

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

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March Newsletter

Forest Hills Evangelical Free Church

March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Pastor Teaches AM Pastor's Study Day	3 8:00 am Men Pray 1:00 pm Lori Scandrol uses Fellowship Hall
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 8:00 am Men Pray
11 Daylight Saving Time starts 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	12 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	13 Pastor Teaches AM 12:00 pm Diaconate Mtg 12:00 pm Missions Mtg	14 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 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	19 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	20 Pastor Teaches AM 7:00 pm Council MTG	21 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	22	23 Pastor Teaches AM Pastor's Study Day	24 8:00 am Men Pray
25 Dave & Angie Ziel 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	29 12:00 pm Goldenagers	30 Pastor Teaches AM Pastor's Study Day	31 8:00 am Men Pray



**March
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.

- Mar 1 Wendy Boehme
Larissa Lownsdale
- Mar 3 Jon Leinbaugh
Lavon Rowell
- Mar 9 Betty Bouma
- Mar 13 Sandra Hanson
Arletta Locascio
- Mar 16 Debbie Gangel
- Mar 18 Peggy Clow
- Mar 19 Becky Stubbs
- Mar 24 Kira Sayler
- Mar 26 Marie Lane
- Mar 29 David Tregay
- Mar 30 Emily Meyerdirk
Charles Vertin



BOAT TOUR - 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

CARD MAKING

Saturday, March 24th at 1:00 pm. These cards will be to take home. See Jean A. with questions.

Bulletin Announcements

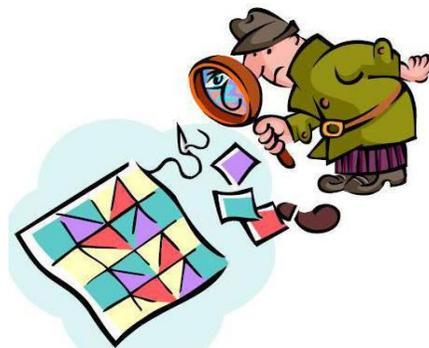
Deadline for announcements, please email us or call by 10 a.m. Wednesday

Newsletter

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

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.



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

Thinking Praying and Living The Beatitudes – Part 2

As we continue to look at the Beatitudes, which begin the Sermon on the Mount, the challenge for all of us is the application of Jesus' words to our everyday life. A good starting place is to Think, Pray and Live out the Beatitudes. These are found in Matthew 5:3-11.

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

We already considered the first two:

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

Happy are those who humble themselves before God, because He will give them His Kingdom.

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

Happy are those who are contrite and truly grieve over sin, because Jesus shall comfort them in His heavenly rest.

Now we consider the next two:

5 "Blessed are the gentle (Meek), for they shall inherit the earth."

The challenge is our Western Culture looks down on those who are gentle or meek. They are seen as being weak, but in fact meekness requires great strength. We misunderstand when we think God gives a command and simply demands we obey. Instead, God gives a command and gives the grace to obey His command.

Meekness is submitting ourselves to God's sovereignty. The assumption is only the weak submit, but the opposite is true. It takes great strength to restrain one's own will and desire and put them in submission to God's will.

There are many times where we must choose between our "rights" – the right to be proven correct, the right to do something etc. – and giving preference to others. God often calls us to give up our rights in order to minister to others. This submission to God's plans over our rights is meekness.

Jesus makes a promise to those who are meek. They shall inherit the earth. You may say, "The earth is kind of a fixer-

upper. Why would I want that?" The promise is not for this version of the earth, but the one which He will recreate in perfect form and function. All that has been sacrificed in submission to God will be replaced with a much better and longer lasting reward. Those who submit themselves to God now are promised a much better reward in eternity.

6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."

If you named one thing that "you have to have," what would it be? Do you desire or crave something? Do you have a favorite meal?

Jesus calls us to hunger and thirst for Righteousness with the same craving or hunger. The Righteousness Jesus is talking about is God Himself and the life that is pleasing to Him. My working definition for Righteousness is "Doing the Right thing, at the Right time with the Right motive."

The Righteousness Jesus wants us to crave is embodied in these very beatitudes we are considering here in Matthew 5. Humility, contriteness, meekness, mercy, purity, peacemaking and endurance. These attributes, attitudes and actions are always pleasing to God.

The challenge of this craving is how often it is looked down on by our culture and does not come naturally to our human nature. Just like with meekness, our rights and desires wage war with the desires Jesus is commending to us. This is why meekness and a hunger and thirst for righteousness are necessary companions.

Jesus' promise to those who will have this craving awakened in them is a lasting deep satisfaction. Ask yourself: "Why do I crave the things I do?" Is it not the belief they will satisfy you? Jesus is promising a real satisfaction that lasts, because it is based in a desire for the One who is eternal and can provide a lasting, eternal satisfaction. The challenge is we must learn to trust His promises by faith.

Do you believe Jesus speaks the truth? Will you live by faith, believing He loves you and truly wants you to be happy?

In His Grip & Grace
Pastor Mitch