



Forest Heights United Methodist Church

863 West Forest Avenue | Jackson, Tennessee 38301
Phone: 731-668-5209 | Fax: 731-668-5210 | Website: fhumc.com



NEWSLETTER

October 2023

... “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God” (Mark 10:14)

I came across some wonderful prayers of children, which reveal their authentic ways of coming to God.

“Dear God, maybe Cain and Abel would not kill each other if they had their own rooms, it works with my brother and me.” - Larry

“Dear God, I didn’t think orange went with purple until I saw the sunset you made on Tuesday. That was cool.” – Eugene

“Dear God, did you mean for the giraffe to look like that or was it an accident?” – Norma

“Dear God, thanks for the baby brother but what I really prayed for was a puppy.” Joyce

As Art Linkletter used to say, “Kids say the darndest things.” But in the passage today, it is Jesus who says the most amazing thing. And what he says it not only about children but about each of us.

And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them. For to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it. “And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.” (Mark 10:13-16)

The key understanding here is that the presence of children is a constant reminder of how a person is saved. It is not their innocence, for anyone who has ever been with a two-year old can see sin and selfishness at work. Nor is it just the subjective aspects of childhood like trust or naivete. It is one singular aspect of children that Jesus is pointing to as necessary to come into His kingdom – helpless dependency. There is no other way to get into the kingdom of God.

Jesus said that you must be born again, or “born from above.” In order to enter the kingdom, you cannot come only with what you offer God. You must come helpless and dependent like a little baby, and say, “It is only through you, Lord Jesus. I cannot save myself.” Some of us need to come to Jesus like a child. It is the key to eternal life.

Jesus took the children in his arms, and he blessed them. He imparted something divine, something beautiful into their lives. Those little ones became living, beautiful object lessons for all. The act of holding those children became the promise for all who come to him as a child. The promise is that if you come to God as a little child as helpless and totally dependent upon him, you, too, will be lifted out of your helplessness and be blessed, and be held in the arms of a loving God.

Drew

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Nurture News-Serving Each Other

What a great time we had at our picnic and concert in the new pavilion! The food and music were wonderful. Many thanks to our Grill Masters: Paul Chaplin, Luke Finney, John Archer, Jerry Ervin, and Gordon Eubanks for grilling the hamburgers and hotdogs to perfection. Special thanks to Helen Mullins, Cheryl Thomas, Jean Ralston and Kitty Hawkins for preparing the tables and to all who helped clean-up. Check out our Facebook page for pictures.

Our sympathy to the family of Jack Foote who passed away in September 11th. May God surround you with comfort and peace.

Directory Update – new addresses

Ann Phillips – 50 Cabin Creek Dr., 38305 731-427-3975

Evelyn Sutton - 10 Sunset Dr., 38301 731-217-5018

Mary Wright- 23 Jamestown -38305

Gordon & Frances Eubanks – 136 Cabin Creek Dr., 38305 731-234-1931

Kathleen Wilson – 9 Whisper Creek Dr., 38305 731-707-8817

E-mail address for Bill Wyatt -wbwyatt70@gmail.com

Save the Date

Fifth Sunday Bring-a-dish lunch

When: Sunday, October 29th – immediately following worship

Where: Fellowship Hall

Bring a dish or two to share

October is Pastor Appreciation Month! Feel free to send him cards, well wishes, or anything you wish to let our awesome pastor know we appreciate him.

Prayer Chain

If you would like to participate in our prayer chain ministry, please contact Betty in the church office (731-668-6209) by October 12. We currently have three chains and encourage you to join one. When we receive a prayer request, one of our three captains activate the chain. Two chains are phone chains and one is an e-mail chain. Captains are Linda Wilson, Beverlyann Jetton and Marianna Warmath-Lewis.

Knitting Class

If you are interested in learning to knit, please join Evelyn Sutton and the ladies of the yarn on October 12 at 11am in the fellowship hall to get a new group started. We will set the meeting time and date for future meetings. Also we will get to know what is needed and available at this meeting. If you are interested please give Evelyn Sutton a call at 731-217-5018.

