


7th Sunday of Easter
June 1, 2025

Preaching	Worship Leader	Pianist/Organist
Phil Yoder	Elizabeth Kelly	Anne Marie Spelman
Gathering		
Music calls us to worship		
Welcome and announcements		
Prelude	Gavotte from French Suite No. 5	J. S. Bach
Invocation		
*Opening Hymn	Brethern, We Have Met to Worship	VT 25
	오소서 오소서 (Come now, O Prince of Peace)	VT 391
*Responsive Reading – adapted from Psalm 97		
One: The Lord rules! Let the earth rejoice!		
Many: Let all the islands celebrate!		
One: God’s throne is built on righteousness and justice.		
Many: God’s lightning lights up the world;		
One: the earth sees it and trembles!		
Many: The mountains melt like wax before the Lord,		
One: before the Lord of the whole world!		
Many: Zion has heard and celebrates, because you, Lord, are over all the earth,		
One: because you are so superior to all other gods.		
Many: Rejoice in the Lord, righteous ones!		
All: Give thanks to his holy name!		
Telling God’s Story		
Special Music	Paul and Silas	Traditional
	Jeff & Marlyce Gundy, Everett Collier, Steve & Monica Harnish	
Conversation with Children	Jesus Loves Me	Pat Sheidler VT 516


Community Prayer	Adam Phillips	
<i>The Lord’s Prayer</i>	VT 673	
Scripture	Acts 16:16–34	Alice Lora
Message	<i>Between Fear and Courage</i>	
<i>Living God’s Story</i>		
*Hymn of Response	<i>Wonderful Grace of Jesus</i>	VT 170
Offering Invitation		
Offertory	<i>Romance in E minor, Op. 35, No. 7</i>	Reinhold Glière
Dedication Prayer		
<i>Sending</i>		
*Hymn of Sending	<i>Blest Be the Tie That Binds</i>	VT 831
*Benediction		
*Postlude		
<i>*Please rise in body or in spirit – VT: Voices Together (Purple Bound Book)</i>		
 : <i>Anabaptist Heritage Hymn</i>		
<i>Parents of young children: God put the wiggle in children, so no need to suppress those wiggles.</i>		
<i>Sitting closer to the front makes it easier for your little ones to engage.</i>		
<i>Also, children learn their behavior by mimicking you. Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses.</i>		
<i>Feel free to leave the sanctuary with your child, but you’re welcome to come back.</i>		
<i>As Jesus said, “Let the children come to me.”</i>		

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
Technology/Interim Worship Coordinator Ray Raeburn | 419.230.2769 | ray@fmcbluffton.org
Custodians Zack Crawford, Ethan Blount, Ollie Combs, Calvin Derstine

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

ENJOY YOUR SUMMER
IN A WHILE GROCERIES
TAKING A SUMMER BREAK
SEE YOU IN THE FALL

Nursery Workers Today SS: NO NURSERY STAFFING
Worship: ---
Nursery, Adults, Kids, Men, & Seniors ---
Worship: ---
Nursery sign-up here: <http://fmcbluffton.org/nursery-volunteers>



Last Sunday - 5/25/2025		This Sunday - 6/1/2025	
Attendance last Sunday:	117	Video:	Ray Raeburn
Reported Volunteer hours:	31	Sound:	Kevin Cluts
Online views:	Live: 22 Recorded: 18	Chancel:	Bruce Steingass
	Total Viewing Hrs: 18		

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

JUNE 1, 2025



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members of Leadership Circle and the **Safe Church Ministry** will host a **finger food potluck, discussion, and Q&A** following worship today, **June 1**. Access to the online training will be demonstrated for all those involved in leading ministries and volunteering with children and youth.

The family of **Maurice Kaufmann** would like to thank the church for support and help before and during his memorial service. All the kind thoughts, prayers, and actions for Maurice while he lived and for the family after his passing were greatly appreciated.

Don and Romaine Pannabecker will be moving to the third floor of Mennonite Memorial Home mid-June. Dina, Cheryl, and Tim will be present to facilitate the move.

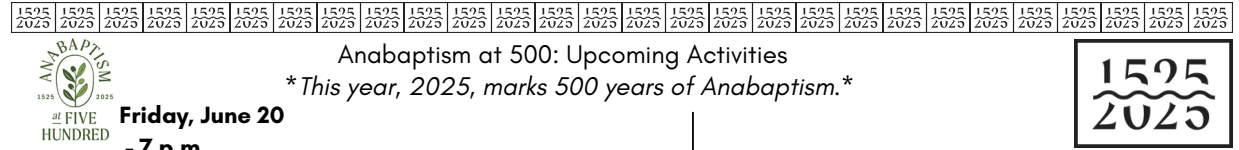
Summer Music: Instrumentalists, singers, song leaders, musicians of all ages and types: there are lots of opportunities for offering your musical gifts during the worship services this summer (June–August).

