



THE FOREST HILL NEWS

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Forest Hill

Church of Christ

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Elders:

Danny Braddock Jr.
Anthony D. Callahan
Warren Davenport
Gregory D. Mangrum
Harold D. Mangrum
Keith B. McAlister
Eddie F. Ray III

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.

HOME OF THE
MEMPHIS SCHOOL
OF PREACHING
www.msop.org

Missions Supported:

Far East/World Evangelism
Good News Today
Gospel Broadcasting Network
House to House, Heart to Heart
Kakinada, India
Murmansk, Russia
Panama Mission
Four Seas Bible College
Truth for the World

Free Bible Correspondence Course
Email: fhbiblecourse@gmail.com

2018 Summer Series Forest Hill Church of Christ Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. “Add to Your Faith...” (A Study of the Christian Graces)

June 20	“Add to Your Faith...Virtue”	B.J. Clarke
July 4	“Add to Your Faith...Knowledge”	Tom Wacaster
July 11	“Add to Your Faith...Temperance”	Keith Mosher, Sr
July 18	“Add to Your Faith...Patience”	Dan Cates
July 25	“Add to Your Faith...Godliness”	Bobby Liddell
August 1	“Add to Your Faith...Brotherly Kindness”	T. J. Clarke
August 8	“Add to Your Faith...Charity”	Billy Bland

“And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ’ (2 Peter 1:5-8).

God, The Great Designer

Aubrey Johnson

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1 ESV). From the first verse of the first page of the first book of the Bible, you discover that God is a designer. Creation involves execution. To execute means to carry out a plan. There is a strategy behind everything God does. He does not randomly create. He creates with intention and executes with perfection. “All things work together for good” in a system that fulfills a higher purpose (Romans 8:28).

A designer plans the form and function of something prior to its existence. God is the “great” Designer because He was the first to engage in this activity. He is “great” because of the astonishing breadth and detail of His design. God also deserves this designation because of His divinity. No selfishness, weakness, or oversight can mar His work.

God Designed a World With Order

God’s many designs amaze us and sustain us. God designed a planet with breathtaking beauty, variety, and fertility. He placed the earth precisely where it would enjoy the optimal conditions for human existence. He created daytime lights and night-time lights to warm us and guide us (no batteries needed). He made four seasons to support us and delight us. He made photosynthesis, water cycles, food chains, currents, and jet streams.

Biology declared the existence of a benevolent designer. Consider the three functions of the umbilical cord of an unborn baby. The umbilical cord contains a vein and two arteries, which supply oxygenated blood and nourishment to the baby while removing deoxygenated blood and waste products.

Physiology proves the existence of a purposeful designer. Consider the five senses by which we interface with the world. These faculties provide us with information for interacting with the environment and associates. Data uploaded by the senses evoke instinctive and volitional responses.

God’s design is evident in more than biology, physiology or cosmology. He made marriage so husbands and wives could have companions and coworkers. He designed a boat that would survive the world’s worst storm and save those who found grace in His eyes. He planned a tent that would be functional for worship and foreshadow better things to come. He built a

church that fulfilled the intent of the tabernacle, ark, and marriage.

God Designed a World With Choice

The seeming imperfections of this world do not reflect poorly on the Creator. Instead, they reflect the choices of sinful creatures. If God’s purpose was to create a world without the possibility of sin, then the evidence suggests He failed. If His plan was to create a world with free will, you arrive at a different conclusion. God designed the world for a purpose. He also designed heaven for a purpose. Each has form and function. Do not confuse heaven with earth. God’s purpose was not to create a world where no bad thing could ever happen to anyone under any circumstance. Rather, He created a world with the possibility of love.

The world was designed to reflect the choices made by earth’s inhabitants. Were those choices wise or unwise, loving or unloving? War and peace are about choice. Progress and chaos are about choice. God providentially intervenes in human affairs, but He chose to limit the exercise of His power to allow you the use of your power. Will you yell at your kids or hug their necks today? Will you break your spouse’s heart or put a smile on his or her face? The world and your experience of it are shapable. Do not blame God for your choices or someone else’s choices. (including the devil’s).

God Designed a World With Consequences

Jeremiah wrote, “I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds” (Jeremiah 17:10). God is mindful of each person’s character, choices, and life conditions. “No creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account” (Hebrews 4:13).

Earth is a freewill realm where love is chosen rather than forced. God did not stop Adam from eating forbidden fruit, nor did He stop Cain from murdering Abel. However, God did allow Adam and Cain (and their families) to experience the consequences of their choices. Sooner or later, through natural consequences or divine judgement, He holds everyone accountable.

