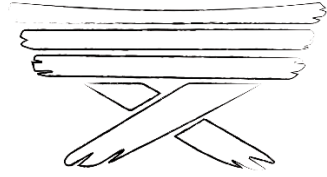


# the Human one



Forest Hills Mennonite Church  
December 18, 2022 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

## G A T H E R I N G

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Prelude	Erik and Thomas Schlosser
Gathering Song: <i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	Worship Book No. 212
Collette Carlson, Leah Ornelas, Sandy and Tim Smoker-Worship Team	
Call to Worship and Invocation	Nina Harnish
Passing the Peace	
Lighting of the Advent Candles	Jay, Courtney, Aliyah, and Jaycie Nolt
Special Music	Erik and Thomas Schlosser

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

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Song: <i>Go Tell It on the Mountain</i>	
Kids Program	Preschool and Elementary Kids
Song: <i>Joy to the World</i>	Worship Book No. 318
Dismissal for Kids Church	
Offering Prayer	
Offertory: <i>The First Noel</i>	Worship Book No. 199

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

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Scripture: Philippians 2:1-11	
Sermon: <i>A Generous Human</i>	Jon Carlson
Response Song: <i>Fullness of Grace</i>	Sandy and Tim Smoker, Becky Degan

## S E N D I N G

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Congregational Prayer	
Benediction	
Closing Song: <i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	Worship Book No. 197
Postlude	



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## CARES & CONCERNS >>>

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

- ❖ Milt Stoltzfus anticipating and then recovering from rotator cuff surgery on Friday.
- ❖ Paul and Karen Eckert as Paul is adjusting to a new level of care at Landis Homes.
- ❖ Gary Kendig recovering from a recent illness.
- ❖ Don Beidler recovering from pneumonia and COVID.
- ❖ Vernon and Mary Schroeder as Mary is receiving hospice care.
- ❖ Camden Hurst recuperating from a recent basketball injury that required surgery.
- ❖ Randy and Tracy Esch celebrating the birth of their granddaughter.

**Paul Eckert** was hospitalized at Ephrata Community Hospital on Sunday for stroke-like symptoms. He was transferred to Conestoga House at Landis Homes on Tuesday.

**Gary Kendig** was hospitalized at Lancaster General Hospital on Sunday and remained a patient at bulletin publication time.

**Don Beidler** was hospitalized at Lancaster General Hospital on Monday for COVID and pneumonia. He remained a patient at bulletin publication time.

**Milt Stoltzfus** is scheduled for rotator cuff repair surgery on Friday, December 23, at Physicians Surgery Center. He will recover at home following the surgery.

**Camden Hurst** broke his hand last Wednesday and required surgery, which is causing him to pause his basketball season.

**Congratulations to Randy and Tracy Esch** on the birth of their first grandchild, Joanna Grace, born on December 14. Joanna's parents are Derick and Laura Esch.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS >>>

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**Welcome Guests!** We're glad you are with us today. We hope that you will encounter God's presence as you worship with us and will find yourself renewed and challenged in your journey with God. Hearing assistance devices are available in the ushers' room near the sanctuary entrance. Let us know you're here by scanning the QR code and filling out the online visitor form:



Visitor Form

**This Sunday, December 18**, we will be taking pictures for our new church photo directory. Our photographer will be taking family and individual pictures in the library from 9 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. and again after worship until 12:30 p.m. If you cannot make this date, you can email the office a recent picture to be included in our upcoming picture directory.

**Households attending the Christmas Eve Service** are asked to bring a small plate of cookies to share for the fellowship time that will follow the service. If possible, please bring your cookies to the church by Thursday, December 22, and label them for Christmas Eve.

**On Sunday, December 25**, there will be no Sunday School. We will have our 10:30 a.m. worship service only. There will not be a staffed nursery or Kids' Church. **On Sunday, January 1**, there will be no in-person service, but we will stream a worship service online.

**This Advent season we have a Remembrance Tree** in the foyer to honor our loved ones who have passed away. Throughout this Advent season you are invited to bring an ornament from home or take an ornament by the tree and personalize it and then hang it on the tree.

