



Forest Hills Mennonite Church

August 20, 2017

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.

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship Hour

Gathering

Prelude

Marv Zook-Guitar

Gathering Song: *We will glorify*

Grace Notes No. 1

Leanne Beidler, Norma Stauffer, Daryl Eshleman, Cal Roggie-Leaders

Words of Welcome

Ruth Ann Martin

Call to Worship and Invocation

Praising and Adoring

Congregational Singing

Cheryl Eshleman-Piano

Marv Zook-Guitar, Dan Nagy-Bass, Sheila Snyder-Drums

My life is in you, Lord

Grace Notes No. 27

Rain down

Grace Notes No. 46

Nothing is lost on the breathe of God

Grace Notes No. 24

Offering Our Tithes and Ourselves

Children's Time

Jon Carlson

Back to School Blessing

Offering

Proclaiming

Song: *My hope is built*

Worship Book No. 343

Scripture: Haggai 1

Sermon: *Whose house are you building?*

Zac Hummel

Response Song: *Come, gracious Spirit*

Worship Book No. 303

Sending

Congregational Sharing

Affirmation Vote on Discernment Ballot

Ryan Nolt

Congregational Prayer

Benediction

Postlude

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

Welcome Guests! We trust 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. So that we might record your attendance, please complete a guest card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate when it is passed. Feel free to join us for Coffee Fellowship after the service, and please do come back and worship with us again.

WE OFFER OUR CONDOLENCES to Deb Frey in the death of her husband Sam this past Monday, August 14. Sam and Deb are recent Forest Hills attendees. A memorial service was held in Ohio this weekend, and a memorial service will be scheduled in our area in the near future. Cards and expressions of sympathy may be sent to Deb at 216 Kenneth Drive, Ephrata, PA 17522.

MERVIN HOOBER was released from Lancaster General Hospital this past week and is now recuperating at home.

GENEVA MARTIN has recently moved from her home in Gap to Homeview Room #34 at Landis Homes. Her new phone number is 717-509-4228.

NORMA STAUFFER will be out of the office this coming week as she and Bruce assist in leading a Great Allegheny Passageway 5-day bike trip with the Road Scholar program, an educational travel program for persons 50 years and older.

MIKE AND KRISTIN SHARP, son and daughter-in-law of Dennis and Bonnie Sharp, and their daughters Ella and Mady are beginning a one-year mission assignment in London, England with Mennonite Mission Network. They will serve as community hosts for the Round Chapel and will be developing relationships between the church and the surrounding community. If you have interest in following their experience, you can read their blog at sharpsinlondon.weebly.com.

COME ONE, COME ALL! Join other baseball fans for Forest Hills night at the Lancaster Barnstormers game on Saturday, September 9, at 6:30 p.m. All ages of Forest Hills attendees, family members, and friends are welcome. Discounted tickets cost \$8 per person. Contact Warren Tyson, event coordinator, **today** to sign-up or go to *Forest Hills Night at the Barnstormers* on our facebook page. Checks and payments should be made payable to Warren.

AS THE JOYS AND CARES AND CONCERNS of our congregation come to mind, please lift them to the Lord in prayer. Pray specifically for the activities that are happening at our church this week and for the work of the broader church agencies and ministries. Pray also for the following:

- Deb Frey and her family as they mourn the loss of her husband Sam.
- Mervin and Ruth Hooper dealing with the effects of Merv's chronic illness.
- Mike and Kristin Sharp and their daughters acclimating to a new home, community and school in London.
- Students and teachers returning to school for a new school year.
- Becky Degan concluding the last weeks of her sabbatical.
- Wisdom as we plan our finances for the upcoming church year.
- Those affected by the Charlottesville tragedy and those suffering in other places of unrest in our world.

