



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

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July Newsletter

FHEFC Calendar

July 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 Pastor's Day Off Independence Day observed	4 Independence Day
5 Lord's Supper 10:30 am Worship	6 Pastor's Study Day	7	8	9	10 Pastor's Day Off Timber-lee Golf Outing	11
12 10:30 am Worship	13 Pastor's Study Day	14 12:00 pm Diaconate Mtg 12:00 pm Missions Mtg	15 Tax Day	16	17 Pastor's Day Off	18
19 10:30 am Worship	20 Pastor's Study Day	21 7:00 pm Council MTG	22	23	24 Pastor's Day Off	25 Church Picnic @ Olson Park 10:30 am Church Picnic
26 10:30 am Worship	27 Pastor's Study Day	28	29	30 12:00 pm Goldenagers	31 Pastor's Day Off	



July
2020

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.

- July 2 Don Swanson
- July 3 Julie Nyberg
Tim Ulven
- July 7 Emmit Moore
Charity Leathers
- July 13 Ethan Leathers
- July 15 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 GOLDENAGERS
Please join us at noon for lunch at The Stockholm Inn on Thursday, July 30th for good food and fellowship.

July Events:



July 1st

National Postal Worker Day
Established in 1997 by a Seattle-area postal workers. Take time to thank your local postal worker.



July 4th - Independence Day

This day commemorates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

- 2 Corinthians 3:17

FROM TINA L. - TREASURER

Thank you to everyone for your faithfulness in giving to the church. We have been able to keep paying the bills on time. Until we can reasonably have a congregational meeting we are proceeding with the proposed budget in which we merely updated last year's numbers to reflect current expenses. The only changes made are that we are no longer providing a gift to Florence Sandberg, Sharlene Ortlund has retired from her missions role and we are implementing a payroll service. I will be retiring from my job in January and will no longer have access to resources to ask questions about the latest payroll changes. Quite frankly it is all getting to be a bit much. For a modest fee (no increase to our current Office Supplies budget) the service will provide direct deposit, file all of the necessary government paperwork and issue the W-2s. The overall proposed budget has decreased by 7.4%.



*Church
Family Picnic*

July 25th - Church Picnic

Where: Olson Swedish Heritage Park
7901 Harlem Rd, Loves Park

Time: 10:30 am - 4 pm

Meat & drinks provided, please bring a dish to pass.

Please remember to practice social distancing and wear a mask when out in public and stay safe.

Pregnancy Care Center Baby Bottle Ministry

We raised \$290.00 for this ministry. Thank you.

Finding Help In Uncertain Time

"I will lift up my eyes to the mountains; From where shall my help come? ² My help comes from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth. ³ He will not allow your foot to slip; He who keeps you will not slumber. ⁴ Behold, He who keeps Israel Will neither slumber nor sleep. ⁵ The LORD is your keeper; The LORD is your shade on your right hand. ⁶ The sun will not smite you by day, Nor the moon by night. ⁷ The LORD will protect you from all evil; He will keep your soul. ⁸ The LORD will guard your going out and your coming in From this time forth and forever." Psalm 121:1-8

We Are Living In Uncertain Times...

Covid-19, Stay-at-home Orders, Masses Dying, Overbearing Politicians, Fearful Health Officials, Police Corruption, Frustration, Peaceful Protests, Violent Protests, Increasing Violence, Tearing Down Statues, Erasing History, Economic Shutdowns, Job Losses, Growing Uncertainty, Growing Chaos, Personal Protection, Crippling Isolation, Fearful Gathering...

Who Will Save Us From Ourselves?

Regardless how you feel about all the above named issues causing us uncertainty and fear, there is the question of who will help stop the madness? Is the solution to be proposed and carried out by Politicians? Do we simply need more laws or better laws to fix our problems? Is the solution to all our problems to be found by Economists? Are our problems primarily the result of economic inequality or exploitation? Is the solution to rob from the rich and give to the poor? Is the solution to our problems to be found in Education? Do we simply need to provide a better education to the marginalized and the "have nots" in order to break down the barriers between us? Will dismantling all public institutions and authorities make things better for those who feel the system is stacked against them? Will dismantling the police departments around the country cause a decrease in public violence and crime? Will the elimination of the Federal and/or State governments increase autonomy and make local lives better? Will tearing down statues of historical figures cause people to treat one another better? Will monetary payments to the disenfranchised in the past create the utopia we all hope for?

Why Will None of These Save Us?

I highly recommend you read a wonderful book, *What's Wrong With the World* by G.K. Chesterton. He very insightfully analyzes what caused the problems of the late 1800's and early 1900's, and the thoughtful reader will recognize they are the same problems we are still experiencing. In the final analysis, Chesterton argues the main problem with the World is US - Not the United States, but each and every human being.

Human beings are the real problem. After all, how long did it take after the Fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden for one person to murder another? Why did God send The Flood? And why did The Flood not solve the problems of humanity? Because God preserved eight human beings, who perpetuated the problems for which humanity is the primary cause. As long as we look to

other human beings for solutions, we will simply perpetuate our problems! We are not capable of saving ourselves!

Who Will Save Us From Ourselves?

The Apostle Paul asked this very question in recognizing his own corruption by sin:

"Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?" Romans 7:24

He answers it in the way each of us should be answering it today:

"Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind am serving the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh the law of sin." Romans 7:25

The very reason God had to take on human flesh and become like us is so He could save us from ourselves.

"But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, namely, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone. ¹⁰ For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings." Hebrews 2:9-10

Our best hope as human beings is to look to Jesus, not just for our salvation, but for instruction on how to conduct ourselves in these chaotic and uncertain days.

"Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, ² make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. ³ Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; ⁴ do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. ⁵ Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. ⁸ Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." Philippians 2:1-8

What would happen if we simply lived by these few verses? What if we truly embraced Jesus as our savior and guide?

In His Grip & Grace
Pastor Mitch