**Our Christmas Eve service**, celebrating the scriptures and songs of the season, will be held here on Saturday, December 24, at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend and bring guests. An offering will be received for Mennonite Central Committee's food provision projects in Lebanon, Syria, and South Sudan. Please make checks payable to Forest Hills Mennonite Church.

**Plans are underway to refresh our sanctuary** including recovering the pew cushions, installing new carpet, painting, and expanding our sound booth. Some of our Future Capital Project Fund will go toward this project, and Council is hoping to raise \$30,000 to kickstart the renovations. So far, we have raised \$4,200. If you would like to donate towards it, please mark "sanctuary update" on your check.

**Several donors** have stepped forward with an offer to match every donation made toward our Refugee Education fund before December 31, up to \$10,000. If you feel inspired to support this work, you can contribute to Forest Hills and designate it on the envelope or on the memo line "Refugee Education Support." So far, we have \$4,650 to go towards this matching grant.

**Ann Zimmerman** has a new email address. To contact her please use [Ann.zimmerman1@icloud.com](mailto:Ann.zimmerman1@icloud.com).

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## LOOKING AHEAD:

- ❖ December 24: 7 p.m., Christmas Eve Service.
- ❖ December 25: Worship service at normal 10:30 start time. No Sunday School, kids' church, or staffed nursery.
- ❖ January 1: No in-person Sunday school or worship service; online only.
- ❖ January 18, 25, February 1, 8: Winter Bible School.

## UPCOMING MYF EVENTS:

- ❖ January 6-7: Lock-in.

Forest Hills Mennonite Church  
**WINTER BIBLE SCHOOL 2023**



## *The Church in Discernment*

Winter Bible School provides food for both body and soul. Supper begins at 6 p.m. followed by adult group, KfC, and Jr Youth at 6:45 p.m. There is no charge for the meal, but donations to cover the costs (\$5-10/person) will be gratefully accepted.

The Church operates in various modes—worship, service, community, learning—but one of the central tasks given to the church is discernment. As N.

T. Wright says, “the church [is] characterized, at the very heart of its life, by prayerful listening to, strenuous wrestling with, humble obedience before, and powerful proclamation of scripture.”

Discernment is the process of wrestling with Scripture and coming humbly before God to better understand the challenges of contemporary life.

Discernment is always happening, but throughout this Winter Bible School we will look at four specific questions where the Church has engaged in the challenging work of discernment.

**>> January 11**

*Discerning Dress*

**>> January 18**

*Discerning*

*Divorce*

*& Remarriage*

**>> January 25**

*Discerning Sexual*

*Ethics*

**>> February 1**

*Discerning*

*Political Engagement*

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

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- ❖ Head Usher: Troy Hurst
- ❖ Audio Visual Technicians: Dean Jantzen, Rod Lefever, Collette Carlson, Micah Carlson
- ❖ Greeter: Alice Babikow
- ❖ Befrienders: Phyllis & Keith Stuckey
- ❖ Coffee Fellowship: Cheryl & Larry McJunkin

## T O D A Y

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- ❖ 9 a.m. – Pictures taken in the library for church photo directory.
- ❖ 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: [fhmc.church/youtube](http://fhmc.church/youtube) or Facebook: [www.facebook.com/foresthillsmennonite](http://www.facebook.com/foresthillsmennonite).
- ❖ 6:30 p.m. - MYF (Youth Group, Gr. 9-12) Christmas party.

## T H I S   W E E K

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- ❖ Saturday, 7 p.m. – Christmas Eve service.

## N E X T   S U N D A Y

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- ❖ Christmas Day: No Sunday school, staffed nursery, or Kids' Church. Pastor Jon will preach on: *A Divine Human*.

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## WEEKLY REPORT

**12/11 Offering:** General Fund \$25,152

YTD Income \$190,598; YTD Budget \$183,966 (+3%)

**Attendance :** 203

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[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

Kay Hurst, Allon Lefever, Keith Stuckey - Elders

Louetta Hurst, Matthew Degan, Ruth Ann Martin, Clair and Doris Sauder

Warren and Linda Tyson, Kathy Unangst - Care Team