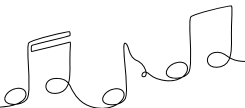


Music Sunday
February 23, 2025



Gathering

Music calls us to worship Give Me Jesus Anna Laura Page
Ray’s Ringers, Ray Raeburn, director

Opening Words

Prelude He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands traditional
Cherub Choir, Laura Hartzler, director, Evan Skilliter, guitar

Invocation

*Opening Hymn Be Thou My Vision, v. 1 -2, 4 - 5 VT 549
Camille Lively

*Responsive Reading – selections from Psalm 150

One: Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary;
Many: praise him in his mighty firmament!
One: Praise him for his mighty deeds
Many: Praise him according to his surpassing greatness!
One: Praise him with trumpet sound;
Many: praise him with lute and harp!
One Praise him with tambourine and dance;
Many: praise him with strings and pipe!
One: Praise him with clanging cymbals;
Many: praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
One: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!
All: Praise the Lord!

Telling God’s Story

Special Music Hand me down my silver trumpet Joy Webb
Jubilate, Laura Hartzler, director
Anne Marie Spelman, piano

Conversation with Children

Hymn This is the Day traditional
Jubilate, hymn leaders
sing twice coming forward and twice returning to seats

Community Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer James W. Bixel
back cover of HWB

Scripture Psalm 95:1-7

Reflection Accessing the Well of Love Through Music Anne Marie Spelman

Hymn Litany

Hymn Great is Thy Faithfulness, v. 1 - 2 VT 419
Mitch Kingsley

Hymn What a Friend We Have in Jesus, all verses VT 628
Ruth Naylor

Hymn Blessed Savior, we Adore Thee, v. 1 - 2 HWB 107
Danielle King

Hymn Come, Thou Fount, all verses VT 563
Trevor King

Hymn When All Thy Mercies, v. 1 - 2, 4 VT 119
Darryl Nester

Hymn My Hope Is Built, v. 1 - 2 VT 621
Megan King

Hymn Christ the Lord is Risen Today, v. 1 , 3 VT 346
Elnore Yost

Special Music Brightest and Best Shawn Kirchner
Chancel Choir, Camille Lively, director
LuAnn Stuckey, piano; Anne Marie Spelman, violin; Phil Yoder, bass

Living God’s Story

Offering Invitation

Offertory We Are Blessed Andrea Ramsey
Youth Choir, Laura Hartzler, Director
percussion, Tim Byers, Micah Hartzler, and Simon Phillips

*Dedication Hymn Could it Be That God is Singing, v. 3 VT 42

*Dedication Prayer

Sending

*Hymn of Sending Praise God VT 70
Jonathan Andreas & Steve Baskauf

*Benediction

*Postlude This Joy That I Have Shirley Caesar
Women’s Choir: “One in a Number”

*Please rise in body or in spirit

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

Reflection Anne Marie Spelman	Worship Leader Camille Lively	Pianist/Organist LuAnn Stuckey
Children’s Time Phil Yoder and Camille Lively	Community Prayer Phil Yoder	Scripture Reader Emily Hilty

follow us:  Bluffton First Mennonite Church  @fmcbluffton

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
Custodians Zack Crawford, Ethan Blount, Calvin Derstine

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Phil’s day off – Friday Carrie’s day off – Thursday Camille’s day in – Monday

Nursery Workers Today SS: Mary Ann Suter
Worship: Jonathan Spelman & Victoria Woods Yee

Nursery Workers Next Week SS: --
Worship: Mary Edmiston & Victoria Woods-Yee



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

Last Sunday – 2/16/2025

Attendance last Sunday: 87
Reported Volunteer hours: 35
Online views: Live: 42 Recorded: 20
Total Viewing Hrs: 38

This Sunday – 2/23/2025

Video: Ray Raeburn
Sound: Kevin Cluts/Jonah Sheets
Chancel: Monica & Steve Harnish

Leadership Circle

Moderator Laurel Neufeld Weaver
Moderator-Elect Jonathan Spelman
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 Monica Harnish
Recorder Carrie Phillips

No checks or cash in your pocket?
Consider online giving.



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
FEBRUARY 23, 2025
MUSIC SUNDAY



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Paula Luginbill's mother, Twila Lehman passed away Sunday, Feb. 16 surrounded by family. Paula and Doug invite your prayers during this time.

Jan Emmert's brother James Arden Emmert passed away on Monday, Feb. 17. His memorial service will be held at Houston Mennonite Church on Saturday, Mar. 1, at 10:30 a.m. CST. It will be live-streamed on [Zoom](#). Meeting ID: 879 6224 9146. Though he grew up here at First Mennonite Bluffton, most current FMC members would not know him, but there are a few. He (and I) were among the five children of Paul and Esther Emmert. He was a classmate of Del Gratz, a cousin of Mitch Kingsley and Jane Steinmetz, a long-time, growing-up neighbor of Judy Kingsley and her siblings. Jan welcomes prayers for him and his family as they grieve the loss of their loved one.

