



## Forest Hills Mennonite Church

November 11, 2018

### NEW MEMBERS 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:** *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Worship Book No. 37

Leanne Beidler, Willie Hurst, Cal Roggie-Leaders

##### Call to Worship and Invocation

Jon Carlson

#### Praising and Adoring

##### Congregational Singing

Becky Degan-Piano, Dean Jantzen-Guitar  
Michael Degan-Bass, Sheila Snyder-Drums

*O Praise the name*

*Blessed be your name*

(Grace Notes No. 61)

(chosen by Anna Nofziger)

#### Offering Our Tithes and Ourselves

##### Children's Time

Janette Lile

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

##### Congregational Prayer

##### Offering

##### Sharing

Vernon and Yvonne Kauffman

**Song:** *Great is Thy faithfulness*

Worship Book No.327

(chosen by Vernon Kauffman)

##### Sharing

Carl and Jenn Schnabel

**Song:** *Mighty to save*

##### Sharing

Matt and Emiley Rodak

**Song:** *What a friend we have in Jesus*

(Worship Book No. 574)

(chosen by Emiley Rodak)

**Parent-Child Dedication:** Gemma, Mahlon, and Georgia Rodak

##### Affirmation of Membership

#### Sending

##### 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.

NEXT SUNDAY, our worship service will be led by folks from Friendship Community, a Christian-based service provider for adults who have developmental and intellectual disabilities. The worship team will present a program of hymns, gospel songs and praise choruses as well as songs that include motions and sign language. This team is known for the joy they exhibit while praising God and being included in public worship.

A MEMORIAL SERVICE for Paul Burkholder will be held here this coming Saturday, November 17. Family visitation will be held at 10 a.m., prior to the service at 11 a.m. Additionally, family visitation will be held in the Azalea Dining Room at Landis Homes on Friday, November 16, from 5-8 p.m.

GENEVA MARTIN has been moved into the Personal Care Unit at Landis Homes. Her new room is Aspen #9. Her phone number has not changed.

MARY SCHROEDER was released from the hospital and transferred to Oregon North at Landis Homes Rehab this past week.

FLEX FUNDS are available for special projects and financial assistance requests that arise during the church year. Priority is given to projects that fit the vision, character and theology of our church and those in which Forest Hills people are involved. If you would like to apply for a grant for a ministry that you are involved in, contact the church office for Flex Fund guidelines and an application. Submit completed applications to Tom Verghese, Mission and Service Commission Director.

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:

- New church members and their families.
- Geneva Martin and Mary Schroeder adjusting to new living arrangements.
- Gene and Carole Siegrist dealing with the implications of Gene's advancing disease.
- Those experiencing broken relationships in their families.

THE MISSION AND SERVICE COMMISSION has selected families in the Conestoga Valley School District for this year's Christmas giving project. Everyone is invited to select paper Christmas ornaments from the display board in the foyer, purchase the items listed on the ornaments, return the wrapped items to the church with the gift tags attached, and place the gifts underneath the display board by Sunday, December 2. Gift cards do not need to be wrapped and should be given to Kathy Unangst or placed in her church mailbox.

HOLIDAY GIFTS for the CV School District families will be distributed on Saturday, December 15, at Zion Lutheran Church, 18 Quarry Road, Leola. There are several opportunities to help with the set up and distribution of the gifts. Please sign up on the sheet on the display board in the foyer by November 18 if you would like to volunteer for this event.

#### LOOKING AHEAD

-  Friday, December 7, 6:30 p.m. – MOMS Christmas Cookie Concert.
-  Sunday, December 16, 10 a.m. – Christmas Music Sunday.
-  Monday, December 24, 7 p.m. – Christmas Eve Service.
-  Wednesdays in January 2019 – Winter Bible School.

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

-  Today, 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School
-  Today, Noon – Lunch and games with French exchange students.
-  Friday, November 16, 5:30 p.m. – Hershey Bears game; cost \$16.00.
-  Sunday, December 2 – Movie Night.
-  Sunday, December 9 – Cookie-making at Hursts'.
-  Sunday, December 16 – Deliver cookies to Fairmount Homes.

