



Forest Hills Mennonite Church

September 17, 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

10:30 a.m. Worship Hour

Gathering

Prelude

Gathering Songs: *What is this place* Worship Book No. 1
Leanne Beidler, Cheryl and Daryl Eshleman-Leaders

Words of Welcome Sam Clement

Call to Worship and Invocation

Praising and Adoring

Congregational Singing Cheryl Eshleman-Piano, Don Nelson-Guitar
Dan Nagy-Bass, Eli Passage Drums

Great is the Lord Worship Book No. 87

How can we be silent Grace Notes No. 13

Offering Our Tithes and Ourselves

Children's Time Janette Lile

Dismissal for Kids Church (Grades PreK-Gr. 2, Room #1-2)

Offering Nickels for Neighbors Video

Proclaiming

Songs: *Amazing grace (my chains are gone)*
We bow down Grace Notes No. 20

Scripture: Psalm 95

Sermon: *Our posture of praise* Jon Carlson

Response Song: *I owe the Lord a morning song* Worship Book No. 651

Sending

Congregational Sharing

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.

KIDS CHURCH for Pre-K through 2nd graders is scheduled for the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays of each month through the school year. The children will join the congregation for corporate worship on 1st and 5th Sundays of the month.

BECKY DEGAN is out of the office through next Saturday, September 23. She is attending a worship conference in Nashville as the final piece of her recent sabbatical.

GROCERY BOXES ARE HERE! Atlantic Coast Conference's Peace and Justice Committee is once again collecting grocery boxes to be distributed by Mennonite Central Committee throughout the region. Please pick up a box in the church foyer, along with a suggested list of contents, and return it to the church by Sunday, October 22. Filled grocery boxes will be collected at the ACC Fall Assembly at Conestoga Mennonite Church on October 28. For more information on this project visit mcc.org/stories/groceries-donation-distribution.

THE NICKELS FOR NEIGHBORS JUG for the Atlantic Coast Conference annual collection is now in the church foyer. This year's grant will be given to the New Holland Early Learning Center for a new fence and playground equipment for their smallest children. Their toddlers enjoy playing outdoors; however, it isn't always safe for them to be in the same area as the older children since they are easily knocked over by the older children at play. The total cost of the project is \$10,000 – \$6,200 for fencing and \$3,800 for equipment. Please place your loose change and bills in the jug. This money will be taken to the ACC Fall Assembly on October 28.

A NEW PEN-PAL PROGRAM is being organized this fall to connect our 4th and 5th grade children with some of our more seasoned Forest Hillers. Expectation is that children and adults will use provided writing prompts to exchange monthly notes. If you are an adult who would be interested in participating in this program, please contact Nina Harnish at your earliest convenience.

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:

- Gene and Carole Siegrist making decisions related to Gene's degenerative illness.
- Becky Degan participating in a worship conference in Nashville.
- Those dealing with challenging relationships.
- Those affected by the recent hurricanes and flooding and the volunteers assisting in clean-up and relief.

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 20, so that they can be included on the October church calendar.

EVERYONE IS INVITED to participate in a Sunday School hour elective in the fellowship hall next Sunday, September 24. Ryan and Bethany Umble, Eastern Mennonite Missions volunteers, will share about their work in Cambodia the past nearly ten years.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALLON LEFEVER who recently published his book *Launching the entrepreneur ship* in which he shares his life experiences in the business world and gives guidance for launching a start-up business. Thanks to Allon for donating a copy to our church library for interested persons to check out and read.

START THE NEW (CHURCH) YEAR with a thoughtful and convenient plan for your charitable giving. Contributions can be automatically debited from your checking or savings account and transferred into the church's account. This electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much-needed donation consistency for our congregation. You will no longer need to write checks, and when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will provide the church with consistent income on an uninterrupted basis. Request an enrollment form and a *Frequently Asked Questions* flyer from the church office.

MENNONITE WOMEN would like to thank everyone who contributed to their kit project for Mennonite Central Committee. A total of 297 kits were taken to MCC – 235 school kits and 62 health/hygiene kits. If you have kits that have not yet been returned to the church, please return them at your earliest convenience.

FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE to help meet expenses for persons participating in mission and service projects this coming winter or next spring. The Mission and Service Investment Fund will pay up to half of an individual's costs, not to exceed \$2,000. Contact the church office for an application form. Completed forms should be submitted to Tom Verghese, Mission and Service Commission Director, or the church office prior to the deadline of October 1.

CD RECORDINGS OF OUR WORSHIP SERVICE are available upon request. Fill out a request form that you will find inside the small door in the hallway outside the sound room. Your recording will be produced and forwarded to you as soon as possible. Suggested donation is \$1 per recording.

DON BEIDLER'S BIBLE was mistakenly taken by someone after church a few weeks ago. The Bible is black with a leather cover and has his name inside. If you have his Bible, please notify Don ASAP.

ANOTHER MISSING ITEM: A large red recycle tub has gone missing from the church's garage. If you know of its whereabouts, please contact Norma Stauffer in the church office.

