



# THE FOREST HILL NEWS

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## Forest Hill

### Church of Christ

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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

#### 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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MEMPHIS SCHOOL  
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[www.msop.org](http://www.msop.org)

#### Missions Supported:

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#### Free Bible Correspondence Course

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

## George Washington and Belief in God

### The Existence of a Supreme Being

It is impossible to account for the creation of the universe, without the agency of a Supreme Being. It is impossible to govern the universe without the aid of a Supreme Being. It is impossible to reason without arriving at a Supreme Being. Religion is as necessary to reason, as reason is to religion. The one cannot exist without the other. A reasoning being would lose his reason, in attempting to account for the great phenomena of nature, had he not a Supreme Being to refer to; and well has it been said, that if there had been no God, mankind would have been obliged to imagine one.

### The Source of All Blessings

...The sentiments we have mutually expressed of profound gratitude to the source of those numerous blessings-the author of all good obligations to unite our sincere and zealous endeavors, as the instruments of divine providence, to preserve and perpetuate them.

### The Ruler of Nations

Let us unite, therefore, in imploring the Supreme Ruler of nations, to spread his holy protection over these United States: to turn the machinations of the wicked to the confirming of our constitution: to enable us at all times to root out internal sedition, and put invasion to flight: to perpetuate to our country that prosperity, which his goodness has already conferred, and to verify the anticipation of this government being a safeguard to human rights.

...we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech him to pardon our national and other transgressions, to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually, to render our national government of wise, just and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed, to protect and guide all Sovereigns and Nations (especially such as have shown kindness to us) and to bless them with good government, peace, and concord. To promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and Us, and generally to grant unto all Mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as he alone knows to be best.

(from *Faith of Our Founding Fathers*, Dr. Tim Lahaye, pp. 104-106, 1987)

## A Harmonious Congregation (Phil. 1:1-2)

Kevin W. Rhodes

From its beginning around 51 A.D. the Philippian congregation of God's people had a close relationship with the apostle Paul. The epistle he penned reflects this relationship, but it also demonstrates the bond shared within the congregation, considering how minor the congregational problems mentioned proved to be. Indeed, even in the simplicity of the opening greeting, Paul established the relationships that bound them together in spiritual harmony.

Writing from prison in Rome, Paul opened by introducing himself and Timothy, his fellow worker, as "bondservants of Jesus Christ." A gospel preacher therefore feels bound to serve—not for his own purposes and glory, but to glorify his Lord. Thus, a preacher feels obligated to preach the gospel (1 Cor. 9:16), to serve the souls of others to save the souls of others (Mk. 10:45), and to sacrifice as necessary (Phil. 2:17). A preacher feels obligated to Jesus Christ, because he owes Him everything (Phil. 3:8). When a preacher accepts the work and life of a bond servant, what he does in that work and life should harmonize with the will of his Master, totally and completely, and this, in turn, will help him build harmony in the lives of others.

Interestingly, while people today regularly refer to one another as Christians, the apostle Paul chose to address his audience as "all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi." This places emphasis on the moral compass that should distinguish God's people both spiritually and morally in seeking to be more like God in heart each and every day, for this is the ambition of holiness (1 Pet. 1:16). And yet pure holiness remains impossible apart from a relationship with Christ Jesus whose promised coming as the Messiah served to provide for our salvation from sin (Acts 2:38; 1 Cor. 6:11; Gal. 3:26-29). However, Christians still live in the world, in the midst of a foreign society often hostile to morality and to truth. Nevertheless, distinguishing themselves as separate and distinct in a world gone mad should be the goal of saints each and every day (1 Pet. 2:11-12). Seeking holiness in every aspect of life keeps God's children in harmony with God's will and with God Himself, lifting Christians up toward heavenly things while on earth in preparation for ascending to heaven in the end.

Having addressed the essential character expected of all Christians, Paul then emphasized roles in the congregation divinely designed to help Christians in their holiness, beginning with bishops. The work

implied by the word "episkopos" involves oversight, but its application extends far beyond popular notions. God gave bishops the responsibility not only of overseeing the assembly, but of overseeing the flock (Acts 20:28). Therefore, bishops must remain ever aware of the spiritual problems and needs of the individual Christians in the congregation (1 Thess. 5:14-15). Bishops must then constantly look out for toxic relationships, dangerous precedents, and insidious error (Titus 1:9-11). Bishops must keep a keen eye on any signs of impending apostasy on an individual basis to be able to come to that person's spiritual aid before they drift too far away (Gal. 6:1).

Paul's inclusion of deacons in conjunction with the bishops in this greeting shows the significance he placed upon the role, using a word signifying serving others, being active in the work, and completing orders. Deacons serve in whatever roles benefit the congregation and its work (1 Tim. 3:13), having first established the character to accept their responsibilities with grace and humility so as to ease the work of the bishops and aiding the congregation in seeking holiness (Acts 6:1-4). Thus, when deacons take their role in a congregation seriously, the work of the church can blossom as people grow from wanting to be served to learning to love serving, because they see it all around them.

