



Forest Hills Mennonite Church

April 19, 2020

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.

SUNDAY

- 9:30 a.m. - K-5th Online Sunday School: <https://zoom.us/j/4021588624>.
- 9:30 a.m. - Online MYF Sunday school <https://zoom.us/j/3370009781>.
- 10:30 a.m. - Online Worship: <http://foresthillschurch.net/covid-19-updates> or <https://www.facebook.com/foresthillsmennonite> - you do not need a Facebook account to view the sermon.
- 7 p.m. - Junior Youth online meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/3370009781>.
- Financial contributions can be mailed to the church office. You can also donate via credit card through our Forest Hills Facebook page.

THIS WEEK

- Tuesday, 10 a.m. - Preschool/Kindergarten Storytime Zoom room.
- Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Online KfC.
- Friday, 10 a.m. - Elementary Zoom room Fun and Games.

NEXT SUNDAY

- Next Sunday: the church service will be online.

REPORT: (4/12) Offering: General Fund \$17,836;
YTD Income: \$378,765 YTD Budget: \$423,796 (-11%)

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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

Zac Hummel - Youth and Young Adult Pastor ~ 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

IN ACCORDANCE WITH GUIDANCE from health officials, Forest Hills will not be holding in-person meetings during the month of April. We will continue with online meetings. Congregants can continue to mail tithes and offerings to the church as you are able. We know this may be a trying time financially and if you are in need of financial assistance please contact Pastor Jon or Nina Harnish.

FOREST HILLS WILL BE HOSTING A BLOOD DRIVE on Thursday, May 14, from 2 p.m. - 7 p.m. Donors will be screened from their cars under the carport before entering the building. All Donors will receive a \$5 Sheetz gift card. Please share this with friends and family. Donors must sign-up by using link below: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B45ABA722A1FC1-penn15>

THE SPRING EDITION of Atlantic Coast Conference's (ACC) *Currents* is available now. This edition includes stories and reflections on how the ACC community is learning to cope and thrive during the current health crisis. View this edition online [here](http://atlanticcoastconference.net/currents). Check out the *Currents* webpage to see past issues and the theme for the Summer edition: atlanticcoastconference.net/currents

IN LIEU OF AN IN-PERSON GATHERING for the Spring ACC Assembly, a video from conference leaders will be posted on their website from April 17-19, to give some updates on conference life and to invite delegates to take action on several matters. On Saturday morning, April 18, there will be several live video conversations at 10 a.m. as a way to connect with one another. Votes to approve a budget for 2020-2021 and to adopt a bylaw amendment, among others, will be received via online response form. A link and reminder will be sent to delegates in advance of these items being available.

<https://atlanticcoastconference.net/assembly/>

WE EXTEND OUR CONDOLENCES to Orpha King on the loss of her brother Titus Stoltzfus, who passed away on Monday. Prior to his death he was a resident of Landis Homes.

AS THE JOYS AND CARES AND CONCERNS of our congregation come to mind, please lift them to the Lord in prayer:

- Orpha King grieving the loss of her brother.
- Tom Verghese recovering from a recent fall.

Forest Hills Mennonite Church
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
April 6, 2020

Leadership Reports:

Jon Carlson, Lead Pastor – During this time when we are not meeting in person, his highest priority has been collaboratively planning worship services and providing technical implementation. His energy is also spent fostering connections and caring for people. Staff members are working remotely from home as much as possible

Becky Degan, Associate Pastor of Worship and Christian Education – She is still engaging kids in Zoom room activities several time a week and has pulled in some volunteers to assist. As more kids are now doing online school, the number of kids that participate in these Zoom meetings may be impacted. There will be no more gathering of musicians to lead in worship. Instead, she is reaching out to family groups to record music for our online worship services.

Nina Harnish, Minister of Care and Visitation – Along with concerns related to COVID, she is still addressing the routine care issues that are occurring. She feels the heaviness of what people are experiencing, but with restrictions on personal interactions, it's hard to know how to reach out effectively. Class Shepherds and Care Team members are doing a nice job of cultivating relationships and keeping up with class members. Seniors who recently received care packages expressed appreciation for being remembered. Congregants are finding ways to serve during this time of isolation, e.g. sewing masks, knitting prayer squares, etc. Bereavement care, if needed, is still a concern. Denominational leaders are working to provide resources.

Zac Hummel, Youth and Young Adult Pastor – He is still trying to find the best way to connect with a population that is still doing the “normal” things they do like schoolwork, etc. Sunday morning and evening, he is organizing Zoom meetings for the MYF and Junior Youth. He spent time organizing the MYF ham loaf orders (fundraiser) and appreciated the connections he made at individual's homes when he delivered them. He continues to focus on how to build a ministry that is still relatively new.

Lauren Krady, Property Committee – Ames will be replacing a single HVAC unit next week.

Erin Hershey, Mission and Service Commission – The Commission is not moving forward with any specific actions at this time. Members are open to getting involved in initiatives that the congregation might identify in the future. Staff will let Erin know of ways that people are responding to needs individually.

Jerry Lile, Discernment Committee – Presented the 2020-21 ballot, which Council approved.

Financial review and update by Sam Clement, Treasurer: We continue to be in a good cash position. Approximately two months of expenses could be covered by unrestricted cash on hand. Contributions are approximately 10% behind budget. However, considering that we have not been meeting for several weeks, Sam said he is pleased with the amount of money that is being contributed. Expenses have decreased. While giving lagged behind budget, we held back sending contributions for the months of February and March. In light of the fact that we are currently in a pretty strong financial position and recognizing that the Denominational Agencies are also likely experiencing financial difficulty, we decided to distribute February contributions, while still holding March contributions. We will continue this one-month delay, with Council monitoring the situation each month, anticipating that we will catch up completely by the end of our budget year.