



Forest Hills Mennonite Church

January 10, 2021

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.

Gathering

Prelude

Gathering Song: *Jesus, Be the Centre*

Call to Worship and Invocation

Zac Hummel

Reflection Song: *Cornerstone*

Offering Our Tithes and Ourselves

Passing the Peace

Offering Prayer

Offertory Jack Rutt - Cello, Becky Degan - Piano

Children's Time

Proclaiming

Song: *Fairest Lord Jesus*

Scripture: Colossians 1:9-23

Sermon: *God with Us*

Jon Carlson

Response Song: *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

Sending

Congregational Prayer

Benediction

Postlude

PRAISE GOD FOR THE CONTINUED GENEROSITY of our congregation! We are beginning the new year in a strong financial position. Because of your generosity, we are back to our target budgeted giving totals and will be able to fulfill all of our commitments to church agencies while continuing the ministries of our own church. Thanks to all of you who have faithfully supported the mission of our congregation with your financial support. - Sam Clement, Treasurer

TUITION GRANTS ARE AVAILABLE from the Student Financial Aid Fund for the school year beginning Fall 2021. Grants are available to Forest Hills Mennonite Church members or their dependents who are planning to enroll as full-time students at an eligible institution – Bethel College, Bluffton College, Canadian Mennonite University, Eastern Mennonite University, Goshen College, Hesston College, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, or Eastern Mennonite Seminary. The grant amount for the academic year 2021-22 will be \$1,550 per student per semester. Applications can be requested from a committee member – Nina Harnish, Janette Lile, Andrew Bodden or Craig Harnish – and should be submitted to Craig at ninacraig@comcast.net by February 15.

THANK YOU to all who contributed gift cards for our Christmas Giving Project. We collected 48 cards worth \$1,550! The cards have been delivered to Katie Reiff at Smoketown Elementary. She will distribute them to families in need. Many thanks for your generosity!

“THANK YOU, Forest Hills Mennonite Church congregation, for the cards, notes, gifts, and phone calls throughout the year. My prayers and thoughts are with you in the new year.” -Lila Neufeld

“MANY THANKS for the cards, texts, and prayers during my cochlear implant surgery and recuperation. The recuperation went very well. I am hearing sound with the implant. However, it will take time for me to understand words and conversation. Thanks for continued prayers as I continue my journey for better hearing.” - Karen Hertzler

ELLEN HUMMEL'S cell phone number has changed to 717-621-1044.

RANDY RANCK was hospitalized on Tuesday for blood pressure concerns. He remained a patient at bulletin publication time.

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

- Randy Ranck undergoing testing for blood pressure related concerns.
- Dan and Kit Baker celebrating the birth of their son, Caleb James, on Tuesday.
- Larry and Eileen Wenger and others recovering from COVID-19.
- Dale Gamber continuing to experience lung related issues.
- People experiencing depression and anxiety.
- Peace in our nation.
- College students beginning a new semester of classes.

LARRY WENGER was hospitalized on Monday for treatment for COVID-related pneumonia. He remained a patient at bulletin publication time. Eileen is recovering at home.

CONGRATULATIONS to Dan and Kit Baker on the birth of their son, Caleb James who was born on January 5. Dan has been helping with our audio/visual needs on Sunday mornings and they live in Denver, PA.

THE PARISH RESOURCE CENTER is partnering with CHI St. Joseph in a series of parenting webinars. These presentations are free, but registration is required to get the Zoom link:

Mindfulness, Brain Development, and Behavior - January 14, 7-8:30pm
Parents will explore various mindfulness strategies to help strengthen your child's capacity for self-regulation and present moment awareness. <https://parishresourcecenter.org/events/brain-development/>

Simplicity Parenting - February 11, 7-8:30pm
This approach is based on over thirty years' experience and helps busy families worry less, enjoy more, and achieve small changes within the home. <https://parishresourcecenter.org/events/simplicity-parenting/>

Unplugged - March 11, 7-8:30pm
Learn the impacts screens can have on our physical and emotional wellbeing, as well as healthy alternative activities that will help our families to unplug. <https://parishresourcecenter.org/events/unplugged/>



SUBSCRIPTION UPDATE – 2021

It is time to update our group subscription list for *Anabaptist World*, a monthly magazine that merged *The Mennonite* and *Mennonite World Review*. (This is an earlier renewal timeframe than previous years.)

A copy of this publication will be placed in the church library for those who want access to the periodical but do not wish to pay the subscription fee.

If you are actively involved in our congregational life and wish to have this publication sent to your home on a regular basis, we will be happy to include your name on the subscription list. The regular rate for a subscription is \$46 per year. Forest Hills Mennonite Church is asking subscribers to pay a discounted rate of \$20 to join our group subscription.

To renew or enroll in our group subscription, mail a \$20 check to the church office along with a note that it is for *Anabaptist World* by Sunday, January 24. Checks should be made payable to Forest Hills Mennonite Church.

PLEASE NOTE: Being on the subscription list in the past will NOT automatically place you on the list for the coming year. Only those who submit a \$20 payment by January 24, will be included in our group subscription to *Anabaptist World*.

TODAY

- * 10:30 a.m. - The worship service will be online only. You can watch it on YouTube: <https://fhmc.church/youtube> or Facebook: www.facebook.com/foresthillsmennonite.
- * Financial contributions can be mailed to the church office. You can also donate via credit card through our Forest Hills Facebook page.

NEXT SUNDAY

- * Pastor Jon will preach.

REPORT:

(12/31) End of Year Giving: General Fund \$28,250

(1/03) General Fund \$4,804

YTD Giving \$233,633; YTD Budget \$235,211 (- 1%)

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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

Louetta Hurst, Toby Leaman, Joyce Martin,

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