Callum Booker Roberts was born, Feb. 19, to Lauren and Joe Roberts. Lauren, Joe and big brother, Cooper, as well as Grandpa and Grandma, Chad and Janine Paul, are all excited for Callum's arrival.

Ken Shenk's vision is deteriorating. He is no longer able to drive and has trouble reading. Assessments by his ophthalmologist and oncologist are in process. Prayers, phone calls, and visits are welcome.

As of this week, we have received pledges and contributions reaching 100% of our total "Pipe Dreams & A Dish Machine" goal. Pledge cards will still be accepted. **Thank you for your support and generosity!**

There will be a **2024 Financial Review** meeting this Tuesday, Feb. 25 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will review 2024 receipts and expenditures, and answer any FMC financial questions you may have.



Join Nancy Kauffmann, the interim denominational minister of Church Safety for MC USA, and Laurel Neufeld Weaver, MSW field director and assistant professor of Social Work at Bluffton University, as they discuss how survivors interpret their faith community when trauma occurs within the church.



FMC is hosting the **Community Meal** at the Senior Center on **Mar. 6**. We are in need of desert donations, preferably ones in 9x13 pans. If you donate a desert, please have it in the Fellowship Hall kitchen by 4 p.m. on Mar. 6. For any questions please contact JP Schumacher at 567.712.1891

Haitian artist **Jean François Frisnel** will have his paintings on display in the Ten Thousand Villages store during the month of February.

Meetings this week:

Mon: SRC @ 4:30 p.m. | Kitchen Committee @ 7 p.m.

Tue: Financial Review @ 7 p.m.



New Sunday School Elective class: Drawing Near: As part of FMC's Anabaptism at 500 commemoration, we offer an elective class based on the new book of poems reflecting on images and passages from the Anabaptist Community Bible and led by artists, poets, and creative people from our congregation. The class begins on Sunday, Mar. 2 at 9:15 a.m. in the Assembly Room and will continue through November. The first five classes will be led by Isaac Schumacher. Those who want to participate may pick up a copy of the book in the church office or in the Assembly Room at the beginning of the class. A schedule of classes, themes, and leaders can be found in your church mailbox.

LAST CHANCE: The Intergenerational Trips Ministry is hosting a trip to Detroit to watch the



Cleveland Cavaliers take on the **Detroit Pistons** on **Friday, Mar. 28**.

Tickets are \$30 each. Sign up by **Mar. 2** in the Fellowship Hall or contact Shelby Cluts with questions at 419.234.2580.



LAST CALL! The Intergenerational Trip Ministry is going to the **Behalt-Amish Mennonite Heritage Center** in Millersburg on **Apr. 26, 2025**. The day will begin at 7:30 a.m. with transportation provided. Stops include Heini's Cheese Chalet, Behalt, and lunch at an Amish home. Most costs will be covered. The deadline for signing up is Feb. 24. Call the office or contact Shelby Cluts at 419.234.2580. All are welcome.

2025 Bluffton Beautification Sponsorship Invitation. The flowerpots on Bluffton Main St receive tremendous support from our community. Stratton Greenhouses & roots by Strattons are inviting businesses, groups and individuals to become flowerpot sponsors in 2025. The cost of sponsorship is \$175, but if you respond with payment before Mar. 15, the payment will be reduced to \$170. Pick up a sponsorship form in the Fellowship Hall for sponsorship options and more information.

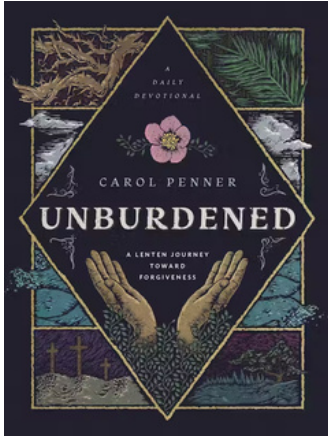


Thanks so much to those of you who have been participating in our comforter-making mission. The kits are disappearing as quickly as can we put them together, and beautiful tops appear. Our tub of completed tops runneth over! We will need lots of people to take part in our next knotting event, which will be on **Mar. 30** during the Sunday School hour, on **Mar. 31** from 6 – 9 p.m., and on **April 1** – 9 a.m. until about noon. Meanwhile, we invite those of you who are comfortable cutting fabric on your own to help yourselves to fabric from the quilting room, which is behind the double doors beside the Fellowship Hall kitchen. The tubs to choose from will be marked "help yourself." Directions sheets can be picked up from the comforter cart in Fellowship Hall, or you can go to the MCC website for instructions. We'll continue to put kits on the cart, but we can't promise to stay ahead of you wonderful sewers. Bless you and keep it up! **The Comforter Committee:** Elysia Bush, Julie Mackey, Pat Sheidler, and Mary Ann Suter

Lent

Ministry Minute!

OPPORTUNITIES



We are using Carol Penner's Lenten devotional book *Unburdened* as our focus for worship planning. Copies of the book will be available for purchase on Sunday mornings outside the church office.

