



**Forest Hills Mennonite Church**

**April 22, 2018**

**YOUTH 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**

**Gathering Song:** *Wonderful grace of Jesus* Worship Book No. 150  
Emily Eshleman, Taicha Hertzog  
Noah Schnabel, Isaac Harnish-Leaders

**Special Music**

MYF Boomwhackers

**Call to Worship and Invocation**

Cyleigh Hurst, Katie Yoder

**My Favorite Story: Part 1**

**Praising and Adoring**

**Congregational Singing** Jimmy Kreider-Guitar, Don Nelson-Bass  
Becky Degan-Piano

*O come to the altar*

*O healing river*

(Worship Book No. 372)

*Open the eyes of my heart*

(Grace Notes No. 35)

**Offering Our Tithes and Ourselves**

**Children's Time**

Katie Yoder, Cyleigh Hurst

**Offering Prayer**

Ben Lefever

**Offertory:** *No longer slaves*

Worship Team

**My Favorite Story: Part 2**

**Proclaiming**

**Song:** *Guide my feet*

Worship Book No. 546

**Scripture:** Ruth 1:15-2:3

Ryan Jantzen

**Message**

Emily Clapper

**Scripture:** Genesis 8:1-5

Jeffrey Lile

**Message**

Carter Hurst

**Scripture:** Luke 5:27-31

Isaac Harnish

**Message**

Mary Harnish

**Proclaiming - continued**

**Song:** *King of my heart*

**Milestone Celebration:** High School Senior Recognition

Janette Lile

**Sending**

**Congregational Prayer**

Isaac Harnish

**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 ALL THE YOUTH; advisors Rose Mosemann, Marcia Stoesz, and Dwight Yoder; Becky Degan and Janette Lile; and Jon Carlson and all the video participants for planning and leading today's worship service. A warm welcome also to those who are here for this special service today.

TODAY WE RECOGNIZE and congratulate our graduating high school seniors – Emily Clapper who will graduate from Conestoga Valley on May 30, and Mary Harnish, Carter Hurst, Chenyu (Charlie) Jin, and Joe Lapp who will graduate from Lancaster Mennonite on June 2.

THE LOST AND FOUND is well stocked! Check out the table in the foyer to see if any of the items on display belong to you. In the near future, unclaimed items will either be thrown out or donated to ministries that accept used things.

PAUL ECKERT had back surgery at Ephrata Community Hospital this past Tuesday. At bulletin publication time he was expecting to be released to continue his recovery at home.

GENE AND DORIS KREIDER'S new phone number is 717-735-2533. Also, the room number for JAY AND DORIS GROFF in the church directory is incorrect. It should be West View Room #219.

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:

- Paul Eckert recovering from back surgery.
- Kris Long in Indiana assisting her mother with medical decisions.
- Those in Syria and other places around the world who suffer the devastation of war.
- Lyn Carlson concluding her education trip to Africa and returning home on Saturday.
- MOMS (Morning out for Moms) celebrating a positive year of ministry.
- Atlantic Coast Conference planning for its Spring Assembly this coming weekend.

OUR MYF (YOUTH GROUP) will be hosting its annual Services and Experiences Auction and Lunch next Sunday, April 29. Everyone is invited to stay for this event that will support the MYFers in fundraising for their summer service trip to Chicago. Along with a silent auction of youth services, the live auction will include various services, gift baskets, and experiences. Check out the board in the foyer to see some of the auction items. If you would like to donate an item for the auction, please contact Janette Lile or Becky Degan.

MENNONITE CHILDREN'S CHOIR OF LANCASTER will present a concert here next Sunday, April 29, at 4 p.m. Collette Carlson is a singer in this choir. The choir's mission is training children and youth, kindergarten through grade 12, to glorify Jesus Christ through excellent choral singing. A freewill offering will be received. For more information, check out the poster on the fellowship hall bulletin board or visit [www.mennonitechildrenschoir.org](http://www.mennonitechildrenschoir.org).

OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS, a committee has been gathering information about adding a playground to our facility. This committee presented its recommendation to Church Council, and Council gave its approval to continue moving forward with this project. The next step is to get congregational feedback. Janette Lile, committee chair, will be in the foyer after the service today with sketches and information about the proposal. She will also be available to answer questions and give further explanations about the plan. Questions may also be addressed to other committee members – Troy Hurst, Duane Lapp, Jess Martin, Carl Schnabel, and Bruce Stauffer.

