



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

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# February Newsletter

# Forest Hills Evangelical Free Church

# February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> CC Science Fair - Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary & Dining Area
<b>2</b> Lord's Supper 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	<b>3</b> Pastor's Study Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	<b>4</b> Pastor Teaches AM	<b>5</b> 6:30 pm AWANA & Bible Study	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Pastor's Day Off	<b>8</b> Men's Breakfast 8:00 am Men's Breakfast
<b>9</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	<b>10</b> Pastor's Study Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	<b>11</b> Pastor Teaches AM 12:00 pm Diaconate Mtg 12:00 pm Missions Mtg	<b>12</b> 6:30 pm AWANA & Bible Study	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Pastor's Day Off Valentine's Day	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	<b>17</b> Pastor's Study Day Presidents' Day (regional holiday) 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	<b>18</b> Pastor Teaches AM 7:00 pm Council MTG	<b>19</b> 6:30 pm AWANA & Bible Study	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Pastor's Day Off	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Fellowship 10:25 am Worship	<b>24</b> Pastor's Study Day 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	<b>25</b> Pastor Teaches AM	<b>26</b> 6:30 pm AWANA & Bible Study	<b>27</b> 12:00 pm Goldenagers	<b>28</b> Pastor's Day Off	<b>29</b>



**February  
2020**

**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.

- 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

**FEBRUARY GOLDENAGERS**

Please join us at noon for lunch at The Stockholm Inn on Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup> for good food and fellowship.

**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 17<sup>th</sup> of the month

*February Events:*



**MEN'S  
PRAYER  
BREAKFAST**

**February 8<sup>th</sup>**  
Men's Prayer Breakfast  
This will be at 8 am at the church.



**February 13<sup>th</sup>**  
Valentine's Dinner  
All are welcome to meet at the Machine Shed at 5 pm.



**February 14<sup>th</sup>**  
Happy Valentine's Day  
*But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love. - 1 Corinthians 13:13*

**Remember our  
Presidents**

**February 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Presidents' Day  
*Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. - John 14:6*

**OFFERING ENVELOPES**

2020 Offering Envelopes are still available in the church office.  
See Wendy Boehme.

## This Is My Body

*"While they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, 'Take, eat; this is My body.' " 27 And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you; 28 for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins. " Matthew 26:26-28*

There have been renewed questions about what Jesus meant when He said these words at the Last Supper. At the center of the renewed controversy is Francis Chan, a well-known evangelical pastor and popular conference speaker. A recent article by Caleb Parke of Fox News reported Chan's changing views on Communion.

"Instead, it has been reduced to "just a symbol," Chan complained. Traditionally, Catholics view it as Jesus' literal body and blood, whereas Protestants view it as a symbol. Chan wants the body of Christ -- not the pastor, pulpit or the sermon -- at the center of the church once again in the United States. He said this would unite churches once again, instead of having tens of thousands of denominations. (Fox News, January 9, 2020)"

Reactions to Chan's words have been very positive from Roman Catholics, and they have raised lots of questions from Conservative Evangelicals. It raises the question again, does what we believe about Communion matter?

### Three View of The Lord's Supper

This is the very short and succinct version. I encourage more study for those who want to dig deeper.

#### 1. The literal Body & Blood of Christ

The Roman Catholic Church teaches the bread and wine become the real/actual body and blood of Jesus when the priest prays over the elements. It is often called the Real Presence of Christ in the elements. The essence of this view means the taking of the elements in Communion (or the Eucharist) is the same as eating the flesh of Jesus and drinking the blood of Jesus. This makes the ritual an effective means of grace for those who partake.

The problem with this view raised by the Reformers is this means the "Mass" is a re-sacrificing of Jesus each time the Eucharist is taken. The Scripture most often quoted raising the problem with this view is Hebrews 10:10, "By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." The continual sacrifice of Christ in the Mass contradicts the truth that Jesus died only once for sins, not again and again.

#### 2. The Spiritual Presence of Christ in the Bread and Wine

This is the view Martin Luther held. The blessing by the minister causes the bread and wine to take on the Spiritual Presence of Jesus' body and blood. Luther used the term Sacramental Union

in describing how Christ is fully present in the elements in a real spiritual way while the elements remain bread and wine. The key is they would agree with the Roman Catholic Church that there is a real transference of grace to the person who partakes of Communion.

The controversy with this view and the Roman Catholic view is the idea that God's grace is effectively transferred to the person who partakes of the consecrated elements. My term for this is a "mechanical" communication of grace to all who partake. This is why the term "sacrament" is used by both of these first two views. This raises the concern for those who hold the third view that people believe they are receiving "saving grace" by the act/work of this ritual. The act transmits grace to the partaker.

#### 3. The Symbolic or Memorial View

Among the Reformers, this view was held by Ulrich Zwingli. This view sees the celebration of the Lord's Supper as a means of remembering what Jesus did at the cross. The emphasis is placed on Jesus' words at the Last Supper "Do this in remembrance of Me." A distinction is made between the mechanical transfer of grace through the taking of the consecrated elements and remembering God's grace communicated by faith in the death of Jesus Christ. There is a non-saving grace of encouragement given to those who remember that saving grace is given to believers by faith in Jesus' death and resurrection. A minor point for many who hold this view is often seen in the substitution of grape juice for wine for cultural reasons.

The questions to wrestle with as we try to understand what Jesus was saying when He instituted The Lord's Supper:

1. How many times did Jesus die for sins? Does He continue to die each time a prayer of consecration is made over the bread and wine?
2. Are we saved in any sense by the physical act of taking The Lord's Supper?
3. Did Jesus in any way mean or imply He was physically asking the Disciples to eat His flesh and drink His blood at the Last Supper? Did Jesus give His Disciples His actual body and blood at the Last Supper?

I believe the answer to these questions is "NO." Jesus did not give His actual flesh and blood to the Disciples at the Last Supper, and I do not believe He intended for us to understand this as taking place when we pray over the elements in celebrating the Lord's Supper today. The primary idea and goal in the Lord's Supper is to "do this in remembrance" of Jesus' death and resurrection. It is God's grace communicated through faith that saves, not the taking of the elements in the Lord's Supper.

In His Grip & Grace  
Pastor Mitch