over and over again.

Many: Open our hearts, open our arms,

One: open the ways to knowledge and comprehension—

Many: that all your beloved children

All: would find safe home, here. Now. Always. Amen

Telling God’s Story

Conversation with Children		Pastor Carrie
Hymn		VT 718 <i>Gentle Shepherd, Come and Lead Us</i>

Commissioning of Camille Lively, Director of Music

Community Prayer		Pastor Carrie
Scripture	John 15:9-17	Quin Spelman
Message	<i>Becoming Visible</i>	Pastor Phil

Living God’s Story

*Hymn of Response VT 779 *You’re Not Alone*

Offering		
Words of Invitation		
Offertory	<i>Menuett and Trio</i>	Gottfried Stölzel & J.S. Bach
Dedication Prayer		

Sending

*Hymn of Sending VT 831 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

*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.”

Lead Pastor Phil Yoder | 717.869.7624 | phil@fmcbluffton.org
Associate Pastor Carrie Mast | 419.230.1568 | carrie@fmcbluffton.org
Communication Coordinator Trusty Schumacher | 419.358.5766 | fmc@fmcbluffton.org
Director of Music Camille Lively | camille@fmcbluffton.org
Technology Coordinator Ray Raeburn | 419.230.2769 | ray@fmcbluffton.org
Custodian Shawna Yoder | shawna@fmcbluffton.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: *Mary Edmiston*
Worship: *Jonathan Spelman*

Nursery Workers Next Week SS: *Carmen Ordonez*
Worship: *Mary Ina Hooley & Victoria Woods-Yee*



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

4/21/2024 - 4/28/2024

Attendance last Sunday: **211** Video: Ray Raeburn
Reported Volunteer hours: **13** Sound: Melissa Friesen/Jonah Sheets
Online views: Live: **28** Recorded: **48** Chancel: Amy Freeman
Total Viewing Hrs: **68**

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.



FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

MAY 5, 2024



"Becoming Visible"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bill Suter will have a ruptured Achilles Tendon reattached on Wednesday as a St. Ritas outpatient surgery. Prayers for a smooth surgery and speedy recovery are welcome.

My chemotherapy cycles are going well. I am tolerating the chemo without bad symptoms and feel well except for a few days of low-grade fatigue in each 21-day cycle. I cannot imagine going through this without the support of this community! Thank you for your prayers, cards, and expressions of concern. Ray and I value your companionship on this journey.
- Elizabeth Kelly

Thank you for all the ways you supported us while Marty was hospitalized and for the care and planning of her memorial service. I appreciate the support of our FMC friends and connections.
- Lowell Hostetler

You are invited to participate in a card shower in celebration of **Ruth Early's 80th** birthday on May 11. Cards may be dropped off to the basket in the Fellowship Hall or mailed to 24 Pinebrook Drive Bluffton, OH 45817.

Church family, What an overwhelming day last Sunday was for us! Words can't begin to describe all the love, care, and fun we experienced and felt. All we can say at this point is "Thank you so very much!" We feel so blessed to have been a part of this wonderful FMC community over these past 24 years. It is very difficult to say goodbye. We look forward to visiting at some point in the future. Our prayers will continue for you and the incredible ministry of this congregation.
- Mark & Elaine Suderman

TODAY: We are happy to welcome **Camille Lively** in 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. Today, 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!

Mothers Day is next Sunday, May 12. Celebrate the mothers and caregivers in your life with a come-and-go, light **potluck breakfast** from 9-10 a.m. All are welcome. We will also have a Photo Booth set up again this year for photos.



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. Only cash and checks accepted.

Peter DeMeo needs help with typing emails. If you think you can help, please call Lynn Miller at 419-274-9704 or email him at lynnamiller@protonmail.com.

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.

Capital Campaign Update: The committee has been working on collecting quotes for various projects around the church. This information will be presented at 2 congregational input meetings scheduled for June 23 & Sept. 8. Input will be gathered through the Open Space Technology process we used during our governance restructuring process. You might remember sticky notes are an important part of this process!