WITH ONLY TWO SUNDAYS LEFT in our fiscal year, year-to-date income totals \$520,075. This means we need to receive \$89,577 – or \$44,788 per week – for the next two weeks to meet our budget goal. Please consider being generous to your church, its ministries, and our vibrant congregational life. With everyone contributing as they are able, we will once again honor the financial commitments we agreed to at the beginning of our fiscal year.

LOOKING AHEAD

- ☼ Monday, August 28 – Becky Degan will return from sabbatical.
- ☼ Saturday, September 9, 6:30 p.m. – Forest Hills Night at the Lancaster Barnstormers game.
- ☼ Sunday, October 1 – Worldwide Communion Sunday.
- ☼ Wednesday, October 11, 7 p.m. – Wednesday Evening Activities begin.

MYF CORNER – Youth Group, Grades 9-12

- ☼ Today, 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School.
- ☼ Today, 3-6 p.m. – Pool Party at Hursts' pool with Salt and Light Class.
- ☼ Next Sunday, August 27 – \$25 payment and completed form for Atlantic Coast Conference Youth Retreat are due.
- ☼ Next Sunday, August 27, 6 p.m. – Khilos will be sharing a Syrian meal and answering questions.
- ☼ September 15-17 – Atlantic Coast Conference Youth Retreat at Refreshing Mountain.

Council Highlights – August 14, 2017

- Leadership Team Reports: Pastoral Leadership Team and Worship Commission: Jon Carlson said he recently concluded two sermon series – *Eat this scroll* with a cooking theme and *Vacations with God*. His upcoming sermon series will be on worship. He participated in the recent MCUSA Convention and stated that polarization is still evident in our denomination and noted that these are stressful times for America, for Christians, and for Mennonites. Jon is working with Eli Passage and Adam Harnish to capture personal stories of our past church history. He has been nominated and accepted into a Clergy Leadership Program of Central PA for young pastors and will be meeting monthly with about 15 other pastors along with community leaders from the region. As part of the PLT report, elder Keith Stuckey gave an update on the work being done with the Khilo refugee family – the successes, the challenges, and what lies ahead. Jon also shared about staff discussions related to integrating newcomers and some initiatives that are being planned to help us be more effective in this area. Minister of Care and Visitation: Nina Harnish reported that she is assisting in finding shepherds for the adult Sunday School classes and also helping these classes choose study materials. She has had the opportunity to walk with several families during the loss of a loved one, and in several cases this occurred when Pastor Jon was out of town. She finds this work meaningful and rewarding. She regularly communicated with young adults this summer and invited them to offer their gifts to the church; many of them accepted her invitation. The young adults also connect with the Grounded Class and have regular game nights. Nina asked for feedback on planning a service trip for young adults next year. Should it be staff-led? Should it be a return trip to Puerto Rico, and if so, should the church consider an intentional partnership with both sides giving leadership to the process? Council encouraged further discernment, asking decision-makers to define the purpose of such trips and supported the suggestion that persons, including some of our young adults, meet with mission agency staff to explore a variety of possibilities. Christian Education Commission: No report; Becky Degan remains on sabbatical. Community Life: Janette Lile said that

Council Highlights – continued

a large percentage of her time was devoted to VBS recently, and she felt very positive about the outcomes – both from church support and community outreach. She is now planning and recruiting volunteers for KfC, Kids Church, and Halloween Alternative. In Becky Degan's absence, she is also scheduling children's Sunday School teachers for this fall. New MYF advisors are in place, and a meeting with parents is scheduled for September 10. Based on feedback from Janette, Council agreed that is not necessary to fill the vacant member-at-large position on the Christian Education Commission. Mission and Service

Commission: Tom Verghese reported that the Commission continues to evaluate how our mission money is spent and is looking for ways to connect with long-term missionaries. They are wondering if there are ways to connect with specific missionaries through Mennonite Mission Network. They continue to feel the pull between denominational and local missions. Discernment Committee: Ryan Nolt was absent. Council expressed appreciation for the work of this Committee in finding volunteers to carry out the work of the church in the upcoming church year. Property Committee: Norma Stauffer reported that numerous upgrades were made to the restrooms and that more are planned for the future. New AV equipment was purchased for use in the fellowship hall, and new carpeting was installed in the Grounded classroom. The trees in the back parking lot need to have a lot of dead branches trimmed out of them, and the Committee continues to look at the question of repairing vs. replacing aging equipment.

