



THE FOREST HILL NEWS

Volume 44

January 24, 2017

Number 4

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
jsanders@foresthillcofc.org

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
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.

HOME OF THE
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Missions Supported:

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My Safe Space

Barry Grider

There is much talk today from the left wing of society that safe spaces are needed to prevent them from any interaction or harassment from those who do not think like them. This idea is becoming quite prevalent on college campuses throughout the country. In reality, these young people need to grow up and realize that the world does not revolve around them and others will not always agree with them. The recent election demonstrates how some throw temper tantrums when they do not get their way.

However, you may be surprised that this preacher does endorse the idea of a safe space. Let me explain. There is a safe and secure hiding place for every Christian and it is found in Christ. Paul wrote, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit (Rom 8:1) In this safe space we find contentment and satisfaction. Here every spiritual blessing is available to us (Eph. 1:3). In our safe space we enjoy close communion with our Lord as our thoughts turn to those things sublime. You could draw closer to your Lord perhaps through a morning walk, as you marvel at the Lord's creation, especially at the rising of the sun at the beginning of a new day. Maybe you would enjoy a quiet moment with your Bible open as you enjoy a cup of coffee on your deck or patio. For me, driving alone from place to place in my automobile provides quiet times of reflection.

If you are not growing spiritually you need to find a safe space to nurture your relationship with God. Jesus did this while He was on earth. "And in the morning, rising a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed" (Mark 1:35). What is the key to any relationship? Communication! Paul spoke of those who had zeal for God but not in accordance with knowledge (Rom. 10:2). It could be some have knowledge of God but no zeal. If you can find that special place where you can be alone with God you will be greatly encouraged in your spiritual life. What happens in this place? You can meditate on scripture and pray. God speaks to us through His word and we communicate with Him through prayer, hence, communication is established. The psalmist declared,

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust (Psalm 91:1, 2).

We have an enemy identified in the Bible as the Devil or Satan. He wants to harm us. He wants to destroy us. Peter admonishes, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Pet. 5:8). However, Satan does not have the advantage when you and I are in this safe space with our Lord. Someone has stated accurately, "Satan laughs at the backslider, but trembles at the praying knee." James wrote,

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts ye double minded (James 4:7,8).

Spending time in your spiritual safe space will not make you perfect but it will change you for the better. It will impress upon your heart and mind your Savior who you are seeking to emulate. There in this safe place the words of an old hymn, written by Fanny J. Crosby, come to mind,

Hide me, oh my Savior,
Hide me in Thy holy place;
Resting there beneath Thy glory,
O let me see Thy face.

This Day

J. M. Mankin

“This is the day the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it” (Psalm 118:24)

Each morning when I awake, I jump out of bed, gaze out the window to see the day’s weather, and exclaim, “This is the day the Lord has made!”

My attitude at the beginning of the day has something to do with how I work that day and what I accomplish. A good friend of mine once told me, “I have two plans for each day—one if the sun is shining, and the other in case of rain.” How often we are knocked off track by simply lacking enthusiasm! We fail at our task before we ever start by not approaching it with joy. Surely there is something about today that you can rejoice in. In your mind’s “television set” think of a lonely old man in a gloomy prison-house in Rome. He is chained to a guard with few privileges. Outside the Tiber River is flowing and winter-time is approaching, but this man is reflecting on his blessings and his friends. What is his word to them?

“Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice” (Phil. 4:4). It is as though Paul, the great apostle, has thought it over, and he is sure that we can all rejoice each day.

You and I are starting a new day. Part of the success of this day is going to be based on the spirit of joy and enthusiasm that we can generate in ourselves and then pass on to others. Dr. Ira North said, “Enthusiasm is as powerful as dynamite and as contagious as measles.”

One of my favorite poems is “The Chambered Nautilus” by Oliver Wendell Holmes. In it Holmes shows by comparison that we can bury the past and look forward to a happier and more satisfying future. The closing lines are especially meaningful:

Build thee more stately mansions, O my soul,
As the swift seasons cool!
Leave thy low-vaulted past!
Let each new temple, nobler than the last,
Shut thee from heaven with a dome more vast,
Till thou at length are free,
Leaving thine outgrown shell by life’s unresting sea!

