



THE FOREST HILL NEWS

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Number 8

Forest Hill Church of Christ

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Memphis, TN 38125

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Elders:

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

Ministers:

Barry M. Grider,
Pulpit Evangelist

Matthew Jones,
Personal Evangelist

Garrett Olney, Youth
Jordan Pugh, 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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Choose Life!

Barry Grider

The name of Norma McCorvey may not be recognized by many Americans and yet she was involved in a Supreme Court case that deeply impacted our country. You see Norma McCorvey is better known by the legal pseudonym “Jane Roe,” the plaintiff in the 1973 high court’s ruling legalizing the slaughter of unborn babies by abortion. However, Norma McCorvey came to the conclusion that abortion was indeed murder and she shifted her position which supported abortion and become an active part of the pro-life movement. Norma McCorvey died this past Saturday at the age of 69. I am so thankful that during her life she came to realize the barbaric nature of abortion, rejected her past, and stood for the rights of little babies until her dying day.

Life is a precious gift from God. When the word of God is opened, the Bible student reads of God’s creation teeming with life. He created green grass and blossoming trees, animals on land and in the sea, “and breathed into man’s nostrils the breath of life” (Gen. 2:7). The greatest sermon ever preached on the existence of God, as recorded in the Bible, was preached by Paul in the city of Athens on a place called the Areopagus or Mars Hill. There Paul proclaimed,

God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; Neither is worshipped with men’s hands, as though he needed anything, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things...For in him we live, and move, and have our being (Acts 17:24-25; 27).

I have very low tolerance for those who do not respect human life. I pray that God will show more mercy upon our nation than our nation has shown toward the little babies who have been put to death by the atrocious act of abortion. Yet more important than physical life is spiritual life. John says of Jesus, “In him was life; and the life was the light of men” (John 1:4). “I [Jesus] am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly” (John 10:10). Jesus is able to take those “who were dead in trespasses and sins” (Eph. 2:1) and cause them to “walk in newness of life” (Rom. 6:4). Paul makes clear in that passage that such happens when one is baptized into Jesus’ death.

How sad for preachers to stand before large audiences of people and masterfully bring those people to the very edge of their pews until they cry out, “What must we do to be saved?” and then fail to tell them what to do. Peter said to those on Pentecost who asked that question, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost” (Acts 2:38). Baptism is the act which puts one into Christ (Gal. 3:27) and salvation is found in Him (2 Tim. 2:10). However, when preachers refuse to answer the aforementioned question with the teaching of the New Testament, a spiritual abortion takes place. Since new life is in Christ, and we are to be baptized into Christ, false teachers who proclaim that baptism is not part of God’s divine plan of salvation are performing spiritual abortions. I do not want to stand before Christ as an unrepentant defender or practitioner of abortion, regardless of whether such abortions are physical or spiritual.

If we stand on God’s side we stand on the side of life. Whatever is connected to life is connected to Jesus, our Lord and Savior. However, we must make a choice. Hear God’s thunderous voice, “I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live” (Deut. 30:19). Our eternal destinies are hanging in the balance—choose life!

I Can Do Whatever I Want!

Barry O'Dell

“Only God can judge me” is a common sentiment in our world. This phrase is typically used when one’s personal behavior is called into question. Matthew 7:1 is often quoted by those who shoot off a personal deflection in response to a rebuke from someone who is offended by their behavior. The biblical phrase “let the one without sin cast the first stone” is also used as a defensive mechanism by those who do not want their behavior called into question.

Sadly, this non-judgmental, accept-anything, and condemn-nothing mindset has crept into the religious world. This writer has noticed an abuse of one particular passage in the Bible when it comes to dealing with certain issues in the church – Romans 14. “Romans 14 says you can’t judge me if I use instrumental music in worship.” “Romans 14 says you shouldn’t judge a church for using praise teams or dramatic reenactments.” “Romans 14 says that you should not judge a church that uses women for leading in the worship of the church.” The lack of understanding and careless use of Romans 14 has caused many to believe, “I can do whatever I want and you can’t judge me!”

