



## Forest Hills Mennonite Church

February 11, 2018

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

**Gathering Song:** *I'll fly away* Cheryl and Daryl Eshleman-Leaders  
Caleb Harnish-Piano, Don Nelson-Guitar  
Dan Nagy-Bass, Sheila Snyder-Drums

**Call to Worship and Invocation** Clair Sauder

### Praising and Adoring

**Scripture Reading:** Psalm 92 Carolyn Boussum

**Song:** *I owe the Lord a morning song* Worship Book No. 651

#### Congregational Singing

*Cornerstone*

*'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus* (Worship Book No. 340)

*Love come down*

### Offering Our Tithes and Ourselves

**Passing the Book** Janette Lile

Collette Carlson, Hailey Nolt

Lauryn Larson, Susanna Loud-2<sup>nd</sup> Graders

**Dismissal for Kids Church** (Grades PreK-Gr. 2, Room #1-2)

#### Offering

### Proclaiming

**Song:** *I will not be shaken* (Grace Notes No. 30)

**Scripture:** 1 Samuel 8:1-22

**Sermon:** *This is our story: Some kings (not Jesus)* Jon Carlson

**Response Song:** *When we walk with the Lord* Worship Book No. 544

### 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.

THANKS TO MATTHEW DEGAN and his parents for putting together the unique library showcase display featuring Lego interpretations of Bible stories.

THE LIBRARY SHOWCASE featured a display on racism during our recent Winter Bible School series. Books that were on display during that time are now available for you to read. These books have not yet been processed for the library due our head librarian's extended time out of the area. To check out one of these books, please write your name and the date on the sheet next to the books that are displayed on the library table.

WEDNESDAY EVENING ADULT STUDY: Now that our Winter Bible School series has concluded, a new series for adults will begin this coming Wednesday, February 14, at 7 p.m. These sessions will follow the KfC schedule of the 2<sup>nd</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of February and March. Dan Hess will facilitate a discussion of the previous Sunday's sermon for all interested adults.

A FEW MORE VOLUNTEERS are still needed to help with preschool childcare on Wednesday evenings in February and March. If you are willing to help out one or more evenings, please let Norma Stauffer know ASAP.

NORMA STAUFFER is on vacation now through Sunday, February 18, enjoying time away with Bruce in the sunny south. Thanks to staff members for filling in to cover Norma's responsibilities while she is gone.

AN INFORMAL HYMN SING has been scheduled for the Sunday School hour next Sunday, February 18, in the fellowship hall. Everyone is welcome to attend regardless of voice part, singing ability, or knowledge of hymns. Feel free to bring hymn suggestions and, if interested, share a short reason about why this hymn is meaningful to you. For more information contact Herb Hoover.

AS PART OF THE ONGOING PROCESS of updating our aging restrooms, wallpaper was stripped and painting was begun in the foyer locations. Please excuse our mess while we work toward long-term improvements.

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 continuing his recovery from heart surgery.
- Jere and Miz Steinbaeher facing decisions about his ongoing cancer treatment.
- Chris Sebelist dealing with a health issue.
- Church family members serving and learning in various locations: Don and Anita Beidler (Texas), Zac Hummel (Vietnam), Louise Babikow (Honduras), and Jenna Lile ( Guatemala).
- Families and friends mourning the loss of loved ones.

ALL SENIORS who do not participate in the shared meals at one of the local retirement homes are invited to the bi-monthly luncheon here at the church on Monday, February 19, at 11:30 a.m. If you are a regular attendee at these lunches, please notify Nina Harnish **today** of your plans to attend or not to attend this lunch. New participants are always welcome to join the fun. Donations will be accepted to help cover meal costs. When making your reservation, please indicate any dietary restrictions.

WORSHIP COMMISSION is gathering congregational feedback regarding our worship services. On Sunday, February 25, over a light lunch, the Commission will host a talkback session for people to share thoughts with Commission members and each other. If you plan to participate in the lunch discussion, please RSVP to the church office by next Sunday, February 18. In preparation for this discussion, everyone is invited to complete a short survey at <http://foresthillschurch.org/survey>; physical copies are also available in the church office. Surveys need to be **completed by tomorrow, February 12.**

LANCASTER MENNONITE SCHOOL recently announced a new "Church Partnership" scholarship program that will provide matching scholarship funds when a partnering church contributes toward student tuition. A proposal is being developed to allow participation in this opportunity through a designated fund that is separate from the congregation's regular budget. Parents of existing or potential LMS students and any others interested in exploring how our congregation can participate in this opportunity are asked to attend a meeting Sunday, March 4, at 6 p.m. Please contact Rod Lefever or Jerry Lile if you are interested in this program or have questions about this opportunity but cannot attend the meeting.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN are invited to check out a free, downloadable Lenten devotional guide for family worship called *Between me and you*. This Anabaptist resource has ideas for family worship to take you from Ash Wednesday, February 14, through Easter Sunday, April 1. You can pick and choose the activities that work best for your family. Check it out at [www.anabaptistfaithformation.org](http://www.anabaptistfaithformation.org).