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PRESIDE: Greg Mangrum
ASSIST: Jack Braddock
 Lewis Elliott
 Lawayne House

Harold Mangrum
 Wade Braddock
 Cason Grider
 C.J. Stafford

A.M. OPENING: Rufus Washington
A.M. CLOSING: Keith Mosher
P.M. OPENING: MSOP
P.M. CLOSING: Graduation

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

RECORD, WEEK of June 10, 2018

BIBLE STUDY: 215
 A.M. WORSHIP: 300
 P.M. WORSHIP: 190
 CONTRIBUTION: \$18,685.00

HOMEBOUND

Bessie Berry	Albert & Ruth House
Virginia Ditto	Betty Jones
Hazel Eskew	Clarine Justice
Tommy & Nell Herndon	Jerry & Betty Robbins
Doris Jean Cole	Velton & Dorothy Trimm
Anita Hopper	

OUR SICK

Wayne Sanders, undergoing tests this week.
Betty Sims, mother of Cindy Dawson, Baptist Rehab, Room 103.
Gordon Wells, MSOP alumnus, recovering from a stroke in Hanover, PA.

OUR SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED to MSOP student, Scott Broughton, in the passing of his father, Ernest Broughton, of Bremer, GA.

HEARTS AND HANDS

TEAM "F" (STEVE ALLMOND) and TEAM "G" (TOM WACASTER) will receive assignment cards June 17.
TEAM "H" (KALON BROWN) will receive assignment cards June 24.

EVENTS

LADIES AND MEN'S COMBINED CLASSES will not meet Tuesday, June 19.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP Remember our youth who will return from their mission trip in Chattanooga, TN Saturday, June 16.

SALT (for ladies) Tuesday, June 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

2018 SUMMER SERIES Wednesdays, June 20-August 8. Theme: *Add to Your Faith... (A Study of the Christian Graces)*. Various speakers. (See page 1 of the bulletin.)

FOUNDATIONS June 23-29.

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, June 24.

PLACING MEMBERSHIP: MacKenzie Tate, granddaughter of T.J. Clarke and niece of B.J. and Tish Clarke.

REMINDER: Forest Hill afternoon service will be at 5:00 p.m. Sunday, June 17 because of MSOP graduation

PLEASE CHECK YOUR BOX!

Last week's solution:
Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb. And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. Exodus 3:1-2

CORNERSTONE
Bible Scramble: Unscramble the letters in each word to discover the passage.
 VNEE SA RMHBAAA VLIEEEDB OGD, NDA TI WSA
 UTONECCCA OT MIH ROF UTSSSRONIHGEE. WONK EY
 TRROHFEEE TTHA YTHE WIHHC REA FO TIHFA, EHT SMEA
 REA EHT RNLIHEDC FO RMHBAAA. NDA EHT UTSRRPIEC,
 SRONIGFEEE TTHA OGD WUOLD YUTSJIF EHT TNHHEEA
 UTROHHG TIHFA, RPHEEDCA ROFEEB EHT SPOLGE UTON
 RMHBAAA, YSNIGA, NI EEHT SLLHA LLA TSONNIA EB
 SSLEEDB. OS TNHE YTHE WIHHC EB FO TIHFA REA SSLEEDB
 WTIH UTLIHFFA RMHBAAA.

(continued from page 2)

Embedded in God's creation is a crowning principle that guides all of life: biological, social, and spiritual. The law of cause and effect was engineered into every cell and soul. Every effect has a preceding cause, and every choice has a real-life consequence. The challenge of life is to choose your actions and attitudes well.

Consequences do not always mirror your choice, but they do reflect someone's choice (Adam's, a friend's, an enemy's). Therefore, suffering occurs among the innocent as well as the guilty, but nothing suffered by the innocent compares with the glory to be revealed. Thankfully, God hears the oppressed and helps the hopeless.

God Designed a World With Hope

But what happens when you choose poorly? Do not despair. Of all God's designs, the scheme of redemption is the most impressive (1 Corinthians 2:9). He chose us before the foundation of the world, and in love "he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will" (Ephesians 1:5). The purpose of the church is to glorify God (3:21). When you design a God-honoring life, your faith and obedience honor Him (v. 20). When you repent of sin, you also magnify him. For good or evil, humans are creators. How could it be otherwise? If God is the great Designer, then those created in His image must be designers on some level. Design involves order, choice, consequence, and hope. May your choice glorify God.

(Gospel Advocate, June 2018)

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