

# THE FOREST HILL NEWS

Volume 43

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Number 16

## **Forest Hill Church of Christ**

3950 Forest Hill-Irene Rd.  
Memphis, TN 38125

Office: (901) 751-2444  
Info Line: (901) 531-8849  
[www.foresthillcofc.org](http://www.foresthillcofc.org)  
[jsanders@foresthillcofc.org](mailto:jsanders@foresthillcofc.org)

### **Elders:**

Anthony D. Callahan  
Warren Davenport  
Gregory D. Mangrum  
Harold D. Mangrum  
Keith B. McAlister

### **Ministers:**

Barry M. Grider, Pulpit  
Matthew Jones, Associate  
Haston Handley, Youth  
Jordan Pugh, Youth

### **VISIT US SOON!**

#### **Sunday:**

Bible Study..... 9:30 A.M.  
Morning Worship.....10:30 A.M.  
Afternoon Worship.... 1:30 P.M.

#### **Wednesday:**

Bible Study .....7:00 P.M.

HOME OF THE  
MEMPHIS SCHOOL  
OF PREACHING  
[www.msop.org](http://www.msop.org)

### **Missions Supported:**

Far East/World Evangelism  
Gospel Broadcasting Network  
House to House, Heart to Heart  
Murmansk, Russia  
Singapore  
Tanzania, East Africa  
Truth for the World  
Good News Today

### **Free Bible Correspondence Course**

Email: [fhbiblecourse@gmail.com](mailto:fhbiblecourse@gmail.com)

You are invited to attend  
**FRIENDS & FAMILY DAY**  
at FOREST HILL CHURCH OF CHRIST



## Sunday, May 15

**Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. Worship: 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.**

Fellowship meal following morning worship!

## **Forest Hill Church of Christ**

**VBS**  
**June 6-8**  
**9:30 - 11:45**

**The  
Mystery  
of  
Christ**

### **Classes offered for Children**

**2 yr olds - entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade**

**Also Adult Classes**

## Seeking God's Guidance

Joanne A. Howe

[Editor's Note: *Joanne Howe, whose life story is truly incredible, departed this life for Glory on February 4, 2016.*]

"The Bible will tell you who you are, where you are going, and the road you will need to take to get there. Its teachings show humans their sins, and the way to one's salvation. It gives counsel in solving economic, social, emotional and even political problems." These words, by Paul Coffman, a preacher from the church of Christ, still resound in my mind and heart today as I seek the knowledge, guidance and assurance of God's revealed and inspired words.

My initial introduction to biblical teachings began with a counseling program I agreed to participate in with brother Coffman. Incredibly naïve and unequipped to withstand the emotional turmoil I had experienced since my return to society from convent life, I encountered various passages in God's Word that helped in my adjustments over a period of time. One scripture in 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (which I memorized early on in my study) stood out above all others: "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work" (NKJV).

As a Catholic, I had been taught that the Word of God is not a sufficient guide to religion. Many of the doctrines in Catholicism rely heavily on tradition and the divinely inspired rulings of the church set forth in canon law.

Not until I began studying God's Word, had I questioned the writings of the Church fathers, the popes, and the Canon Law. Questions kept tugging at my mind: "Why was I seeing so much disagreement between Catholic dogma and the Word of God?"

My doubts continued to arise when reading such passages as Matthew 4:4: "But he [Jesus] answered them and said: 'It is written: man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God'" and Mark 7:13: "You have voided the Word of God 'through your tradition which you have handed down. Any many such like things you do.'"

I began a pilgrimage of searching for truth in the Word of God. My questions were many. Do the teachings of the Catholic Church agree with the Bible it claims to follow? Has it significantly changed since the Second Vatican Council that convened in 1962? In Acts 17:11, I read these words: "These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, who received the word with all eagerness, daily searching the scriptures, whether these things were so."

I discovered that the crux of the difference between the Catholic Church and the church that Jesus founded lies in its basis of authority. This authority rested

in Jesus alone when He stated: "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth" (Matthew 28:18). Based on this statement, the Catholic Church has no authority for existence other than its own assertion!

