

THE FOREST HILL NEWS



**Forest Hill
Church of Christ**
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Harold D. Mangrum
Keith B. McAlister
Leonard Watson

Minister:

Barry M. Grider, Pulpit

VISIT US SOON!

Sunday:

Bible Study..... 9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship.....10:30 A.M.
Evening Worship..... 5:00 P.M.

Wednesday:

Bible Study7:00 P.M.

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Volume 36

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Number 4

Become as Little Children

Dustin Forthun

In Matthew 18:1-6, Jesus gives some very important qualifications for those who would enter the kingdom of heaven. He would say, "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." Notice that this is something all who wish to enter that heavenly abode must do. But what did Jesus mean when He said that all who would enter heaven must become as little children? Surely He did not mean that those converted to Him must act childish and immature. Rather He meant that those who are converted to Him must be childlike. There is a vast difference.

Perhaps one of the most outstanding qualities of a young child is his humble spirit. Young children have not yet learned what pride is. Those who wish to live for eternity in the presence of Almighty God must employ this same attitude of humility. As adults, we often trust in our own abilities all too much, refusing (because of stubborn pride) the help of those who truly can help us. This is all too often the case when it comes to salvation. We must turn to the One, the only One, who can save us—God. We must obey what He has set out for us to do. We must never think that we are "above" that which God would have us do. Without humility, we will never access the grace of the Almighty (Jas. 4:10; 1 Pet. 5:6). Is your pride more important than your soul (cf. Pro. 16:18; Mat. 16:26)?

A young child trusts with all his heart that his parents will be there for him in his time of need. A child trusts that his father will be there for him when he takes those first steps, or takes his first ride on his new bike. A child trusts that his mother will be there for him when he scrapes his knee, or when the other kids are picking on him. Those who would enter into heaven must, too, manifest a simple, loving trust in the One who loves us and died for us. When God makes a promise, we should trust Him to see it through. When I do what He has told me through His word, I can also trust with all my heart that He will uphold what He has promised. I can also rest assured that He will be there for me—in times of need, in times of rejoicing, in times of despair. God is faithful and will not forsake His children (Heb. 13:5). Do you trust in God?

Have you ever seen two children engaged in a tussle, shouting to each other that they hate one another, only to see them five minutes later playing together as best friends, as if nothing ever happened? Children are so quick to forgive one another, while at the same time they are very quick to forget. Those who desire to live with God for eternity must manifest a similar attitude of forgiveness. The child of God must be willing to forgive those who repent of their wrongdoing if they wish to be forgiven of their sins by the Father (Mat. 18:21,22; Eph. 4:32). Do you manifest the same forgiving attitude toward others that God manifests toward you?

(Dustin preaches in Garden City, Michigan and is the son-in-law of Jim and Brenda Crowe).

NOTES OF APPRECIATION

To members of Forest Hill Church of Christ,
Gladys and I send our many thanks for your concerns during my recent illness, as shown by your prayers, cards and calls on my behalf.

We congratulate all who made the 50th anniversary such a success and we want you to know that we were there with you and the many visitors in heart and spirit.

In Christian love,
James A. Bobbitt
Former elder

Thanks to everyone at Forest Hill for such an enjoyable anniversary day.

Love to all,
Sue Hatcher
former member

Dear brethren,

It was a great pleasure being with all of you Sunday morning, January 11th to be a part of Forest Hill's/Knight Arnold's 50th Homecoming. Thank you for hosting an event in order that so many of us could come back to enjoy your sweet fellowship even if just a day. It was so wonderful to see so many people some of whom I hadn't seen in more than 25 years! I owe so much of my life to you for your leadership, example, patience, and love. I shall be eternally grateful.

Again, thank you for hosting this great event. And, thank you for remaining such a blessing to my life in many ways.

In His service,
Howell Ferguson
missionary

Dear Christian friends,

I was so completely overwhelmed by your friendship, love, abundance of gifts and kind words at the fellowship in my honor. I hardly slept that night. It was a wonderful time and I am truly grateful for my dear Christian family.

The jewelry box, pearls and earrings, flowers and other gifts are wonderful. I will always treasure them, your hugs and kind expressions of love and encouragement.

Please continue to remember me and my family in your prayers.

