



Forest Hills Mennonite Church

September 22, 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: *How Great Thou Art* (Grace Notes No. 4)
Becky Degan, Gemma Rodak, Tim Smoker

Call to Worship and Invocation Warren Tyson

Praising and Adoring

Congregational Singing Sandy Smoker-Piano
Scott Hertzog-Guitar, Jimmy Kreider-Bass, Sheila Snyder-Drums
Wonderful, Merciful Savior (Grace Notes No. 14)
Cornerstone
Break Dividing Walls

Offering Our Tithes and Ourselves

Children's Time Becky Degan
Dismissal for Kids Church (Grades PreK-Gr. 2, Room #1-2)
Sung Offertory: *We Are One in the Spirit* (Grace Notes No. 51)

Proclaiming

Scripture: Ephesians 1:9-10: 4:1-3a, 32

Scripture Reading Congregational Response

L: Christ our teacher,
you reach into our lives
not through instruction, but story.

**All: *Open our hearts to be attentive:
that seeing, we may perceive,
and hearing, we may understand,
and understanding, we may act upon your word
in your name. AMEN***

Sermon: *The Church Is a Mess (Thanks to God). Thanks Be to God!*
Paul Brubaker

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 Paul Brubaker, a teacher at Lancaster Mennonite School and attendee of Community Mennonite Church in Lancaster, for delivering today's message.

PASTOR JON WILL RETURN to the office beginning on Monday, September 30. Please join us on Wednesday, October 9, at 7 p.m. as he and Lyn share about their month of service with a church in Quito, Ecuador.

MABEL STOLTZFUS would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and phone calls after her recent surgery. Her recovery is going well.

OUR 2018-19 ANNUAL REPORT, which includes the proposed 2019-20 budget, was published and distributed by email this past week. Hard copies are available on the ledge beneath the mailboxes for those who wish to have a printed copy; more will be printed if needed. Please review this report in preparation for our Annual Business Meeting Sunday, October 6, following a fundraiser lunch provided by our youth group. Everyone is encouraged to take part in this important meeting.

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:

- Jon Carlson's last week of sabbatical.
- Esther Kreider recovering from a fall.
- Mary Harnish living in Austria for the fall semester through Eastern Mennonite University.
- Peace in our homes, community, nation, and throughout the world.

ESTHER KREIDER was admitted to Lancaster General Hospital on Friday after a fall. She was transferred on Wednesday to Garden Spot for physical rehabilitation.

THE NICKELS FOR NEIGHBORS JUG for the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) annual collection is now in the church foyer. The 2019 grant will be given to the Training Station Preschool in Ocean City, Maryland for the replacement of their playground and plumbing updates. This school was established in 1984 as an outreach of CrossWay Church with the goal of providing a loving Christian environment for preschool children. Please place your bills and loose change in the jug.

GROCERY BOXES ARE HERE! Atlantic Coast Conference's Peace and Justice Committee is once again collecting grocery boxes to be distributed by Mennonite Central Committee throughout the region. Please pick up a box in the church foyer, the suggested list of contents is on each box, and return filled boxes by October 25. Boxes will be collected at the ACC Fall Assembly on Saturday, October 26.

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE (MCC) will host a webinar on January 20, *Work Experience with World Experience*, for young adults (ages 18-30) interested in learning about international service and employment opportunities with MCC both in the U.S. and around the world. For registration or questions contact Jenna Villatoro, at JennaVillatoro@mcc.org or (240) 565-3071.

"THANK YOU for your prayers, visits, phone calls, and beautiful cards. They all contribute to good health." - Lila Neufeld

ADULT SINGLES of the Forest Hills congregation are invited to a potluck meal on October 12, at 6 p.m. at 47 Ridge View Drive, Leola. Come for a meal, conversation, and if interested, table games. Please contact Herb Hoover at herblhoover@gmail.com or text or call 717-725-3624 if interested.

AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDINGS of the sermon can be accessed on our website under the Sermons tab for both the current week and past weeks. Generally, these are posted early in the week after the Sunday service. Feel free to share these links with others as you feel led.

THE ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE Fall Assembly will be held here at Forest Hills on Saturday, October 26, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Join us for a day of learning, singing, and being together as the Church. The morning program will include worship, delegate business, congregational storytelling, and singing and sharing with Bradley Kauffman from the new hymnal, *Voices Together*. The afternoon will feature workshops on a variety of topics intended to equip individuals for discipleship and ministry. Programming for youth is being planned, so youth delegates and participants are welcome! This year there will be no Men's or Women's banquets, and the Leadership Resource Day is moved to February 8. Please register on the ACC website, www.atlanticcoastconference.net/assembly, by October 23.

INFORMATION ABOUT COMMUNITY events is posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board. Check out the flyers posted there to see what other ministries in our area are offering.

LOOKING AHEAD

- 🍁 Sunday, October 6 - World Communion Sunday.
- 🍁 Sunday, October 6 - MYF fundraiser lunch followed by the Annual Church Business Meeting.
- 🍁 Wednesday, October 9, 7 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Activities (KfC, Junior Youth, Adult Bible Study) begin.
- 🍁 Wednesday, October 16, 7 p.m. - Adult Choir begins.
- 🍁 Saturday, October 26 - ACC Fall Assembly at Forest Hills.

MYF CORNER - Youth Group, Grades 9-12

- 🍁 Sunday, September 29 - Oregon Dairy Corn Maze.
- 🍁 Sunday, October 6 - Fundraiser lunch.
- 🍁 Sunday, October 27 - Halloween Alternative setup.

One in Christ
Ephesians 2:11-22
New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

11 So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth,[a] called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision”—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— 12 remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14 For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. 15 He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, 16 and might reconcile both groups to God in one body[b] through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.[c] 17 So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; 18 for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, 20 built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.[d] 21 In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; 22 in whom you also are built together spiritually[e] into a dwelling place for God.

TODAY'S HOSPITALITY HELPERS

Head Usher: Lee Charles

Audio Visual Technicians: Alden Southwick, Dean Jantzen

Befrienders: Arleta & Ken Martin

Greeters: Barb & Barry Weatherholtz

Coffee Fellowship Hosts: Bonnie & Denny Sharp

Nursery: (SS) _____

(W) _____

TODAY

- 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages.
- 6 p.m. - MYF (Youth Group, Gr. 9-12) - Movie/Game night at church.

THIS WEEK

- Monday, 11:30 a.m. - Garden Spot Senior Lunch.
- Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. - MOMS (Morning Out for Moms) *Instilling Godly Character in Moms*, with Bonni Greiner.
- Friday - Sunday - Salt and Light Ladies' Beach Weekend.

NEXT SUNDAY

- Larry Guengerich will preach on *Looking Back to Look Ahead: The Church, Aging, and Missional Calling*, based on Exodus 20:12; John 19:26; James 1:27.
- 6 p.m. - MYF - Oregon Dairy Corn Maze.

REPORT: (09/15) General Fund \$8,471; Student Aid Fund \$100
Sunday School 148; Worship 140

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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

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