Because I was ignorant of the biblical positions on many of the doctrines decreed by the Catholic Church, I felt that these required reexamination as well. I was amazed to learn that the key doctrines of the papacy, the sacraments, veneration of Mary and the saints, purgatory, original sin, sacramental grace and sanctifying grace, the priesthood as a divinely ordained institution, the teaching of transubstantiation and infant baptism were nowhere to be found in the Scriptures.

I came to realize that the changes made by Vatican II were merely cosmetic. Regardless of the surface change, the Catholic Church's basic theological positions remain the same. The hope that the papacy would disavow their wrongs of its past teachings by applying the remedy of biblical truth never emerged. The traditions to which I had given my life were only traditions!

It was difficult for me to give up the faith of my childhood and the commitments I made to serve God as a Roman Catholic. But when I read that God required me to give up my traditions, I had to obey. My eyes had been blinded to the grace of God and the truths contained in His revealed and inspired Word, the Bible! On Oct. 4, 1971, I responded with faith and obedience to the gospel and was immersed in the waters of baptism for the remission of my sins. I had been sprinkled as a baby, according to the teachings and traditions of Catholicism, and depended on the commitment of others (known as godparents) for guidance in my continuing faith and the teachings of this religion. The Bible does not authorize infant baptism. As an infant, I could not believe, confess Jesus as Lord, or repent for sin, as these are requirements for scriptural baptism (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:16; John 3:5-6; Acts 2:38; Romans 6:4; 1 Peter 3:21).

Today, my pilgrimage for truth has led me to an assurance of eternal salvation and to depend on Christ Jesus and His Word alone for knowledge, guidance and the pathway to heaven. It was, after all, the importance of knowing, understanding and responding to God's Word that led me to my soul's conversion. For me, there is no more powerful statement in Scripture than that made by Paul in Romans 1:16: "I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes."

(from *Gospel Advocate*, April 2016)

**LORD'S TABLE**

**PRESIDE:** Eddie Ray Dennis Woods  
**ASSIST:** Randy Elliott Cason Grider  
 Caleb Hull Edison Ray  
 David Richardson Houston Welch

**PRAYERS**

**A.M. OPENING:** Marv Sowell  
**A.M. CLOSING:** Andrew Knipple  
**P.M. OPENING:** Dan Dawson  
**P.M. CLOSING:** Jackson Greer

If you are unable to lead prayer or serve at the Lord's table, please contact Cedric Huff or Paul Connell.

**RECORD, WEEK OF April 17, 2016**

BIBLE STUDY: 220  
 A.M. WORSHIP: 300  
 P.M. WORSHIP: 195  
 CONTRIBUTION: \$15,411.00

**OUR SICK**

**Virginia Ditto**, Baptist Hospital, room 3227.

**Ann Caughron**, Baptist Hospital, room 3389.

**Terri Sanders**, daughter of Nancy Price, will begin radiation treatment this week.

**ILL AT HOME:** Dorothy Mosher and Pearl Washington.

**HOMEBOUND**

Bessie Berry Albert & Ruth House  
 Irby Cole Carolyn Jones  
 Hazel Eskew Clarine Justice  
 Tommy & Nell Herndon Ryan McCullar  
 Anita Hopper Helen Palazola

**REQUESTED PRAYERS:** Jagger House.

**OUR SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO:**

Jo Ann Ammons and family in the passing of her father, former Knight Arnold/Forest Hill elder, D. H. Kirby. He passed away Wednesday, April 13.

**KIRBY PINES** Retirement Community worship service each fourth Sunday 8:00-8:45a.m., conducted by Forest Hill. Our next service will be Sunday, April 24.

**LEGACY ESTATES** worship service each Sunday afternoon 3:00 p.m. conducted by Forest Hill.

**NOTE OF APPRECIATION**

Dear Forest Hill,

Pearl & I are delighted and grateful to our Forest Hill family for your kind, generous and thoughtful expressions of LOVE demonstrated through personal comments, cards, prayers, both public and private. Your inimitable style has been a catalyst for her recovery.

Rufus & Pearl Washington

**TENNESSEE CHILDREN'S HOME  
 SPRING FOOD DRIVE**

A list of needed items is on the bulletin board.