A FITBIT WAS FOUND in the utility closet this past week, and a pair of glasses were also left at the church. If you think either of these items might belong to you, please contact Norma Stauffer in the church office.

EASTERN MENNONITE MISSIONS and Mennonite Central Committee have teamed up to create a website with international service opportunities that are perfect for adults 55 and older. Consider serving in short-term missions overseas by spending two to twelve months volunteering in medicine, education, church development, hospitality, and more. Visit ASOPortal.org to get started on your own service adventure.

EPHRATA RE-UZIT STORE is seeking volunteers to sort and organize donated games, clean and repair furniture, drive the Booksavers truck, or serve as cashier on Friday evenings or Saturdays. For more information or to volunteer your time, call 717-618-2746 or email voldev@reuzit.org. Further information is posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board.

LOOKING AHEAD

- 🌿 Sunday, October 1 – Worldwide Communion Sunday.
- 🌿 Sunday, October 1, Noon – Histories and Reasons lunch – for those interested in learning more about the nuances of our congregation.
- 🌿 Wednesday, October 11, 7 p.m. – Wednesday Evening Activities begin: KfC (Gr.K-5), Junior Youth (Gr. 6-8), Adult Bible Study, and Adult Choir.
- 🌿 Sunday, October 29, Noon – MYF (Youth Group) Soup 'n Sandwich fundraiser lunch followed by our Annual Business Meeting.

MYF CORNER – Youth Group, Grades 9-12

- 🌿 Today – No Sunday School; return home from the Atlantic Coast Conference Youth Retreat.



A PEACE FEST will be held in Binn's Park on Queen Street in Lancaster, on Sunday, September 24, from 1-4 p.m. Peace Fest is a free, family-friendly celebration featuring more than a dozen local groups working for a more peaceful and just world. Corty Byron, Big Boy Brass, Music for Everyone, and Danny Martin will be providing music. Speakers will be John Dear, Jacquetta Hunter, Kevin Martin, and Kevin Ressler. There will also be activities for children, interactive exhibits, and food trucks. This event is sponsored by Peace Action Network of Lancaster and Tellus360.

LANCASTER MENNONITE SCHOOL will host its Homecoming and Fall Festival on Friday and Saturday, October 6-7, at the Lincoln Highway campus. Friday's events include a Pork and Chicken Barbecue from 2:30-7 p.m., a junior varsity girls' soccer game at 5:30 p.m., a varsity girls' soccer game at 7:30 p.m., and an evening of stories and songs in the Fine Arts Center at 7 p.m. Saturday will start off with the FFA Breakfast from 7:30-10 a.m., the Iron Bridge 5K Trail Run/Walk at 9 a.m., and a benefit auction in the Alumni Dining Hall at 7 p.m. Cost to attend the auction, which includes hors d'oeuvres and dessert, is \$35/person. Further information is posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board.

WOODCREST RETREAT in Ephrata is holding its annual Kids Bonanza and Benefit Auction on Saturday, October 7. There will be fun for the whole family with camp activities for kids all day and a special morning visit by WJTL's Kids Cookie Break.

TODAY'S HOSPITALITY HELPERS

Head Usher: David Bontrager
Sound Technician: Bruce Stauffer, Alden Southwick (Assistant)
Greeter: Lisa Spangler
Befrienders: Anita Beidler, Keith Lehman
Coffee Fellowship Hosts: Cheryl and Larry McJunkin
Nursery (Ages 0-3): (SS) Dan and Lisa N.; (W) Liz C., Joanne M.

TODAY

- 🌿 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages.
- 🌿 9:30 a.m. – State of the Church Meeting: An open forum in the fellowship hall for all adults to review and discuss the proposed 2017-18 church budget.
- 🌿 Noon-1p.m. – MYF (Youth Group: Gr. 9-12) will return home from the Atlantic Coast Conference Youth Retreat.

THIS COMING WEEK

- 🌿 Monday, 7 p.m. – Prayer Shawl Ministry.
- 🌿 Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. – MOMS (Morning Out for Mothers): *Changing the chatter in our mind* by Nina Harnish.
- 🌿 Thursday, 8 a.m. – Diakonian Women's Breakfast at Oregon Dairy.
- 🌿 Friday-Sunday – Salt and Light Class Women's Beach Weekend.

NEXT SUNDAY

- 🌿 Peace Sunday: Pastor Jon Carlson will be preaching on *Praising the Prince of Peace* based on Revelation 7:9-17.
- 🌿 Salt and Light women return home from Beach Weekend.

REPORT: (09/10) General Fund \$6,834
Sunday School 170; Worship 219

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Staff and Leadership Teams

Jon Carlson - Lead Pastor
Becky Degan - Assoc Pastor of Worship and Christian Education
Nina Harnish - Minister of Care and Visitation
Janette Lile - Director of Community Life
Norma Stauffer - Administrator
Keith Lehman, Ruth Ann Martin, Keith Stuckey - Elders
Louetta Hurst, Joyce Martin, Rose Mosemann,
Warren and Linda Tyson, Kathy Unangst - Care Team