



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

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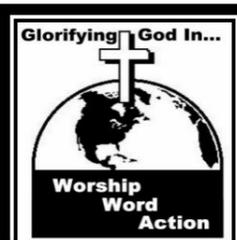
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July Newsletter

Forest Hills EFC Calendar

July 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Pastor Vacation Pastor's Study Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study 7:00 pm CE MTG	2 Pastor Vacation	3 Pastor Vacation 6:30 pm Bible Study	4 Pastor Vacation	5 Pastor Vacation Pastor's Day Off	6 Pastor Vacation 8:00 am Men Pray
7 Greg S. Pulpit Fill Lord's Supper Pastor Vacation NO Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	8 Pastor's Study Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	9 12:00 pm Diaconate Mtg 12:00 pm Missions Mtg	10 6:30 pm Bible Study	11	12 Pastor's Day Off	13 8:00 am Men Pray 1:00 pm Memorial Service Terry
14 NO Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	15 Pastor's Study Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	16 7:00 pm Council MTG	17 6:30 pm Bible Study	18	19 Pastor's Day Off Timber-lee Golf Outing @ Hawks View	20 8:00 am Men Pray
21 NO Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	22 Pastor's Study Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	23	24 6:30 pm Bible Study	25 12:00 pm Goldenagers	26 Pastor's Day Off	27 8:00 am Men Pray 11 am - 3pm Church Picnic Church Picnic
28 NO Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	29 Pastor's Study Day Study Break 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	30 Study Break	31 Study Break 6:30 pm Bible Study			



**July
2019**

**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



**Birthdays
This Month**

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

- July 2 Don Swanson
- July 3 Julie Nyberg
Tim Ulven
- July 5 Alan Tatarsky
- July 7 Emmit Moore
Charity Leathers
- July 13 Ethan Leathers
- July 5 Larry Feehan
- July 18 Dennis Neubauer
- July 20 Dave Alfredson
- July 28 Cris Lopez
- July 30 Tim Clow

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

July Events:



July 4 - Independence Day

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. - 2 Corinthians 3:17

It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery. - Galatians 5:1



July 15 - National Pet Fire Safety Day

A righteous man has regard for the life of his animal, but even the compassion of the wicked is cruel. - Proverbs 12:10



July 27 - Annual Church Picnic

Please join us for food, fun, and fellowship at our annual picnic at Olsen Park from 11 - 3 pm.



July 30 - National Day of Friendship

He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm. - Proverbs 13:20

JULY GOLDENAGERS

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

UPCOMING IN AUGUST:

Professions of Faith will have a concert on August 10th at 2 pm.

A Ridiculous Question: Should We Pray for President Trump?

“First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, 2 for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. 3 This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” 1 Timothy 2:1-4

The Church in America has been corrupted by the confusion between what it means to follow Jesus Christ and belonging to a particular political party. Setting all political feelings aside, what is the responsibility of the Church and pastors specifically? Should pastoral prayers include prayers for the President? Should churches heed the call by Franklin Graham to have a special day of prayer for President Trump? How should we pray for the President? Should Pastor David Platt have prayed for the President?

Here are my answers to these questions & thoughts in response:

Churches & Pastors should pray at all times for Leaders

To say it as strongly as possible, the pastor or church who does not pray for presidents, kings, queens, governors, dictators, or committees who rule over them is severely neglecting the clear commands of the scriptures. It baffles me when we have a call to prayer like the one Franklin Graham called for recently on behalf of President Trump. I am saddened to think pastors have neglected to pray for our leaders because we disagree with their politics. My contention is we should pray for all leaders regardless of politics, and we should pray all the more for those with whom we do not agree.

Pastors should never apologize for praying for someone.

Pastor Platt sent a post to his congregation that sounded a lot like an apology, but I would hope by his example week in and week out that having the President physically present would make no difference in whether he would pray for him and how he would pray for him. Personally, I came to this conviction early in my years of ministry, when President Clinton was in office. I was appalled by many things he did, but I was convicted to pray for him regularly and publicly.

Praying for Wisdom, Guidance and Confessing Sin are always appropriate prayers for all people at all times.

I have not missed the direct and implied meaning in calls to pray for the President. Franklin Graham’s call to pray

for “protection” for the President was a direct endorsement of him. This makes me nervous, because no man who has presided over our country as President has not needed greater wisdom, divine guidance and a willingness to confess his shortcomings to his Creator. My prayer for myself as well as my fellow pastors is to remember to confess our sins as well as appeal to God for wisdom, guidance and protection. I hope you are praying not just for the President to govern well, but please remember to pray for his soul and his eternal destiny as well. Please pray the President would not be blinded by pride but would humble himself before the God of the Universe. This is the essence of the command to pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

Pray Scripturally

When you pray for the President, I hope it is daily, but what should you pray? In 1 Timothy 2, Paul commends Timothy to pray “for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness, and dignity.” Pray for tranquility (peace) in the governing of the people, including politics and economics. Pray the result of our leaders’ governing will provide an opportunity for us to live a quiet life devoted to Jesus Christ. Pray we would have lives of dignity and purpose fostered by leadership of the President.

Pray with Micah 6:8 “He has told you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, And to walk humbly with your God?” Ask God to move the hearts of the President, his advisors, judges, senators, representatives, governors and mayors to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God. What would happen if this came to be a reality in a growing number of those who claim to serve the public good?

Pray Regardless of Party

My great prayer for all of us is we will remember to pray for our leaders without regard for party. Your prayer may be informed by your party or political opinions, but do not forget we are Christians before we are Republicans or Democrats. In the end do not forget we serve the King of Kings. Pray without ceasing for the President and all who are in authority over our lives.

In His Grip & Grace
Pastor Mitch