**Deadline is Wednesday, April 20.**

**HEARTS & HANDS**

**TEAM "D" (Randy Elliott)** will meet Sunday, April 24 after the morning service in the breakroom for a covered dish luncheon.

**TEAM "E" (Jim Woody) & TEAM "F" (John Connell)** will meet Saturday, April 30 at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall for breakfast.

**TEAM "C" (Danny Braddock)** will meet Sunday, May 1 after the morning service in the fellowship hall for a covered dish luncheon.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**LADIES' CLASS and MEN'S CLASS** meet each Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. Ladies' class will have a luncheon April 26, following class. This will be the last class for Spring. Classes resume September 13.

**LADIES EVENING BIBLE STUDY** Tuesday, April 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the breakroom.

**TEENS MEET** with Matthew Jones and Christine Hart, Wednesday, April 20 immediately after worship.

**SENIOR SINGLES** will meet Saturday, April 23 at 11:30 a.m. at Red Lobster on Winchester.

**ELDERS & DEACONS and their families**, Covered Dish Luncheon, Sunday, April 24 after the morning service in the fellowship hall.

**JUNIOR/SENIOR BANQUET** Friday, May 6. Babalu's \$15-\$20, Escape Room \$20, Gibson's Donuts \$4. You must sign the sheet on the youth bulletin board and pay Keith McAlister your \$20 Escape Room fee by Sunday, May 1.

**FRIENDS & FAMILY DAY** Sunday, May 15.

**VBS**  
 June 6-8  
**The Mystery of Christ**

**VBS TEACHERS & HELPERS** are needed. Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

**YOUTH CAMPAIGN** to Chalmette, Louisiana, June 11-17.

**FOUNDATIONS** June 25-July 1.

**Last week's solution :**

*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. John 5:24*

**CORNERSTONE**

Unscramble the letters in each word below to reveal the passage of scripture.

VNIHGA TRROHFEEE, TRRNHEEB, SSONLEDB OT TRNEE  
 TONI EHT TSOLIHE YB EHT OOLDB FO USSJE, YB A WNE  
 NDA VNLIIG YWA, WIHHC EH THHA TSRONEEDCCA ROF  
 SU, UTROHHG EHT VLIE, TTHA SI OT YSA, SIH SLHFE;  
 NDA VNIHGA A IHHG TSRPIE VROE EHT USOHE FO OGD;  
 TLE SU WRDA RNEA WTIH A UTRE TRHEA NI ULLF USS-  
 RNECAA FO TIHFA, VNIHGA URO TSRHEA SRPNLKIED  
 ROMF NA VLIE SONNIECC, NDA URO SOIEDB  
 WSHEDA WTIH URPE WTREA.

Solution next week

## Far East World Evangelism Update

Billy Bland

**Stateside:** It certainly has been busy times in the Lord's work in the past few months. This, of course, is a good thing. In addition to my regular teaching in the Memphis School of Preaching, I have preached in several Gospel Meetings. The faculty and students conducted four campaigns in the states of Georgia, Louisiana, and Tennessee. Prior to the campaigns, the Memphis School of Preaching conducted its annual lectureship, the theme this year was "Preach the Word."

**Russia:** The Lord's church in Murmansk, Russia continues to do good work in a difficult area. Brethren Ilya and Cliff Lyons continue to teach and preach the Word of God above the Arctic Circle. Additionally they hand out Bible materials and conduct individual Bible studies with any who are willing to study God's Word with them. Roma Markov, who was trained at the Murmansk Bible School, works in Sochi, Russia and has established the Adler Church of Christ. Recently there were some additional baptisms.

**Singapore:** Brother Peter Chin and the faculty continue to prepare Gospel preachers and teachers at Four Seas Bible College & Missions. The Lord has blessed us with students from the Philippines, Vietnam, China, etc. These are dedicated students who will go back to their home countries to spread the Gospel of Christ (Matt. 28:18-20).

**China:** I have already purchased airline tickets for the trips into China and Singapore for November of this year. Thankfully I already have a visa and I am looking forward to opportunities in the Far east.

Please continue to pray for these efforts. We are glad to be co-workers with the Forest Hill congregation in the Gospel. Thank you for your continued support.

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