



January 2016

Forest Heights United Methodist Church

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FAITH AT FOREST

Well, here we are just a few days into the New Year. Some of us have already made, and managed to break, some if not all, our well-intentioned resolutions. Not me. I haven't broken a resolution in years. The secret to my success is simple, I don't make resolutions. If you don't make them you can't break them. Most resolutions have a common theme. "I'm going to do, or be, better than I am now." In other words "I'm going to pick myself up by my bootstraps and become a whole new me."

There are some things which are subject to sheer willpower. Other things, however, aren't. That whole New Year thing is going to require a change of heart before you can experience a change of direction.

This is where Jesus comes in. When we allow Jesus to become the center around which our lives revolve, we begin to hear, see, and feel things differently. And it doesn't happen overnight. The change is often gradual as we decide day by day to follow Jesus.

I don't want you to make this a late new year resolution, but I do want to challenge us all to spend a little more time reflecting on just why it was Jesus is the "Word made flesh." Then spend a little more time reading the letters of Paul, especially Galatians and Colossians. We are going to spend some quality Wednesday morning time with these letters.

Again, not asking for a resolution here, but begin to make particular note of the words of Jesus and begin to put them into practice. Won't be easy, I will admit that, but it will be well worth the effort. Because here is the kicker, as we follow Jesus the Holy Spirit is that power at work in us which will empower us to become what God has in mind for us.

Grace,

Harrell

A Word of Thanks!

Janice and I want to thank each and everyone of you for your generous Christmas gift. We also want to thank you for your warm welcome as we've made Forest Heights our faith family. We appreciate your prayers and support. We anticipate great joy as we serve Christ alongside you. Again thanks and God bless.

Grace,

Harrell and Janice Nation

A "BIG" Thank You:

Your staff thanks you for the generous Christmas gift. It is a pleasure to work with you and we look forward to sharing in ministry during the New Year.



Attention Men of the Church

The weekly Men's Prayer Breakfast will resume meeting on Wednesday, January 6 beginning at 7:00am. Join us each week for breakfast, prayer and fellowship. Contact Ken Martin for additional information.

Ladies of the Yarn Update: Anyone interested in learning to knit or crochet are welcome to join us on Wednesday at 10am or 5pm for our weekly gatherings. Our first gathering in 2016 will be on January 6.

A Note From Linda Wilson – The children's church program was started years ago for children ages 3-6 years old. During this time we have not added any children in this age group and the original children are now old enough to benefit from attending the regular church service. We will hold our last children's church session

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on January 31, 2016. Thanks to the volunteers who have assisted each Sunday! We appreciate your willingness to help.



Please Note....

We are indeed open to ideas, suggestions, and input concerning worship. But please be mindful of this, any special worship ideas or suggestion must be presented to the Worship Committee for consideration and approval.

In Christ,
Harrell,

Opportunity to Serve

Enclosed you will find the Opportunity to Serve sign-up sheet for 2016. Please take a few minutes to complete the form and return to the church office by January 20th.

***Recess* begins February 10**

Our winter session of Recess will begin on Wednesday, February 10. Supper will begin at 5pm, a time of singing at 5:50pm and then time with Harrell at 5:45pm.

Time with Harrell will center on the Four Seeds of Ministry which will challenge us to consider the possibilities of ministry that God has for our lives and our church.

Meals for *Recess* will be provided by are restaurants and the cost per meal is \$6.50 per adult and \$2.50 per child under 12 years of age. Since meals are purchased prior to Wednesday evening, all reservations must be honored. If the meal reservation is not cancelled you will be expected to pay for the meal as it was purchased for you. Make or cancel reservations by 4pm each Monday. ~~Reservations~~ or weekly reservations are available for your convenience.