



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

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# September Newsletter

# Forest Hills Evangelical Free Church

# September 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 8:00 am Men Pray
<b>2</b> <b>Lord's Supper</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	<b>3</b> <b>Pastor's Study Day</b> <b>Labor Day</b> 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 11 am CC Study Group 3:00 pm Lego League uses Fellowship Hall 7:00 pm CE MTG	<b>4</b> <b>Carpenter's Place Ministry</b> <b>Pastor Teaches AM</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <b>Pastor's Day Off</b>	<b>7</b> <b>Pastor Teaches AM</b>	<b>8</b> <b>Men's Breakfast</b> 8:00 am Men Breakfast
<b>9</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	<b>10</b> <b>Pastor's Study Day</b> 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 11 am CC Study Group 3:00 pm Lego League uses Fellowship Hall	<b>11</b> <b>Pastor Teaches AM</b> 12:00 pm Diaconate Mtg 12:00 pm Missions Mtg	<b>12</b> <b>AWANA 1st Night</b> 6:30 pm AWANA Begins 6:30 pm Bible Study	<b>13</b> <b>Pastor's Day Off</b>	<b>14</b> <b>Pastor Teaches AM</b>	<b>15</b> 8:00 am Men Pray
<b>16</b> <b>AWANA Missionaries Krupps</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	<b>17</b> <b>Pastor's Study Day</b> 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 11 am CC Study Group 3:00 pm Lego League uses Fellowship Hall	<b>18</b> <b>Pastor Teaches AM</b> 7:00 pm Council MTG	<b>19</b> 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	<b>20</b> <b>Pastor's Day Off</b>	<b>21</b> <b>Pastor Teaches AM</b>	<b>22</b> 8:00 am Men Pray
<b>23</b> <b>Todd &amp; Beth Meyerdirk Sunday School &amp; Preaching</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	<b>24</b> <b>Pastor's Study Day</b> 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 11 am CC Study Group 3:00 pm Lego League uses Fellowship Hall	<b>25</b> <b>Pastor Teaches AM</b>	<b>26</b> 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	<b>27</b> <b>Pastor's Day Off</b> 12:00 pm Goldenagers	<b>28</b> <b>Pastor Teaches AM</b>	<b>29</b> 8:00 am Men Pray 9:00 am Church Cleanup
<b>30</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship						



**September  
2018**

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

**WWW.FHEFC.ORG**

**Email: office@fhefc.org**

**Office: 815-877-1919 Pastor: 815-391-3133**



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

- September 4 Florence Sandberg
- September 8 David Beard  
Cyndi Zills
- September 15 Kim Rice
- September 17 Grace Smith
- September 22 Velma Clark
- September 26 Sarah Thode
- September 28 Caroline Swanson



### **AWANA & Bible Study BEGINS**

**September 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Ages 3 years thru Junior High**

**6:30 pm to 8 pm**

We know life is very busy these days, but we hope you will make the Fun, Bible Memory and Study of God's Word to be a priority for your family this School year.

### **Men's Breakfast 8 a.m. September 8<sup>th</sup>**



Men come enjoy breakfast together and a devotional with Greg Sandberg

#### **Bulletin Announcements**

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

#### **Newsletter**

Deadline for the Newsletter, please email by 17<sup>th</sup> of the month.

### **QUILTS FOR THE HOMELESS**



In the fall we will be making quilts to be given to the homeless of Rockford. We can use your donations anytime between now and September. We can use any sheets in like new condition or used blankets - any size, 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**

**Starting September 5<sup>th</sup>**

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

#### **Saturday**

- 8 a.m. Men's Prayer Group

## The Marks of the Early Church: Prayer

*They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Acts 2:42*

We have been considering the characteristics of the Early Church. It is important to note the need for each of these characteristics to exist in proper balance with the others. To be strong in one area and weak in another means the body is weak. The goal is to have all of these characteristics existing in harmony and mutual encouragement. Only when the church has these things in balance will the church be healthy. This month we are looking at prayer.

Strong teaching and fellowship are useless without prayer. Teaching is God's revelation to us, and fellowship is our encouragement of one another. Prayer is our expression of dependence on God. Truly, prayer is a gift from God to us, for in it God allows us to join in what He is doing. Prayer cultivates our hearts for God's work.

Jesus taught prayer is a private pursuit:

"But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you." Matthew 6:6

There ought to be regular times where we give ourselves to private prayer and communion with God. In combination with our study of the Scriptures, this discipline allows our hearts to be drawn closer to God, and it reminds us of our need for Him. As with any relationship, we ought to have a desire to spend time with our Heavenly Father. In addition to scheduled times of prayer, we should seek to follow Paul's admonition to "Pray without ceasing (1 Thess. 5:17)." Do you live in a moment by moment relationship with both your Heavenly Father and your Savior? I would encourage you to have a day-long conversation with your friend who is closer than a brother.

Jesus also practiced public prayer to God's glory:

"Then Jesus raised His eyes, and said, 'Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. I knew that You always hear Me; but because of the people standing around I said it, so that they may believe that You sent Me.' When He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come forth.'" John 11:41-43

One of the other gifts of prayer is the way it unites our hearts when we pray together. Just as private prayer draws us closer to our Heavenly Father, so public prayer draws us closer together as a group, as the group draws closer to the Lord. The goal is to engage in each of these gifts (The Word, Fellowship, Breaking of Bread & Prayer) as they strengthen both individuals and the group in following the Lord.

In time of greatest need, the Early Church prayed & God answered:

"So Peter was kept in the prison, but prayer for him was being made fervently by the church to God." Acts 12:5

Most of all we are called to boldly approach God and pray, so we may encounter His grace and help:

"Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Hebrews 4:16

It was a mark of the Early Church, and it should continue to be a mark of today's church. I encourage you to look deeper into the Scriptures on prayer. It is truly God's gift to us.

Keep Praying!

In His Grip & Grace  
Pastor Mitch