First, it is understood that God is the Judge (Rom. 14:12). No one who has ever read and believed the Bible would deny that fact! We will be judged by the words of Christ (Jn. 12:48-50), not the opinions of men. God as Judge is not the issue at hand.

Second, a question: With what is Romans 14 dealing? Paul addresses two topics specifically. He addresses the eating of meat in eight verses (2-3, 6, 15, 17, 20-21, 23). He also addresses the observance of “a day” in two verses (5-6). Paul was not writing about the worship of the church! He was discussing matters of “doubtful disputations” (KJV, v. 1), or “disputes over doubtful things” (NKJ, v. 1). That Paul was dealing with matters of personal preference based on one’s own understanding is further proven in verse 22: “Hast thou faith? Have it to thyself before God.” To conflate the matters of certain food and setting aside a certain day for one’s own use to God with matters involving the worship of the church is a gross misuse of Romans 14.

Third, that Paul is not dealing with matters of worship as mentioned above is further clarified in Romans 15:1-6. He wrote, “That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Rom. 15:6). The church at Rome was to be in complete unity! Paul used similar language when writing to other congregations (1 Cor. 1:10-13; Phil. 3:15-16). Would permitting changes in the worship of the church at Rome have promoted unity? Of course not! However, would the behavior of individual Christians who were concerned about other Christian’s consciences have promoted congregational unity? Of course it would! Paul makes the point, “For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself” (Rom. 14:7). Our personal behavior can have an effect on other people and we must be aware of that! That is exactly what Paul was discussing in verses 15 and 19: “But if thy brother be grieved with thy meat, now walkest thou not charitably. Destroy not him with thy meat, for whom Christ died...Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and the things wherewith one may edify another.”

The misuse of Romans 14 to justify changes to the church and worship reminds us of what Peter wrote about those who misuse Scripture: “they that are unlearned and unstable wrest (twist), as they do also the other Scriptures, unto their own destruction” (2 Pet. 3:16). It seems that the current cultural trends of society have impacted the church in a negative way. The attitude of “you can’t judge me” is alive and well within the minds of many. The reality is, we are commanded to judge and it is to be “righteous judgment” (Jn. 7:24). We need to be able to discern between what is good and evil (Heb. 5:14). We are not permitted, nor are we capable of judging the hearts of others. In that sense only God can judge, “for the Lord searcheth all hearts” (1 Chr. 28:9). However, Jesus tells us, “By their fruits ye shall know them” (Matt. 7:20). A false teacher and /or false ways can be known and there are many who misuse Romans 14 to push an agenda for change in the church.

(from *Fulton County Gospel News*, Jan/Feb 2017)

LORD'S TABLE

PRESIDE: Keith McAlister Marv Sowell
ASSIST: Randy Elliott Bob Gitter
 Cedric Huff Andrew Knipple
 Garrett Olney Edison Ray

PRAYERS

A.M. OPENING: Andy Ammons
A.M. CLOSING: Robert Jeter
P.M. OPENING: Wayne Sanders
P.M. CLOSING: Jim Woody

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

RECORD, WEEK of February 19, 2017

BIBLE STUDY: 250
 A.M. WORSHIP: 300
 P.M. WORSHIP: 220
 CONTRIBUTION: \$15,419

OUR SICK

Virginia Ditto, Christian Care Center, room 222.
Velton Trimm, Kirby Pines Rehab.

ILL AT HOME: J. D. Crowe, Jerry Ellis, Marylon Green, and Rufus Washington.

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	James Terry

NOTE OF APPRECIATION

Dear Fellow Saints,
 Please accept my sincere appreciation for your prayers, cards, visits and telephone calls during my surgery and recovery.

I am very much indebted to you,
 Rufus Washington

CONGRATULATIONS to Jerry & Betty Robbins who were crowned 2017 King & Queen of Kennington Point.

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, February 26.

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

REMEMBER to Check Your Box!

