



**Forest Hills Mennonite Church**

**July 21, 2019**

**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:** *When We Walk With the Lord*

Worship Book No. 544

Leanne Beidler, Holly Schlosser, Willie Hurst-Leaders

**Call to Worship and Invocation**

Warren Tyson

Lord, save us from ourselves.

**We continue to do the same things over and over, expecting different results.**

Lord, save us from doing too much.

**We go fishing every day, not noticing you waiting with a meal on the beach.**

Lord, save us from doing too little.

**We say we love you, and yet so often we neglect your sheep.**

Lord, save us from ourselves.

**Help us to hear and respond when you say, "Follow Me."**

**Praising and Adoring**

**Congregational Singing**

Don Nelson-Guitar, Dan Nagy-Bass

Sheila Snyder-Drums

*Here I Am to Worship*

(Grace Notes No. 54)

*In Christ Alone*

(Grace Notes No. 60)

*Holy Is the Lord (We Stand and Lift Up Our Hands)*

(Grace Notes No. 65)

**Offering Our Tithes and Ourselves**

**Children's Time**

Joan Krause

**Offering**

**Proclaiming**

**Song:** *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

Worship Book No. 444

**Scripture:** John 21:1-17

**Sermon:** *Love Restores*

Merv Stoltzfus

Atlantic Coast Conference Minister

**Response Song:** *Peace Before Us*

Grace Notes No. 39

**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.

DURING PASTOR JON'S SABBATICAL we have the privilege of hearing from many different speakers. Thanks to Merv Stoltzfus, the Executive Conference Minister at Atlantic Coast Conference, for delivering today's message.

THE CARLSON FAMILY is still looking for transportation home from Reagan National Airport on Wednesday, August 7. They are scheduled to arrive around 1:30pm. If you might be available to help transport them, please send Jon an email at [joncarlson@gmail.com](mailto:joncarlson@gmail.com)

DURING THE MONTHS OF JULY AND AUGUST, Mennonite Women are asking for donations of school kits and hygiene kits for Mennonite Central Committee. Please consider taking several of the kit bags from the church bench in the foyer. Fill the bags with the items on the content lists that are attached to the bag and return the completed kits to church.

FOREST HILLS has received a letter of thanks from Camp Deerpark for our recent Flex Fund donation of \$1,000.

CONGRATULATIONS to our rising 6th graders who have now moved up into Junior Youth. Our two elementary classes will be combined for the remainder of the summer.

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:

- Our MYF (Youth Group, Grades 9-12) and Junior Youth celebrating the beginning of a new year of programming with kickoff events.
- Those experiencing chronic illnesses, their families, and their care providers.
- For the many volunteers who serve this congregation.
- Wisdom as we plan our church finances for the next year and make decisions about upcoming staff changes.

OUR ANNUAL SERVICE IN THE PARK is scheduled for Sunday, August 11. Details can be found in today's bulletin insert. Please complete and return the RSVP form if you plan to stay for the barbecue lunch.

IF YOUR CLASS, COMMISSION, OR COMMITTEE has meetings or activities planned for the month of August, please submit these dates to the church office by Tuesday of this coming week, July 23, so that they can be included on the August church calendar.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU for the many, many hours of work that Janette Lile and her committee put into organizing and implementing this year's Vacation Bible School program. VBS was a huge success thanks in large part to the 80 volunteers from our church family who made it possible. The many people who donated snacks and other supplies were also an important ingredient. A total of 167 children enjoyed the week together, with an average attendance of 145 children each night. About 20% of the children at VBS attend Forest Hills, the rest of the children are from families in the community.

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#### LOOKING AHEAD

- ☼ Sunday, August 11 - Church Service in the Park.
- ☼ Sunday, October 6 - World Communion Sunday
- ☼ Sunday, October 6 - MYF Soup & Sandwich followed by the Annual Church Business Meeting.

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

- ☼ Saturday, July 27 - Welcome/Farewell at the Nolt's lake house.
- ☼ Sunday, August 4 - Mount Gretna.
- ☼ Sunday, August 18 - Salt & Light pool party at the Hursts'.
- ☼ Sunday, August 25 - Girls/Guys night at the Hersheys'.

#### TODAY'S HOSPITALITY HELPERS

Head Usher: Vernon Kauffman

Audio Visual Technicians: Alden Southwick

Befrienders: Ann & Byron Zimmerman

Greeters: Barb & Barry Weatherholtz

Coffee Fellowship Hosts: Cheryl & Larry McJunkin

Nursery: (SS)

(W) Lag Weaver

#### TODAY

- 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages. Adult Sunday School elective in the Fellowship Hall: *Take My Intellect, and Use: A Cultural Anthropologist Reflects on Her Research*, presented by Christa Mylin.