## NEW MEMBERS SUNDAY Sunday, November 11, 2018

*We welcome the following persons to our church family.*

### **Reuben Dise**

My faith story begins at Deep Run East Mennonite Church where I attended as a child with my family and where I came to know the Lord through the many youth activities with MYF. I accepted Christ in my teens while attending summer camp at Spruce Lake in the Poconos. I was baptized at Deep Run and became a member there during high school. After high school, I went to college at Penn State to become an Agricultural Engineer, which led me to my current career as a field test engineer working on combine harvesters at CNH Industrial in New Holland. During the past 14 years of college, internships and working full time, I attended several different churches off and on but never really found someplace that felt like a good fit. Four years ago I met my wife Amanda through a mutual friend, and we were married in May 2017. At this point in my life attending church regularly and finding a church home to grow a family in became a priority. We tried several churches throughout Lancaster County. We attended Goodville Mennonite for a short time and felt welcomed there and at several other churches, but Forest Hills really stood out when we first visited in January and have been attending since then. We enjoyed the sermons and worship, the people were welcoming, we met several other young families and couples, we were invited to join a small group, we have joined the Rest for the Weary Sunday School Class, and now I would like to take the next step and join the church by transferring my membership.

### **Vernon and Yvonne Kauffman**

*Will be sharing their testimonies during the worship service.*

### **Orpha King**

When I was nine years old I made the most important decision of my life. I accepted Jesus as my Savior and was baptized. I was blessed to have parents and older siblings who instructed and encouraged me in my relationship with Christ. Sunday School and Vacation Bible School teachers also played an important role. Through all the years to follow, He has never deserted me although there were many times I went my own way. He always forgave and welcomed me into an even closer relationship. For over two years I have

been attending Forest Hills and enjoy the sermons, music, and getting to know persons in this congregation. I would like to become a member here and continue fellowship with all of you. My past church memberships have been at Conestoga Mennonite, Maple Grove Mennonite (Belleville), and New Holland Mennonite.

### **Jimmy Kreider**

Feeling God's call, our family began searching for a church with Anabaptist roots that offered an active Sunday educational program for both parents and young children as well as a healthy diet of spiritual food and community. After visiting several other churches, we came to Forest Hills, and Ryan Nolt immediately welcomed us and led us to our respective Sunday School rooms like we were old friends. Monica and I immediately felt like we found our home, and our son Solomon who was almost five at the time confirmed it by saying, "We are not visitors anymore; this is our church!" after our 2nd or 3rd time attending. We are gracious of you all for welcoming us to worship with you and grow together as we walk with Christ.

### **Monica Kreider**

My faith journey began while attending Lebanon Mennonite Church in Lebanon, Oregon where I grew up. I made the decision to follow Christ and was baptized at the age of 14. Today, I still believe in God's overwhelming goodness, forgiveness, and love. I am so thankful God led us to this wonderful community of people, who will support us as we continue our faith journey.

### **Craig Miller**

My journey of faith has always been focused around my pursuit of right-thinking about God and scripture. As a kid I remember trying to make sure I've said the right things and prayed the right prayer, that mentality followed me into my adult years. In the last 4-5 years I've come to see that Jesus is right-thinking, and scripture has opened up to me in a whole new way. I'm thankful for my journey, I love where it's brought me, and looking forward to where it takes me.

### **Ervin Miller**

Having grown up in a minister's family, church life was my only life. I realized in my teen years that I was not the "good boy" that my parents thought that I was. I was completely dull to the idea of faith, after having it crammed down my throat for too many years. It was in this condition that I was baptized, started dating and got married. I fooled

myself into believing that this was all that there was to the "faith life". In my mid-twenties, I met God in a real and undeniable way, and for the first time in my life the "Jesus light bulb" was turned on in my life. In the years since, I've experienced both the highs and the lows of walking out my faith. The last five years of my life, leading up to today, include my single darkest moments since I've known Jesus. It caused me to rethink my religious arrogance about the illness of depression. Today I'm on a journey of becoming well. Perhaps more well than I've ever been before. I'm in love with Jesus, and I'm in love with his people.

