



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

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February Newsletter

Forest Hills Evangelical Free Church

February 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Pastor Teaches AM	2 8:00 am Men Pray
3 Lord's Supper 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	4 Pastor's Study Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 1:30 pm Art Class - 7:00 pm CE MTG	5 Pastor Teaches AM	6 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	7 Pastor's Day Off	8 Pastor Teaches AM	9 8:00 am Men's Breakfast
10 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	11 Pastor's Study Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 1:30 pm Art Class - 5:30 pm Machine Shed All Church Dinner	12 Pastor Teaches AM 12:00 pm Diaconate Mtg 12:00 pm Missions Mtg	13 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	14 Pastor's Day Off Valentine's Day	15 Pastor Teaches AM	16 8:00 am Men Pray
17 One Body Collabrative 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	18 Pastor's Study Day Presidents' Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 1:30 pm Art Class -	19 Pastor Teaches AM	20 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	21 Pastor's Day Off 7:00 pm Council MTG	22 Pastor Teaches AM	23 8:00 am Men Pray
24 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	25 Pastor's Study Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 1:30 pm Art Class -	26 Pastor Teaches AM	27 6:30 pm AWANA 6:30 pm Bible Study	28 Pastor's Day Off 12:00 pm Goldenagers		



**February
2019**

**Forest Hills EFC Messenger
5183 Pebble Creek Trail
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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.

- February 11 Phyllis Moore
- February 15 Pat Neubauer
Tim Anderson
- February 19 Todd Meyerdirk
- February 20 Wayne Hussong
- February 23 Paul Jacobsen
- February 24 Cindy Neubauer

2019 Phone Directory

The new phone directories are available on the Center Foyer Table.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

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

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

February is American Heart Month

"You change your life by changing your heart." - Max Lucado

"Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it." - Proverbs 4:23

& National Cancer Prevention Month

"Feed your faith and your fears will starve to death." - Anonymous

"Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference." - Winston Churchill



**Valentine's Dinner at The Machine Shed
February 11 at 5:30**

This is for the Forest Hills Family - whether you come with someone or alone, we would love to share a meal with you to celebrate Valentine's Day. Cost depends on what you order from the menu. Sign-up sheet on Center Foyer Table.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

All men - Come enjoy breakfast and fellowship together on Saturday, February 9 at 8 am.

Sign-up sheet on the Center Foyer Table.

Be Careful What You Say

Do you remember the song, O Be Careful little ears what you hear?

Each verse starts...

O be careful little ears what you hear...
O be careful little hands what you do...
O be careful little feet where you go...

And the last verse...

O be careful little mouth what you say
O be careful little mouth what you say
There's a Father up above
And He's looking down in love
So, be careful little mouth what you say

I have been reflecting on the growing number of incidents where a rush to judgment has later become the source of great embarrassment for almost everyone involved. If I mention a few names maybe they will spark some recognition: Bill Cosby, Donald Trump, a host of people in Hollywood, many politicians and most recently the kids from Covington Catholic High School.

If you are not familiar with the Covington Catholic High School kids, they were in Washington D.C. for the March for Life. While waiting on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, they were confronted by two different groups, the Black Hebrew Israelites and a group of Native Americans.

Here's where the rush to judgment began. It was assumed the white kid with the Make America Great Again hat was the guilty party. Social Media, Television Media and every other source of "news" was electrified by the evil done by a young man taunting minorities. The problem is, as time and video have shown, there is no evidence the young man did any of the things of which he was accused. The bigger problem is like plucking a chicken, the feathers cannot be put back on the chicken. All the accusations and character assassination cannot be undone. With no surprise, as good as our culture is at making unfounded accusations, we are just as bad at admitting our guilt for such wrongs.

Here Is The Lesson

James 1:19-20 says, "This you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger; for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God."

1. Be Quick to Hear

It is a good thing to be aware of what is going on in our culture. While this can be taken too far, we need to pay attention to what is being reported in the news. If something sparks interest, then it should be investigated further before rushing to judgment.

Investigation requires consulting more than one source. As has been learned time and again, every news source and every person is biased. The question needs to be asked: "What is this source's bias?" A fair investigation will include considering "the other side of the story." Most of the time the truth lies somewhere between the sources, so be disciplined to carefully consider all sides. If you are going to be quick about something, be quick to hear both sides.

2. Be Slow to Speak

Once careful consideration has been made of an issue, take time to consider how to react. It is always a good idea to let some time pass before making pronouncements or judgments. People will ask for an opinion, and a carefully considered opinion is appropriate. I would strongly suggest qualifying opinions with the limits of what can actually be known. As is the case with Bill Cosby, it did not seem like "America's Father" could possibly be guilty, but the facts and the court disagreed. This teaches us many monsters look good and many innocent people are branded as guilty by our propensity to rush to judgment. So be slow to speak.

3. Be Slow to Anger

Even after arriving at an opinion, it is wise to keep emotions in check. Let us remember each of us could be condemned for our words and actions. This in no way discounts there is a proper time and place for righteous anger. We need to keep close check on our tempers because of the last lesson from James.

4. The Anger of Man Does Not Achieve The Righteousness of God

We must always be wary of how even the righteous expression of anger is always in danger of going too far. Many are the times what starts in righteousness becomes the sin of excessive anger. So take to heart not just these verses from James, but also the song, "O be careful little mouth what you say." In every way you speak or write!

In His Grip & Grace
Pastor Mitch