



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

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ROCKFORD, IL
PERMIT NO. 52

February Newsletter

Forest Hills Evangelical Free Church

February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Pastor Teaches AM Pastor's Study Day 7:00 pm Sarah T Uses Church	3 8:00 am Men Pray
4 Lord's Supper 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	5 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 7:00 pm CE MTG	6 Pastor Teaches AM	7 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	8	9 Pastor Teaches AM Pastor's Study Day	10 CC Science Fair -- Whole Building 8:30am to 3pm 8:00 am Men Pray 8:00 am Men's Breakfast
11 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	12 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 5:00 pm Valentine's Dinner @ Machine Shed	13 Pastor Teaches AM 12:00 pm Diaconate Mtg 12:00 pm Missions Mtg	14 Valentine's Day 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	15	16 Pastor Teaches AM Pastor's Study Day	17 8:00 am Men Pray
18 One Body Collaborative - Missions Moment 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	19 Pastor's Day Off Presidents' Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	20 Pastor Teaches AM 7:00 pm <u>NO</u> Council MTG	21 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	22 12:00 pm Goldenagers	23 Pastor Teaches AM Pastor's Study Day	24 8:00 am Men Pray
25 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	26 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	27 Pastor Teaches AM	28 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study			



February 2018

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

WWW.FHEFC.ORG

Email: office@fhefc.org

Phone: 815-877-1919



Birthdays This Month

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

- Feb 11 Phyllis Moore
- Feb 15 Pat Neubauer
Tim Anderson
- Feb 19 Todd Meyerdirk
- Feb 20 Wayne Hussong
- Feb 23 Paul Jacobsen
- Feb 24 Cindy Neubauer

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

A Note From Florence Sandberg

Our Christmas is past, and it's time to say "Thank You" to my wonderful friends. It's been different this year in a different place for me here at Fairhaven. Thank you for all your prayers and cards and gifts. So many useful and wonderful things. God is so good to fill up the gaps and He's done that with you dear friends this Christmas.

God Bless You All Day By Day
- Florence Sandberg



BOAT RIDE - JUNE 2ND

Join us on June 2nd at 1:00 for a relaxing boat tour of beautiful Lake Geneva. Sign up early as there are a limited number of tickets. Reservations need to be paid for within one week of signing up. Tickets are a special group price of only \$28.00 each and payment can be made to Jean or Dave Alfredson.

Interested in Being Baptized?

We have had two people express an interest in being baptized, and we are looking at late March or early April. If you are interested in being baptized, talk to Pastor Mitch

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.



Valentine's Dinner

Come enjoy a Valentine's dinner at the Machine Shed Monday February 12th. Sign-up sheet in middle foyer



Men's Breakfast

Saturday February 10th 8 a.m.

Come enjoy breakfast, fellowship and a devotional with the other men of the church. Sign-up sheet in middle foyer.

QUILTS FOR THE HOMELESS

In the fall we will be making quilts to be given to the homeless of Rockford. We are beginning to prepare the quilts and can use your donations anytime between now and September. We can use any sheets in like new condition or used blankets - twin, double, queen or king, plus fabric suitable for quilting. Thread is also needed. Donations can be placed in the Carpenter's Place basket under the table in the hallway.

Contacting Pastor Mitch

Call or Text
(815) 391-3133

Email: mitch@ihgg.net

Blog: IHGG.NET

Thinking Praying and Living The Beatitudes – Part 1

We recently began a preaching series in the Gospel of Matthew, and we currently are working our way through the Beatitudes, which are at the beginning of The Sermon on the Mount. The challenge for all of us is the application of Jesus' words to our everyday life. It struck me in a few conversations along the way the disconnect people have between what Jesus said in the Bible and the wisdom we live by in our daily lives. One author has suggested we claim to be believers in Jesus Christ but actually live our daily lives just like everyone else who does not believe.

My hope for all of us is we would not live lives with multiple personalities – being one person on Sunday and someone totally different during our day to day lives. One way to do this is to become more intentionally about living out Jesus' teaching each and every day. A good starting place is to Think, Pray and Live out the Beatitudes. These are found in Matthew 5:3-11.

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Blessed = Happy. How do you feel when God has blessed you? Someone recently shared another good synonym Blessed=Flourishing.

Poor in spirit = Humble. Humility is a truthful and accurate picture of ourselves or seeing ourselves through God's eyes. It is no accident Jesus begins with this attribute/attitude for every believer. Without an accurate view of ourselves, there is no way we will see how deep our need for the Savior is. A truthful and accurate assessment for each of our lives necessarily leads to a confession of how corrupt and messed up our lives are. This is the starting point because the greatest threat to each of us is our pride.

Our pride makes excuses, justifies and rationalizes our sinful behavior, but humility is a gift from God letting us see ourselves objectively. Humility hurts because it puts to death our pride, but humility helps because it leads us to the path of truth and health. It is very important to understand humility in itself is not the answer, but it is one of the necessary guides in life, if we want to find true happiness.

Each Beatitude comes with a promise. As we embrace the pain of humility, the humble are promised an eternal reward, which is to enter and live in the Kingdom of Heaven. Humility is not a reward by itself, and it is not the

only step leading to eternal life in heaven. But, those who humble themselves before God, have taken the necessary first step leading to eternal life.

⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

Mourn = Grieve = Sorrow = Weep. Following the progression of Jesus' teaching, He ties the next step of happiness to mourning. On the face of it, these are opposites. How can those who grieve be happy or blessed? In our "common sense", these two are as far apart as possible. But Jesus is driving at a totally different measure of happiness. The truly humble person will realize how their sinful behavior affects not only themselves but those around them as well.

When was the last time you really thought about the consequences of your sins? What happens to our relationships with one another, when we lie, gossip, argue, steal, act selfishly, act arrogantly or presumptuously? Each of these and hundreds of other sins we commit hurt ourselves and those around us. When multiplied and combined, the effects are compounded. None of us by nature willingly admit our failure. Instead, we make excuses and justify our actions. The unfortunate result is we cause ourselves grief, but we pridefully resist the right response of humble confession. This is not the mourning Jesus is talking about.

The grief Jesus is talking about is the humble acknowledgement before God that we have caused great pain and suffering in others, ourselves and God Himself. Do not forget how high the price of our redemption is; the death of Jesus. Without the combination of humility and mourning over sin, we cannot truly come to Jesus for forgiveness and eternal life.

The "Good News" of the Gospel comes from Jesus' promise, those who mourn will be comforted. Maybe it is too obvious, but the blessing is not in the mourning itself. The blessing is found in the promise of comfort Jesus will bring. The Gospel is more than Jesus died for sinners. The Good News is Jesus rose from the dead on the third day. His promise is all who humble themselves and grieve over their sins will be comforted by the hope of forgiven sins and the healing of the resurrection.

In His Grip & Grace
Pastor Mitch