



# Forest Hills Mennonite Church

January 16, 2022

## G A T H E R I N G

---

Prelude

Gathering Song: *Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing*

Worship Book No. 12

Welcome and Passing the Peace

Call to Worship and Invocation

## C O N N E C T I N G

---

Congregational Singing

*O Praise the Name*

*Crowded Table*

Offering Prayer

Offertory: *Beautiful Things*

Children's Time

## R E F L E C T I N G

---

Song: *Ancient Words*

Grace Notes No. 69

Scripture: Hebrews 4:1-13

Sermon: *A Fruitful Unsettledness*

Jon Carlson

Response Song: *Speak, O Lord*

## S E N D I N G

---

Mission Spotlight: *Bridge of Hope*

Audrey Metzler

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:

- ☆ Anita Beidler recovering from pneumonia.
- ☆ Parents of children with additional needs.
- ☆ Chet Martin recovering from pneumonia.
- ☆ College students beginning a new semester of classes.
- ☆ Those experiencing chronic illness, their families, and their care providers.

**Anita Beidler** was hospitalized with pneumonia on Sunday at Lancaster General Hospital and was discharged on Wednesday to continue her recovery at home.

**Chet Martin** was hospitalized with pneumonia on Monday at Sarasota Memorial Hospital and remained a patient there at bulletin publication time.

---

# ANNOUNCEMENTS >>>

---

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

**Welcome Guests!** We are glad you are with us today. We hope 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. Let us know you're here by scanning the QR code and filling out the online Visitor Form:



Visitor Form

**Today we welcome Audrey Metzler** to our service for our Mission Spotlight time. Audrey is the Director of Church Engagement for Bridge of Hope, an organization that guides homeless women with children into housing and financial security.

**If you are willing to open your home** to one or more refugees from Afghanistan, Church World Service would like to hear from you. The resettlement organization is looking for 10 to 15 households who can offer short-term placements to new arrivals. For more information about Church World Service's Host Home program, or to apply to be a host, email [lanchosthomes@cwsglobal.org](mailto:lanchosthomes@cwsglobal.org).

**Due to rising COVID** numbers in the community, the in-home Winter Bible School discussion groups will not be held in January. Keep an eye out for future opportunities.

---

# ANNOUNCEMENTS >>>

---

**Mennonite Church USA** will hold a Special Session of the Delegate Assembly in Kansas City, Missouri on May 27-30. Forest Hills is looking for three people to attend and serve as delegates. Four special resolutions will be considered during this assembly. Two resolutions pertain to church polity and LGBTQ issues, one is about accessibility for individuals with physical or intellectual disabilities, and one is a study resolution (not for a vote) about the U.S. criminal legal system. Resolutions are available on the MCUSA website for anyone who wants to learn more. MCUSA is hosting a series of educational webinars to prepare delegates and their congregations for the assembly with several January online events. All webinars will be recorded and available on the delegate resource page. Please visit the delegate resource page of their website for the full schedule and additional information. If you are interested in being a delegate or would like more information, please contact Council Chair, Jerry Lile.

**Nursery volunteers needed!** Responsible caregivers of all ages are invited to consider volunteering for this vital church ministry that makes it possible for young families to join our fellowship. Sign-up on the sheet on the easel in the lobby or contact Liz Clapper for more information.

**Stewardship University**, a ministry partnership between Everence and our local faith community that celebrates 20 years of stewardship this year, is coming to Lancaster on Saturday, March 5. Courses will explore subjects such as envisioning a post-COVID19 church, becoming ambassadors of reconciliation, planning for retirement, equipping Millennials/GenZ for stewardship – and more. The opening ceremony will include a live scripture performance by Piercing Word - *Stewardship: A Biblical Perspective on How to Use Your God-Given Resources*. For information or to register, visit [www.StewardshipUniversity.com](http://www.StewardshipUniversity.com) or contact Lynette Morales at 717-394-0769 or [lynette.morales@everence.com](mailto:lynette.morales@everence.com).

**Several publications are available** for pick up by the church mailboxes. Help yourself to a copy of *The Mirror*, from Mennonite Life, *A Common Place*, by Mennonite Central Committee, or information from Everence about their 2022 Stewardship University.

---

## UPCOMING MYF EVENTS:

- ☆ **January 30** - Skyzone.
- ☆ **February 6** - Meet at the Lefevers' house.
- ☆ **February 13** - Skiing at Blue Mountain.
- ☆ **February 20** - Girls'/Guys' night.

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

---

- ☆ Head Usher: Ron Weaver
- ☆ Audio Visual Technicians: Dan Baker, Dean Jantzen, Dana Shannon, Micah Carlson
- ☆ Greeters: Lois & Milt Stoltzfus
- ☆ Befrienders: Linda & Warren Tyson
- ☆ Coffee Fellowship: Lisa Spangler, Steve Spangler

## 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](http://www.fhmc.church/youtube) or Facebook: [www.facebook.com/foresthillsmennonite](http://www.facebook.com/foresthillsmennonite).
- ☆ No MYF (Youth Group, Gr. 9-12).

## T H I S   W E E K

---

- ☆ Monday, 7 p.m. - Prayer Shawl Ministry.

