



Forest Hills Mennonite Church

November 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: *We gather together* (Worship Book No. 17)
10,000 Reasons

Becky Degan, Holly Schlosser, Willie Hurst-Leaders
Call to Worship and Invocation Kevin Nofziger

Praising and Adoring

Congregational Singing Becky Degan-Piano, Erik Schlosser-Guitar
Michael Degan-Bass, Sheila Snyder-Drums

Here I am to worship (Grace Notes No. 54)

We will remember

My soul cries out (Grace Notes No. 22)

Offering Our Tithes and Ourselves

Children's Time

Jon Carlson

Offering

Proclaiming

Song: *My Jesus, I love thee* Worship Book No. 522

Scripture: John 7:53-8:11

Sermon: *Stone catching in a stone throwing world* Leonard Dow

Response Song

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.

TODAY WE WELCOME Leonard Dow to our pulpit. Dow serves as the Stewardship and Development Specialist for Everence in Philadelphia. Previously, Dow served as pastor of Oxford Circle Mennonite Church in Philadelphia for nearly 20 years. He was also a founder of Oxford Circle Christian Community Development Association, an organization that launched many programs to benefit children and adults in the community.

COFFEE ORDERS made through the youth group have arrived. Coffee may be picked up in the fellowship hall after the worship service.

MARY SCHROEDER was released from the hospital last Friday and is now back in Oregon North at Landis Homes.

"I CAME THROUGH MY FIRST ROUND of chemo treatments with no strong side effects except that I now have a very low immune system. Phone calls are welcome; personal visits are discouraged. Thank you for your continued prayers and support." – Dan Glick

THANKS TO HELP from Posie Kreider and Sue Smoker, the updated church directories were assembled this past week and have been placed in church mailboxes. **Please proofread your household's listing**, and let Norma Stauffer know if there are any errors that need to be corrected. Extra copies of the directory are available on the counter in the church office.

ALL SENIORS – those living in retirement communities and those living in their own private homes – are invited to a Christmas luncheon here at the church on Monday, December 10, at 11:30 a.m. There will be no cost to participate. To attend, please RSVP to the church office no later than next Sunday, December 2. When making your reservation, please indicate any dietary restrictions.

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:

- Carter Hurst and Zac Hummel serving in different locations.
- Those experiencing on-going health issues and for their caregivers.
- Dan Glick undergoing treatments for leukemia.
- Parents concerned about their children who need extra care and support.
- Those who have been affected by natural disasters this fall including the wildfires in California.

THE PLAYGROUND IS NOW A REALITY. With seed money from recent bequests, Council approved a proposal to begin construction of a playground on our church property. Despite scorching temperatures and construction delays, the playground was finally completed in mid-September. Due to permitting costs and accessibility requirements, the playground ended up costing a bit more than expected. This leaves a deficit of approximately \$8-10,000 to fully fund the cost of the complete project. Council has approved an above-budget request for this gap to be covered. If you believe that this playground is an opportunity to foster a greater sense of community and connectedness within our church family and our community and wish to contribute to this project, place your contributions earmarked for *Playground Fund* in the regular offering.

THE MISSION AND SERVICE COMMISSION has selected families in the Conestoga Valley School District for this year's Christmas giving project. Wrapped gifts with the gift tags attached are due back to the church by next Sunday, December 2. Gift cards do not need to be wrapped and should be given to Kathy Unangst or placed in her church mailbox.

THE KHILO FAMILY, a Syrian refugee family that our church helps to support, has been successfully moved into their new house. One item that is still needed is a washing machine. With an active family of seven, there is a lot of laundry. If you are able to provide a new or used washing machine, please contact Norma Stauffer ASAP.

THE LEOLA MOMS GROUP invites everyone to their annual Cookie Christmas Concert on Friday, December 7, at 6:30 p.m., here at the church. Enjoy a free piano and vocal concert featuring local musicians Laura Hershey and Joseph Jaskolka and carol singing by the MOMS children. Refreshments will be served after the concert, and poinsettias and cookies will be available for purchase to benefit the MOMS program.

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, 6-8 p.m. – Movie Night at the church; bring a snack to share.
- 🌿 Sunday, December 9, Noon – Council meeting.
- 🌿 Sunday, December 9, 6-8 p.m. – Cookie-making at Hursts'.
- 🌿 Sunday, December 16, 6-8 p.m. – Deliver cookies to Fairmount Homes.
- 🌿 February 22-24, 2019 – Winter Retreat.

TODAY'S HOSPITALITY HELPERS

Head Usher: Marlin Miller

Audio Visual Technicians: Jim and Christian Shannon

Befrienders: Irene and Andrew Ebersole

Greeters: Linda and Warren Tyson

Coffee Fellowship Hosts: Jeanette and Vernon Rice

Nursery: (SS) Liz Clapper, Emiley Rodak

(W) Joan Krause, Emiley Rodak

THIS WEEK

🕊 Monday, 11:30 a.m. – Garden Spot Village Senior Lunch.

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

🕊 Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. – MOMS (Morning Out for Mothers): *Raising children with Godly character traits* led by Bonni Greiner.

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

- KfC (Kids for Christ, Age 3-PreK and Gr. K-5): *Jesus heals a blind man.*
- Junior Youth (Gr. 6-8): *Keeping up with the Joneses.*
- Adult Choir Rehearsal.
- Adult Bible Study: *Caring for the earth* led by guest presenter Rodney Martin.

NEXT SUNDAY

🕊 1st Sunday of Advent: Jon Carlson will be preaching on *Skipping Christmas* based on Luke 1:5-25.

🕊 After Worship Service – Monthly Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Screenings in Adelphian Room #17.

🕊 Noon – Grounded Class Lunch at Stuckeys'.

🕊 6 p.m. – MYF (Youth Group: Gr. 9-12): Movie Nite.

REPORT: (11/18) General Fund \$20,429; Student Aid \$200;
Playground Fund \$500; Caring Fund \$1,000
Sunday School 176; Worship 231

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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

Randy Esch, Ruth Ann Martin, Keith Stuckey - Elders

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

Rose Mosemann, Kathy Unangst - Care Team