- Treasurer Sam Clement presented a nearly completed 2017-18 budget proposal. Preliminary figures indicate that the budget will remain relatively flat. When all Commissions have submitted their requests, Council will vote on the finalized budget proposal and present it to the congregation for feedback at a September 17 State-of-the-Church meeting during the Sunday School hour.
- The Annual Business Meeting will be held on a Sunday in October, date to be determined. The MYF will be asked to prepare a fundraiser lunch to be served between the worship service and the business meeting.

- Council nominated and/or approved persons to fill positions as auditors, Atlantic Coast Conference delegates, and Staff Relations Committee members.
- In executive session, Evanna Hess provided an update from the Staff Relations Committee that included a recommendation for staff salary adjustments for the 2017-18 fiscal year. We look forward to Becky Degan's return from sabbatical. This fall marks the completion of the first year for Nina Harnish's and Janette Lile's positions. This will provide a good opportunity for the Committee to work with Pastor Jon and the staff to evaluate, clarify, and plan staffing roles and activities for the coming year, including updating their job descriptions.

Complete copies of the meeting's minutes are placed in a notebook that is kept in the library. Interested persons are welcome to take a look at the full minutes at this location.



COMMUNITY MENNONITE CHURCH of Lancaster is hosting an album release concert for Sopa Sol's new album, *Free Range Hymns*, on Thursday, August 24, at 6:30 p.m. Sopa Sol musicians are Nathan Bontrager, Frances Crowhill Miller and Daryl Snider. Further details are posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board.

LANDIS HOMES FELLOWSHIP DAY and Chicken Barbecue will be held on Saturday, September 9, from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Events of the day will include a benefit auction of quilts, art, antiques, and handcrafts. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/LH2017Auction>.

EVERENCE is sponsoring a free workshop called *My financial journey: Integrating my faith with my finances* to be held on Saturday, September 9, at 8 a.m., at Stumptown Mennonite Church. This seminar, led by Kevin Nofziger and Jamie Detweiler, will look at living well within your means and the seven pillars of financial planning. Reservations are required by September 5; please RSVP to groffg@stumptownmc.org or call 717-656-7878. Further details are posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board.

Community Happenings – continued on next page

Community Happenings – continued

LANCASTER INTERCHURCH PEACE WITNESS will be hosting Drew Hart, assistant professor of theology at Messiah College, on Thursday, September 14, at 7 p.m., at Lancaster Bible College for a conversation about *Trouble I've seen: Changing the way the church views racism*. Hart's provocative book by the same title addresses police brutality, mass incarceration, anti-black stereotypes, poverty, and everyday acts of racism within the larger framework of white supremacy. Leading readers toward Jesus, Hart offers concrete practices for churches that seek solidarity with the oppressed and are committed to racial justice. The event is free, but registration is required. Register at LBC.edu/events or for more information about Dr. Hart, visit DrewGIHart.com. There will also be two advance opportunities for discussion of Hart's book on Thursday, August 24, at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, August 26, at 10 a.m., at St. John's Episcopal Church on West Chestnut Street, Lancaster.

COBYS FAMILY SERVICES is sponsoring a benefit Bike and Hike on Sunday, September 10, beginning at the Lititz Church of the Brethren on West Orange Street in Lititz. The day will include a 60-mile Dutch Country motorcycle ride, 10-mile or 25-mile bicycle rides, and a 3-mile walk plus door prizes, ice cream and refreshments, and a silent auction. Sponsors and participants are needed. Further information is available in the fellowship hall literature rack.