## N E X T   S U N D A Y

---

- ☆ Jon Carlson will preach.
- ☆ MYF - Bible Study.

---

### WEEKLY REPORT (1/2 -There was no service 1/9):

General Fund \$49,962

YTD Income: \$272,046; YTD Budget \$217,990 (+25%)

**Attendance : 111**

---

[fhmc@foresthillschurch.org](mailto:fhmc@foresthillschurch.org) ~ [www.foresthillschurch.org](http://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 - COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

January 3, 2022

### – Leadership Reports:

**Jon Carlson, Lead Pastor** – Jon completed a 2-part sermon series on sexuality; delivered sermons on stories behind cherished Christmas carols; assisted AV team in livestreaming new aspects included in the Christmas service; delivered chapel input on Christmas and peace at Lancaster Mennonite Middle School and Kraybill Mennonite School; expanded Alex’s internship activities to involve some AV work and new opportunities at The Factory Ministries; and continued to monitor the trajectory of the COVID pandemic. Jon’s new initiatives include a sermon series on how we read the Bible.

**Becky Degan, Associate Pastor of Worship and Christian Education** – The Christmas season included adult choir and handbell ensemble rehearsals as well as a Christmas Eve service. December was challenging when several musicians became ill, music had to be re-written, and substitutes recruited at the last minute. It’s been difficult to recruit leaders for Kids Church.

**Nina Harnish, Minister of Care and Visitation** – Nina stayed connected with individuals experiencing health or personal crises; developed and set up a Sunday School class for young adults (approximately 25-30-year-olds) that will start in March; and delivered 50 Advent care bags to seniors with help from the Care Team. Current initiatives include a Mennonite Central Committee hygiene kit service project for women; leading a marriage retreat for another church; giving input at the MYF retreat in March; and organizing care bags to be delivered in January.

**Becky Bathurst, Youth and Young Adult Director** – Becky reported that Junior Youth had a Christmas party in December, and she is now gathering materials for senior care bags to be assembled in January. MYF completed yard clean-up for six families as a fall fundraiser; completed a Sunday School series discussing different traditions of Advent and Christmas; and held a Council meeting to plan future activities. Young adults participated in a trivia night with the MYF in November. MYF’s next Sunday School series will be based on tenets of the faith from a Mennonite perspective. Becky is sending quarterly email updates to the young adults, and they have all been invited to join the new Sunday School class starting in January.

**Andrew Bodden, Mission and Service Commission** – Andrew reported Mission and Service Commission met in November to brainstorm about potential activities where the church could get involved in the community. A total of 82 gift cards were collected during the Christmas giving project and given to the Conestoga Valley School district social workers to be distributed to community families in need. Flex Fund requests for \$1,000 each were approved for Frederick Living, a home for older adults, The Factory

Ministries, a local, faith-based group that walks with individuals and families facing poverty, and a \$500 grant was also given to Mennonite Life, formerly Mennonite Historical Society. The Christmas Eve offering was designated to go to Mennonite Central Committee for Haiti earthquake relief.

**Lauren Krady, Property Committee** – The following projects have been completed: new sign installed on the front lawn; leaves cleaned out of the playground; and several emergency light packs replaced. Planning continues for the Atlantic Coast Conference rental space in our building. This includes getting prices from Yarnell to add a back door card reader, figuring out where to move things in the music and education storage rooms, and preparing a lease agreement.

- **FINANCIAL REVIEW AND UPDATE:** Treasurer Sam Clement reported that as of the end of December 2021, the checking account had a healthy cash balance, including a significant amount of restricted funds. These restricted funds will be very helpful as we are facing a few potentially large projects in the next two years. We currently have 11.8 weeks of unrestricted cash on hand; income exceeds budget by \$12,000; expenses are trending at or below budget.
- **RENTAL SPACE:** In summer 2022, Atlantic Coast Conference will be losing their current office space. Forest Hills has offered ACC three rooms in the garage hallway of the church to rent. This allows us to use some of our underutilized space, and is a way to contribute to the ministry of ACC. The Grounded classroom will also be available for conference space as needed. Staff has begun cleaning out and moving items in the storage rooms in this wing. Council gave approval to move forward with a month-to-month lease.
- **CONTINUED COVID DISCUSSION:** With high positivity rates in Lancaster County Council discussed what, if any, changes needed to be made to our Sunday meetings. Since those who are uncomfortable meeting in person have the option of participating in online services, Council agreed to make no changes at this time. However, if the current environment changes, e.g. schools start reverting to online classes or we lack adequate volunteers due to COVID concerns, we will look at this again.
- **MCUSA RESOLUTIONS:** Delegates will process four resolutions at the May 2022 special delegate assembly. Council will need to involve the congregation and help our delegates prepare for this process. Two resolutions pertain to church polity and LGBTQ issues, one is about accessibility for individuals with physical or intellectual disabilities, and one is a study resolution (not for a vote) about the U.S. criminal legal system. Resolutions are available on MCUSA website for anyone who wants to learn more. We are allowed up to three delegates who would be expected to travel to Kansas City on Memorial Day weekend.