



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

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January Newsletter

Forest Hills Evangelical Free Church

January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 New Year's Day	2 AWANA Break	3 Pastor's Day Off	4	5 8:00 am Men Pray
6 Lord's Supper 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	7 Pastor's Study Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 1:30 pm Art Class - 7:00 pm CE MTG	8 Pastor Teaches AM 12:00 pm Diaconate Mtg 12:00 pm Missions Mtg	9 AWANA RESUMES 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	10 Pastor's Day Off	11 Pastor Teaches AM	12 8:00 am Men Pray
13 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	14 Pastor's Study Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 1:30 pm Art Class -	15 Pastor Teaches AM	16 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	17 Pastor's Day Off 7:00 pm Council MTG	18 Pastor Teaches AM	19 8:00 am Men Pray
20 Pregnancy Care Center 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	21 Pastor's Study Day Martin Luther King Jr. Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 1:30 pm Art Class -	22 Pastor Teaches AM	23 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	24 Pastor's Day Off	25 Pastor Teaches AM	26 8:00 am Men Pray
27 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	28 Pastor's Study Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 1:30 pm Art Class -	29 Pastor Teaches AM	30 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	31 Pastor's Day Off 12:00 pm Goldenagers		



January
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Forest Hills EFC Messenger
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WWW.FHEFC.ORG Email: office@fhefc.org
Office: 815-877-1919 Pastor: 815-391-3133



Birthdays This Month

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

- January 2 Salli Jacobsen
- January 3 Bonnie Hart
- January 4 Pat Nelson
- Jack Simpson
- January 6 Bela Leathers
- Courtney Reynolds
- January 15 Judy Dray
- January 16 Frank Locascio
- January 20 Martha Hussong
- Kayla Robeniol
- January 21 Pat Simpson
- January 22 Tony Nelson
- January 31 Eric Neubauer

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



2019

January is Sanctity of Human Life Month

"If we believe in the sanctity of human life, it must be really a sanctity; we must make sacrifices for it, as the old creeds made for their sanctities."

G.K. Chesterton

LADIES BRAINSTORMING & Planning

There will be a ladies brainstorming session to plan out the New Year on Saturday, January 5 at 10 am. See Judy Dray with questions.

2019 Phone Directory

We hope to have the new phone directory available by Sunday, January 6 or latest Sunday, January 13.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

2019 Offering Envelopes are now available in the church office. See Wendy Boehme.

Was Your Past Year & Will Your New Year Be A Success?

The end of one year and the beginning of a new year are good cause for evaluation and consideration. I am not a fan of New Year Resolutions, but that does not eliminate the need to evaluate our lives from time to time. What matters most are the standards used to make those evaluations.

Let me suggest the kinds of questions to use in both looking back and looking forward in this season. Each of these questions is tied to a scripture, with the hope of laying a God honoring foundation for our measure of significance and success.

A word of encouragement and a word of caution.

Growth as a Christian is not measured by quantity but quality. Do not use these questions as a numerical count of how many ways you can answer "yes". My hope is you are able to name at least one way you have grown in regard to each question. If not, it would suggest some serious prayer about how you need to grow in that area. Even if you can name a number of ways you have grown, do not assume there is no room for growth.

Do not underestimate the value of the little details. "Big" or "Little" are also not necessarily the best measures of quality. The vast majority of ways we grow in Christ are "little", but keep in mind, the "little" details matter to the Lord as much as the "Big" ones. I hope there are many ways you have trusted the Lord and ministered to people in both "Big" and "Little" ways.

- **How have I grown in my relationship with the Lord this year?**

"And He said to him, " 'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' ³⁸ "This is the great and foremost commandment." Matthew 22:37-38

- **Are there ways in which I truly leaned on the Lord and trusted Him?**

"Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me. ⁹ And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰ Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong." 2 Corinthians 12:8-10

- **How have I grown in my relationships with other people this year?**

"The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' ⁴⁰ "On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets." Matthew 22:39-40

- **Who have I had the joy of ministering to this year? Who was a challenge to minister to this year?**

"Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; ¹¹ not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; ¹² rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, ¹³ contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality." Romans 12:10-13

- **Who have I forgiven this past year? Who have I asked for forgiveness this past year?**

"For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ "But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions." Matthew 6:14-15

- **Who have I invested in and helped grow in their relationship with the Lord?**

"Therefore, strengthen the hands that are weak and the knees that are feeble, ¹³ and make straight paths for your feet, so that *the limb* which is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed. ¹⁴ Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord." Hebrews 12:12-14

Now, ask the Lord to help you grow in each of these areas in the New Year

This is by no means a comprehensive list, but it is a good place to start. Do not forget, there is mercy and forgiveness for all the ways we fall short of His perfect standards. I would encourage you to pray and ask the Lord to help you faithfully experience real growth and joy in each of these areas during the New Year. This is not taking a vow to do them, but it is a recognition and request for the Lord to help each of us be more intentional in our relationship with Him and the people He puts in our path this coming year.

In His Grip & Grace
Pastor Mitch