

THE FOREST HILL NEWS

Volume 45

January 16, 2018

Number 3

Forest Hill Church of Christ

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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
Hatton Allen, 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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Cora Sue Whitaker
1927-2018



As the Knight Arnold/Forest Hill church celebrates 59 years of service to our Lord, the name E.L. Whitaker, Jr. certainly is among the most eminent in the history of this faithful and good congregation. He was our evangelist from its inception until his retirement 33 years later in 1992. Two years later he laid down his sword and went to his heavenly reward. The oft quoted phrase, "Behind every great man is a great woman," was certainly true for E.L. Whitaker, Jr. His selection of Cora Sue Minor to be his wife demonstrated his wisdom. They were married in 1946 and to this union were born three sons. Several years after their marriage, brother Whitaker decided to begin preaching. Sister Whitaker truly fit the mold of an ideal preacher's wife (see *The Preacher's Wife*, p.4).

It was a delight for this writer to meet sister Whitaker upon my arrival at the Memphis School of Preaching in 1990. I shall always remember her warm smile and kind words of encouragement. She was by nature a quiet lady and yet she was known for her friendliness and helpfulness. Just as brother Whitaker served as our evangelist for 33 years, sister Whitaker was employed by the VA Hospital for 33 years as a medical secretary.

During the last decade of her life, this sweet Christian lady sadly developed the symptoms associated with severe dementia. Her earthly sojourn came to an end in a Dardanelle, Arkansas nursing home on January 8, 2018 at the age of 90. I am thankful for the reassuring words of the apostle, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens" (2 Cor. 5:1).

The funeral service for Sue Whitaker was conducted at Memorial Park Funeral Home on Friday, January 12, 2018. A severe winter storm had moved across the mid south region the night before. Because of hazardous road conditions few were able to attend her service, which though understandable was regrettable. I was given the privilege of preaching that service and I spoke concerning the virtuous women of Proverbs 31. It truly seemed fitting for such a grand lady. Indeed Sue Whitaker's value was "far above rubies" (v.10); the heart of her husband did "safely trust in her" (v.11); she did "do him good and not evil all the days of her life" (v.12); she did "stretcheth out her hand to the poor" (v. 20); indeed she was clothed with "strength and honor" (v. 25); while she lived it could be said, "in her tongue is the law of kindness" (v.26). The closing verses of the chapter reflect the summation of the life of Sue Whitaker.

Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates (Pro. 31:29-31).

Barry

How Christians Should View Death

George W. Bailey

[Editor's Note: Already at the beginning of 2018 we have had the sad task of bidding farewell to three long time faithful members. This article by brother Bailey, who also departed this life recently, can be a great encouragement to Christians.]

Death is no stranger to our world. We have often watched this Grim Reaper barge into our homes and snatch some loved one away. What a trail of sorrow death can leave! What a pain it can bring to our hearts! And yet we must realize "that it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). Death comes every day to everyone!

What should be our attitude toward death? We must realize that death came by sin (Romans 5:12), and the sting of death is sin (1 Corinthians 15:56). When God made man, He placed him in the Garden of Eden and charged him with the responsibility of dressing and keeping it. "And the Lord God commanded the man saying, "Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou latest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Genesis 2:16, 17). When man ate of that forbidden fruit, God said to him, "For dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return" (Genesis 3:19). Sin therefore was the cause of death.

But when God said, "For dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return," He was not speaking of the soul, but of the body. When death comes, we are told, "Then shall the dust return to the God who gave it" (Ecclesiastes 12:7). Death is a separation of the spirit from the body, for the body without the spirit is dead (James 2:26).

It isn't all of life to live, and it isn't all of death to die! Death is not an ending of it all, for there is something beyond the grave. While the body dies and goes back to the dust, yet the soul continues to live on and on throughout eternity. After death there will be a judgement (Hebrews 9:27). Some fear death because they fear the judgement that will follow death! Some are ashamed to live, but afraid to die!

Jesus said, "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of damnation" (John 5:28, 29). In the long ago, Job asked this question, "If a man die, shall he live again?" (Job 14:14). Later on Jesus answered that question when He said, "I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live" (John 11:25).

All that are in the graves will some day come forth. There will be a resurrection! Death does not end it all!

Some will be resurrected unto condemnation, and some will be resurrected unto everlasting life! The reason many fear death is that they are afraid of that resurrection of condemnation! Unless a man believes and received Christ, he has every right to be afraid of that resurrection. "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Hebrews 10:31). While it is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God, it is even more fearful to fall out of the hands of the living God!

When the Lord said, "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God," He was speaking about those who were not ready to die. In the preceding verse, He said, "for we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord." In the resurrection, vengeance will be meted out to them who know not God and obey not the gospel of our Lord (2 Thessalonians 1:8). "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward: how shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him?" (Hebrews 2:1-3). How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation? There will be no escape! For that reason it will be a fearful thing for the disobedient to fall into the hands of the living God! "For the son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works" (Matthew 16:27).

But on the other hand, the Bible says, "The wicked is driven away in his wickedness: the righteous hat hope in his death" (Proverbs 14:32). Beloved, while death has its sting and the very thought of it will frighten the hearts of many, the righteous man need not be afraid! He has a different view of death! He can see in death a great victory! He can fearlessly say to death, "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" (1 Corinthians 15:55). Death does have its sting, but the real sting of death is sin. Through Christ we can be made free from sin so that we may say, "but thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!" (1 Corinthians 15:57).

