



**May
2018**

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

WWW.FHEFC.ORG

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Birthdays This Month

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

- May 1 Joni Lownsdale
- May 3 Mitch Saylor
- May 5 Danny Lopez
- May 9 Linnea Saylor
- May 11 Vera Bochert
- Fred Gangel
- May 14 Tony Thode
- May 19 Rick Dray
- May 21 Kody Leathers
- May 26 Nicci Leathers
- May 28 Jack Allman



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.

ANNUAL MEETING on May 20th at 4 pm. Members please plan to attend.



MEN'S BREAKFAST - Saturday, May 12 at 8 am. Tony Nelson will do the devotional. Please sign up on the center foyer table.



WOMEN'S SPRING LUNCHEON - Saturday, May 12 at noon. Please sign up on the center foyer table.

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 4

We have already considered the first six Beatitudes. This month we consider the final three. Jesus continues to challenge us to apply these words to our lives and find true lasting happiness for this life and the life to come. Let us Think, Pray and Live out the Beatitudes found in Matthew 5.

Blessed = Happy.

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

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

5 "Blessed are the gentle (Meek), for they shall inherit the earth." – Submission to God's Will

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

7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy." – Those who have received mercy, will show mercy to others

8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." – Purity of heart, but more so purity of motives

9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."

This Beatitude has much the same idea as "Blessed are the Merciful." Just as we show mercy because we have already received mercy, now Jesus teaches us to extend the peace God gives us to others. We have peace with God because Jesus was sent to make a way for us to be reconciled to Him. The peace we receive from God is given for our sake and the sake of all with whom we seek to make peace.

This is the argument Paul makes in 2 Corinthians 5. Jesus died and rose again to make us new creatures, and as His new creations, He has made us His ambassadors to a dying world. As His personal representatives, we are charged with taking the Gospel to a world at odds with its Creator. The message we are to proclaim is, "He made Him who knew no sin, to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." 2 Corinthians 5:21

The reward for peacemakers is the privilege already extended to them by Jesus Christ. The very act of recreating us is what makes us "the sons of God." God sends us not just as His personal ambassadors, He sends us as His own children to proclaim the peace Jesus brings. He simply asks us to foster the peace He has already extended to us.

10 "Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Even though we have been sent as peacemakers, peace will not always result. The pride and arrogance of man will resist the call to embrace the Beatitudes. The resistance of the human heart is more than an intellectual exercise. Too often action is required to validate our feelings. This is why Jesus warns us how people will persecute His followers.

The surprise is Jesus is telling us to be happy when we are persecuted for seeking righteousness. Not being self-righteous, but truly seeking the righteousness of God. Jesus promises His Kingdom belongs to such as these, not because we are righteous, but because we exhibit the qualities of righteousness found in the Beatitudes; all of which are the works of Christ in our hearts.

11 "Blessed are you when *men* cast insults at you, and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely, on account of Me."

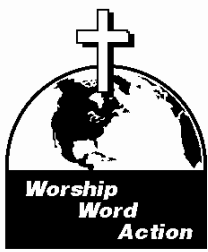
Jesus continues His blessing of those who truly follow Him and exhibit the qualities of the Beatitudes. This blessing carries with it the reality of how others will respond. He warns others will insult us, persecute us, falsely saying all kinds of evil things about us. The key is the reason they will do these things, "on account of Me." There is no reward or happiness for being obnoxious or acting in anger, but for those who exhibit the Beatitudes in their ministry to others, they should be happy and feel blessed even when others respond negatively. To be treated in the same way as Jesus is a high privilege. In the end, the honor, privilege and happiness is found in being in the good company of Jesus Christ and seeking to be like Him, even in His suffering.

In His Grip & Grace
Pastor Mitch

Forest Hills EFC Calendar

May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Pastor Teaches AM	2 6:30 pm Bible Study	3	4 Pastor's Study Day	5 8:00 am Men Pray 12pm Ladies Spring Luncheon
6 Lord's Supper 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	7 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 7:00 pm CE MTG	8 Pastor Teaches AM 12:00 pm Diaconate Mtg 12:00 pm Missions Mtg	9 6:30 pm Bible Study	10	11 Pastor's Study Day	12 8:00 am Men Pray 8:00 am Men's Breakfast
13 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	14 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	15 7:00 pm Council MTG	16 6:30 pm Bible Study	17	18 Pastor's Study Day	19 8:00 am Men Pray
20 Annual Meeting Timber-lee - Luke Gladis & Cairn Guys Missions Moment 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship 4pm Annual Meeting	21 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	22	23 6:30 pm Bible Study	24	25 Pastor's Study Day Brandon & Renee Rehersal	26 Brandon Cranshaw & Renee Ritter Wedding 2pm 8:00 am Men Pray
27 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	28 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	29	30 6:30 pm Bible Study	31 12:00 pm Goldenagers		



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May Newsletter