



THE FOREST HILL NEWS

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Forest Hill

Church of Christ

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Elders:

Anthony D. Callahan
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Keith B. McAlister

Ministers:

Barry M. Grider,
Pulpit Evangelist
Matthew Jones,
Personal Evangelist
Garrett Olney, Youth

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.

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Email: fhbiblecourse@gmail.com

Rules for Making Every Visitor Feel Welcome

The Thirty Second Rule

Most guests will make a judgment about us during the first thirty seconds after they enter the building. Greet others with a handshake and a friendly smile as soon as you see them.

The Front Door Rule

Help people find their classes or a seat in the auditorium. If they have trouble, they may not return.

The Ten-Foot Rule

Greet anyone with whom you are not familiar who comes within ten feet of you. Make eye contact. Be friendly.

The Five-Minute Rule

Take the first five minutes after services to seek out guests and greet them. Encourage them to return and thank them for being here. After you have greeted our guests, you will still have opportunity to talk to your friends.

Our attitude will often determine if visitors return. Do your part to make sure they really feel
welcome & appreciated.

“Fulfill Ye My Joy” John W. Moore

Walking recently through the streets of Jerusalem, I was again reminded of the enormous task that lies before the church—reaching the world with the gospel. The world is terribly divided. A war continues over competing religious views. Islam, Judaism, and the religions of the Far East continue to be pervasive, and even among the many religious groups who profess to follow Jesus, there is a rancorous spirit of division and sectarian doctrine rooted in human philosophy and shades of paganism. Both at home and abroad, the word of life and the precious good news of Jesus and His love are often thwarted by enemies of the cross and the ever-present problem of a perverse and crooked people laden by sin. Idolatry in various forms is marring the image of the invisible God, and we are living in a time where the creature is served instead of the Creator (Rom. 1:25). All of this is both disturbing and sad, but what robs me of my joy even more is when members of the Lord’s body are divided, suspicious of one another, and fail to strive together for the faith of the gospel (Phil. 1:27), all while the world is destroying itself in a maelstrom of sin and controversy.

Few things are as disturbing to me as those who profess to follow Jesus, but yet are factious, censorious, and seemingly so callous in condemning a brother in Christ with whom they disagree, especially in condemning a man who has spent his life preaching the gospel of the Kingdom. The church must defend the faith (Jude 3) and confront a brother who is in error (Gal. 6:1-2), but the church must also strive to be a place of harmony and peace. Our world is filled with hatred and anger, but the church must abound in love (Phil. 1:9), preach Christ in love (Phil 1:17), and work together in love (Phil 2:2; 1 Cor. 13). It truly is a pleasant and wonderful thing when brethren dwell together in unity, working together in harmony, as did Paul, Timothy, Epaphroditus, and the Philippian brethren.

When Paul wrote the book of Philippians, his world was not unlike ours. All of the issues mentioned in my opening paragraph were in many ways faced by the early church. Thus, Paul wanted brethren to “stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel” (1:27) because souls were at stake. The church then and today was to be a light to a dark world, leading sinners to confess Jesus as Lord (2:11), but when division and discord are present among brethren, this task becomes all the more difficult.

To help the church in Philippi to fulfill her mission, Paul stressed in his letter what some of us seem to have forgotten—that the preaching of the cross not only conveys God’s love for sinful man, but also reveals a message of humility, service, sacrifice, and an attitude of deference to our brethren. If Jesus emptied Himself, came to wash the feet of sinful men, and suffered and died on their behalf (2:5-8), how much more should we - as servants to our Master - seek to care for

and love the church (His people) for whom He died? Shouldn’t we seek to exhibit the blessings of the gospel as revealed in Philippians 2:1, namely “comfort in Christ”, “encouragement of love”, “fellowship of the Spirit”, and “compassion and pity”? Indeed we should and must, but also it must be remembered that our brethren might not always share the desire for unity and fellowship.

In 2 Timothy 4, it appears as though Paul was struggling internally over those who had not listened to his admonitions about “striving together.” As he neared the end of his life, Paul found himself suffering because of his brethren. He was for the most part alone and forsaken by many, and yet Paul continued to practice what he had preached. Even though others were contentious and “seeking to add afflictions to his bonds” he meant them no harm (1:15-18). When thinking of those who had forsaken him, he prayed that God would not “lay this to their charge” (2 Tim. 4:16). When speaking of the enemies of the cross, Paul’s reaction was tearful, not hateful (Phil. 3:18). Paul truly possessed a magnanimous spirit. A spirit devoid of rivalry and selfishness, and yet filled with humility, love, and a desire to work in one accord and with one mind among his brethren.

Today, we can likewise become discouraged and be robbed of our joy when others or we become prideful and contentious. The remedy for such discouragement and the way to happiness is revealed within the context of Philippians, but especially in chapter two. By rejecting a selfish attitude and a contentious spirit, we will find room for the God-honored traits of humility and service (2:2-3). In other words, we must busy ourselves in the work of the Lord, as did Paul, Timothy, and Epaphroditus. Looking every man on the things of others (as opposed to focusing on self) will not only bring us closer to the heart of God as revealed in the example of Jesus (2:5-9), but it will also bring about joy in others. If we stay focused on seeking the Lord’s will and not our own (2:21), and if we regard not our own life but seek rather to serve and assist others (2:25-30), then we will be on the path toward exalting Jesus and be reminded of the central theme of His work—to seek and save those who are lost (Luke 19:10).

