



Forest Hills Mennonite Church

September 19, 2021

G A T H E R I N G

Prelude

Gathering Song: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* Worship Book No. 70

Willie Hurst, Becky Degan-Singers

Dean Jantzen-Guitar, Michael Degan-Bass, Sheila Snyder-Drums

Call to Worship and Invocation

Dan Hess

Passing the Peace

C O N N E C T I N G

Children's Time

Becky Degan

Dismissal for Kids Church

(Grades PreK-Gr. 2, Room #1-2)

Congregational Singing

Here I Am to Worship

Mighty to Save

Offering Prayer

Sung Offertory

R E F L E C T I N G

Scripture

Message

Response Song

S E N D I N G

Congregational Prayer

Benediction

Postlude



CARES & CONCERNS >>>

As the cares and concerns of our congregation come to mind,
please lift them to the Lord in prayer:

- ❖ Sally Hooper recovering from heart valve surgery.
- ❖ Those dealing with anxiety and depression.
- ❖ Those experiencing chronic illness, their families, and their care providers.
- ❖ Adults, children, and youth involved with KFC and Jr Youth.
- ❖ Keith and Ernestine Lehman mourning the loss of Ernestine's brother, Everett Short.
- ❖ Those working who are experiencing an increase in workload and stress due to the rising COVID cases in our area.

Sally Hooper had open heart valve replacement surgery at Lancaster General Hospital on Tuesday and remained a patient at bulletin publication time.

We extend our condolences to Keith and Ernestine Lehman on the recent passing of Ernestine's brother, Everett Short, of Archbold Ohio.

ANNOUNCEMENTS >>>

Coffee Fellowship: Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall for light refreshments and conversation following today's worship service.

After the service this Sunday, September 19, we invite you to bring your own picnic lunch and chairs and stay for a time of outdoor fellowship. We will have the pickleball net and volleyball net set up; feel free to bring your own lawn games as well. If it is raining, we will postpone until the next Sunday, September 26.

Church Council met on Monday evening and adjusted the proposed 2021-22 budget. These adjustments were made after numerous conversations with congregants during and after the State of the Church meeting. Thank you to everyone who voiced suggestions and appreciation for the proposed budget. Members should review the amended budget that was sent via email. Hard copies are available in front of church mailboxes. Feedback can be sent to Jerry Lile or Sam Clement. The budget will be voted on at our Annual Business Meeting on October 10, during the Sunday School hour.

Parents, it is that time of year again! Please fill out an updated emergency information form for children (infants - grade 12). Links were sent out in weekly updates or digital bulletin readers can use this link: <https://forms.gle/Kx73hBpMy9fsWfKR8>.

ANNOUNCEMENTS >>>

Prayer Shawl ministry will resume meeting on Monday, September 20, at 7 p.m. If you want to learn to knit or would simply like to participate in this ministry, this opportunity is for you! If you have questions, contact Becky Siegrist.

Come to the Forest Hills Mennonite Church women's clothing swap on Tuesday, September 21, at 7 p.m. Bring all of your unwanted clothing items and swap for items you'd rather have! Women's clothing for any season, shoes, and accessories accepted. At the end of the evening whatever is left will be donated to MCC ReUzit. Light snacks will be served. Bring a friend! We hope you'll join us! If you have any questions, contact Dana Shannon.

Forest Hills received a letter of thanks from Atlantic Coast Conference for our recent donation of \$12,500.

Greeters are needed for November and December. If you are interested in serving our church community in this way, please contact Kathy Unangst at 717-656-2185 or klunan141@yahoo.com.

"**We are deeply appreciative** of your thoughts, prayers and cards in the recent Home Going of several family members. Thank you for caring. God's Blessings to you." - Warren & Linda Tyson

This week our Wednesday evening activities begin. KfC (Kids for Christ) for children in Preschool - Grade 5 begins at 6:30 p.m. Jr. Youth for children in Grades 6-8 begins at 7 p.m. Plan to participate and invite friends and neighbors to join you.

If your class, commission, or committee has meetings or activities planned for the month of October, please submit these dates to the church office by Wednesday of this coming week, September 22, so that they can be included on the next church calendar.

The September edition of *On the Level* is now available digitally from Mennonite Disaster Service. In the current issue: A Virginia family now has a way home, thanks to MDS Volunteers, Canada farmers work together to battle drought conditions and clean up continues in the wake of Hurricane Ida. Digital readers can click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/3Ej100M>.

LOOKING AHEAD

- ❖ **October 3:** Worldwide Communion Sunday.
- ❖ **October 10:** Annual church business meeting during the Sunday School hour.
- ❖ **October 26:** Atlantic Coast Conference fall assembly at Blossom Hill Mennonite Church.

H O S P I T A L I T Y H E L P E R S

- ❖ Head Usher: Lee Charles
- ❖ Audio Visual Technicians: Rod Lefever, Dan Baker
- ❖ Greeters: Doris & Clair Sauder
- ❖ Befrienders: Linda & Warren Tyson
- ❖ Coffee Fellowship: Leanne Beidler & Kevin Hersh

T O D A Y

- ❖ 9:30 a.m. - Sunday school for all ages.
- ❖ 10:30 a.m. - Worship in-person or online. The service can be streamed on YouTube: www.fhmc.church/youtube or Facebook: www.facebook.com/foresthillsmennonite.
- ❖ After the service: Bring your own picnic lunch and yard games outside.

