



Forest Hills Mennonite Church

November 14, 2021

G A T H E R I N G

Prelude

Gathering Song: *Great is the Lord*

Worship Book No. 87

Welcome and Passing the Peace

Call to Worship and Invocation

Craig Harnish

Reflection Song: *Awakening*

C O N N E C T I N G

Congregational Singing

Come, Now is the Time to Worship

Grace Notes No. 2

Ancient Words

Grace Notes No. 69

Offering Prayer

Offertory: *Breathe on Me Breath of God*

Worship Book No. 356

Children's Time

Janette Lile

Dismissal for Kids Church (Preschool-5th Grades)

R E F L E C T I N G

Scripture: Matthew 19:1-12

Sermon: *It's Complicated*

Jon Carlson

Response Song: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Worship Book No. 327

S E N D I N G

Mission Spotlight: Deb Muenstermann

Eastern Mennonite Missions Hub450

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:

- 🍁 Paul and Karen Eckert discerning treatment options for Paul who had a recent injury from a fall.
- 🍁 Those grieving the loss of family members and friends.
- 🍁 Finding ways to be peacemakers in our relationships.
- 🍁 Gratitude for our adult Sunday School class leaders and teachers.

Marty Peifer was discharged from the hospital last Saturday for a few days of therapy at Landis Homes and then returned home on Wednesday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS >>>

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

Today we welcome Deb Muenstermann to our worship service. Deb serves as the Hospitality Center Manager at Hub450, home of Eastern Mennonite Missions' new headquarters and a unique gathering space in Lancaster City.

Mennonite Church USA is once again offering its free Advent at Home devotional. Written by Talashia Keim Yoder, pastor of Christian Formation at College Mennonite Church, Goshen, Indiana, the 2021 guide follows the theme of Leader magazine and is appropriate for all ages. Download your copy here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/adventathome>

The Mennonite Children's Choir of Lancaster (MCCL) invites you to ring in Christmas with them here at Forest Hills on Sunday, December 5, at 4 p.m. Several of our elementary children sing in this choir. Masks are required. Tickets are not required; a free-will offering will be taken.

Friday, November 19, is Lancaster's Extraordinary Give, a chance for the entire county to come together to support organizations that serve our community. Many of the organizations participating have strong connections to Forest Hills, so we encourage you to share your generosity! Visit their website at <http://www.extragive.org> to find out more and donate.

ANNOUNCEMENTS >>>

A heads-up for parents! On November 14 and 21, the worship services will focus on faith and sexuality. While nothing in the sermons will be explicit, they will acknowledge the existence and complexity of sex. On both Sundays, Kids' Church will be available for students up through 5th grade. If you have any questions, you may reach out to Pastor Jon.

The property committee is looking for an individual or family that would be willing to shovel the entrances and walks around our church building when it snows this winter. Anyone willing to serve in this capacity is asked to contact the church office or Bruce Stauffer, Property Committee Chairperson.

We are blessed to have Alex Kachkovsky serving at Forest Hills for one year through the Mennonite Central Committee IVEP program. To help him feel welcome and connected to our church family, we would invite you to have him over for a meal or a fun activity. Please talk to Sam Clement or Alex if your family is willing to extend this type of hospitality.

New church directories are in church mailboxes. Extra copies are available on the counter below the mailboxes. If you would like a PDF version emailed to you to save on your computer, email the church office at fhmc@foresthillschurch.org.

Forest Hills Christmas Giving Project

This year we will again be supporting families in need in the Conestoga Valley School District. In honor of Forest Hill's 75th Anniversary, we would like to collect 75 gift cards. Let's share our blessings with those in need.

We are collecting \$50 gift cards to Target or Walmart. Please bring the cards to church by Sunday, November 28. Cards can be placed in the snowman basket by the ushers' room.

New rolls of Christmas wrapping paper and clear tape are also needed and may be placed in the silver box by the snowman basket.

Please contact Kathy Unangst with any questions.

Thank you for your generosity!



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: Jim Shannon, Dean Jantzen, Dana Shannon, Dan Baker
- ❖ Greeters: Dana & Jim Shannon
- ❖ Befrienders: Linda & Warren Tyson
- ❖ Coffee Fellowship: Bonnie & Denny Sharp



Visitor Form

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.
- ❖ 6 p.m. - MYF (Youth Group, Gr. 9-12) Trivia night with the young adults.