LANCASTER MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S annual night of storytelling will be held on Monday, September 11, at Stumptown Mennonite Church at 7 p.m. Come to hear life stories from Marcy Hostetler, Lancaster Mennonite High School choral director, and Leonard Dow, stewardship and development specialist for Everence and former pastor of Oxford Circle Mennonite Church. Further information is posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board.

LANCASTER MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY is hosting a field trip, *300 Years of Mellinger Mennonite Church*. This will be offered in two half-day tours on Saturday, October 21, from 9 a.m.-12 p.m., or 1-4 p.m. Learn about the origins of Mellinger Mennonite Church and take a walk to the early Mellinger farm as well as a log barn along Leaman Road. Dan Wenger and Ivan Leaman will lead the tour. Registration cost for members is \$50; for non-members it is \$65. Register by September 21 at lmhs.org or by calling 717-393-9745. Further information is posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board.



“Is this one of those situations that has a history but not a reason?”
-Ellen Davis, Duke Divinity School

What makes someone Mennonite? Where does this church spend its money? How do I become a member? What's the deal with mailboxes, anyways?

If you've ever wondered why things happen the way they do at Forest Hills, join us for an afternoon of conversation on Sunday, October 1, after church. Whether you're newer to the congregation or have been coming here all your life, this is an opportunity to ask questions and hear from pastoral staff and other congregational leaders about both the histories and the reasons behind the structure and function of our congregation.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1 at 12PM

Forest Hills Mennonite Church Solar Lounge
Lunch Provided | Childcare Available

RSVP to the church office (fhmc@foresthillschurch.org) by Sept. 24

TODAY'S HOSPITALITY HELPERS

Head Usher: David Bontrager

Sound Technician: Bruce Stauffer, Alden Southwick (Assistant)

Greeters: Leenie and Lee Charles

Befrienders: Marty Peifer, Kathy Unangst

Coffee Fellowship Hosts: Arleta and Ken Martin

Nursery (Ages 0-3): (SS) Lauri, Kate and Ellie L.; (W) Jennifer and Mary S.

TODAY

- ☼ 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages. *Ministers of reconciliation* Adult Summer Sunday School Series continues in the fellowship hall with *Reconciliation in the digital age* – youth panel reflecting on relationships, stresses, and opportunities in the social media era.
- ☼ 3-6 p.m. – Salt and Light Class and MYF (Youth Group: Gr. 9-12): Pool Party at Hursts' pool.

THIS COMING WEEK

- ☼ Monday, 10 a.m. – Care Team.
- ☼ Monday, 11:30 a.m. – Forest Hills Senior Lunch.
- ☼ Wednesday, 7 p.m. – Mission and Service Commission.

NEXT SUNDAY

- ☼ 9:30 a.m. – Care and Share Sunday: Adult classes will meet in their individual classrooms.
- ☼ Pastor Jon will begin a new sermon series on worship. His sermon, based on 1 Timothy 2:1-6, will be titled *Resistance revisited*.
- ☼ 6 p.m. – MYF (Youth Group: Gr. 9-12): Syrian meal and evening with the Khilos.

REPORT: (08/13) General Fund \$14,949

Service in the Park 258

100 Quarry Road, Leola, PA 17540 ~ Phone 717-656-6227 ~ Fax 717-656-8607

E-mail: fhmc@foresthillschurch.org ~ URL: <http://www.foresthillschurch.org>

Staff and Leadership Teams

Jon Carlson - Lead Pastor

Becky Degan - Assoc Pastor of Worship and Christian Education (on Sabbatical)

Nina Harnish - Minister of Care and Visitation

Janette Lile - Director of Community Life

Norma Stauffer - Administrator

Keith Lehman, Ruth Ann Martin, Keith Stuckey - Elders

Anita Beidler, Louetta Hurst,

Warren and Linda Tyson, Kathy Unangst - Care Team