(To Be Continued)

PRESIDE: Francis Fairley Harold Mangrum
ASSIST: Cole Bennett Bob Bergstrom
 Everett Gibson Evan Manning
 Jonathan Rickles Wayne Sanders

A.M. OPENING: Dan Dawson
A.M. CLOSING: Robert Jeter
P.M. OPENING: Marv Sowell
P.M. CLOSING: Edison Ray

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 14, 2018

BIBLE STUDY: 210
 A.M. WORSHIP: 300
 P.M. WORSHIP: 225
 CONTRIBUTION: \$13,227.00

OUR SICK

- Jim Crowe**, pneumonia, ICU, Germantown Methodist.
- Albert McDaniel**, MSOP alumni, staff infection, St. Louis.
- Leon Poor**, stepfather of Annette McAlister, Room 3119, Baptist East.
- Robert R. Taylor Jr.**, Jackson Regional Hospital.
- ILL AT HOME:** Jerry Bouchillon, Sherry Brown, Rebecca Connell, Marylon Green, Gene Kuehn, Cecil and Becky Sowell.

HOMEBOUND

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Bessie Berry | Anita Hopper |
| Ann Castleman | Albert & Ruth House |
| Virginia Ditto | Clarine Justice |
| Hazel Eskew | Jerry & Betty Robbins |
| Tommy & Nell Herndon | Velton & Dorothy Trimm |

OUR SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO :

John Palazola and family in the passing of his wife, Helen. Visitation will be Thursday, January 18 from 12:00-2:00 p.m. with funeral at 2:00 at the Forest Hill building. Interment will follow at Forest Hill East on Whitten Road.

The family of Jill Caughron, niece of Julia Grisham and cousin of Holly Myers.

Elise Roesler, in the passing of her grandmother, Barbara Sala.

REQUESTED PRAYERS: Christine Hart and Sabrena Sowell.

HEARTS AND HANDS

TEAM "E" (JIM WOODY) will meet Saturday, January 20 at 12:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall for a chili and hot dog luncheon. Chili and hot dogs provided. Please see Edwyna for what to bring.

TEAM "F" (STEVE ALLMOND) will meet Saturday, January 27 at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Tony and Diane Callahan for breakfast. Please see Diane for what to bring. Maps will be in the foyer.

TEAM "B" (WARREN DAVENPORT) will meet Saturday, January 27 at 5 p.m. for a fish fry at the home of Warren and Lisa Davenport. Food will be provided.

UPCOMING EVENTS

LADIES AND MEN'S CLASSES meet each Tuesday at 10:00. Men's class will not meet January 23.

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, January 28.

JC ACTIVITY Sunday, January 28 after morning service in the Education Building hosted by Jason and Leah White. Food will be provided.

MONEY MANAGEMENT COURSE begins Tuesday, January 30 at 6p.m. in the Education Building. Please sign up for class/materials at fpu.com/1048923. Additional information will be posted on the main bulletin board.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for VBS, which will be June 4-6.

PRISON BAPTISMS: Please see the bulletin board for a list of our new sisters in Christ. Notes of encouragement may be given to Marlene Latimore or Sharon Echols.

CONGRATULATIONS TO former members, Leonard and Deborah Watson, on the birth of a granddaughter, Katherine Elizabeth. Kenny and Rebecca Taylor are the parents.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR BOX!

Last week's solution:
 What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and yea are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. 1 Cor 6:19-20

CORNERSTONE

Scryptogram: Each letter in the passage is replaced with another.

CFPW, LXF RXBCC BNZHU ZH MXE MBNUPHBACU? LXF RXBCC WLUC ZH MXE XFCE XZCC? XU MXBM LBCTUMX QVPZIXMCE, BHW LFPTUMX PZIXMUFQRHURR, BHW RVUBTUMX MXU MPQMX ZH XZR XUBPM.

N=B Solution next week. V=P

The Preacher's Wife
Judy Bowling
(Dedicated to the memory of Sue Whitaker)

She's a Godly woman, she has such grace
Always a warm greeting, a smile on her face
She's always encouraging, she knows her place
She is - the preacher's wife.

She has to always look just right
Always on time, tho the schedule's tight
From early morning, till late at night
Always - the preacher's wife.

She's such a Lady, everyone's friend
She serves with love from deep within
All of the rifts she tries to mend
Oh she's - the preacher's wife.

She carries your burdens, she prays for you
Sometimes she cries the whole night through
But you won't know when she's feeling blue
Cause she's - the preacher's wife.

At church as she starts to walk up the aisle
So many need her to stop and talk for a while
Though she is tired, she has her own trials
She's patient, she's - the preacher's wife.

Her life, her time is not her own
There's always a need, they go on and on
With a knock on the door or a ringing phone
That's the life of - the preacher's wife.

Her husband she shares with a whole congregation.
She humbly accepts his intense dedication.
In loneliness she kneels to seek consolation
God bless - the preacher's wife.

She will someday reach the end of her race
As she meets her Master, face to face
Surely our God has a special place
In heaven - for the preacher's wife.

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