CONESTOGA VALLEY CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY SERVICES is in great need of individual boxes of cereal and cups of fruit for children in the Weekend Blessings program. Boys' underwear in sizes 6-12 and men's boxers in sizes L and XL are also needed. Donations may be brought to the church and placed in the designated containers at the entrance doors (food) and in the kitchen/fellowship hall area (clothing) or dropped off at the CVCCS building on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., or Thursdays 1-4 p.m.

LEOLA NURSERY SCHOOL, located at the Conestoga Church of the Brethren, is hosting an Open House this coming Monday, February 12, from 6-8 p.m., and Tuesday, February 13, from 9-11 a.m. Visit classrooms, meet teachers, and learn about their educational programs that serve children ages 3-5. Further information is posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board.

THOSE WITH TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS (TPS) have found invaluable support and information through New York Mennonite Immigration Program, a partnership of Mennonite Central Committee and the New York City Council of Mennonite Churches. Learn more about the partnership and ways you can advocate for those with TPS by visiting [mcc.org/stories/providing-pathway-dignity-tps-recipients](http://mcc.org/stories/providing-pathway-dignity-tps-recipients).

## LOOKING AHEAD

- \* Sunday, March 18, Noon – Junior Youth Lunch and Pinewood Derby competition.
- \* Friday, March 23, Evening – MOMS Supper and Auction.
- \* Wednesday, March 28 – Final night of Wednesday Evening Activities; activities will resume in the fall.
- \* Sunday, April 22 – Youth Sunday.
- \* Sunday, April 29, Noon – MYF (Youth Group: Gr. 9-12) Fundraiser Meal and Auction.

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

- \* Today, 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School; girls meet at Rose Mosemann's home; boys meet in the Donut.
- \* Today, Noon – Baptism Class; lunch provided.
- \* Today, 5:30-8 p.m. – Babysitting Service Night at the church.
- \* Next Sunday, February 18, 6 p.m. – DIY Night; further details coming.
- \* February 23-25 – Winter Retreat; \$25 cost is due ASAP.
- \* Sunday, April 22 – Youth Sunday.
- \* Sunday, April 29, Noon – Meal fundraiser and Auction.

REPORT: (02/04) General Fund \$8,289; Student Aid \$100  
Sunday School 153; Worship 179

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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

## TODAY'S HOSPITALITY HELPERS

Head Usher: Lee Charles

Sound Technicians: Alden Southwick, Becky Degan-Assistant

Befrienders: Louetta Hurst, Kathy Unangst

Greeters: Becky and Les Siegrist

Coffee Fellowship Hosts: Cheryl and Larry McJunkin

Nursery (Ages 0-3): (SS) Lauri, Kate and Ellie Lefever

(W) Lauri, Kate and Ellie Lefever

## TODAY

- \* 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages.
- \* Noon – Baptism Class.
- \* 5:30 p.m. – MYF (Youth Group: Gr. 9-12): Babysitting at the church.
- \* 5:30 p.m. – Rest for the Weary Class Couples Dinner at Fentons'.

## THIS COMING WEEK

- \* Monday, 11:30 a.m. – Landis Homes Seniors Lunch.
- \* Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. – MOMS (Morning Out for Mothers): Chocolate and Chat led by Lele Brandt.
- \* Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. – Agape Class Valentine's Party and Mast Travelogue at Mennonite Disaster Service building.
- \* Wednesday, 7-8:15 p.m. ~WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES  
All are welcome. Childcare provided for children up through Pre-K.
  - KfC (Kids for Christ, Gr. K-5): *Jesus wants us in his family.*
  - Junior Youth (Gr. 6-8): *The love chapter* led by Jon Carlson.
  - Adult Choir Rehearsal.
  - Adult Bible Study. (See bulletin announcement for further details.)
- \* Saturday, 7:30 a.m. – Adelpian Breakfast at New Holland Family Restaurant.

## NEXT SUNDAY

- \* 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School Elective: A Cappella Hymn Sing in the Fellowship Hall.
- \* Lent 1: Pastor Jon will continue his sermon series *This is our story*, preaching on *A house divided against itself* based on 1 Kings 12:1-11.
- \* 6 p.m. – MYF (Youth Group: Gr. 9-12): DIY Night; more details coming soon.