- You are invited to use the book as a daily devotional throughout Lent.
 - Rachel Skilliter will be facilitating discussions over the book during the SS hour in the Adult Choir Room. Join this Elective SS class as you are available or interested - throughout the entire Lenten season or for a class or two.
 - Mark the beginning of Lent with your faith family during the Ash Wednesday service on Mar. 5 at 8 p.m. Opportunities for candlelighting and receiving ashes will be available.
- Sing or play with Handel's Hallelujah chorus on Easter Sunday. If interested in playing, contact Camille Lively at camille@fmcbluffton.org.
 - Share in the potluck brunch on Easter Sunday, Apr. 20 at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
 - Flowers will be available for purchase to display in honor or memory of someone on Easter Sunday. Order forms will be made available when the florist provides pricing.



February 26 - Andy Chappell-Dick

February 28 - Ethan Blount

March 1 - Tobyn Byers

LuAnn Stuckey

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, February 23, 2025

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.

Worship: Anne Marie Spelman preaching, 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary
JHY Games & Pizza in the Benroths' Barn, 8740 Hillville Rd, 4-6 p.m.

This Week

Monday, February 24

Staff meeting, 9:30 a.m. Parlor

SRC 2:30 p.m. Parlor

Kitchen Committee 7 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, February 25

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Financial Review Meeting, 7 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, February 26

Jubilate, 3:15-4 p.m., Cherub Choir, 4-4:30 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. Bell Choir Room

Chancel Choir, 7 p.m. Sanctuary

SHY, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 27

Maple Crest Bible Study, 11 a.m.

Friday, February 28

Teacher Appreciation Lunch, 10 a.m - 2 p.m. FH

Next Sunday, March 2, 2025

Worship: Phil Yoder preaching

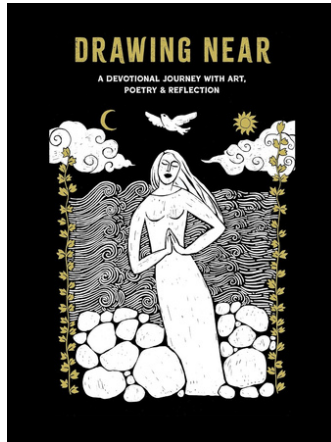
Lectionary: Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)

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.

DRAWING NEAR ELECTIVE SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE 2025



An elective class based on Drawing Near—the new book of poems from Menno Media reflecting on images and passages from the Anabaptist Community Bible—and led by artists, poets, and creative people from our congregation.

Part 1: God's Shalom Order (Leader, Isaac Schumacher)

March 2: Creation Care
March 9: Love the Lord Your God
March 16: What Does the Lord Require
March 23: The Year of Jubilee
March 30: Loving Your Neighbor

Part 2: Suffering and Grief (Leader, Lois Wetherill)

April 6: When You Pass Through the Waters
April 13: Jerusalem's Suffering
April 20: Jonah Balks at God's Mercy
April 27: The Travails of Job
May 4: The Woman with a Hemorrhage

Part 3: Forgiveness, Memory, and Transformation (Leader, Melissa Friesen)

May 11: Esau Forgives Jacob
May 18: The Ebenezer Stone
May 25: Loving Enemies
June 1: Emmaus Road: Breaking Bread
June 8: Lydia's Conversion

Part 4: Resistance (Leader, Victoria Woods-Yee)

June 15: Resisting Genocide: Shiprah and Puah
June 22: Rahab Helps the Spies Escape
June 29: Deborah: Prophet and Judge
July 6: Esther's Courage and Creativity
July 13: An Upside-Down Kingdom

Part 5: Bondage and Liberation (Leader, Jeff Gundy)

July 20: Liberation from Bondage
July 27: Healing on the Sabbath
August 3: Jesus' Arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane
August 10: Pilate Washes His Hands
August 17: Christ's Death and the New Covenant

Part 6: Women and Mothering (Leader, Ruth Naylor)

August 24: Ruth and Naomi
August 31: God's Presence
September 7: Woman Wisdom
September 14: The Woman at the Well
September 21: Abigail Brings a Gift to David

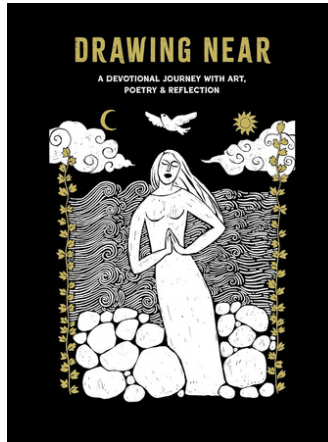
Part 7: The Body of Christ (Leader, Anita Lehman)

September 28: Baptism of Jesus
October 5: Mary Magdalene Witnesses the Resurrected Jesus
October 12: Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch
October 19: Economic Equality
October 26: One Body in Christ

Part 8: Visions of the Future (Leader, Ron Headings)

November 2: Praise the Lord
November 9: Ezekiel's First Vision
November 16: Trees of Living Water
November 23: A Shoot Will Grow Up from the Stump of Jesse
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