OUR GROUP SUBSCRIPTION to *The Mennonite*, a monthly publication of the Mennonite Church USA, is now renewing. This periodical is made available at a reduced rate of \$20 (regular rate is \$46 per year) to Forest Hills households. If you are interested in joining or renewing through our group subscription, please give your payment of \$20, cash or checks payable to Forest Hills Mennonite Church, to Norma Stauffer by next Sunday, April 29. There are no automatic renewals; the only way to subscribe is to submit your payment.

A CPR TRAINING CLASS for staff and usher team representatives has been scheduled here at the church on Wednesday, May 2, from 3-6 p.m. There are a few open spaces in the class. Anyone who might have interest in participating in this training is asked to contact Norma Stauffer in the church office ASAP.

MENNONITE CHILDREN'S CHOIR OF LANCASTER (MCCL) is holding auditions for the 2018-19 choir year on May 15 and 16 at Neffsville Mennonite Church. Auditions will be held for Carol Choir (grades 2-5), Concert Choir (grades 6-8), and Chamber Choir (grades 9-12). Singers practice weekly throughout the school year in preparation for Christmas and spring concerts. Call 540-383-9986 or email [carolandconcertchoir@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:carolandconcertchoir@lancastermennonite.org) to schedule an audition.

MCCL is also accepting registrations for its two non-auditioned programs that develop vocal skills – Prelude Music (grades K-2) and Choristers (grades 2-8). Classes are held Tuesday evenings, September through November, and again in February through April. To register, contact Audrey Livengood at [mccl@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:mccl@lancastermennonite.org) or call 717-455-7025.

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 upcoming field trips, a writing invitation for young historians, introduction to the new LMHS director, Jean Kilheffer Hess, and more. Help yourself to a copy of *The Mirror*.

## LOOKING AHEAD

- ☼ Next Sunday, April 29, Noon – MYF Fundraiser Meal and Auction.
- ☼ Sunday, May 13 – Baptism Sunday.
- ☼ Sunday, June 24, 4 p.m. – Church Picnic.
- ☼ Monday-Thursday, July 16-19, 6:15 p.m.-8:15 p.m. – Vacation Bible School.

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

- ☼ Today, 8:30 a.m. – Worship Team rehearsal.
- ☼ Today, 9:15 a.m. – Worship service rehearsal.
- ☼ Today – Youth Sunday and High School Senior Recognition with lunch to follow.
- ☼ Sunday, April 29, Noon – Fundraiser Meal and Auction.
- ☼ Sunday, May 6 – Lunch and Service Project.
- ☼ Sunday, May 13 – Baptism Sunday.
- ☼ Wednesday, June 20, 7 p.m. Parent and Youth Meeting about Chicago Service Trip.
- ☼ August 5 – Welcome/Farewell Day at Nolts' lake house.



THE ANNUAL MENNONITE WOMEN'S Chatter, Chow, and Cheerful Service gathering for Atlantic Coast Conference women will be held on Saturday, May 5, from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at Mennonite Central Committee's Material Resource Center on Trout Run Road in Ephrata. Women and girls, ages 9 and older, are invited to enjoy a morning of fellowship, service and a light lunch. Please bring a pint of chicken corn noodle soup to share; a vegetarian soup will also be provided. If you prefer to go green, bring your own mug, bowl and spoon. Further information is posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board.

PLEASE NOTE THAT INFORMATION ABOUT ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY EVENTS IS POSTED ON THE FELLOWSHIP HALL BULLETIN BOARD. CHECK OUT THE FLYERS POSTED THERE TO LEARN MORE.

## TODAY'S HOSPITALITY HELPERS

Head Usher: Ken Martin  
Sound Technicians: Yvonne Kauffman, Bruce Stauffer-Assistant  
Befrienders: Linda and Warren Tyson  
Greeters: Beth and Jim Fenton  
Coffee Fellowship Hosts: Donna and Cal Roggie  
Nursery (Ages 0-3): (SS) Dana and Jim Shannon  
(W) Michael and Matthew Degan

## TODAY

- ☼ 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages.
- ☼ Noon – MYF (Youth Group: Gr. 9-12): Celebration Lunch.

## THIS COMING WEEK

- ☼ Monday, 8 a.m. – Agape Class will leave for day trip to Museum of the Bible in Washington, DC.
- ☼ Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. – MOMS (Morning Out for Mothers): End-of-Year Brunch.
- ☼ Saturday, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. – Atlantic Coast Conference Spring Assembly at Hope Community Church, Fleetwood.

## NEXT SUNDAY

- ☼ Pastor Jon will continue his *This Is Our Story* sermon series. He will be preaching on *Some Anabaptist Visions* based on Matthew 5:1-48.
- ☼ Noon – MYF Fundraiser Luncheon and Service and Experiences Auction. (See bulletin announcement for details.)
- ☼ 4 p.m. – Mennonite Children's Choir of Lancaster Concert.

