



Forest Hills EFC
5183 Pebble Creek Trail
Loves Park, IL 61111

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October Newsletter

Forest Hills EFC Calendar

October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Lord's Supper White Christmas Overview 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	2 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 7:00 pm CE MTG	3 Pastor Teaches AM 4:30 pm Gingerwood	4 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	5	6 Pastor Teaches AM Pastor's Study Day	7 8:00 am Men Pray
8 Sharlene Ortlund Shares 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship 12:00 Potluck Meal	9 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	10 Pastor Teaches AM 12:00 pm Diaconate Mtg 12:00 pm Missions Mtg 6:30 pm One Body uses kitchen and dining area	11 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	12 11:30 am Elders MTG @ John's Restaurant	13 Pastor Teaches AM Pastor's Study Day	14 8:00 am Men Pray
15 Dorthy Smith Shares 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	16 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	17 Pastor Teaches AM 7:00 pm Council MTG	18 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	19	20 Pastor Teaches AM Pastor's Study Day	21 8:00 am Men Pray
22 Greg Sandberg Preaching 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	23 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	24 Pastor Teaches AM	25 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	26 12:00 pm Goldenagers	27 Pastor Teaches AM Pastor's Study Day	28 8:00 am Men Pray
29 Carpenter's Place Shares 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	30 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	31 Pastor Teaches AM				



**October
2017**

**Forest Hills EFC Messenger
5183 Pebble Creek Trail
Loves Park, IL 61111**

WWW.FHEFC.ORG

Email: office@fhefc.org

Phone: 815-877-1919



If we have missed your birthday or someone else's, please contact the office to inform us.

October 1	Layla Swenson
October 4	Jean Alfredson
October 6	Brandon Leathers
October 13	Kylie Swenson
October 15	Nathan Reynolds
October 16	Dale Anderson
October 25	Randy Newman
October 30	Marilyn Miller
October 31	Scott Lownsdale

HOW can YOU pray for our missionaries?

Our missionaries have many needs beyond our financial support. First and foremost they need our prayers. How can you pray for our missionaries? Here are just a few suggestions.

Language Studies – Pray for perseverance through the sometimes discouraging task of learning a new language.

Safety – For those in unsettled political climates, or those who travel.

Unity – Without which no Christian body can succeed.

Bonding with Co-workers – That God's work can be effective and our missionaries may be comforted.

Good transition – that allows the work to quickly proceed.

Productive and meaningful vacations – for the refreshment of body and spirit.

Personal Spiritual Growth – That they may be brought individually to maturity in Christ.

Effective Evangelism – That their work may bear fruit.

New Visions – To offer encouragement and excitement to the work.

Help in relating to their new Culture – That God would give wisdom and discretion.

Season of Ministry – that God would guide their steps.

Financial Needs – Inflation affects actual support received.

Balancing priorities – That God would guide and provide counsel where needed.

Missionaries need prayer for the same kinds of needs we do in addition to their ministry. **Remember to pray for them!**

Weekly Schedule

Sunday Morning

9 a.m. Sunday School
10 a.m. Fellowship Time
10:25 a.m. Worship Service

Wednesdays

6:30 – 8:00 AWANA
6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study

Saturday

8 a.m. Men's Prayer Group

Contacting Pastor Mitch
Call or Text
(815) 391-3133
Email: mitch@ihgg.net
Blog: IHGG.NET

Bulletin Announcements

Deadline for announcements, please email us or call by 10 a.m. Wednesday

Newsletter

Deadline for the Newsletter, please email it by the 17th of the month.

The Hard Work of Trusting Jesus

As believers in Jesus Christ, we understand the call to trust in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus for our salvation, and we quickly cling to promise of a salvation based on God's grace and not our works. But Jesus clearly gives commands to those who believe in Him. What is more difficult to comprehend and live out is the balance between understanding we do nothing to gain God's love, but true salvation will result in a transformation demonstrating His love's effectiveness in changing our lives.

Consider these words from Jesus:

• John 4:28-39 The Woman at the Well & The Disciples

²⁸ So the woman left her waterpot, and went into the city and said to the men, ²⁹ "Come, see a man who told me all the things that I *have* done; this is not the Christ, is it?" ³⁰ They went out of the city, and were coming to Him. ³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." ³² But He said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." ³³ So the disciples were saying to one another, "No one brought Him *anything* to eat, did he?" ³⁴ Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to accomplish His work." ³⁵ "Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, and *then* comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest. ³⁶ "Already he who reaps is receiving wages and is gathering fruit for life eternal; so that he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. ³⁷ "For in this *case* the saying is true, 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸ "I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored and you have entered into their labor." ³⁹ From that city many of the Samaritans believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all the things that I *have* done."

- Jesus' food is to do the will of His Father who sent Him. It is the same for us as Jesus' followers. He sends us, and our food is to do His will.
- Jesus calls His disciples to "Look Up" from their personal concerns and "Look on the fields" that are ripe for harvest. We are called to the same perspective even after 2000 years.
- Jesus has been working all these centuries, preparing a harvest He is growing. He gives us the wonderful privilege of brining in His harvest by sharing His Gospel.

• John 15:5-14 Jesus is the Vine, We are the Branches

⁵ "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. ⁶ "If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned. ⁷ "If you abide in

Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ "My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and *so* prove to be My disciples. ⁹ "Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. ¹⁰ "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. ¹¹ "These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and *that* your joy may be made full. ¹² "This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. ¹³ "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴ "You are My friends if you do what I command you.

- Jesus commands us to abide in Him. He compels us to have a relationship of dependence just like the branches and the vine.
- Jesus promises those who truly abide in Him will bear much fruit (a spiritual harvest). He warns us that no fruit can grow without this abiding.
- Jesus promises the prayers of those who abide in Him will be effective and fruitful.
- Jesus commands us a second time to abide in His love. He ties obedience to His commands to our love for Him – They are inseparable!
- Jesus promises the fullness of Joy to those who abide in Him.
- Jesus particularly emphasizes His command for us to love one another, and He gives the ultimate measure of love, to lay our lives down for our friends.
- Jesus doubles down by emphasizing we are His friends if we obey His commands.

• Matthew 6:14-15 Jesus Commands Us to Forgive

¹⁴ "For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ "But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.

- Jesus directly ties our forgiveness to our willingness to forgive those who sin against us. To refuse to forgive will result in our not being forgiven. He knows this is a very hard thing, because we have been very hurt by others, but His question is implied, "Who out there needs to forgive you for hurting them?"

Consider how each of these commands is connected to the Gospel and our relationship with Jesus.

In His Grip & Grace
Pastor Mitch