



Forest Hills Mennonite Church

February 25, 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: *Praise the Lord*

Worship Book No. 50

Leanne Beidler, Norma Stauffer, Willie Hurst, Cal Roggie-Leaders

Call to Worship and Invocation

David Bontrager

Praising and Adoring

Congregational Singing

Becky Degan-Piano, Dean Jantzen-Guitar

Michael Degan-Bass, Eli Passage-Drums

Here I am to worship

(Grace Notes No. 54)

Speak, O Lord

You are holy (You are whole)

(Grace Notes No. 47)

Offering Our Tithes and Ourselves

Children's Time

Janette Lile

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

Offering

Proclaiming

Song: *In Christ there is no east or west*

Worship Book No. 306

Scripture: 2 Kings 17:5-15

Sermon: *The north will (not) rise again*

Jon Carlson

Response Song: *Beyond a dying sun*

Worship Book No. 323

Sending

Congregational Sharing

Sending Prayer: Puerto Rico Service Team

Tom Verghese

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 the family of Anna Mae (Ann) Landis who died this past Monday, February 19, at Landis Homes. Ann, a long-term member of Forest Hills, was 97 years old at the time of her death. A memorial service will be held at Landis Homes West Bethany Chapel tomorrow (Monday) at 11 a.m.

CONDOLENCES also to Ruth and Jake Bare and their family in the death of Ruth's sister, Dorothy Kreider. Dorothy, who lived in Lancaster prior to her death, passed away last Thursday, February 15.

RUTH STOLTZFUS was released from the hospital and transferred to Oregon North Room #41 at Landis Homes where she is receiving physical and occupational therapy. She expects to be there for several weeks.

MARTY PEIFER was released from the hospital and transferred to Oregon North Room #146 at Landis Homes for rehab. His phone number is 717-509-5446.

"JOE AND I ARE SO GRATEFUL for the kind and caring people here at Forest Hills. Your prayers and support through cards, text/emails, visits, and calls during my recent illness and hospitalization have been amazing and so appreciated! Thank you all so much for your thoughtfulness!"
– Chris Sebelist

BECKY DEGAN plans to be out of the office for vacation Monday, February 26, through Tuesday, March 6. She will be accompanying the service team to Puerto Rico during this time. Other office staff may be contacted if you have questions for Becky during her absence.

ALL WOMEN, ages 10 to 100, are invited to join our Mennonite Women for an intergenerational evening of knotting comforters, enjoying fellowship and snacks, and hearing stories of comforter recipients told by Evanna Hess this coming Thursday, March 1, at 6:30 p.m.

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:

- The Forest Hills team serving in Puerto Rico this week.
- Don and Anita Beidler completing their service term with Mennonite Disaster Service in Texas and traveling home this week.
- Louise Babikow serving in a medical clinic in Honduras.
- Marty Peifer, Ruth Stoltzfus and Kathleen Ranck receiving rehabilitation following lengthy illnesses.
- All those grieving the loss of loved ones.
- Valentina Yermolov dealing with health concerns including complications related to a prior fall.

CALLING ALL GREETERS: Please sign up to greet in April, May, and June. No experience needed; all families and individuals are welcome to serve. This is a great way to serve the congregation and a way to bless others and be blessed! A signup sheet is posted near the library.

THE MOMS GROUP annual meal and auction is scheduled for Friday, March 23, with dinner starting at 5 p.m., and the auction at 6:30 p.m. Baked goods for the meal and donated items for the auction would be appreciated. Best sellers are gift certificates, services and food. This coming week, a table will be set up in the foyer where you may place auction donations marked with your name. If you cannot attend the auction but would like to support the MOMS program, an angel tree will be set up in the foyer for you to choose to sponsor a classroom, a teacher or school supplies. MOMS has expressed appreciation for the church's support.

LANCASTER MENNONITE SCHOOL is offering 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 will meet with parents of existing LMS students and other interested persons next Sunday, March 4, at 6 p.m., as a first step in this process.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND SAVE THE DATE! Vacation Bible School will be held Monday through Thursday, July 16-19. Stay tuned for more information about how you can get involved in this exciting event!

FOREST HILLS has received letters of thanks from Atlantic Coast Conference for our recent quarterly donation of \$11,725 and from Mennonite Church USA for our \$6,855 monthly donation.

THE MY COINS COUNT JUG has been placed in the church foyer. Your contributions will benefit Mennonite Central Committee's food projects. More than 790 million people around the world do not have enough to eat due to disaster, poverty, or unfair policies that limit their access to food. MCC works with local partners around the world to make sure there is food for all. To contribute, please place coins and dollars in the jug outside the usher room. The money will be delivered to the PA Relief Sale on April 6-7.