(from *Gospel Advocate*, July 1976)

The Tongue is Ugly... Glenn I. Hitchcock

When it curses (James 3:10)

When it flatters (Psalm 12:3)

When it speaks evil (Ephesians 4:1)

When it lies (Revelation 21:8)

When it bears tales (Leviticus 19:16)

When it criticizes (Matthew 5:22)

When it backbites (Romans 1:30)

When it speaks idly (Matthew 12:36)

When it deceives (Romans 3:13)

When it is false (Titus 1:10-11)

When it reviles (I Corinthians 6:10)

When it is foolish (Ephesians 5:4)

When it whispers (Romans 1:29)

When it blasphemes (Colossians 3:8)

When it is filthy (Colossians 3:8)

And when it is crooked (Prov. 4:24)

How Guilty is Your Tongue?

LORD'S TABLE

PRESIDE: Danny Braddock Dennis Woods
ASSIST: Jagger House Gene Kuehn
 Jerry Manning Sam Rickles
 Billy Rodgers Colten Wilson

PRAYERS

A.M. OPENING: Steve Allmond
A.M. CLOSING: Tony Callahan
P.M. OPENING: Isaac McLaurin
P.M. CLOSING: Paul Davenport

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

RECORD, WEEK of January 22, 2017

BIBLE STUDY: 245
 A.M. WORSHIP: 285
 P.M. WORSHIP: 205
 CONTRIBUTION: \$13,958

OUR SICK

Avis Terry, Baptist Hospital East

Marsha Beliew is scheduled for an out-patient procedure Thursday.

Leslie Sharp home recovering from surgery and now has shingles.

Melissa Oman, daughter of Jerry and Betty Robbins, suffered a heart attack, St. Francis Bartlett, room 357.

Violet Pontious, mother of Sabrena Sowell, Tennova Healthcare in Lebanon, TN.

John Dickison, MSOP alumnus, suffered a heart attack, ICU, Forth Worth, TX.

ILL AT HOME: Bob Bergstrom, Betty Jones, Helen Newsom, Cecil Sowell and Connie Streiber.

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

OUR SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO the family of former Knight Arnold member, Nelda Holley, who passed away last week.

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.

INFORMATION LINE: 901-531-8849

HEARTS AND HANDS

TEAM "D" (Elliott) will meet Sunday, February 5 after the morning service for a covered dish luncheon in the fellowship hall.

TEAM "E" (Jim Woody) will meet Saturday, February 4 at 12:30 at the home of Harold & Carol Mangrum for a chili luncheon. Chili will be provided. Please see Carol for what to bring.

UPCOMING EVENTS

LADIES' and MEN'S CLASSES meet each Tuesday morning at 10:00. The men's class will begin a new study Tuesday, January 31, entitled *Blessed Assurance* written by Tom Holland. We will meet for breakfast at Cracker Barrel at 8:45.

MSOP Instructor Billy Bland will report to the congregation Sunday, January 29, during the afternoon service, about Far East/World Evangelism and his recent missionary journey to Southeast Asia.

YOUNG ADULTS SUPER BOWL PARTY Sunday, February 5 at 5:00 p.m. at the home of Greg & Christa Mangrum.

2017 Youth Day, March 25.

2017 MSOP LECTURESHIP, March 26-30.

2017 VBS June 5, 6 & 7.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Sue Glass will celebrate her 90th birthday, Sunday January 29.

Last week's solution:

That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. Ephesians 2:12-13

CORNERSTONE

Replace each letter with a different letter to reveal the scripture.

DKJDF RD PK EJ JZD WJFEPJ YEJD UBF VPLD PW JZD
 YEJD, EKL TFBEL PW JZD VER, JZEJ HDELDJZ JB
 LDWJFMJJPBK, EKL CEKR JZDFD TD VZPIZ YB PK
 JZDFDEJ TDIEMWD WJFEPJ PW JZD YEJD, EKL KEFFBV
 PW JZD VER, VZPIZ HDELDJZ MKJB HPUD, EKL UDV
 JZDFD TD JZEJ UPKL PJ.

R=Y Solution next week V=W

February 2017

Coordinating Elder: Harold Mangrum

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tues</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thurs</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1 <i>Cason Grider</i> <i>Billy Rodgers</i>	2 <i>Jack Woods</i>	3	4 <i>Daniel Berch</i>
5	6 <i>Pablo Horna</i>	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 <i>Duke Brown</i>	14 <i>Beth Billings</i>	15 <i>Tagiilima Esene</i> <i>Jackie Feng</i>	16	17	18 <i>Andrew Suttles</i>
19 <i>Caleb Hull</i>	20	21 <i>Marsha Beliew</i>	22 <i>Norma Stricklin</i> <i>Jenny Feng</i>	23	24 <i>Tumelo Thobosi</i>	25
26 <i>Ethan Ulrich</i>	27 <i>Olivia Barnes</i> <i>Christa Mangrum</i>	28 <i>Malachi Rose</i>				

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