



THE FOREST HILL NEWS

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Forest Hill Church of Christ

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Keith B. McAlister

Ministers:

Barry M. Grider, Pulpit
Matthew Jones, Associate
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
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www.msop.org

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The House of the Lord

Isaiah wrote prophetically, “And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it” (Isa. 2:2). Paul helps to understand what was under consideration in Isaiah’s prophecy, when he writes, “These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly: But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth” (1 Tim. 3:14,15). Today those that are found in the house of God are those who are in the church of Christ.

It is believed that David wrote Psalm 122 even though the temple is under consideration and Solomon would be the king who built the temple. The temple of the Old Testament typified the New Testament church. At one time God dwelt in the temple in Jerusalem. The temple was God’s house. Today he dwells in a spiritual entity which is the church. The church is God’s house. It is also called “the Israel of God” (Gal. 6:16). Therefore, as one studies the beautifully written 122nd Psalm, let the reader be reminded of the splendid spiritual blessings found in the church of Christ, God’s house.

*In God’s House there is **Joy**. “I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord” (v. 1).*

*In God’s House there is **Security**. “Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem” (v.2).*

*In God’s House there is **Unity**. “Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together” (v.3).*

*In God’s House there is **Thanksgiving**. “Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord” (v.4).*

*In God’s House there is **Authority**. “For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David” (v.5).*

*In God’s House there is **Peace**. “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls” (v.6,7a).*

*In God’s House there is **Blessing**. “And prosperity within thy palaces” (V.7b).*

*In God’s House there is **Fellowship**. “For my brethren and companions’ sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee” (v.8).*

*In God’s House there is **Righteousness**. “Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good” (v.9).*

YOU, DEAR FRIEND, ARE INVITED TO ENTER THE HOUSE OF THE LORD!

(Developed by Barry Grider)

“How Hear We...?”

Ben Wright

The Jews present at the first gospel sermon being preached asked a question of great importance, “How hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?” (Acts 2:8). They wanted to know how the apostles could be speaking in their languages. That a notable miracle had occurred was evident to them.

As we consider the question, “How hear we?”, we need to understand the importance of hearing in the New Testament. The word “hear” is found 130 times in the New Testament. “Hearing” is found 23 times and “heard” 242 times. Obviously, there is a premium placed on hearing in the word of God. Our faith is based on what we hear (Rom. 10:17). If we want to have a saving faith, then we must have ears open to the word of God.

It is interesting that our Lord placed a great import on hearing. It was Jesus that said, “He that hath ears to hear, let him hear” (Mat.11:15). Jesus wanted people to really listen to what was being said and to process it through the mind to comprehend the meaning of His words. Without proper hearing, there cannot be proper comprehension. Think of the words said to each of the congregations addressed in Revelation chapters two and three: “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.” A definite premium is placed on good hearing in the New Testament.

Sadly, not all will hear the words of the gospel. Our Lord knew this would be the case when He sent the apostles out to preach. He commanded them that “..whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet” (Mat. 10:14). Hearing here carries the idea of acceptance of the words of the apostles. The importance of hearing in this passage is shown by the consequences attached to not hearing. Those that would not hear would find themselves in a situation less tolerable than those who were destroyed in Sodom and Gomorrah (Mat.10:15). Again, a definite premium is placed on hearing the word of God.

It was the case at Stephen’s stoning that the ones to whom he was speaking are said to have “stopped their ears” (Acts 7:57). These people had heard the word being preached and closed their ears to hear no more of it. They would not accept the words spoken by Stephen and rejected themselves.

All of this was prophesied by Isaiah when he was inspired to write: “And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed.” (6:9-10). If proper hearing would take place, the Jews could have understood God’s word in their minds, which would have resulted in conversion and spiritual healing. While we know that some did hear, the vast majority rejected the message and closed their ears to the truth.

There needs to be more like the Thessalonians when it comes to hearing and receiving God’s word. Paul commended them for the way they received the gospel. “For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.” (1 Thes. 2:13). These brethren heard God’s word and believed it to be what it claimed, the inspired word of God. This is a wonderful example of a proper hearing taking place.

Proper hearing must take place in order for one to be saved. It is the first step in the process of salvation. If there is no hearing, there can be no believing (Rom.10:17). If there is no belief, there is only damnation awaiting the individual (Mark 16:16). When one’s soul is in the balances, that should solidify in our minds the premium that is placed on hearing God’s word.

There are those today that refuse to hear the word of God. The masses of people walk through life oblivious to their spiritual state. They are content to live life selfishly and for the moment’s pleasure that sin has to offer. That this is true is seen in the growing number of what statisticians call “unchurched” people. This is a demographic that has increased steadily in this decade.

There are those that will hear the word but through filters. They filter God’s word through their denominational prejudices or the filter of their own consciences. Some have been taught denominational sinfulness and refuse to comprehend God’s word because of this filter. Every verse is filtered through their “grace only,” “faith only,” “once saved, always saved” or other doctrines that they have swallowed. Some allow their consciences to guide them in ways that are not found in scripture. For instance, some believe that if you are a good person then you will be saved. This is most definitely contradictory to scripture, but some have this filter in their minds and every passage that goes against it is not heard.

The filters need to be removed so proper hearing can take place. One needs to come to God’s word with open ears and an open mind. The Thessalonians were commended because they came to believe that what they heard was God’s word and they accepted it as such. Everything that is taken in through the ears needs to be filtered through the word of God, not man-made doctrines or consciences. If what is heard is contrary to God’s word it needs to be rejected. Sadly, too many are rejecting the truth in favor of what man says.