### **Rose Miller**

I'm Rose, married to Craig, and we have four kids. Being a mom has been one of the hardest, yet growing, things I've ever done. (And am still doing.) But in my journey, I have become closer to Jesus and have really realized my need for Him and His grace and love. I need it every single day. And I am learning to give grace and love to my kids just as He does for me. What a perfect example He is for us all!

### **Gene and Carole Siegrist**

*Are transferring their membership from the Little Swatara congregation of the Church of the Brethren*

### **Anna Nofziger**

I have been a believer since I was about 15. For the last 12 years or so we have been attending ACTS Covenant Fellowship, a church with Anabaptist roots but very different from Forest Hills. As our children grew we have started to look for a church closer to home to make it more possible to be here for church activities and be more involved in the neighborhood we live close to. We were also hoping to find a community to do life with. The Rest for the Weary Sunday School Class has been a great fit for us, and the children's programs have been a blessing to our family. Thank you for welcoming us into your community!

### **Kevin Nofziger**

We have been attending Forest Hills for the last two years and have found a community of Jesus followers that we resonate with on many levels. We intentionally wanted to worship at a church close to our home, and since I grew up going to a Mennonite church, Forest Hills seems like the right fit for our family. We love the multi-generational aspect of this church and we really enjoy the Rest for the Weary Sunday School Class. Plus, the ceiling in the sanctuary reminds me of my home church as a little boy. :-)

**Matt and Emiley Rodak**

*Will be sharing their testimony during the worship service.*

**Carl and Jenn Schnabel**

*Will be sharing their testimony during the worship service.*

**Sandy Smoker**

Having grown up in a local Mennonite congregation, I chose to follow Christ in my pre-teen years and was baptized in my home congregation. Two specific areas of my faith journey where I think I've learned something, and then I learn it again, and again in new and deeper ways are (1) Learning to know God more deeply when life doesn't go as planned, and (2) Becoming more aware, as I get older, of God's call to "be" rather than my tendency to "do." Forest Hills is the place that feels most like a fit for us. The fact that we have long-time friendships here is a bonus! It is with gratitude and anticipation that we join with this expression of the body of Christ, offering any gifts we've been given to serve here and in the surrounding community.

**Tim Smoker**

As a young teen, I made my choice to follow Christ. I was baptized and became a member of the small Mennonite congregation where my family attended. In spite of being a part of a local church all of my life, I feel like I'm still (again?) asking some very basic questions about what it means to follow Christ... for me... in my world... at work, at home, in my neighborhood, whatEVER I'm doing. And... do I really trust Him? Do I really hear from God? How do I apply what I'm reading in the Bible today about things that took place so long ago, and the things that Jesus said back then... how does that apply to me in today's world? And I'm realizing again the importance of working my way through these kinds of questions not just on my own but along with others who can challenge and encourage me, and I them, and can bring other perspectives, because we're all on a journey together. In 2017 we began an intentional search for a church which met several important criteria for us – a place closer to our home, where community was expressed in authentic ways, where scripture was taught, lived, and creatively expressed in worship. Yes, we actually used a spreadsheet to compare the various congregations we visited. We did say this was “intentional.” :-)

**Dana Shannon**

*Is reestablishing her membership.*

**Jim Shannon**

I grew up in a Christian home, and as a child I attended many different denominations growing up including Methodist, Presbyterian, and Christian and Missionary Alliance churches. I was baptized as an infant in the Presbyterian Church, and at the age of 12 I gave my life to Christ and was re-baptized. During most of my adult life, I have been a part of a non-denominational church with my family. Although I have not regularly attended Forest Hills until nearly a year ago, Forest Hills has been a very important part of my life as my wife, Dana, grew up in this church, and we got married in this church 13 years ago. It is now exciting to see my children, Christian and Kieren, learn about God in the same church body that my wife grew up in and in the church that is becoming a large part of my walk with Christ.