Happy Birthday this Month to:

Valeta Marcom - 10/12

Frances Eubanks - 10/12

Russell Gallimore - 10/12

Twylla Clainin - 10/16

Marianne Archer- 10/20

Sue Bryant - 10/24

Dot Simpson - 10/24

Pam Finney - 10/25

Ernie Wilson - 10/25

Happy Anniversary to:

Sue & Bill Wyatt - 10/7

Linda & Ernie Wilson - 10/29

Friendships

It's my pleasure to introduce Sue and Bill Wyatt. They have been members of Forest Heights United Methodist Church since 1979. Susanne Harris was born in Chicago and raised as a Methodist. At retirement, her parents moved to Jackson, Tennessee where they joined our church. Sue attended Lambuth College (later Lambuth University), and graduated with a Master's Degree from Memphis State. After graduation, she moved to Nashville for employment.



William (Bill) Bailey Wyatt was born in Paris, Tennessee in 1959 and moved to Frasier, on the northside of Memphis. He was raised in a Baptist church. Bill earned his Masters degree at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and moved to Nashville after graduation.

This is where God showed up! Sue and Bill lived in the same apartment building in Nashville. Sue saw Bill around the apartment complex. On Valentine's Day she secretly placed a Valentine's card under his windshield wiper. Once the card was found by Bill, a friendship quickly bloomed. Eight months later, they were married (Bill didn't waste any time – guess he knew a good thing when he saw it!)

Once married, the couple moved to Jackson in 1979. Visiting our church, they realized the love they received from the young adults in the church. They were surprised that the church even had its own softball team. Bill and Sue decide to join Forest Heights.

Sue served on the church staff for over 25 years. Bill has served on many committees and has taught various studies. Both Bill and Sue have provided excellent leadership in the church. They raised their two daughters at the church – both baptized, confirmed, and married here at Forest Heights. They have always loved this church for its warmth, strong sense of the Spirit of God, the excellent teaching and preaching, and the support and love of the church family.

During retirement, Bill and Sue enjoy farming, caring for the beautiful flowers in their yard, and traveling. They especially enjoy going on hikes.

FRIENDSHIPfrom one to another....be blessed

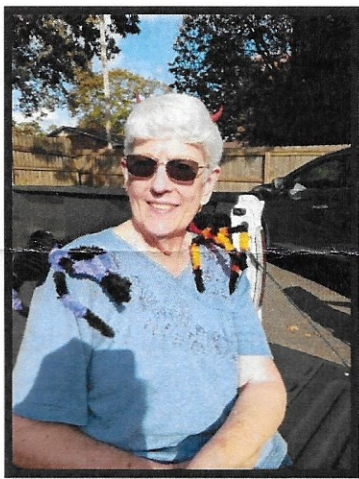


WHAT A WONDERFUL RESPONSE TO THE NEED FOR BABY CLOTHES AT THE CARE CENTER. Thank you to everyone who provided the many gifts. You were a blessing to the young ladies and once again served as the hands and feet of Christ in this community. Thank you, Susan Montgomery for taking the leadership with this project.

Blessing Boxes: Blessing Boxes are an on-going ministry of Forest Heights. We are supporting a community wide effort to provide non-perishable food items to local families in need. As you do your household shopping, please pick up a few items for the Blessing Box. Carol Bryant has been an excellent help in seeing that the items are placed in several of the community boxes. Needed items include: any non- perishable foods, hygiene supplies, cleaning supplies, baby food, formula, and diapers.

Report from the Trustees: Greg Clanin reports that the Trustees are working on several projects: evaluating our landscaping needs to prevent rain water from draining into the church, replacing light bulbs with more efficient LED blubs, and addressing leaking pipes and valves. Our old ice machine has been removed and we are waiting for our new machine to be installed. The Trustee Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, October 18th at 11:30 AM.

TRUNK OR TREAT: Once again, our Pre School is inviting our Church



family to help them with the Trunk or Treat celebration on Friday, October 27th in the church parking lot. We are needing 5-6 cars to be decorated and pass out candy or treats to the pre-school children. The decorations can be as simple as streamers and balloons or as elaborate as your imagination can make it! Don't want to decorate? Consider donating a bag of candy or a treat to be given out. Please see Cheryl Thomas if you wish to participate.

Trade Bottlecaps for Benches – Don't Drop the Top! Forest Heights has been invited to assist several churches in the Purchase District as they collect bottle caps to be recycled into memorial benches honoring the 27 lives lost in the 2021 Mayfield tornado.

YES TO THESE RECYCLED CAPS: Caps from food products such as: milk, juice, broth, peanut butter, mayonnaise, ketchup, and mustard. Other caps from toothpaste, detergent, deodorant, spray paint.

NO-NO NAUGHTY LIST: Dirty caps, caps lined with foil or cardboard, caps with any metal, bottles or containers (only tops or caps)

A bucket to collect your caps and lids is located near the church office.

