

Tri-Church Gathering

July 6, 2025

Grace Mennonite - Lima Mennonite - First Mennonite

Conversation Questions

What is the church?
What does Jesus call us to?
What should the church be?

Prelude *Heaven Came Down* Brass Ensemble

*Opening Hymn *The Church's One Foundation* VT 397

Welcome, Invocation & Opening Prayer Pastor Matthew Yoder

Responsive Reading - selections from VT 852

Leader: In the beginning when it was very quiet, the word was with God,

All: and the word was God

Leader: In the beginning when it was very dark, God said, "Let there be light",

All: and there was light.

Leader: When the time was right, God sent the Son,

All: Christ came among us and was one of us.

History of Churches 'Where we have been' Perry Bush

Hymn *My Soul Cries Out* VT 412

Children's Time 'Where we are now' Pastor Jeff Boehr

Congregational Prayer Pastor Phil Yoder

Scripture Pastor Carrie Mast

Experience in Lima 'Where we are' Amos Guy Marcelin

*The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound VT 392

Offering Carrie Mast

Conversation 'Where are we going' Phil Yoder

*Closing Hymn *New Earth, Heavens New* VT 377

*Benediction Matthew Yoder

Brass Ensemble

Brass Ensemble

Sousaphone
Rich Bucher

Trumpet
Ron Headings
Pat Sheidler
Don Hooley

Trombone
Sally Weaver Sommer

Accompanists

Vocal
Jeff Boehr

Guitars
Jeff Gundy
Phil Yoder

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

<https://fmcbluffton.org/first-mennonite-live-stream>

Sound: Terry Schey - Video: Ray Raeburn



Happy Anniversary!

July 7 - Chris & Carmen Moser

July 9 - Rod & Carolyn McDaniel

Yomarie Rivera & Jorge Ortiz

Happy Birthday!

July 1 - William Clerville

July 2 - Leah Blevins

Jean Dieunette

July 4 - Carolyn Huffman

July 8 - Cora Kindle

Gerald Mast

July 9 - Marathana Prothro

Anita Lehman

July 10 - Mike Schroeder

T.R Steiner

July 11 - Alexander Delusga

Hannah DeMarco

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Annual Tri-Church Worship Service: First, Grace, and Lima Mennonite Churches will gather together for the forth annual Tri-Church worship service. Worship will be held at 10:00 a.m. on July 6 in the Pandora Village Park with a potluck following. Bring your own chairs, blankets, table service, and a dish to share. Outlets for crock pots will be available but limited. There will be a disc golf tournament. Bring an envelope for your offering or designate your check accordingly. Members can designate offerings to their home congregation or as a love offering to the Village of Pandora. There will not be transportation offered for Maple Crest Residents. The chancel will consist of flowers picked from our collective gardens. Flowers do not need to be store bought.

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.

Family Camp begins today at Camp Friedenswald! Prayers for safe travels and meaningful connections at the peaceful woods.

Colby Schlabach and Leah Bowman are getting married at FMC on August 2, 2025, and are hoping to hire 2-3 food helpers for the day! Responsibilities include picking up the catering order, assisting with setup for the reception meal and dessert, and monitoring and maintaining the buffet line during the reception. Helpers will need to be at FMC from 1:30 to 6:30 PM on August 2. This is a paid position! Contact Leah at leahbowman612@gmail.com or the church office if you are interested.



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** from 6–8 p.m. at Bluffton Family YMCA each evening for children from 4 years – 5th grade. Registration can be completed online through the Bluffton VBS Facebook page or at the Bluffton YMCA, paper forms are available in the Fellowship Hall.



SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, August 9,
2025



WHAT: Pool Party

WHERE: Bluffton Community Pool

TIME: 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Sponsored by the **FUN Committee**.

More details to come!