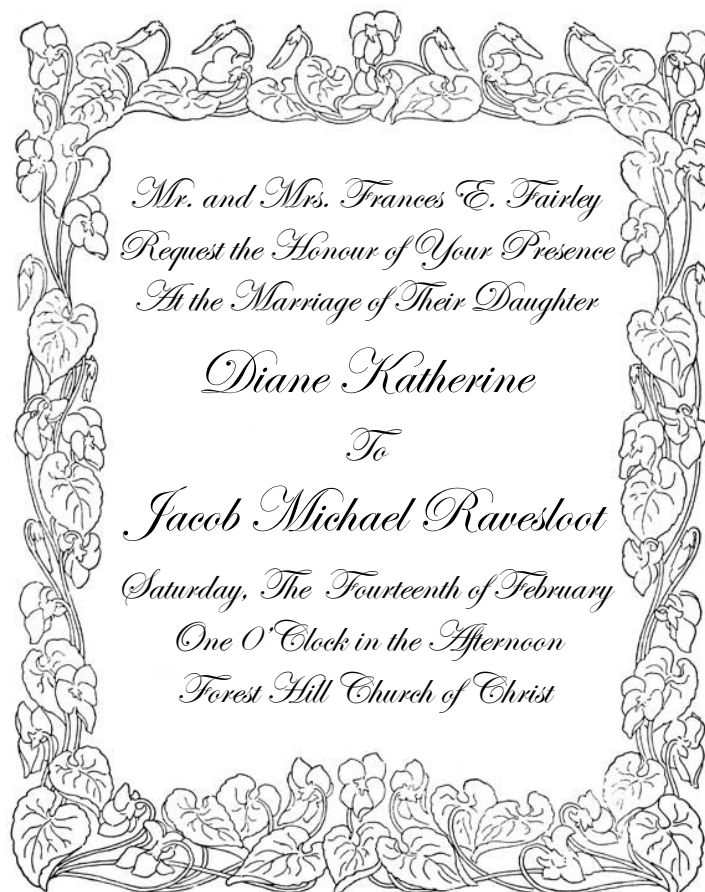
Love to all,
Jewel

Thanks to Jewel

This past Sunday evening, January 25, the congregation honored our longtime Forest Hill secretary, Jewel Earls. Sister Earls retired at the end of 2008 after 40 years faithful service in the church office. It was my pleasure to present to her on behalf of the congregation a jewelry box inscribed with her name and recognition of her years of service. Inside the jewelry box was a pearl necklace, along with earrings and a pendant to match.

Sometimes those who work in the church or school offices no doubt feel they are in a thankless job. However, we want sister Earls to know we love and appreciate her, and even in retirement, we will do all we can to assist and encourage her as she continues to be a valuable part of the congregation. I suppose I have worked alongside Jewel on a daily basis more than any other in my almost 20 years of preaching. She has typed so many of my manuscripts and much of my correspondence. Furthermore, together we have produced this bulletin for many years. I am very grateful. May God richly bless Jewel and her family with many years of happiness and good health. We look forward to our continued association together.

Barry



NORTH SIDE GREETERS

Jim and Brenda Crowe (Front)
Warren and Lisa Davenport (Side)

February 2009

Coordinating Elder: Floyd Hayes

SOUTH SIDE GREETERS

(Front) Ty and Joyce Phillips
(Side) Gene and Bonnie Gordon

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>Cason Grider</i> <i>Stephen Higley</i> <i>Billy Rodgers</i> Work TeamsD&E	2 <i>Jack Woods</i>	3 <i>Maria Lamb</i>	4	5	6 <i>Rebekah Dean</i>	7 <i>Diane Fairley</i>
8 <i>Curtis Cates</i>	9 BIBLE BOWL 7:00 p.m.	10	11 <i>Charles Godwin</i>	12	13 <i>Mike Browder</i>	14
15 <i>Phil Daniele</i>	16 <i>Andrew Crowe</i> <i>Robert Moore</i>	17	18	19	20	21
22 <i>Winnie Holloway</i> <i>Chris Palazola</i>	23	24 <i>Dave Moore</i>	25	26	27 <i>Olivia Barnes</i> <i>Christa Mangrum</i>	28

****Birthdays are in Italics**

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