



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

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November Newsletter

Forest Hills Evangelical Free Church

November 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Pastor's Day Off	2 Pastor Teaches AM	3 Men's Breakfast 8:00 am Men Pray
4 Lord's Supper Daylight Saving Time ends 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	5 Pastor's Day Off 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 1:30 pm Art Class - Dining Area 3:00 pm Lego League uses Fellowship Hall 7:00 pm CE MTG	6 Pastor Teaches AM	7 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	8 12:00 pm Goldenagers	9 Pastor Teaches AM	10 8:00 am Men Pray
11 Carpenter's Place Missions moment Veterans Day 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	12 Pastor's Study Day Veterans Day observed 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 1:30 pm Art Class - Dining Area 3:00 pm Lego League uses Fellowship Hall	13 Pastor Teaches AM 12:00 pm Diaconate Mtg 12:00 pm Missions Mtg	14 Thanksgiving Meal 6 pm Thanksgiving Dinner	15 Pastor's Day Off 7:00 pm Council MTG	16 Pastor Teaches AM	17 8:00 am Men Pray 12:00 pm Open House for Sharyn Swensen's Birthday
18 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	19 Pastor's Study Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 1:30 pm Art Class - Dining Area 3:00 pm Lego League uses Fellowship Hall	20	21	22 Pastor's Day Off Thanksgiving Day	23	24 8:00 am Men Pray
25 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	26 Pastor's Study Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 3:00 pm Lego League uses Fellowship Hall	27 Pastor Teaches AM	28 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	29 Pastor's Day Off	30 Pastor Teaches AM	



**November
2018**

**Forest Hills EFC Messenger
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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.

- November 2 Michael Thode
- November 9 Connie Tregay
- November 10 Emily Vertin
- November 12 Rene Robeniol
- November 13 Sharyn Swenson
- November 16 Vonna Ketcham
- November 19 Ben Clow
- November 20 Jim Reynolds
Andrew Thode
- November 21 Gary Rice
- November 24 RaeAnn Feehan
- November 27 Frank Hood
- November 29 Melissa Clow
- November 30 Beth Meyerdirk

November 17

There will be a 75th Birthday Open House for Sharyn Swenson from noon to 4 pm in FHEFC Fellowship Hall. Please call Nicci (779-513-0725) or Judy (815-997-3536) with questions.

NOVEMBER 14, 2018 CHURCH AND AWANA THANKSGIVING DINNER



Our church and AWANA families are all invited to the Thanksgiving dinner on November 14 at 6 pm. The meat and beverages will be provided. Please bring a salad or dessert to share.

Quilts for the Homeless

We are continuing to make quilts that will be given to the homeless of Rockford. We can still 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 and all donations are greatly appreciated.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday November 3rd
Breakfast served at 8 a.m.
Devotional & Prayer

INFORMATION DEADLINES

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

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

Evangelical Decay & A Call to Remember

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who gave Himself for our sins so that He might rescue us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, 5 to whom be the glory forevermore. Amen. 6 I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; 7 which is really not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. Galatians 1:3-7

I read an article today about Evangelical Christian beliefs in America. These statistics can be found at thestateoftheology.com – the study was commissioned by Ligonier Ministries. Three statistics in particular are very troubling:

1. **“Everyone sins a little, but most people are good by nature.”** 53% of Evangelicals agreed with this statement.

This is troubling because it exposes how weak the Church has become on our fundamental need for a Savior. Those who believe human beings are basically good are living in a state of denial about how bad each of us really is. At its heart is a denial of what the Bible clearly teaches on this subject:

"What then? Are we better than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin; 10 as it is written, "THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE; 11 THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS, THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD; 12 ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS; THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD, THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE." 13 "THEIR THROAT IS AN OPEN GRAVE, WITH THEIR TONGUES THEY KEEP DECEIVING," "THE POISON OF ASPS IS UNDER THEIR LIPS"; 14 "WHOSE MOUTH IS FULL OF CURSING AND BITTERNESS"; 15 "THEIR FEET ARE SWIFT TO SHED BLOOD, 16 DESTRUCTION AND MISERY ARE IN THEIR PATHS, 17 AND THE PATH OF PEACE THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN." 18 "THERE IS NO FEAR OF GOD BEFORE THEIR EYES." " Romans 3:9-18

2. **“Jesus is the first and greatest being created by God.”** 78% of evangelicals agreed with this statement.

This statement and the number Evangelicals who agree with it demonstrate a fundamental misunderstanding of who our Savior is. To believe Jesus was created and not existing eternally with the Father is the heresy of Arianism, which was condemned by the Council of Nicea in A.D. 325. The great theologian Athanasius of Alexandria spent his entire ministry battling this heresy because it was so widely held. It is both sad and ironic this view is making a comeback in our day.

If Jesus is not 100% God and 100% man, then all we believe about His death and resurrection in our place is meaningless. It is also a denial of what Jesus said about Himself and The Father:

" "I and the Father are one." " John 10:30

" Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." 9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, 'Show us the Father '?" John 14:8-9

3. **“Even the smallest sin deserves eternal damnation.”** 69% of the survey participants disagreed with this statement.

This statistic is the one which helps me understand the decline of the Church today. It is becoming clear people do not believe they need a Savior, because they do not need to be saved. The loss shown in our first statistic leads to the delusion of this one. “Good People” do not need a savior, and if there are no eternal consequences to even the small sins, then most of us do not need to be saved. Sure there are the really evil people, but almost every person you encounter today would say, “I am not that bad of a person,” wouldn’t they? The next logical leap is to say, “Surely God would never condemn a good person to Hell, would He?”

This thinking within the Church diminishes the need for Jesus, because there are so few “bad” or “evil” people. But again we see how this directly defies what the Scriptures teach:

"If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," you are doing well. 9 But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. 10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all. 11 For He who said, "DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY," also said, "DO NOT COMMIT MURDER." Now if you do not commit adultery, but do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law." James 2:8-11

Let us remember what the Bible teaches, so we will remember why Jesus is calling us to share the Gospel with all who will listen.

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

In His Grip & Grace
Pastor Mitch