6/29/2025– 7/7/2025

Attendance last Sunday:
Reported Volunteer hours:

127
48

Online views:
Live:24 Recorded:18
Total Viewing Hrs: 22

377 New Earth, Heavens New

ALEXANDRA 5.6.5.6.5.6 with refrain

Capo 3: (D) F (Em/D) Gm/F (D) F (A) C (F#m) Am (G) Bb

1 New earth, heav - ens new,
 2 New love, mer - cies new, Spir - it of God
 3 New minds, wis - dom new,
 4 New earth, heav - ens new,

(Asus) Csus (A) C (D) F (Em/D) Gm/F (D) F (A) C (F#m) Am

mov - ing; new seed, crea - tures new,
 new strength, hope - ful - ness new, Spir - it of
 new law, cov - e - nant new,
 new birth, crea - tures new,

(G) Bb (Asus) Csus (A) C (G) Bb (D/F#) F/A (G) Bb (D/F#) F/A

life mov - ing; new man, wo - man new,
 new hearts, spir - its new,
 new name, na - ture new,
 new growth, peo - ple new,

(Em) Gm (G) Bb

im - age of God mov - ing.

Refrain (D) F (Em/D) Gm/F (D) F (A) C (F#m) Am

Sing a new song to the One who has said, "Be - hold,

(C) Eb 1-3 (D) (G/D) (F#m/D) (Em/D) 4 (D) (Am7) (D)
 F Bb/F Am/F Gm/F F Cm7 F

I make all things new." new."

Chord symbols do not correspond with the keyboard accompaniment.

Text: Harris J. Loewen (Canada), 1982, *Assembly Songs*, 1983, rev. 2019
 Music: Harris J. Loewen, 1982, *Assembly Songs*, 1983; acc. Andrea Welty Peachey (USA)
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397 The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA 7.6.7.6 D

Capo 1: (D) Eb (A) Bb (G) Ab (A) Bb (D) Eb

1 The chur - ch's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, our Lord;
 2 The church in ev - 'ry na - tion is one through all the earth;
 3 Still, schis - ms, trib - u - la - tion, and ha - tred fuel our war;
 4 Yet we on earth have un - ion with God, the Three in One,

(F#) G (G) Ab (D) Eb (A) Bb

we are a new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word.
 our char - ter of sal - va - tion, one God, one faith, one birth;
 we wait the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more.
 and mys - tic, sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

(D) Eb (G) Ab (D) Eb (Bm) Cm (Em) Fm

From heav'n he came and taught us what per - fect love can be;
 one name to - geth - er bless - ing, one ho - ly food we share,
 The saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up, "How long?"
 Oh, hap - py ones and ho - ly! God, give us grace that we,

(D) Eb (G maj7) Abmaj7 (Em7) Fm7 (Asus) Ab (A) Bb (D) Eb

through life and death he sought us, and rose to set us free.
 to one hope ev - er press - ing, at one in work and prayer.
 And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 like them, the meek and low - ly, may live e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Samuel J. Stone (England), *Lyra Fidelium*, 1866, alt.
 Music: Samuel S. Wesley (England), *Selection of Psalms and Hymns*, 1864

My Soul Cries Out

Verse 1 My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great
And my spirit sings of the Wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight
and my weakness you did not spurn
So from east to west shall my name be blest,
could the world be about to turn?

Refrain My heart shall sing of the day you bring
Let the fires of your justice burn
Wipe away all tears for the dawn draws near
And the world is about to turn!

Verse 2 Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be
Your very name puts the proud to shame
and to those who would for you yearn
You will show your might put the strong to flight
For the world is about to turn

Verse 3 From the halls of power to the fortress tower
not a stone will be left on stone
Let the king beware for your justice tears
ev'ry tyrant from his throne
The hungry poor shall weep no more
for the food they can never ears
There are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed
for the world is about to turn

Verse 4 Though the nations rage from age to age
we remember who holds us fast
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp
This saving word that out forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound
'Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God
who is turning the world around

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

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MCKEE CM

1 The church of Christ can - not be bound by
2 True faith will o - pen up the door and
3 True love will not sit id - ly by when
4 If what we have we free - ly share to
5 The church of Christ can - not be bound by

walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and
step in - to the street. True ser - vice will seek
jus - tice is de - nied. True mer - cy hears the
meet our neigh - bor's need, then we ex - tend the
walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and

love are found, there can the church be known.
out the poor and ask to wash their feet.
home - less cry and wel - comes them in - side.
Spir - it's care through ev - 'ry self - less deed.
love are found, there can the church be known.