May we ever be a people that hear the way that Jesus wants us to hear. May we take off the denominational filters and accept the pure word of God. It is God’s only power to save mankind (Rom. 1:16). How is your hearing?

LORD'S TABLE

PRESIDE: Keith McAlister Rufus Washington
ASSIST: Robert Berch Danny Braddock
 Kevin Knipple Marion Maund
 Wayne Sanders Jim Woody

PRAYERS

A.M. OPENING: John Connell
A.M. CLOSING: John Manning
P.M. OPENING: Jerry Manning
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 July 31, 2016

BIBLE STUDY: 240
 A.M. WORSHIP: 305
 P.M. WORSHIP: 225
 CONTRIBUTION: \$16,258

OUR SICK

Virginia Ditto, Kirby Pines Rehab.
Corinne Elkins, Christian Care Center, 6500 Kirby Gate Blvd, Memphis, TN 38119 (Cards Only).
Garland Elkins, Christian Care Center, Room 220.
Velton Trimm, Christian Care Center, room 212.
Marilyn Crowe, widow of Fred Crowe, and sister-in-law of J. D. & Brenda Crowe, Methodist Hospital Germantown.
Donald Rhodes, MSOP graduate and brother-in-law of Jerry & Pati Wright, is hospitalized in Jackson, TN.
ILL AT HOME: Karen Fairley (recovering from surgery) and Josh Nichols.

HOMEBOUND

Bessie Berry Albert & Ruth House
 Virginia Ditto Clarine Justice
 Hazel Eskew Ryan McCullar
 Tommy & Nell Herndon Helen Palazola
 Anita Hopper Jerry & Betty Robbins

OUR SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO Carolyn Hayes in the passing of her sister, Hilda Horton.

A memorial service for Terri Sanders, daughter of Nancy Price, will be conducted Saturday, August 6 at 1:00 in the Cates Chapel Hall. The family will receive visitors beginning at 12:30.



KIRBY PINES Retirement Community worship service each fourth Sunday 8:00-8:45 a.m., conducted by Forest Hill. Our next service will be Sunday, August 28.

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

INFORMATION LINE: 531-8849

NOTE OF APPRECIATION

Dear Forest Hill,
 I would like to thank you all for every act of kindness during the passing of my sister, Georgia Smith. It is a comfort to me to know how much you care.
 In Christian love,
 Betty Jones

HEARTS & HANDS

TEAM "F" (John Connell) and **TEAM "A" (Paul Connell)** will meet Sunday, August 7 after the morning service in the fellowship hall for a covered dish luncheon.
TEAM "B" (Warren Davenport) will meet Saturday, August 13 at 5:00 p.m. at the home of Raymond & Dean Pipkin. The food will be provided.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY EVENING SUMMER SERIES June 22-August 10, "New Testament Worship" in the auditorium for ages 7th grade-adult. Wednesday, August 3 "Worship and Singing" taught by Barry Grider.

NEW WEDNESDAY EVENING CLASSES beginning August 17. Auditorium Class: "Hebrew History: A Study of Samuel and Kings" taught by Barry Grider. Education Building Room 201: "Minor Prophets" taught by Warren Davenport.

LADIES EVENING BIBLE STUDY Thursday, August 18 at 6:30 in the breakroom of the education building. We will be studying "Seeking Spiritual Beauty" by Sheila Butt. This book can be purchased through Amazon.com.

REMEMBER to Check Your Box!

Last week's solution:
Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them; Ecclesiastes 12:1

CORNERSTONE
 Replace each letter with a different letter to reveal the scripture.
 JDF B CLXD GJT EXQ XLWR YBER, DQT CQKAGJWQZ,
 YLZBDN FLTD OKLZ NLF LAE LO XQJUQD, VKQVJKQF
 JG J IKBQFQ JFLKQDQF OLK XQK XAGIJDF. JDF B XQJKF J
 NKQJE ULBYQ LAE LO XQJUQD GJRBDN, IQXLWF, EXQ
 EJIQKDJYWQ LO NLF BG TBEX ZQD, JDF XQ TBWW
 FTQWW TBEX EXQZ, JDF EXQR GXJWW IQ XBG
 VQLVWQ, JDF NLF XBZGQWO GXJWW IQ TBEX EXQZ,
 JDF IQ EXQBK NLF.
 Y = C Solution next week T = W

COMING SOON

FALL 2016

Memphis School of Preaching
World Evangelism Seminar
"Preaching The Gospel To Every Creature:"
October 14-15, 2016
Forest Hill Church of Christ

FRIDAY NIGHT

6:30 – 6:50 PM
7:00 – 8:00 PM

Singing
"Preaching the Gospel To Every Creature"

Andy Ratliff
B. J. Clarke

SATURDAY

9:00 – 9:50
10:00 – 10:50
11:00 – 11:50
11:50 – 1:10
1:10 – 2:00
2:10 – 3:00
3:10 – 4:00

Lifting up our Eyes: In Taiwan
Preaching the Word: In China
Fields White Unto Harvest: In India
Lunch Provided/ MSOP World Missions
Bearing Fruit: In The Pacific Islands
Elders and World Evangelism
Visit Displays (located in Fellowship Hall)

John Grubb
Billy Bland
Mark Reynolds
B. J. Clarke
Robert Martin
Steve Vice

"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

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Address Service Requested