REPORT: (04/15) General Fund \$9,684  
Sunday School 178; Worship 213

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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

## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

April 10, 2018

### LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

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

**Things completed:** Staff retreat day and the worship survey with discussion session. **Current matters:** Continuing the sermon series on *Our Story* – a chronological history of the people of God; the video curriculum series on sin being used by adult Sunday School classes (receiving good feedback on this); and baptism preparation classes with seven participants.

#### **Christian Education Commission** – Becky Degan

**Things completed:** Easter worship service. **Current matters:** Incorporating people, including newcomers, who have offered to use their gifts in worship; assisting the MYF in planning for Youth Sunday and their summer service trip to Chicago.

#### **Children and Youth Programming** – Janette Lile

**Things completed:** KfC met for the last time in this church year; will resume meeting in October. **Current matters:** Organizing an added KfC program for 3 and 4-year-olds for the fall; assisting the MYF in planning for Youth Sunday and their upcoming lunch and auction; planning for VBS in July; and working with a committee on a playground proposal.

#### **Care Team** – Nina Harnish

**Things completed:** Many calls and visits and one funeral; organized the Wednesday evening sermon discussion series led by Dan Hess. **Current matters:** Obtaining technology for adult Sunday School rooms as needed; assisting Cody Hurst in organizing a young adult service trip to Puerto Rico in July (six confirmed participants, more pending); working with MOMS program to discern its future; planning for adult summer Sunday School elective; working with Pastor Jon on church-wide visioning process; assisting in integration of new families. (Sixty + new persons have joined us for worship in the past year and a half. A new members Sunday will be scheduled sometime this fall.) Nina also expressed appreciation for the Care Fund that allows the church to help address needs that arise within the congregation.

#### **Mission and Service Commission** – Tom Verghese

**Completed matters:** Lots of individuals and groups are going on service trips. **Current matters:** More service trips being planned; anticipating continued opportunities for service with the forecast of an active hurricane season; and planning for a mission weekend in October with Mennonite Mission Network representation.

#### **Staff Relations Committee** – Evanna Hess

Evanna informed Council that church administrator Norma Stauffer has given notice of her intention to retire at the end of February 2019.

#### **Discernment Committee** – Ryan Nolt

**Current matters:** Committee will begin its work for the 2018-19 church year in the near future.

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

**Things completed:** Nursery carpet professionally cleaned; kitchen professionally stripped and waxed; two HVAC units repaired; new copier purchased; foyer restrooms, trim work and ceiling tiles painted; rubber roof section repairs to address leaks; security system problems addressed; and contract signed with High Services for weed control and landscaping maintenance. **Current matters:** One HVAC system needs to be replaced; new flooring will be installed in the church office; and possible replacement of the rubber roof.

**FINANCIAL REPORT** – Treasurer Sam Clement expressed gratitude that giving continues to run above budget. Expenses are running on target with budget.

**PLAYGROUND PROPOSAL** – Janette Lile presented a proposal that was prepared by a committee that did extensive research on options. Council affirmed the proposal. Information will be shared with the congregation for feedback in the very near future.

## **OTHER UPDATES**

- Pastor Jon reported on a recent Staff Retreat Day held at the Hertzog Homestead. Input, led by Brethren in Christ Church leader Christine Sharp, was on a strengths-based leadership model. Focus was given to staff-led vs. volunteer-led church programs.
- Pastor Jon also shared results of the recent Worship Survey and the lunch group discussion that followed. Approximately 100 people participated in the survey with many preference differences expressed. While most folks agreed that they prefer blended music for worship, opinions on what that would look like were significantly varied. Worship Commission continues to experiment with the placement of the piano on and off the stage.
- Nina presented a proposal for a new Adult Education Working Group. This group would help plan programs such as Winter Bible School, the summer Sunday School elective, and Wednesday evening Bible studies. The Discernment Committee will look for volunteers to serve on this team for the coming church year.
- Jerry Lile and Rod Lefever reported that feedback on the proposed Lancaster Mennonite School Church Partnership Scholarship Program was positive, and FHMC has agreed to enter into this partnership.
- Pastor Jon and several Council members have been working on an Organization Review and Update Project that will address the differences between governance and programming. Continued work will need to be done on this project before it is ready for Council review and church approval.
- Staff Relations Committee Chair Evanna Hess presented a Sexual Misconduct Policy that was approved by Council.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Evanna Hess provided an update from the Staff Relations Committee.

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.