

This Week

Monday Celebrate Recovery—7 pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting—E203—7 pm
Thursday Breakfast with the Pastors—6 am—Heritage Restaurant
Sunday Different: Pilgrams and Priests—Pastor Rob Presthus

August 13—Youth Sunday

August 19—Guess Who Is Coming to Dinner

August 20—New Membership Classes start

September 17—Coffee with the Leadership Team

UPCOMING
Events

Nursery
Ministry

Visitors, feel free to use our nursery.
Download the free KidCheck app for a secure checkin.

Today's staff

Infant BFG—Steve & Lisa Kauffman

Infant—2&3 Church—Carissa Fallon & Kelsey Stitt

Next week's staff

Infant BFG—Jordan & Angie Nyce

Infant—2&3 Church—Erica & Emily Merrill

*Please note infant and 2&3 year olds are combined for church
through July and August



Tithes & Offering

Offering 7/16 —\$27,077

Offering 7/30—\$12,690

Sunday Attendance—7/16

BFG hour — 257

In-Person Worship — 386

Online Worship — 163

Sunday Attendance—7/23

Worship in the Park—300

Online Worship—92

Website: franconiamennonite.org

Email: Info@franconiamennonite.org Phone: 215-723-3220

Theological, Practical, Personal

A FAREWELL TO FRIENDS

Franconia Mennonite Church

July 30, 2023

Worship with us

"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness." -Colossians 2:6-7

Prelude

Gathering Worship—Helen Eastburn and Worship Team

Welcome, Opportunities , Call to Worship—Pastor Rob Presthus

Worship in Song

Worship in Prayer—Nate Weaver

Reading God's Word—1 Thessalonians 1:1-3, 5:12-24, 1 Corinthians 13:1-13—Kim, Selah and Eve Meyer

Sermon—Theological, Practical, Personal —Pastor Josh Meyer

Song of Response

Meyer Family Blessing

Sending



Led by the Holy Spirit, we are an Anabaptist congregation committed to following Jesus in all things, so that God's love flows through us to our community and the world.



Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

Romans 12:12

Pray God's blessings upon...

- our **leadership team** as they continue to seek God's guidance as they work together through this time of transition.
- the **participants** of **VBS** that the seeds of God's love would grow and bear fruit in the lives of the young people who attended.
- the **Meyer family** as they depart from our congregation and begin a new mission serving our Lord in another capacity
- those thinking about becoming a **member** of Franconia Mennonite Church as a membership class begins on August 20th. Please contact the church office or one of the pastors if interested.

Pray God's grace, comfort and healing for...

- **Bob Yothers, Robert Yothers** and family as they mourn the loss of **Fern Yothers**.
- **Walt Morris**, who underwent testing late last week at Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia.
- **Micah Bergey**, who is recovering at home after neurosurgery this week—pray that the surgery would prove successful to stop future tumor growth.
- **Dee Johnson**, whose brother passed away suddenly.

Offering—Ways to Give

- * Sunday morning—**offering boxes** as you enter or exit the auditorium
- * Online at franconiamennonite.org thru **Vanco ACH** (scan QR Code)
- * **Electronic Funds Transfer**—call Monique Kratz at the Church Office
- * Mail to Church Office



FMC LEADERSHIP TEAM

Helen Eastburn, Director of Music & Worship
Bronwen Leister, Director of Children's Ministries
Rob Presthus, Pastor of Administration & Care

Scott Kratz, Celebrate Recovery Ministry Leader
Josh Meyer, Pastor of Discipling & Preaching
Kyle Rodgers, Pastor of Outreach, Youth & Young Adults

FOLLOWING JESUS NEWSLETTER

~ JULY 30, 2023 ~

Church Board Update

Meeting Summary
July 2023

1

A pastoral search team of nine members has been called to oversee the interim search process.

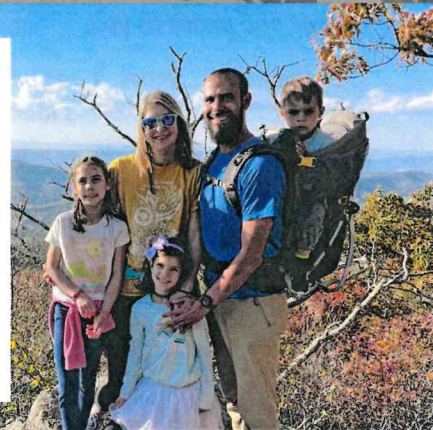
2

Finalizing an interim job description and advertisement.