Contact Ray Raeburn at ray@fmcbluffton.org or text 419.230.2769.

Carrie & Gerald Mast will be traveling to Europe for 2 weeks to celebrate Anabaptism at 500 in Zurich and to attend a conference in Amsterdam. They will return on Thursday, June 5. Prayers for safe travels are appreciated.

Support indigenous communities on June 22 at lunch by partaking in a **Frybread Feast**. In coordination with this year's Anabaptism at 500 celebration, a **fundraiser** lunch will support the **Coalition for Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery**. The menu includes Indian frybread tacos, succotash, cherry wild rice with maple berry soup, pumpkin frybread and toppings and Native American Iced Teas. This lunch follows the **6th Anabaptism at 500 worship** series with guest speaker **Deborah Yoder** sharing a message about Mennonite history, broadly and locally, caught up in the colonization of indigenous people.

Reminder to fill out Gifts Discovery Survey: Paper surveys were placed in mailboxes. (More are in the office) They can be turned into the office. You can also complete one online through scanning this QR Code:



Anabaptism at 500: Upcoming Activities
This year, 2025, marks 500 years of Anabaptism.

Friday, June 20
- 7 p.m.

100 Years of Mennonite Women: a Musical

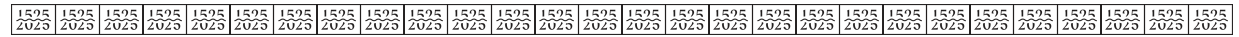
A century of archived meeting minutes from FMC's Women In Mission are set to music by Wendy Chappell-Dick in this lively dramatic production, ready to make you laugh and cry. Join us for a review of hymns and pop songs that trace our changing culture through the 1900s. Come to celebrate and learn, and be prepared to sing along!

*This event takes place at FMC during the Central District
Conference Annual Meeting weekend
and is free and open to everyone.*

Sunday, June 22
- at 10:30 a.m.

Anabaptism at 500 Worship Series #6. Worship with Deborah Yoder at FMC.

- noon
Fundraiser lunch for the Coalition to Dismantle
the Doctrine of Discovery



The **Bluffton Community VBS** is hosting *Egypt: Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace* with set-up similar to last year's *Hometown Nazareth*. VBS begins **July 13-17** at the Bluffton YMCA.

All are welcome to register for the **Central District Conference Annual Meeting** at Bluffton University (**Thursday-Saturday, June 19-21**) This years gathering includes:

- Thursday, June 19 - Worship at 7:30 p.m. at Grace Mennonite Church, w/ Perry Bush
- Friday, June 20 - Worship and Communion at 1:40 p.m. at Marbeck Center,
 - 3:45 p.m. Seminars: Field trip to the Schumacher Homestead, a Hymn Sing w/ Adam Tice & Katie Graber, & a Wild Church Service at the Nature Preserve
- Saturday, June 21 - Worship at 8:30 a.m. Yoder Recital Hall, w/ Melissa Florer-Bixler

2nd Saturdays

The Swiss Community Historical Society is hosting 2nd Saturdays in June, July, & August from 1-4 p.m. Explore the farmhouse, garden, worship, barn and Heritage Center. Learn about the skills and resources used in the Swiss Settlement during the 1800s.



- June 14: Blacksmithing
- July 12: Hunting & trapping
- August 9: Hearth cooking

SCHUMACHER HOMESTEAD 8350 Bixel Rd.

Ministry Minute!

GDMP

(GIFTS DISCERNMENT & MINISTRY PARTICIPATION)

Update

Kian Searcy was appointed FMC liaison to the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery's Repair Network. FMC joined the Repair Network last year, and the work requires a point person for communication, updates, and opportunities to work with the Network.

Jan Wiebe was appointed to finish **Ken Shenk's** term as Connections Circle Leader. Ken is stepping away from this role after completing several years of competent work relating to the MANY ministries housed under the Connections Circle including gathering monthly updates for reporting to the Leadership Circle, collecting annual Spending Plan needs, and tending to personnel needs for the various ministries. We extend our appreciation and gratitude to Ken for his ongoing work!

Thank you 

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 1, 2025

Coffee Time, 9 a.m.

Drawing Near Elective Sunday School for youth & adults, 9:15 a.m. Assembly Room

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

Finger Food Potluck for Safe Church discussion & Q&A, noon Fellowship Hall

This Week

Monday, June 2

Staff meeting, 9:30 a.m. Parlor

Tuesday, June 3

Morning prayers, 7 a.m. Sanctuary

Saturday, June 7

Shelly Family gathering, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Next Sunday, June 8

Worship: Phil Yoder preaching

Lectionary: Acts 2:1-21 Genesis 11:1-9, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Romans 8:14-17 Acts 2:1-21, John 14:8-17, (25-27)

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. Parents are invited to accompany children in the nursery located in the basement at any time during the service.