The Swiss Historical Society will hold its Spring Meeting at the Maple Crest Patio Room, Sunday, May 5 at 2:00 pm. Gary Wetherill will present a program about the Native Peoples of our area, primarily the Shawnee.



Do you have ideas for all-church recreational activities? **Emily Hilty** would like to hear from you. She has offered to help coordinate the new **Fun Committee**. You can text or call Emily at 419-429-9570 or email her at Emily.huxman@gmail.com.

Do you know about the **Mennonite Memorial Home Service Group**? The group plans fund-raising events and keeps FMC informed of volunteer opportunities. FMC's representative is Gloria Bucher, and she is looking for two more people to join her. If you want to know more, please text or call Gloria at 419-429-2621.

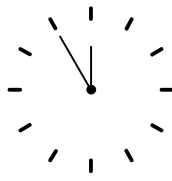
Looking to deepen your connection with both your faith and your community? Join us for a young adult women's Bible study discussion group. We will be meeting the first Tuesday of the month starting on May 7 from 8-9 p.m. Please reach out to **Emily Hilty** if interested and to join our email list. Emily.huxman@gmail.com

MC USA's Climate Justice Ministry is hosting a webinar titled, "Faith, Food, Soil and Climate," on Monday, May 13, 2024, at 2 p.m. ET/11 a.m. PT. Five panelists will explore how growing and sharing food can provide nourishment for mind, body and spirit, while building healthy soils, lowering greenhouse gas emissions and creating more just and resilient communities. The webinar is part of MCUSA's current Learn, Pray, Join initiative, Climate Justice: Seeking Shalom. Register here: www.mennoniteusa.org/webinar/registration-climate-may13






Ministry Minute!



May is Mental Health Month. Worship and Sunday School time will be focused around perspectives on mental health.

- May 5:
 - Primary SS classes: Karen McCullough sharing
 - Elective SS class for youth & adults: Cassidy Bush sharing
 - Worship: Phil Yoder preaching on visibility
- May 12:
 - Junior High SS class: Guest speaker Kendra Bermosk sharing
 - Elective SS class for youth & adults: Jax Gott sharing
 - Worship: Phil Yoder preaching on caregiving
- May 19:
 -  Senior High SS class: Guest speaker Kendra Bermosk sharing
 - Elective SS class for youth & adults: Mary Herr sharing
 - Worship: Guest Speaker Eric McKee sharing

Mental Health Month Worship Planning Team

- Jax Gott
- Liana Gott
- Karen McCullough
- Janet Schroeder
- Phil Yoder
- Carrie Mast
- Mark Suderman

Happy Birthday!

May 7 - Pat Sheidler

Justin Paul

May 8 - Alice Lora

Victoria Woods-Yee

May 11 - Stan Clemens

Ruth Early

Mary Ann Suter



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.

Today, Sunday, May 5, 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.
- Mental Health Matters Elective SS Class, 9:30 a.m. Cassidy Bush Sanctuary
- Cherubs, 9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Children's Choir Room
- Worship: Phil Yoder preaching, 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary
- Cookie & Snack reception for Camille Lively
- Sermon Discussion Circle, meal, 5:30 p.m.; discussion 6-7 p.m.

This Week

Monday, May 6

- Staff meeting, 9:30 a.m. Parlor
- Leadership Circle Meeting, 7 p.m. Parlor

Tuesday, May 7

- Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Wednesday, May 8

- Jubilate 3-3:45 p.m. Children's Choir Room
- Noodle Night, come and go 4:45-6 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Next Sunday, May 12

- Mother's Day Breakfast potluck & photoshoot, 9 a.m. Fellowship Hall
- Mental Health Matters Elective SS Class, 9:30 a.m. Jax Gott Sanctuary
- Worship: Phil Yoder, preaching
- Card making with Ten Thousand Villages, noon. Fellowship Hall
- Lectionary: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26, Psalm 1, 1 John 5:9-13, John 17:6-19
- 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 for young children during Sunday School and worship in the nursery located in the basement.