INFORMATION LINE: 901-531-8849

REQUESTED PRAYERS: Jagger House and Caleb Hull.

HEARTS AND HANDS

Team "A" (Paul Connell) will meet Monday, February 27 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Paul & Leah Connell for a covered dish dinner. Please see Leah for what to bring.

UPCOMING EVENTS

LADIES' and MEN'S CLASSES meet each Tuesday morning at 10:00.

JCs LEGO COMPETITION Saturday, February 25 at 1:00 p.m. in the break room. Please see the bulletin board for details and to sign up.

SILVER HEARTS BANQUET Saturday, February 25 at 5:00 p.m.

EVANGELISM BAGS will be assembled Sunday, February 26. Ladies please meet in the ladies classroom about 30 minutes to 1 hour before the afternoon service.

BRIDAL SHOWER honoring Lindsay Roscoe, Sunday, March 5 after the morning service in the fellowship hall. Lindsay and C. J. are registered at Kohl's, Target and Bed Bath & Beyond.

YOUNG ADULT DEVO Saturday, March 11 at 5:00 p.m. at the home of Jerry & Lynn Manning.

HEARTS & HANDS REORGANIZATION LUNCHEON Sunday, March 12 after the morning service in fellowship hall. **ZONES 1 & 2** are responsible for set-up and clean-up. **ZONE 6** is responsible for supplying drinks and set-up, serve and clean-up the drink area.

2017 YOUTH DAY, March 25. Theme: *In Christ Alone*. Flyers are available in the foyer.

2017 MSOP LECTURESHIP, March 26-30. Theme: *Build Your Hopes on Things Eternal*. Copies of the schedule are available in the foyer.

2017 VBS June 5, 6 & 7. Soup cans and vegetable cans are needed for VBS. They need to be clean and label free. Also, gallon milk jugs are needed. These may be put in the Ladies classroom.

Last week's solution:
Is the law then against the promises of God? God forbid: for if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law. But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe. Galatians 3:21-22

CORNERSTONE
 Replace each letter with a different letter to reveal the scripture.
 EAV RLER MD YRPVM RZ FD JPHDR, EAV RZ VZ MZPU
 ZTA FPYHADYY, EAV RZ TZUQ THRL MZPU ZTA LEAVY,
 EY TD SZBBEAVDV MZP; RLER MD BEM TEOQ
 LZADYROM RZTEUV RLDB RLER EUD THRLZPR, EAV
 RLER MD BEM LEID OESQ ZK AZRLHAC.
 M=Y Solution next week T=W

March 2017

Coordinating Elder: Tony Callahan

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tues</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1 <i>Tony Callahan</i>	2 <i>Allan Hart</i> <i>J. D. Crowe</i> <i>Nancy Price</i>	3 <i>Zeke Bynum</i>	4 <i>Bertha Draughon</i>
5 <i>Lisa Howard</i>	6 <i>Caleb Berch</i> <i>Bob Bergstrom</i>	7 <i>Kathi Graham</i> <i>Adam Maund</i>	8	9 <i>Lynda Hobbs</i> <i>Carol Mangrum</i>	10	11 <i>Bobby Stricklin</i>
12 H & H Reorg Dinner	13	14 <i>Titus Esene</i> <i>Nicole Stafford</i>	15	16	17 <i>Melinda Braddock</i> <i>Ashley Jeter</i>	18 <i>Caleb Myers</i>
19 <i>Justin Bean</i> <i>Leoto Boitshwarelo</i> <i>Judy Conley</i>	20 <i>Ben Knipple</i>	21	22	23	24 <i>Gene Gordon</i>	25 <i>Eli Myers</i> <i>Dianne Callahan</i> YOUTH DAY
26 <i>Toni Ellis</i> LECTURESHIP	27	28 <i>Helen Palazola</i>	29 <i>Holly Myers</i> <i>Lindsay Roscoe</i>	30 <i>Mary Sharp</i>	31 <i>Hazel Eskew</i>	

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