T H I S W E E K

- ❖ Monday, 7 p.m. - Prayer Shawl Ministry.
- ❖ Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. - KFC (Kids for Christ) for Preschool - Grade 5 children.
- ❖ Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Jr. Youth (Gr. 6-8).
- ❖ Saturday, 8 a.m. - Adelphian breakfast at New Holland Family Restaurant.

N E X T S U N D A Y

- ❖ Pastor Jon will preach on *Commonality and Conflict*, based on John 8:2-11.
- ❖ MYF Friendsgiving potluck dinner.

WEEKLY REPORT:

11/7: General Fund \$3,943; Refugee Education Fund \$50
YTD Income: \$96,858; YTD Budget \$121,105 (-20%)

Attendance : 150

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 ~ Lesley Wenger - Custodian
Randy Esch, Kay Hurst, Keith Stuckey - Elders
Louetta Hurst, Ruth Ann Martin, Clair and Doris Sauder
Warren and Linda Tyson, Kathy Unangst - Care Team

FOREST HILLS MENNONITE CHURCH

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

November 1, 2021

- **Endowments Presentation:** Elyse Kauffman and Lynette Morales from Everence shared information about planned giving and endowments. Everence helps churches set up endowment funds that congregants can contribute towards to help with expenses. Gifts to this fund would not replace giving towards the budget. Council will continue to explore this opportunity.
- **Leadership Reports:**
 - Jon Carlson, Lead Pastor** – Jon completed a series of responses to questions about Christian nonviolence and shared them via social media; delivered a sermon series on the nature and purpose of church. Going forward, Jon has a sermon series planned on Christian understanding of the past, future, and present; is planning a two-part sermon series on sexuality; and planning a series focused on the songs of Christmas and the story of Scripture for Advent. Jon shared the following attendance statistics: Average attendance for the four Sundays of October in 2019 was 195 and in 2021 it was 138 (41%). Range of attendance in 2019 was 174-215, and in 2021 it has been 116-171.
 - Becky Degan, Associate Pastor of Worship and Christian Education** – Becky is continuing to offer support to Sunday School teachers as they navigate the unpredictable children’s attendance, and scheduling for Kids Church is a challenge. Planning for Advent and Christmas has begun with a shortened choir season, Bell Choir, planning the worship services, and scheduling musicians.
 - Nina Harnish, Minister of Care and Visitation** – Nina helped organize a women’s social and craft night; is staying connected with individuals having health or personal crises; exploring a Sunday School Class for (approximately) 25-30-year-olds; making home visits to new attendees; and exploring possibilities for one potential small group; and working on Advent care bags for seniors. Nina and Becky Bathurst will continue to explore the possibility of a young adult Sunday School Class.

Becky Bathurst, Youth and Young Adult Director – Becky reported that Junior Youth held two well-attended events - a barn party at Rodaks' and an evening of bowling. Last month the MYF held a parent meeting and had a joint barn party with youth from Community Mennonite Church of Lancaster. Becky is continuing to gather information on our young adults and reaching out to individuals. The MYF and young adults are planning a joint event for November. Adopt-a-Student program should be up and running by the end of November.

Andrew Bodden, Mission and Service Commission – Andrew reported that the Commission will have its first meeting this week. The Commission has received some Flex Fund requests to process, and gift cards for needy families in the Conestoga Valley School District was chosen as this year's Christmas project.

Lauren Krady, Property Committee – Lauren reported that volunteers from the church trimmed and removed decaying trees and branches around the property; Protech replaced the HVAC unit for the basement area; Weaver fixed leaks in the roof above the kitchen; High Property Services did the fall shrubbery pruning; and Ron Martin Signs plans to replace the front lawn sign in the near future.

- **FINANCIAL REVIEW AND UPDATE:** Treasurer Sam Clement noted that while we are 17% behind budget in our giving, we are ahead of contribution totals at this same time last year. Contributions have not covered expenses year to date. This is caused, in part, by some payments being made in full at the beginning of the fiscal year. All payments to outside ministries are up to date. Larger health insurance increases may mean that we will be over budget on this line item at year end.
- **MCUSA RESOLUTIONS:** Delegates will process four resolutions at the May 2022 special delegate assembly, two of which address questions of LGBTQ inclusion. Council will need to help our delegates prepare for this process and plans to revisit this matter again in early 2022.