

Creativity: The Series

God the Creator

June 2, 2024

Gathering

Welcome and announcements Carrie Mast

Prelude *Hymn of Glory* arr. J. Blersh
LuAnn Stuckey (pianist/organist)

Invocation

Opening Hymns *Let There Be Light* VT 714
I Sing the Mighty Power of God VT 182
Gerald Mast

*Responsive Reading – selections from Psalm 139

One: Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?

**Many: If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.**

One: If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,

**Many: Even there your hand will guide me,
Your right hand will hold me fast.**

One: If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night
around me," even the darkness will not be dark to you;
the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.

**Many: For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.**

All: We praise you because we are fearfully and wonderfully made.

Telling God's Story

Conversation with Children Pastor Phil
Hymn *Everlasting God, On You I Call* VT 630
(v. 1 coming forward & v. 3 going back to seats)

Community Prayer

Victoria Woods-Yee

Scripture 2 Corinthians 4 Rhonda Winstead

Message *Blank Space (Phil's Version)* Phil Yoder

Living God's Story

*Hymn of Response *God the Sculptor of the Mountains* VT 423

Offering

Words of Invitation

Offertory *O Living Breath of God (I & III)* arr. N. Raabe

Dedication Prayer

Sending

*Hymn of Sending *Sing a New World into Being* VT 809

*Benediction

*Postlude *Hymn to Joy* arr. J.W. Kerr

**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: --
Worship: --

Nursery Workers Next Week SS: --
Worship: --



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

5/19/2024 - 5/26/2024

Attendance last Sunday: 156 Video: Ray Raeburn
Reported Volunteer hours: 12 Sound: Kevin Cluts/Jonah Sheets
Online views: Live: 16 Recorded: 15 Chancel: Pastor Carrie & Pastor Phil
Total Viewing Hrs: 30

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.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You Thank you to all who sent cards celebrating my 80th birthday.
-Ruth Early

Jon Rockhold will have triple bypass surgery next Friday, June 7 at Lima Memorial. Following a week's stay at the hospital, he will be recuperating at his son and daughter-in-law's home in Lima. Prayers are welcome, and he looks forward to seeing FMC friends when he returns to Maple Crest.

Elnore Yost is recovering from her fall last week. She is at Frieda House at Willow Ridge and welcomes your cards and prayers.

Elfrieda Ramseyer was released from the hospital this week and moved back into rehabilitation at the Mennonite Home. Prayers are much appreciated!

Phil Compton returned home from the hospital last Sunday. He is on the mend. Phil and LaDonna appreciate continued prayers.

Peter DeMeo needs help with typing emails at his home in Birchaven in Findlay. Lynn Miller has been doing this, but he needs a replacement because of impending knee surgery. If you think you can help, please call Lynn at 419-274-9704 or email him at lynnamiller@protonmail.com.

Mary and Fred Steiner will move to Cincinnati on June 4 to be closer to their one-year-old twin granddaughters and family. Their new address is 5985 Monticello Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45224.

farewell

Summer Sunday School options include:

1. Scripture study and discussion with the *Salt & Light* series: All are welcome to join this class in the Assembly Room from 9:15-10:15. Study guides are available in the Assembly Room.
2. Book study based on *The Artist's Way* by Julia Cameron facilitated by Pastor Phil: Part of the Creativity summer worship series, this 12-week study works toward discovering and recovering the creative self. The class will meet for 15-30 minutes each week. If interested in being part of this class, let Pastor Phil know. Used copies of the book can be purchased for under \$10 on Amazon or contact the church office for a copy.
3. Coffee Time: All are welcome always! 9-10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

NOTE: Children and youth Sunday School classes are taking a break for the summer.

The bulletin cover is blank to make space for your creativity, in line with our summer **Creativity worship series**. Pick up some colored pencils at the entrance of the sanctuary, make some word art, jot some notes and adorn your cover with whatever your particular creative flair lends itself to doing. Following worship, post your bulletin cover on the blank bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.