**Mary Schlabach**

I was baptized at the age of 16 in the Amish Church in Walnut Creek, Ohio. Later, after being married and having three children, we became members at a Beachy Church in Orville, Ohio. My husband, Samuel, was chosen by lot to be a minister in the church in which he served throughout his adult life. I have enjoyed serving God through raising a family, living on a farm, working in a bakery and then hauling Amish. I have wanted to follow God's way and have seen God at work in how He has taken care of me and shows me what to do next. He has been faithful and caring. Following my husband's passing in 2008, I have experienced wonderful care through my family. I moved to Lancaster area this past May to live near my daughter and son-in-law (Erma and Ervin Miller) and love being near so many family members. I want to be a member at Forest Hills because it's important for me to be a part of a church family in addition to enjoy coming to a church where there are four generations of my family worshipping together. Forest Hills has been very warm and welcoming. The scripture that has given me much comfort throughout my life is Psalm 139.

**Cheryl Wagner**

My faith journey has been a steady growth. I accepted Christ as a ten-year-old and even though it was a young age, I felt God's love and knew I was choosing Him as my guide for life. I look back at that time and realize how little I knew of what was ahead but know how faithful He has been. God has truly been my Rock. I have often questioned the

Continued on next page

"why's" of my life but I have learned to be thankful for God's faithfulness. Even though I fall short, my goal is to be a loving servant and be led by the Holy Spirit. I'm looking forward to transferring my membership to Forest Hills Mennonite Church. My Christian journey over the years has had many ups and downs, but my faith in Jesus Christ has always remained strong. I feel at home here and cherish the friendships I've made. I look forward to continue growing spiritually and being challenged by each of you. A verse I have relied on is from Jeremiah 29, "For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord."

### Les Wagner

I was baptized at the age of 12 during a fall revival meeting. At that time my baptism did not become a meaningful part of my life since it was expected of me and all of my friends were doing it. Now in my more mature stage of life, Christianity has taken on a totally different meaning in my life. I no longer do things because it is expected of me or because my friends are doing it; I do things because of the relationship I have with God and how it pleases him. I have also enjoyed the Christian fellowship at Forest Hills and look forward to returning my membership here once again. I miss the worship time during the winter season, but there is something about the sunny warmth of the California desert that eases the pain. I thankfully have the sermons on video to connect back to Forest Hills. Thank you for including me in your church family.

REPORT: (11/04) General Fund \$9,635; Refuge Education \$200  
Sunday School 179; Worship 211

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100 Quarry Road, Leola, PA 17540 ~ Phone 717-656-6227 ~ Fax 717-656-8607  
E-mail: fhmc@foresthillschurch.org ~ URL: <http://www.foresthillschurch.org>

#### 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

Randy Esch, Ruth Ann Martin, Keith Stuckey - Elders

Michael Degan, Kay Hurst, Louetta Hurst, Joyce Martin,

Rose Mosemann, Kathy Unangst - Care Team

### TODAY'S HOSPITALITY HELPERS

Head Usher: Vernon Kauffman

Audio Visual Technicians: Jim Shannon, Dylan Jantzen

Befrienders: Ann and Byron Zimmerman

Greeters: Deb Frey, Kathy Unangst

Coffee Fellowship Hosts: Donna and Cal Roggie

Nursery: (SS) Norma Stauffer, Lisa Spangler

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### TODAY

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

🌻 Noon – MYF (Youth Group: Gr. 9-12): Lunch and games with French exchange students.

### THIS WEEK

🌻 Monday, 6:30 p.m. – Care Team.

🌻 Tuesday, 9 a.m. – Women's Bible Study.

🌻 Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. –MOMS (Morning Out for Mothers): *Family organization* led by Marie Stoltzfus.

🌻 WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES ~ 7-8:15 p.m.

- KfC (Kids for Christ, Age 3-PreK and Gr. K-5): *Jesus helps a crippled woman.*

- Junior Youth (Gr. 6-8): *What are my gifts?*

- Adult Choir Rehearsal.

- Adult Bible Study: *The art of neighboring* led by Kevin Nofziger.

🌻 Thursday, 8 a.m. – Diakonian Women's Breakfast at Oregon Dairy

🌻 Friday, 5:30 p.m. – MYF (Youth Group: Gr. 9-12): Hershey Bears game.

🌻 Saturday, 7:30 a.m. Adelphian Class Breakfast at New Holland Family Restaurant.

### NEXT SUNDAY

🌻 Friendship Community will lead the worship service. (See bulletin announcement for further details.)

🌻 Noon – Rest for the Weary Class Chili Cook-off.

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