T H I S W E E K

- ❖ Monday, 7 p.m. - Prayer Shawl meeting.
- ❖ Tuesday, 7 p.m. - Women's Clothing Swap.
- ❖ Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. - KFC (Kids for Christ) for Preschool - Grade 5 children.
- ❖ Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Jr. Youth (Gr. 6-8) begins.
- ❖ Saturday - Sunday - MYF (Youth Group, Gr. 9-12) Camping trip.

N E X T S U N D A Y

- ❖ Susan Schultz Huxman, from Eastern Mennonite University, will preach.

WEEKLY REPORT:

9/12: General Fund \$8,595.77; Student Aid Fund \$100

YTD Income: \$14,031.77

Attendance : 139

fhmc@foresthillschurch.org ~ www.foresthillschurch.org

100 Quarry Road, Leola, PA 17540 ~ 717-656-6227

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

Becky Bathurst ~ Youth and Young Adult Director

Randy Esch, Kay Hurst, Keith Stuckey - Elders

Louetta Hurst, Joyce Martin, Ruth Ann Martin, Clair and Doris Sauder

Warren and Linda Tyson, Kathy Unangst, - Care Team

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

September 13, 2021

Jon Carlson, Lead Pastor – Jon acknowledged the successful search process for Youth and Young Adult Director resulting in strong congregational affirmation for Becky Bathurst; facilitated her onboarding process; began onboarding process for Alex, our IVEP volunteer from Ukraine; preached a sermon series on the book of Isaiah; and continued to monitor the trajectory of the COVID pandemic. Jon is working with Dan Baker to make some of our ad hoc technical things more permanent (e.g., expanding the sound booth to better accommodate video); had many conversations about congregational life and momentum once we finally we reach a post-COVID world; is paying attention to dynamics of exhaustion and burnout within himself and staff.

Becky Degan, Associate Pastor of Worship and Christian Education – Becky recruited and scheduled volunteers for preschool through Junior Youth Sunday School teachers, Kids Church leaders, worship leaders and musicians for the fall; led music for the Atlantic Coast Conference Youth Retreat; is preparing lessons and finding volunteers for KFC beginning September 22 and starting to plan for Advent and Christmas. Becky commented that it takes about 35 volunteers to staff one Sunday morning for Sunday School and worship. This includes nursery, three kids Sunday School classes, Junior Youth and MYF Sunday School, coffee fellowship, ushers, greeters, befrienders, and worship participants, but does not include staff or adult Sunday School teachers. That's 140 volunteers needed for one month of Sunday mornings.

Nina Harnish, Minister of Care and Visitation – Nina is staying connected with individuals having health or personal crises; is working with class shepherds on fall planning and curriculum resources; halted hospital visitations due to new COVID protocols; delivered a sermon; worked with Lauren to organize coffee fellowship volunteers starting September 12; assisted Mennonite Women in closing their official group by cleaning out closets and distributing materials; assisted Adelphian Class in ending their Sunday School class; welcomed new Care Team volunteers to the team for the upcoming year; and began planning some casual, intergenerational activities for Sundays after the church service.

Becky Bathurst, Youth and Young Adult Director – Becky has just recently joined the staff team and is getting acquainted with her role and the various programs she will supervise. The MYF has 26 potential kids with about 12-15 who are active.

Lauren Krady, Property Committee – Received an estimate of \$30,800 to re-cover sanctuary pews; received estimate of \$3,800 to replace lawn sign and still looking at additional options; installed seven programmable thermostats to completely unify all of our thermostat models; and received estimate of \$8,712 to replace basement (MYF area) HVAC unit that is not working. Alex, our IVEP volunteer, has begun stripping wallpaper in the nursery for future painting.

- **State Of the Church Meeting Follow-Up:** Jerry stated that overall, the meeting went well. There were good questions and comments in the meeting and numerous one-on-one conversations after the meeting. Some of these were related to what would be done with the \$17,579 balance of income over expenses at year-end. Council discussed pros and cons of different ideas presented at the meeting and settled on the following plan that will be presented to the congregation for approval: \$5,000 to CVCCS, \$2,500 to MCUSA, and remaining \$10,079.21 to go into the Future Capital Projects Fund with a portion retained for an appreciation gift to staff; amount to be determined by the Staff Relations Committee.
- **Financial Review and Update:** After the State-of-the-Church Meeting, several people expressed concern that, based on giving in recent years, we didn't cut the budget enough. Council reviewed the budget again, and with input from program and commission leaders, decreased the proposed budget to a total of \$630,000. Council voted on and approved this updated budget. The congregation will vote on it at our annual meeting on October 10.
- **Mennonite Women Funds:** The Mennonite Women group disbanded with a balance of \$2,100 in its checking account. Council approved a recommendation that this money be sent to Mennonite Central Committee.
- **Continued Covid Discussion:** Council affirmed our current position of recommending mask-wearing while offering online services for those who are uncomfortable meeting in-person. Some practices will need to continually be evaluated and our approach will be reviewed again at next month's meeting.