The simple and oft-repeated greeting Paul includes in this epistle (as well as others) communicates far more than a general greeting. It unites the roles and responsibilities of Christians with the blessings and leadership of the Godhead in making what we do meaningful. By combining "grace" and "peace," the respective greetings of Gentiles and Jews, into one, the apostle Paul expressed the harmony possible when we leave behind human differences to accept divine distinctions (Gal. 3:28). More than that, these blessings, previously taken as physical in character, now have a spiritual quality directly related to being children of God and behaving as such (Eph. 2:8; Phil. 4:7; Rom. 8:15). Harmony in a congregation relates directly to how every member submits to the authority of the Lord, loves Jesus for the salvation made possible by His sacrifice, and commits to Christ living within (Col. 3:17; John. 15:13; 14:15; Gal. 2:20). Without what God has done through Jesus, there is no grace to save us and there is no peace for us, "[b]ut thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 15:57).

(continued page 4)

**HEARTS AND HANDS**

<b>PRESIDE:</b> John Connell	Greg Mangrum
<b>ASSIST:</b> Britton Bidigare	Lewis Elliott
Phil Houston	Gene Kuehn
Raymond Pipkin	Dennis Woods

**TEAM "C" (Danny Braddock)** will meet Saturday, July 8 at 5:00 p.m. at the home of Corinne Elkins for a covered dish dinner. Food will be provided.

**TEAM "E" (Jim Woody)** will meet Saturday, July 15 at 4:00 p.m. at the home of Jim and Edwyna Woody. Pizza will be provided. Please bring a salad or dessert.

**TEAM "F" (Steve Allmond)** will receive assignments the week of July 9.

**A.M. OPENING:** Jerry Manning  
**A.M. CLOSING:** Daniel Manning  
**P.M. OPENING:** Steve Allmond  
**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.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**RECORD, WEEK of July 2, 2017**

**WEDNESDAY SUMMER SERIES** begins July 5. Theme: *The Way of Salvation*. This week's topic: *Jesus the Savior* by Billy Bland. 7th grade and up will meet in the auditorium.

BIBLE STUDY:	210
A.M. WORSHIP:	305
P.M. WORSHIP:	195
CONTRIBUTON:	\$15,367.00

**BRIDAL SHOWER** honoring Bryn Chambers, bride elect of Daniel Manning, Sunday July 9 after the morning service. Bryn and Daniel are registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond, Ikea and Target.

**OUR SICK**

**SUNDAY SERMON SERIES:** Brother Grider will begin a Sunday afternoon series beginning July 9 entitled *He's Still Working on Me* from the book of Philipians.

**Tim Nichols** is home recovering from surgery.  
**Audrey Nichols**, mother of Tim Nichols, Germantown Methodist. She will soon be moved to Hospice care.

**CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP MEAL** Sunday, July 16 after the morning service.

**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	

**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, July 23.

**OUR SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO:** Avis Terry and family in the death of her husband, James Terry. Brother Terry was the father of Diane Ray and grandfather of Sarah and Edison Ray.

**PANTRY ITEMS:** needed to replenish the pantry. Please bring non-perishable food items to the ladies classroom.

**INFORMATION LINE:** 901-531-8849

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR BOX!**

**Check out the new Forest Hill website!**  
[foresthilcofc.org](http://foresthilcofc.org)

***Last week's solution:***

*Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: John 11:25*

**CORNERSTONE**

Unscramble the letters in each word to discover the passage.  
 EH TTHA TSSPIHEED SIH RONIHGEB TSNNIHE: UTB EH TTHA THHA YRMEC NO EHT RPOO, YPPHA SI EH. OD YTHE TON RRE TTHA VSIEED VLIE? UTB RMEC NDA UTTRH SLLHA EB OT TMHE TTHA VSIEED OOGD.

Solution Next Week

A Harmonious Congregation (continued from page 2)

The spiritual harmony described throughout the rest of the book of Philippians testifies to the implications of Paul's greeting. More than any other epistle, the book of Philippians presents a congregation of Christians seeking righteousness together, overcoming problems together, reaching the lost together, and moving toward maturity together. However, these behaviors will not happen unless the preacher, the elders, the deacons, and the members share a mutual commitment to be what God expects so as to enjoy the blessings God wants to bestow. A congregation achieves spiritual harmony through spiritual people actively fulfilling spiritual responsibilities from a spiritual heart with a spiritual purpose. The apostle Paul emphasized all of these things to the Philippians throughout his epistle, but from the very opening of the book he demonstrated that none of this occurs magically. It comes to life when God's people seek harmony by serving in harmony--in harmony with one another, in harmony with God's Word, and in harmony with God Himself.

(from *Christian Worker* Vol 103, Number 6)

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