ROOTED, A MENTORING/TUTORING PROGRAM of Conestoga Valley Christian Community Services, is looking for additional mentors for the fall. Mentors assist students one afternoon a week for three hours. If you would like more information about this volunteer opportunity, please contact Jacqueline at 717-208-3711, ext. 104, or email program@cvccs.org.

BLACK ROCK RETREAT'S 2018 SUMMER CAMP GUIDES are here. If you are interested in knowing more about summer youth camps that include crafts, climbing wall, high/low ropes course, waterslide, campouts, nature center, creek hikes, time spent learning to know God better, and more, help yourself to a program guide found in the fellowship hall literature rack.

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 Banquet and History Conference, upcoming field trips, and more. Help yourself to a copy of *The Mirror*.

REPORT: (02/18) General Fund \$7,201; Puerto Rico School \$1,250
Sunday School 152; 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



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION about two events that were included in last week's Community Happenings – Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society's Illuminated Letter fraktur class and COBYS benefit banquet – has been posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board.

DOVE'S NEST, a network of Mennonite Church USA faith communities that aims to keep children and youth safe, along with Atlantic Coast Conference will host a panel discussion on *Being proactive: Talking together about the realities of pornography in our families as people of faith*. This event will be held at East Chestnut Street Mennonite Church **today**, February 25, at 3 p.m. Panelists will be our own pastor, Jon Carlson, Brenda Martin Hurst, and Linda Gehman Peachey. A free-will offering will be received to support the work of Dove's Nest.

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE is hosting a quilt preview at its Material Resources Center on Trout Run Road in Ephrata this coming week, March 1-3. Preview hours are Thursday and Friday 9 a.m.-8 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Over 100 quilts that will be sold at the Pennsylvania Relief Sale on April 6-7 at the Harrisburg Farm Show Complex, an annual event benefiting MCC's global relief, development and peacebuilding work, will be on display. For more information, call 717-733-2847.

LANCASTER CHAMBER SINGERS performance at 6 p.m., on Sunday, March 4, at Blossom Hill Mennonite Church, 333 Delp Road, Lancaster, will benefit Mennonite Disaster Service's continued hurricane relief efforts. Local mezzo-soprano Amy Yovanovich will be a featured soloist. Free admission; a free-will offering will be received.

THE LANCASTER MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY will hold its annual banquet on Saturday, March 17, at the DoubleTree Resort Banquet Hall, at 6 p.m. Featured speaker Leonard Dow will share stories from his own life focused on the intersection of Lancaster County Mennonite and African American histories. Melody Pannell will also share on her experience writing the history of 7th Avenue Mennonite Church in Harlem, and Ertell Whigham and his ensemble will perform black gospel American jazz. Tickets cost \$30 per person and can be purchased online at lmhs.org or by calling 717-393-9745. The deadline for registration is Saturday, March 10. Further information is posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board.

TODAY'S HOSPITALITY HELPERS

Head Usher: Ken Martin

Sound Technicians: Yvonne Kauffman, Bruce Stauffer-Assistant

Befrienders: Ruth and Jake Bare

Greeters: Marian and Earl Rohrer

Coffee Fellowship Hosts: Donna and Cal Roggie

Nursery (Ages 0-3): (SS) Alice Babikow, Liz Clapper

(W) Kristin Lapp, Bonnie Sharp

TODAY

† 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages.

† Noon – Worship Commission Talkback Luncheon.

† MYF (Youth Group: Gr. 9-12) will return home from retreat.

THIS COMING WEEK

† Monday – Puerto Rico Team leaves for Service Week. (Return date Monday, March 5.)

† Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. – MOMS (Morning Out for Mothers): Bible Study led by Mindy Morrie.

† 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 has power*.

- **6:45 p.m.** Junior Youth (Gr. 6-8): Landis Homes Game Night.

- Adult Choir Rehearsal.

- Adult Bible Study: Discussion of previous Sunday's sermon.

† Thursday, 9 a.m. – Mennonite Women with lunch at a local restaurant.

† Thursday, 6:30 p.m. – Mennonite Women Intergenerational Gathering.

† Friday, Evening – Salt and Light Class activity.

† Saturday, 9 a.m. – Care Team grief training session.

NEXT SUNDAY

† Lent 3: Pastor Jon will continue his sermon series *This is our story*, preaching on *Babylon the great* based on 2 Kings 20:12-21.

† After Worship Service – Monthly Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Screenings in Adelpian Room #17.

† 3 p.m. – MYF (Youth Group: Gr. 9-12): Mall Scavenger Hunt.

† 6 p.m. – Baptism Class.

† 6 p.m. – Lancaster Mennonite School Partnership Program Meeting. (See bulletin announcement for further details.)

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