The world is a big place and there are many enemies of the cross. We are truly in a battle over world views both in the United States and abroad. Like never before in my lifetime, Christians are being persecuted and marginalized. The Bible is viewed by many as mythological and irrelevant. So let us fight the good fight of faith rather than fighting one another. Let us strive together for the faith of the gospel as we seek to bring glory and praise to God.

(from *Christian Worker*, July 2017)

HEARTS AND HANDS

PRESIDE: Tony Callahan
ASSIST: Cedric Huff
 Edison Ray
 Wayne Sanders

Steve Ulrich
 Eddie Ray
 Billy Rodgers
 Jack Woods

A.M. OPENING: Irwin Thomas
A.M. CLOSING: John Connell
P.M. OPENING: Harold Mangrum
P.M. CLOSING: Jagger House

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

RECORD, WEEK of August 6, 2017

BIBLE STUDY: 240
 A.M. WORSHIP: 315
 P.M. WORSHIP: 190
 CONTRIBUTION: \$20,014.33

OUR SICK

Joe Baxter, St Francis, Room 522 Barry Building, stroke.

Darrell Beard, grandfather of Jonathan Beard, North Mississippi Medical Center, Tupelo, ICU.

Allan Hart is recovering from surgery on his Achilles tendon.

Helen Palazola, Baptist East, Room 3383.

Ann Rhodes, sister of Jerry Wright is suffering from health complications.

HOMEBOUND

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

REQUESTED PRAYERS: Michaela House and David Richardson.

BAPTIZED:
 Wade Braddock, son of Danny and Melinda Braddock.
 Ian Huff, son of Cedric and Diane Huff.

Dear Forest Hill family,

Thank you so much for the wonderful retirement gift. It is obvious how much thought went into it. Nothing could have been more perfect than the lovely, personalized throw. It is so appreciated and will get much use.

In Christian love,
 Janet Sanders

TEAM "A" (PAUL CONNELL) will meet Saturday, August 12 at 5:00 p.m. at the home of Raymond and Dean Pipkin. Food will be provided.

TEAM "E" (JIM WOODY) will meet Saturday, August 19 at noon for a luncheon at the home of Harold and Carol Mangrum. Please bring a dessert. Please call Edwyna if you plan to attend at (901) 484-1569.

TEAM "B" (WARREN DAVENPORT) will meet Saturday, August 19 at 5:00 p.m. at the pavilion for a fish fry. Food will be provided.

TEAM "F" (STEVE ALLMOND) will pass out assignments Sunday, August 20 during the congregational luncheon.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY SUMMER SERIES continues. Theme: *The Way of Salvation*. This week's topic: *Salvation Through Baptism* by T.J. Clarke. 7th grade and up will meet in the auditorium.

YOUNG ADULT DEVOTIONAL Saturday, August 12 at 5:00 p.m. at the home of Jackson and Katharyn Greer.

CONGREGATIONAL LUNCHEON Sunday, August 20 following morning worship. **ELDERS AND DEACONS MEETING** immediately after luncheon beginning at 12:30.

NEW CLASSES TO BEGIN Wednesday, August 23:

Auditorium: *A Glorious Church* taught by Barry Grider.

Room 201 (MSOP): *Studies in Proverbs* taught by Tom Wacaster.

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 27.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR BOX!***Last week's solution:***

Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

CORNERSTONE

VWI XZYH DU LK XDBWV CEH LK UCXTCVDZE; NWZL UWCXX D GICY? VWI XZYH DU VWI UVYIEBVW ZG LK XDGI; ZG NWZL UWCXX D PI CGYCDH?

K=Y Solution Next Week F=G

Man's Hidden "Disease"

Sam Kanizay, 16, of Melbourne, Australia, decided to soak his legs in the waters off Dendy Street Beach in Brighton, following a football match. However, when he pulled his legs from the water, Sam got the scare of his life. His legs and feet were covered in blood. Quickly taken to a nearby hospital, doctors were dumbfounded as to what caused such a severe injury. Some thought sea lice, others blamed amphipods, but all had doubts about either causing that kind of harm. What happened to Sam is still a mystery.

On a broader, spiritual level I am reminded of the nature of sin. Man goes about his daily life realizing that something is not right, that he is infected with something that negatively affects his being, but he never understands what it is. Just like these parasites (or whatever) that are working below the surface of the water eating away at the flesh, man lives a span on earth and cannot quite figure out what is destroying him. Too many do not understand they have a spiritual problem that is caused by sin. Even the "professionals" do not know the cure to this "disease." Sin is a killer (Rom. 6:23). It takes hold of a man and does not want to let go until the man is completely destroyed.

The only cure for this "disease" is a prescription from the great Physician (Luke 5:31). His remedy, which never fails, is His precious blood. We contact that blood when we are baptized into Him. "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life...Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin" (Rom. 6:3-4,6).

Barry

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