3

Pastors are meeting monthly with other area Mennonite churches which have left Mosaic conference, to discern how we can support each other's ministry and work together.

Please join us for a special meal and program in the Upper Fellowship Hall directly following worship celebrating God's work through Josh and bless his family.



Breakfast with the Pastors on Thursday, August 3rd at 6 am @ Heritage Restaurant.

GO DUTCH
pay your own share

GUESS
Who's Coming to
DINNER

Saturday, August 19th at 6 pm

Hosts and Guests needed

Sign up before August 13th



Thank you to all our volunteers and a special thanks to the Young Adults who helped the VBS team as their service project this year. **The VBS team**

Group Activities For Students

If interested please email the contact person of that group.

Boy's and Girl's Club—3rd-5th Grade—see you in the fall!

Girls Club Contact: Jess Landis, jess.landis17@gmail.com

Boys Club Contact: Jordan Nyce, jordannyce@gmail.com

Jr. High—6th-8th Grade

Jr. High Contact: Renita Leatherman, drleath5@verizon.net

Sr. High—9th-12th Grade

Sr. High Contact: Pastor Kyle, krodgers@franconiamennonite.org

Young Adult Highlights

Young Adults—Ages 18-25

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!

Every Thursday Night—Bible Study, LFH—7pm

YA Contact: Pastor Kyle, krodgers@franconiamennonite.org

Happy Anniversary

Tim and Mary Lou Landis

July 31, 1971—51 years



Please return your Worship in the Park yard signs for future use. They can be left on the portico outside the church office or at the carport at the main entrance. Thank you.



Torra Landis
7th Grade
Dock Academy

Tanis Landis
8th Grade
Souderton High School

Trinity Landis
12th Grade
Dock Academy

Back to School

Student Prayer Card Sunday is August 13. Parents, we need you to send a picture of your preschool through college children along with their school name and grade to communications@franconiamennonite.org by **August 2th**.

Sermon Notes | July 30, 2023 | A Farewell Sermon

To our sisters and brother at Franconia Mennonite Church:

Grace and peace to you.

For the past 11 years, it has been an honor, a privilege, and a joy to serve as one of your pastors. Wherever we end up in life, our family will always look back on this season of our lives with a deep sense of gratitude and appreciation for this place and for all of you.

For my final sermon, I've written you a letter. A letter seems appropriate, not only to ensure I capture the right words and phrases, but also because the New Testament is filled with letters from pastors & leaders, written to their churches about what it means to follow Jesus with everything we have and with all that we are...

THEOLOGICAL | PRACTICAL | PERSONAL

[1] A theological truth – It's about _____

- > John 3:30 – "Jesus must become greater; I must become less."
- > Arturo Toscanini – "It wasn't me..."
- > 1 Corinthians 11:1 – "Follow me as I follow Christ."

[2] A practical reminder – Authentic faith is _____, not merely _____

- > Peter Rollins – "Authentic faith is expressed, not in mere acceptance of a belief system, but in sacrificial, loving action."
- > Philippians 4:9 – "Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me – put it into practice."
- > Galatians 5:6 – "The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love."

[3] Some personal remarks – In exactly six words: _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____

- > African proverb: "If you want to walk fast, walk alone. If you want to walk far, walk together."
 - > 1 Thess 2:8 – "Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the Gospel of God but our lives as well."
 - > 1 Peter 4:8 – "Love covers over a multitude of sins."
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In closing, I've said this before, and I'll leave you with it one last time. The word sermon comes from the Latin word *sermo*, which means "discourse or conversation." In its purest form, a sermon isn't a monologue where one person speaks, but rather, a chorus of voices in conversation about the things that truly matter. Therefore, I invite all of us to continue the conversation in the months and years ahead.

Continue the theological conversations, constantly reminding each other that it's always, ultimately, about Jesus.

Continue the practical conversations, challenging and equipping each other to live out our faith through love.

Continue the personal conversations, recognizing that the gift of spiritual community is one of the ways God is bringing the Kingdom to earth as it is in heaven.

Theological. Practical. Personal. May it be so...