Pastor Phil will be on vacation June 3-7.



Got any drywall projects on your list? Baling straw this summer? Excess **industrial N95 masks** are available for the taking in the Fellowship Hall. Take as many as you can use for your workshop or other projects.



The **Capital Campaign Committee** will be hosting an input and reporting session on Sunday afternoon, **June 23 at 3 p.m.** We will be using open space technology to facilitate the discussion and input, the same method we used when we discussed ministries during our governance structure shift. Post-its will be provided!

Mennonite Disaster Service. Mitch Kingsley left on Wednesday for Red Lake, MN, where he will serve as project director June 3-July 6. **Ann Kingsley** will volunteer June 9-14, along with **Pat and Dennis Sheidler**. A tornado struck the community of Red Lake on Monday, July 26, 2021. This included the Red Lake and Redby areas on the Red Lake Indian Reservation, causing thousands of dollars in damages to buildings, motor vehicles and other structures and property. MDS volunteers will be replacing damaged siding, windows and doors as well as doing interior repairs once the homes are dried in.



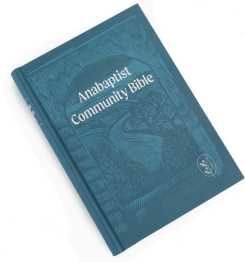
The Spring 2024 edition of *Behind the Hammer* is available in the literature rack located outside the church office. Pick up a copy, read it at home, and share it with others. The feature story is about the MDS project in Selma, AL.



FMC will be celebrating all the men in our lives on June 16 with a **Father's Day Tool Exchange!** Got any tools you don't use anymore? Have you somehow collected 7 Phillips-head screwdrivers? Swap 'em! Don't have any tools you want to part with? No problem! Choose any tools from our collection in the Fellowship Hall. All people of all ages are welcome to participate!



Ministry Minute!



On January 21, 1525, a small group of Christians secretly gathered in Zurich for a worship service. There they renounced their baptism as infants and experienced voluntary baptism as adults, now in the full understanding that this decision implied a transformation of life in the way of Jesus. For many, this decision led to imprisonment, torture, and even death. But this gathering also marked the beginning of the Anabaptist movement that continues today in the form of the Amish, Hutterites, Mennonites, Church of the Brethren, and many other related groups.

THE FIVE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF ANABAPTISM IN 2025 GIVES THE CHURCH A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO CELEBRATE AND DREAM.

The Anabaptism at Five Hundred project is being organized by MennoMedia and includes the Anabaptist Community Bible, now available for presale. Check out the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for ordering details. Contact the church office if you'd like help placing an order.

If you have interest in serving on a planning committee to develop a series of events and activities commemorating this 500th anniversary in 2025, contact **Gerald Mast** at mastg@bluffton.edu.



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, June 2, 2024

Coffee Time, 9 a.m.

Sunday School:

Option #1: Salt & Light series, 9:15 a.m. Assembly Room

Option #2: *The Artist's Way* 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall

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

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

This Week

Monday, June 3

Staff meeting, 9:30 a.m. Parlor

Tuesday, June 4

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Fun Committee, 6:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall

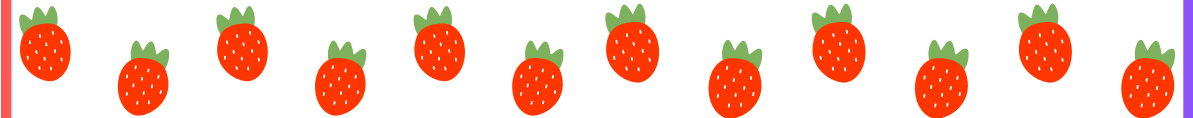
Next Sunday, June 9

Worship: Carrie Mast preaching

Lectionary: 1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15) and Psalm 138,

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1, Mark 3:20-35

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. Child care is available for young children during Sunday School and worship in the nursery located in the basement.