TODAY'S REPORT can be found on the bulletin insert.



LANCASTER MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY is hosting a Winter Bookfest. Discover quality used books from the most popular categories of the summer Bookworm Frolic such as children's books, fiction, and history. This sale will be held from 3-8 p.m. on Thursday, February 15, and from 9 a.m.-8 p.m. on Friday, February 16, and from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., on Saturday, February 17. Further information is posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board.

MENNONITE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATES Lancaster Chapter will hold a breakfast meeting at Four Seasons Produce, 400 Wabash Road, Ephrata, on Saturday, February 17, at 8 a.m. MEDA staff and supporters will share how they were impacted by a recent trip to Nicaragua, and Nelson Longenecker, Four Seasons VP of Business Innovation and former MEDA board member, will share about the intersect of faith and business. Following the meeting, get a backstage tour of the nation's largest wholesale supplier of organic produce. Cost is \$15. RSVP to [meda.org/meda-lancaster-event](http://meda.org/meda-lancaster-event) or contact Vanessa Hofer at [vhofer@meda.org](mailto:vhofer@meda.org) or 717-560-6546.

EASTERN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY is offering *End-of-life planning: Green and traditional burial options and organ donation* at its Lancaster campus on Thursday, February 15, at 6 p.m. The program is open to the general public. Continuing education credits are available for nurses, educators, leadership professionals, pastors, etc. The evening will include a panel of three professionals elaborating on the process of organ and tissue donation, various green burial options in Lancaster County, and traditional approaches to end-of-life planning and burials, with an emphasis on accommodating customs from various cultures. For more information and registration, visit [www.emu.edu/lancaster/continuing-ed](http://www.emu.edu/lancaster/continuing-ed).

LANCASTER INTERCHURCH PEACE WITNESS invites everyone to its Pilgrimage to Peace event on Sunday, February 18, at 3 p.m., at Trinity Lutheran Church for a conversation with Rev. Dr. Mae Elise Cannon, Churches for Middle East Peace, Washington DC, and Rabbi Dr. Daniel Roth, Pardes Center for Judaism and Conflict Resolution in Jerusalem Abu Sarah, focusing on multi-narrative cultural education. Their input will focus on how people of faith can play a positive role in pursuing a just peace in the Holy Land.

## Community Happenings - continued

ELIZABETHTOWN COLLEGE'S YOUNG CENTER for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies presents *Embedded: Quilts and their stories*, an interactive presentation by Janneken Smucker, on Tuesday, February 20, at 7:30 p.m., in Hoover 212. Smucker, a fifth generation quiltmaker and author of *Amish Quilts: Crafting an American icon*, teaches history at West Chester University. For more information, call 717-361-1470 or visit [www.etown.edu/youngctr/events](http://www.etown.edu/youngctr/events).

LANCASTER MENNONITE HIGH SCHOOL will present the musical version of L. Frank Baum's classic story, *The Wizard of Oz*, on Thursday through Saturday, February 22-24. Show times are 7 p.m., each evening, plus a Saturday matinee at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 for students and \$12 for adults; matinee cost is \$9 for students and \$11 for adults. Tickets may be reserved by calling the box office at 717-740-2456.

HINKLETOWN MENNONITE SCHOOL will be presenting *Anne of Green Gables* on Friday, February 23, a 5:30 p.m. dinner theater performance, and on Saturday, February 24 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Lauren Eshleman is playing the part of Mr. Spencer, and Becky Degan is directing the play. In this classic story, stern Marilla and her warm-hearted brother take in Anne when she arrives through a mistake at the orphanage. Young, red-headed Anne brings her warmth and wit to Green Gables, and none of them will ever be the same. Follow Anne through adventures and misadventures as she grows and finds who she will become as Anne of Green Gables. Reservations recommended by February 20 for dinner theater (\$15 adults/\$10 age 4-grade 8). Saturday tickets available at the door for \$6. Call 717-354-7100 or visit [www.hmsk8.org](http://www.hmsk8.org) for more information or reservations.

THE FRANCONIA-LANCASTER CHORAL SINGERS will present *Heart Songs*, a hymn sing conducted by Ralph Alderfer and choir members, on Saturday, February 24, at 7 p.m., at Landisville Mennonite Church. Further details are posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board.

