



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

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April Newsletter

Forest Hills Evangelical Free Church

April 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 9:30 am 1:30 pm Pastor's Study Day Ladies Bible Study Art Class - Dining Area	2 Pastor Teaches AM	3 6:30 pm 6:30 pm AWANA AWARDS NIGHT Bible Study	4 Pastor's Day Off	5 Pastor Teaches AM	6 8:00 am Men Pray
7 9:00 am 10:00 am 10:25 am 3:00 pm Lord's Supper Sunday School Fellowship Worship Hanson Graduation Party Timber-lee Missions moment	8 9:30 am 1:30 pm Pastor's Study Day Ladies Bible Study Art Class - Dining Area	9 12:00 pm 12:00 pm Pastor Teaches AM Diaconate Mtg Missions Mtg	10 6:30 pm Bible Study	11 Pastor's Day Off	12 Pastor Teaches AM	13 8:00 am Men Pray
14 9:00 am 10:00 am 10:25 am Sunday School Fellowship Worship	15 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study Pastor's Study Day Tax Day	16	17 6:30 pm Bible Study	18 Maundy Thursday Service 7pm Pastor's Day Off	19 Pastor Teaches AM Good Friday	20 8:00 am Men Pray
21 9:00 am 10:00 am 10:25 am Resurrection Sunday Sunday School Fellowship Worship Annual Reports Due	22 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study Pastor's Study Day Easter Monday	23 7:00 pm Council MTG Pastor Teaches AM	24 6:30 pm Bible Study	25 12:00 pm Goldenagers Pastor's Day Off	26 Pastor Teaches AM	27 8:00 am Men Pray
28 9:00 am 10:00 am 10:25 am Sunday School Fellowship Worship	29 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study Pastor's Study Day	30 Pastor Teaches AM				



**April
2019**

**Forest Hills EFC Messenger
5183 Pebble Creek Trail
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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.

- April 2 Reanee Rowell
 Berthema Thomasson
- April 7 Nena Robeniol
- April 14 McKinley Mullin
- April 18 Archie Reynolds
- April 21 Matt Mullin
- April 26 Arleen Hood

Making Greeting Cards

April 27 from 10 am to 1 pm.

Price is \$4.00 for 3 cards which includes the supplies needed. Please sign up and see Jean Alfredson for details.

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

April Events:



April 14 - Palm Sunday

They took Palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting "Hosanna". Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.. Blessed is the King of Israel. - John 12:13



April 18 - Maundy Thursday

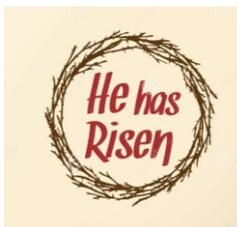
Church Service - 7 pm

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. - 1 Corinthians 11:26



April 19 - Good Friday

For he taught his disciples, and said unto them, The Son of man is delivered into the hands of men, and they shall kill him; and after that he is killed, he shall rise the third day. - Mark 9:31



April 21 - Easter Sunday

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. - John 3:16



April 10th is Golfer's Day

APRIL GOLDEN AGERS

Please join us at noon for lunch at The Stockholm Inn on Thursday, April 25 for good food and fellowship.

The Greatest Danger

We are living in dangerous and uncertain times. Violence is on the rise, we have lost the ability to have civil conversations, anger is constantly boiling over, it is hard to find anyone who is capable of speaking the truth with love, many are looking for an advantage, and others are looking to take advantage. But what is the single greatest danger today?

Many good Christians will say, "the greatest danger is the devil." They will quote the Bible...

"Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour." 1 Peter 5:8

The Devil, a.k.a. Satan, is a real enemy, and he is not to be trifled with. He really wants to destroy you and your life, but is he the greatest danger in your life?

It is my contention, the greatest danger each of us faces is ourselves. Pride, self-righteousness, self-justification, blaming others, and making excuses for ourselves are only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the danger we pose to ourselves. If you are struggling with this argument, then answer this question, "What is the source of every one of your sins or failings?" Is it not pride?

Why do you Sin – break God's Law?

James the brother of Jesus helps us with this answer...

"Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. ¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. ¹⁵ Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death." James 1:13-15

The enticement to sin is called Temptation. By its very nature and definition, a temptation is something that seems desirable, but if acted on is evil or sin. A desire arises within us, which promises to make us happy or satisfy us, but it is a lie, because it does not lead to happiness or fulfillment. Instead, it is a trap.

"There is a way *which seems* right to a man, But its end is the way of death." Proverbs 14:12

James clearly tells us, we cannot blame God for our temptations. God does not tempt anyone to do evil. But James does not blame our sinful behavior on the Devil either. Certainly, the Devil tempts us to sin, but he does not make us do evil. Even Jesus was tempted by the Devil.

"Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil." Matthew 4:1
To be tempted is not sin, but to act on and fulfill the false promise of temptation is sin. James is directly implying there is a definitive source of the evil each of us does.

So where does sin come from according to James?

James says sin occurs when we are carried away by our own Lust. Noah Webster defined lust as follows... "LUST: Longing desire; eagerness to possess or enjoy; as the *lust* of gain (Webster's 1828 Dictionary)." We often think of lust in regards to sexuality, which it is that and more. Lust is a longing or desire that goes against the commands of the Bible. It is most easily seen in our selfish desires and when we fulfill those desires at the expense of others. This is why it is so obvious with our sexuality. Lust calls us to fulfill our primal sexual desires without regard for the person who we lust after. It is fundamentally selfish, seeking only selfish ends. But lust goes well beyond sex. We can lust for power, recognition, wealth, popularity, people, revenge, position, vindication and many more things.

What actually causes us to violate God's commands?

Our own lust is the source of our temptations, and pride is the means by which we convince ourselves we "deserve" what is being promised by our lust. On some level, we know what we lust for is selfish and thus sinful. Many of us can go farther and say we know what we lust for is wrong because it violates God's command. So why do we still do the things we know are wrong? Consciously and unconsciously we convince ourselves that we deserve what we want. Pride doubles down and asks, "Why should you deny yourself something that makes you happy?" This is the power of advertising, "You deserve it" or "Why deny yourself?"

What hope is there for us?

Solomon has an answer to this question: "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom and instruction (Proverbs 1:7)." The beginning of hope comes from humbly acknowledging God knows better than we do what is true and right. Understanding this is what makes the Gospel "Good News", but this is only the first step. Take note of the dangers you face, especially the ones that come from inside you.

In His Grip & Grace
Pastor Mitch