



**Forest Hills Mennonite Church**  
**December 31, 2017**  
**Looking Back Sunday**

**Called to be followers of Jesus Christ, Forest Hills Mennonite Church desires to be a welcoming community of grace, love, joy and peace, so that through the power of the Holy Spirit, God's reconciling love will flow through us in healing and hope to all people.**

**9:30 a.m. Sunday School**

**10:30 a.m. Worship Hour**

**Gathering**

**Prelude** Alex, Thomas, and Erik Schlosser  
**Gathering Song:** *Morning star, O cheering sight* Worship Book No. 214  
**Call to Worship and Invocation** Leanne Beidler

**Praising and Adoring**

**Congregational Singing** Becky Degan-Piano  
*Helpless and hungry* Grace Notes No. 26  
*My soul cries out* Grace Notes No. 22

**Offering Our Tithes and Ourselves**

**Children's Time** Janette Lile  
**Dismissal for Kids Church** (Grades PreK-Gr. 2, Room #1-2)  
**Offering**

**Proclaiming**

**Song:** *The virgin Mary had a baby boy* Worship Book No. 202  
**Sharing** Lloyd and Donna Mast  
**Song:** *Oh, how shall I receive thee* Worship Book No. 182  
**Scripture:** Matthew 6:25-34 Jennifer Schnabel  
**Sharing** Carl Schnabel  
**Response Song:** *Oh, how joyfully* Worship Book No. 209

**Sending**

**Congregational Sharing**  
**Congregational Prayer**  
**Benediction**  
**Postlude**

**Coffee Fellowship:** Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall for light refreshments and conversation following today's worship service.

**Welcome Guests!** We trust that you will encounter God's presence as you worship with us today and will find yourself renewed and challenged in your journey with God. So that we might record your attendance, please complete a guest card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate when it is passed. Feel free to join us for Coffee Fellowship after the service, and please do come back and worship with us again.

WE OFFER OUR CONDOLENCES to Yvonne and Vernon Kauffman and their family in the death of Yvonne's sister-in-law, Sarah Stauffer, who died this past Tuesday, December 26. Prior to her death Sarah resided in Rothsville with her husband Bob, Yvonne's brother.

CONDOLENCES also to the family of Chris Lantz, a long-term member of Forest Hills, who passed away on Thursday, December 21. For the last five years, Chris resided at Tel Hai Retirement Community where a memorial service was held this past Thursday.

MARTY PEIFER continues to be a patient at Lancaster General Hospital where he is recovering from recent heart surgery.

"I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU to the families who made our Christmas special. May God bless you and your family." – Note received from recipient of our Christmas Giving Project to Conestoga Valley Christian Community Services.

PLEASE NOTE that due to the New Year holiday, staff hours and availability will be varied in the upcoming week. If you are in need of pastoral care or other assistance and do not initially reach the individual you wish to contact, please try reaching another staff member in order to have your need addressed promptly.

A FEW PACKS OF STROOPIES are still available – individual Stroopies, 6-packs and gift boxes of ten. These can be yours for a donation to our Refugee Education Fund that assists the Khilo children in their pursuit of a quality education. Please visit the table in the foyer to Pick up some Stroopies and make your donation to this worthy cause.

AS THE JOYS AND CARES AND CONCERNS of our congregation come to mind, please lift them to the Lord in prayer. Pray specifically for the activities that are happening at our church this week and for the work of the broader church agencies and ministries. Pray also for the following:

- Marty Peifer recovering from heart surgery.
- Yvonne Kauffman and her family mourning the loss of her sister-in-law.
- Those who are struggling with depression and anxiety.
- Those experiencing chronic illness and their care providers.

WE THANK GOD for the on-going faithful generosity of this congregation! Your giving supports important ministries such as missions and outreach, church and conference-wide initiatives, and our own worship and education programs. It also helps pay for the costs of maintaining our facility. At the present time, our giving for the 2017-18 fiscal year is 8.6% behind budget. We need \$28,780 to bring our giving up to budget by year-end. Expenses have been running close to budget, which means we have had to dip into our reserves to pay invoices. Please prayerfully consider what you might give between now and year-end. Remember, if you wish to have your contributions recorded in 2017 for tax purposes, they will need to be in the church office **today** or post-marked by December 31, 2017. – Sam Clement, Treasurer

COPIES OF *THE MIRROR*, newsletter of the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, are available in the literature rack next to the fellowship hall bulletin board. This newsletter features articles about the Society's annual Music Night, folk art classes, upcoming field trips, its January book auction, and more. Help yourself to a copy of *The Mirror*.

#### LOOKING AHEAD

- \* Wednesdays, January 10, 17, 24, 31 – 6 p.m., Shared Supper; 7 p.m., Children's Programming and Winter Bible School for all adults. (See bulletin insert for more details.)

#### MYF CORNER – Youth Group, Grades 9-12

- \* Today, 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School.
- \* Next Sunday, January 7, 6 p.m. – Girls and Guys Night at Hersheys'.
- \* Sunday, January 21, Noon – Meal fundraiser.
- \* February 23-25 – Winter Retreat.
- \* Sunday, April 22 – Youth Sunday.
- \* Sunday, April 29, Noon – Meal fundraiser and Auction.

#### TODAY'S HOSPITALITY HELPERS

Head Usher: Ken Martin

Sound Technicians: Bruce Stauffer, David Bontrager-Assistant

Befrienders: Linda and Warren Tyson

Greeters: Brenda and Tom Verghese

Coffee Fellowship Hosts: Lisa Spangler and Steve Spangler

Nursery (Ages 0-3): (SS) Liz Clapper, Beth Schnabel

(W) Liz Clapper, Norma Stauffer

#### TODAY

- \* 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages.

#### THIS COMING WEEK

- \* Monday – Happy New Year to all. Church office will be closed.
- \* Tuesday – No MOMS (Morning Out for Mothers) program this week.
- \* Wednesday – No Wednesday Evening Activities this week.

#### NEXT SUNDAY

- \* 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages.
- \* 10:30 a.m. – Pastor Jon will begin a new sermon series *This is our story*. He will be preaching on *This is our story: In the beginning* based on Genesis 4:17-26.
- \* Monthly Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Screenings in Adelphian Room #17 after the service.
- \* 6 p.m. – MYF (Youth Group: Gr. 9-12): Girls and Guys Night at Hersheys'.

REPORT: (12/24) General Fund \$26,109; Refugee Education Fund \$250  
Christmas Eve Offering for Mennonite Central Committee \$2,387  
Sunday School 141; Worship 265

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#### Staff and Leadership Teams

Jon Carlson - Lead Pastor

Becky Degan - Assoc Pastor of Worship and Christian Education

Nina Harnish - Minister of Care and Visitation

Janette Lile - Director of Children and Youth Programming

Norma Stauffer - Administrator

Keith Lehman, Ruth Ann Martin, Keith Stuckey - Elders

Louetta Hurst, Joyce Martin, Rose Mosemann,

Warren and Linda Tyson, Kathy Unangst - Care Team