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# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

February 5, 2018

## LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

### Pastoral Leadership Team and Worship Commission – Jon Carlson

**Things completed:** Two funerals in the past week and a Winter Bible School series on racism and reconciliation. **Current matters:** Continuing a sermon series on *Our Story* – a chronological history of the people of God; collaborating with Nina Harnish in writing and filming a video curriculum series on sin for future use by adult Sunday School classes; and gathering congregational feedback and planning an open forum to discuss nuances of our worship services.

### Christian Education Commission – Becky Degan

**Things completed:** Worship and primary Sunday School planning for every Sunday; Christmas music Sunday with good feedback about choir's involvement and location on stage; and ongoing curriculum writing for the primary Sunday School kids using centers and technology. (A complete outline of this curriculum was presented to Council with positive support.)

**Current matters:** Planning for Easter, including choir. Challenges she is dealing with are availability of technology equipment for Sunday School use and getting people to make firm commitments to programs and participation in church activities.

### Children and Youth Programming – Janette Lile

**Things completed:** KfC is currently meeting and a new, easier format is being used that seems to work well for the kids and requires less adult volunteers. **Current matters:** VBS committee is in place, curriculum has been chosen, and dates have been set for a 4-day experience, July 16-19; a milestone celebration is set for Sunday, February 11, when our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will receive Bibles (the same Bibles used in their Sunday School curriculum); working with a committee to develop a proposal for location and equipment for a playground; and helping to organize MYF events – babysitting service project on February 11, winter retreat, Youth Sunday, and auction.

### Care Team – Nina Harnish

**Things completed:** Completed the fall/winter session of Wednesday evening adult Bible study; four recent funerals with assistance to families in two of them; several complex hospitalizations; connecting with newcomers; preached one Sunday; and organized a group of about a dozen people of various ages who are reading through the Bible in 2018. **Current matters:** Helping lead a Salt and Light Class Sunday School session that coincides with their teens' Sunday School series on sexuality; organizing a sermon discussion series led by Dan Hess for Wednesday evenings in February and March; working with Mennonite Women in planning an intergenerational evening event; and starting plans for the adult summer Sunday School elective. One challenge is finding a person or persons who are interested in organizing a young adult service trip to Puerto Rico this coming summer.

### Mission and Service Commission – Tom Verghese

**Current matters:** Processing grant requests for financial assistance for a large number of mission trips for both individuals and groups of volunteers. The Commission continues to work at strengthening relationships with churchwide agencies.

### Discernment Committee – Ryan Nolt

**Current matters:** Kori Jantzen was affirmed to complete Joyce Martin's unfulfilled term on this Committee due to her acceptance of a new assignment on the Care Team. Work will soon begin to find persons to fill open positions in the 2018-19 church year.

### Property Committee – Norma Stauffer, on behalf of the Committee

**Things completed:** Pastor Jon's office was painted; shrubs were planted where the pine trees were removed; and several bulbs were replaced in the parking lot lights. **Current matters:** Parts have been ordered to repair two HVAC units; a multi-functional unit is being considered to replace the office printer and copier that are both experiencing issues; selected carpeting and tiling will be professionally cleaned in the near future; new flooring for the church office is being considered; foyer bathrooms are being painted; options for a unisex restroom are continuing to be investigated; and several roof problems will be repaired when the weather gets warmer.

**FINANCIAL REPORT** – Treasurer Sam Clement reported that we are in a good cash flow position due to the generosity of the congregation at year-end.

**ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE** delegate terms were revised to coincide with the church year instead of the calendar year as they currently stand.

## **Council Highlights - continued**

**CHURCH ORGANIZATION** – Approval was given for the development of a new committee to assist Pastor Jon and Nina Harnish in planning and implementing adult education opportunities such as Winter Bible School, summer Sunday School elective, and Wednesday evening Bible studies. Additionally, an ad hoc committee was assigned the task of reviewing church organization and job descriptions and developing a proposal for updating these documents as needed.

**LANCASTER MENNONITE SCHOOLS** has offered a new Church Partnership Program that gives matching scholarships to students based on giving by individual churches. Council gave preliminary affirmation for the program with the agreement that guidelines would need to be clearly outlined. Several Council members have agreed to meet with parents of existing LMS students and any other interested persons as a first step in this process.

**SEXUAL MISCONDUCT GUIDELINES** are outlined for credentialed staff by Atlantic Coast Conference and Mennonite Church USA. Council agreed that best practices would have a policy for all staff. Staff Relations Committee will be working to develop a comprehensive staff policy.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Council approved a Staff Tuition Reimbursement Policy, and Evanna Hess provided a Staff Relations update.

Complete copies of the meeting's minutes are placed in a notebook that is kept in the library. Interested persons are welcome to take a look at the full minutes at this location.