



# Forest Heights United Methodist Church

863 West Forest Avenue | Jackson, Tennessee 38301  
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February 2016

## FAITH AT FOREST

### From the Pastor

I know that many times along the way Moses sat in his tent and wondered, "Why in the world didn't I just pass by that burning bush? Why in the world didn't I just turn and run in the opposite direction? These people are driving me completely off my rocker." I know that I am making some guesses as I enter into the head of Moses. But as you read between the lines in the story you know he had those thoughts. Because even though they were walking behind a pillar of fire by night and walking behind a pillar of cloud by day they had never really left Egypt.

Really. Every step of the way they complained about the weather, the food, the water, the bugs, the sand, the snakes, and on and on. They seemed to have forgotten that they were slaves in Egypt. Slaves. They had no freedom, no rights. Their life was that of toil and misery as day by day they made bricks. They had shelter, food, and water. It seems that shelter, food, and water were all they could think about. They allowed those things to define them as a people.

On one occasion, as recorded in Exodus 17, Moses named, and marked a spot, "Massah" and "Meribah". The people were thirsty, complaining yet again, and God told Moses to strike a rock on Mt. Horeb and water would flow. Moses did as God said and the water did indeed flow. Water from the rock at Horeb. But Moses called it the place of quarreling and testing, which is what Meribah and Massah mean.

There was one lesson that God wanted to teach the people of Israel on this long forty year journey. That lesson was "Trust." Instead of quarreling and putting God to the test, trust him. Hey, that is not a bad lesson for us to learn as well as we journey together toward that place God is calling us as we follow Jesus.

Grace,  
*Harrell*

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## ***Recess begins February 10 and continues through March 30<sup>th</sup>***

We invite you to ***Recess*** our mid-week gathering for “play” through the sharing of a meal, song and study. Each week of this series, offers a variety of places and times to enjoy a time apart from the rhythm of daily living. Feel free to join us throughout the day. Our winter session will begin on Wednesday, February 10 with a catered meal followed by a worship service which will include the imposition of ashes in observance of Ash Wednesday. The meal will begin at 5pm followed by the service at 5:45pm

### ***Recess Opportunities***

**9:15am – 10:15am – Walk in the Gym** Enjoy the company of others and music while getting your walk for the day. A question or thought of the day will be available to ponder or discuss with your walking partners as you enjoy this ***Recess*** opportunity.

**10:00am-11:00am** – Bible Study with Harrell: This discussion Bible based study will indeed provide a place for lively conversation as we read the letters of Paul as recorded I Galatians (chapters 5 & 6) and Colossians.

**5:00pm – Recess Café** Meals for ***Recess*** will be provided by area Restaurants and the cost per meal is \$6.50 per adult and \$2.50 per child years to 12 years of age, 3 years and under free. Since meals are purchased prior to Wednesday evenings, 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. Standing or weekly reservations are available for your convenience.

**5:30pm – Singing and News** Enjoy singing songs of faith and hearing about happenings around the church.

**5:40pm – Time with Harrell** The Four Seeds of Ministry: Harrell will share The Four Seeds of Ministry and will challenge us to consider the seeds as we grow in faith and make disciples for the transformation of the church.

**Forest Heights UMC**  
863 W. Forest Avenue  
Jackson, TN 38301

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### Menus for February and March 2

**February 10** – Poppy seed chicken, tossed salad with assorted dressings, baked pineapple, bread and dessert.

**February 17** – Choice of vegetarian chili, venison chili, beef chili or chicken vegetable soup,  
veggie tray with dip, corn bread and dessert.

**February 24** – Chicken Alfredo over noodles, seasoned green beans, carrot raisin salad and dessert.

**March 2** Lasagna, tossed salad with assorted dressings, bread and dessert

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### *Recess Meal Reservation*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

# of Reservations \_\_\_\_\_ Adult(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Children

Standing \_\_\_\_\_ yes

Weekly \_\_\_\_\_ yes

**Thanks!** Much gratitude and thanks to Linda Wilson, Samantha Wood, and our Rocking Arms Team (Cheryl Thomas, Helen Mullins, and Cande Russell) for their years of service as Leaders of Children's Church. We appreciate their commitment to this ministry over the years. Care for children – infant through 4 yrs. olds will be provided by the Rocking Arms Team. (Let Sue know if you'd like to join this team). The Staff Parish Committee is in the process of hiring a childcare provider for Sunday mornings.

### **Homebound Visits**

On Monday, February 1, our homebound visiting teams will be making visits and serving communion to our members who are unable to attend worship. If you'd like to join us, come to the fellowship hall at 9:30am on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February

### **Room in The Inn**

We are hosting Room in The Inn on Thursday, February 4. If you'd like to participate in this monthly ministry, contact Brain Martin (343-1113).

*Happy Birthday to all our February Birthday folks*

*Brad Binford - 2/3, Brady Whitehead - 2/5*



*Don Senter - 2/25, Sue Goodfellow - 2/25*