#### THIS WEEK

- Monday, 11:30 a.m. - Garden Spot Senior Meal.
- Saturday - MYF (Youth Group, Grades 9-12) Welcome/Farewell at the Nolt's lake house.

#### NEXT SUNDAY

- 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages. Adult Sunday School Care and Share Sunday, meet in regular classrooms.
- Nina Harnish will be preaching on *Wound Care*, based on John 16:25-33.

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REPORT: (07/14) General Fund \$11,691.17

Sunday School 112; Worship 200

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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

Lauren Krady - Administrator

Randy Esch, Ruth Ann Martin, Keith Stuckey - Elders

Kay Hurst, Louetta Hurst, Joyce Martin,

Warren and Linda Tyson, Kathy Unangst, Dana Shannon - Care Team

# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

July 8, 2019

## LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

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

Worked to prepare for his three-month sabbatical which began July 8. Worked to prepare for Janette's departure. The staff relations committee search team will begin their search for the new Youth and Young Adult Minister while he is away.

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

MYF went to the MCUSA Convention. Working on transitions with Janette leaving, preparing VBS music and visuals, and preparing for extra responsibilities due to Jon's sabbatical.

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

Continued to make plans and purchase curriculum for after she leaves. KFC had a planning meeting and is fully staffed with volunteers for the fall semester. Kids' church schedule for first semester is also complete including several new volunteers. VBS preparation continues and all FHMC kids in Preschool through grade three are registered.

### **Care Team** – Nina Harnish

Attended a Mental Health First Aid training day, officiated the memorial service for Esther Smoker, still coordinating summer Sunday school electives and connecting with newcomers at church.

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

M&S had their last meeting of the year, Kathy Unangst is heading up the collection for CVCCS and planning a congregational event for the fall.

### **Discernment Committee** – Jerry Lile

Presented a draft of the ballot to be affirmed by the congregation on August 18, 2019. He is still looking for a church secretary, council member-at-large, worship commission youth member, and a Mission and Service Commission member-at-large.

### **Property Committee** – Lauren Krady, on behalf of the Committee

The old church van was replaced with a 2011 Chevrolet Express 15 passenger, parking lot lights will soon be replaced with LED bulbs, options for a new office administrator desk are being explored.

**Search committee and staffing model-** Dan Hess - There was a bulletin insert given out last Sunday to clarify to the congregation about the process and what the new staff position will be after Janette leaves. The search committee will look for a Youth and Young Adult Minister, this position will be for 20 hours per week. The search committee has been approved by Council and consists of Sandy Smoker (chair), Clair Sauder, Jess Martin, Rod Lefever, Pat Nolt, and Kyra Hersh (youth member).

**Re-visioning process-** Dan Hess - The second meeting of the steering team will be this week but most of the process will begin when Jon returns. Jon envisions it will take approximately 15-months. The goal is to have quarterly activities with the congregation to work on this process. Keith mentioned that some of the larger issues in the church and brought up at the MCUSA convention will most likely be a part of this and need to be addressed as part of our re-visioning.

**Dates for State of the Church and Annual Meetings-** State of the Church will be September 8, during Sunday School. The Annual Report will be in mailboxes by September 22. The Annual Meeting will be on October 6, at 12pm.

**Financial reports-** Sam Clement - Although income is 12% under budget we continue to be in a strong financial position. Year end is quickly approaching, and he will need to start doing announcements about making up the deficit. We've had to dip into our Money Market account since we had to pay for the van and the roof. We now have QuickBooks for our accounting software. The playground is still in the negative by approximately \$13,750 and the van was \$2,500 over budget.

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



## WORSHIP SERVICE AND PICNIC IN THE PARK

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2019 – 10 a.m.  
West Earl Twp. Lions Park - Talmage

For a summer change of pace on Sunday, August 11, we will gather for our morning worship service at 10 a.m. in the West Earl Township Lions Park on Route 772 North between Talmage and Brownstown. Invite your friends and neighbors to this outdoor worship celebration! In case of rain, the service will be relocated to the church.

Feel free to stay and enjoy an afternoon in the park. The park has a great path for walking or biking, a playground, and is located next to a stream where you can go wading or fishing.

Items to bring:

- Lawn chairs or blankets for seating in the shaded lawn area of the park.
- Your own non-disposable place settings.
- Table games, lawn games, bikes, etc.
- Donations will be accepted toward the cost of the meal.

Everyone is invited to stay for the chicken barbecue picnic lunch. To help the Kitchen Committee plan for the meal, please complete the bottom of this sheet and place it in the offering plate or call your reservation into the church office (717-656-6227) by August 4.

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We (I) will attend the Picnic in the Park on Sunday, August 11.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of adults and youth

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of children (ages 10 and under)