

the forcey focus

Forcey Bible Church Newsletter

February 2014



HOME GROUPS

“They will be called oaks of righteousness,
a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.” (Isa 61:3)

If you are not already in a Home Group, you need to seriously consider joining one now. Several new groups have recently started. The most recent new group is at the home of Richard and Arlene Lowe, just east of New Hampshire Ave and north of Bonifant Road.

WHAT ARE HOME GROUPS?

Home Groups help grow hearts through TLC with friendships in our neighborhood.

The primary emphasis is spiritual growth in a community of Forcey people where hearts are learning to be like Jesus.

This involves:

-  **Transforming heart - spiritual growth**
-  **Loving heart - reaching out to those far from God in the neighborhood**
-  **Caring heart - showing support and compassion to others in the group**

Home Groups are also geographically based in local neighborhoods, to allow outreach to the neighborhood. Spiritual growth develops a heart like Jesus which also looks beyond our circle of comfort to those far from God. If there is not a current Home Group in your specific neighborhood, you are welcome to join one that is most convenient to you.

Home Groups are part of the simple clearly defined process of growth to become like Jesus, providing the growth of “heart” within a structured group. They also provide a natural and necessary place for evangelism through the neighborhood focus - something often missing.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING A HOME GROUP MEETING?

There is often fellowship around food, involving all ages. Time in God’s Word involves study of the passage taught during worship on Sunday, with the focus on application using *Taking Strides*. Ways to connect with unbelievers are discussed, stories of what God is doing are shared, and prayer for each other and for our neighbors closes the evening.

Our vision at FBC is to ***be disciples intent on making disciples*** - and Home Groups are where life is most like the early church. To join a Home Group, fill out an RSVP card located in the lobby and deposit it in the box under the Home Group display, or go to www.forcey.org and click on the tabs for *Adults*, then *Home Groups*.

~ **Phil Powers, Senior Pastor**

2014
Forcey
Missions
Conference

"Watch, Pray, Do"

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should." – Col 4:2-4.

"**Watch, Pray, Do**" is the theme of this year's Missions Conference -- to be held on March 16-23, 2014. The theme begs the question: Who is supposed to do the **watching**, the **praying**, and the **doing**? Is it our Forcey Missionaries, the pastoral staff, or all of us? The answer, of course, is ALL of us! Yes, just as Paul urged (in fact commanded) the church at Colossae in the 1st century, the same holds true for each of us today in the 21st century.

This year's conference will celebrate our Missionary Family, and challenge you to consider how the life of Christ **in you** will be multiplied **through you**. We can do this by **watching**, that is "looking out," for opportunities to share, by **praying** for our missionaries and for the lost, and by **doing** the work of the Great Commission. After all, this IS what disciples intent upon making disciples are all about!

Be sure to block out time on your calendar NOW for the week of March 16-23. Special events are planned throughout the week for the entire Forcey Family including children, teens, adults, men, and women, along with our corporate worship times on Sunday. Be on the lookout for more details on how YOU and your family can "**Watch, Pray, Do.**"

~ Joan Blair, Missions Committee

LADIES, YOU ARE INVITED TO A
LUNCHEON WITH THE MISSIONARIES

Bring your friends and get together with the "girls."

Forcey missionaries serve in a variety of ministries and live in many locations but some of them will be right here with us the week of March 16-23. This luncheon will give you an opportunity to get to know our lady missionaries a little better! After sharing this time, you will have a face to picture and a voice to hear in your mind as you pray for them! Our fellowship also gives them an opportunity to know those who are standing behind them, to be encouraged to keep on with the work of the ministry.

The theme of the Mission's conference is based on Paul's urgent request in Colossians 4:2-4. (The verse is above with Missions article).

What door might God open in response to our prayers?

When we pray with an understanding of the ministry and the person, it adds fervency to our request and great joy as the answers unfold. Please plan to join us for this event!



Watch for detailed information as the time gets closer!

Soul Winning at Forcey

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Rom 10:13). In presenting the gospel, soul winners need to remember that salvation is a free gift and comes immediately to those who place their trust in the Lord Jesus. This truth is important in all witnessing situations, but especially so when the prospect is going through a severe trial. A recent encounter by a Forcey member at a local hospital illustrates this point.

When the Forcey member entered the room of an older man named Kevin, he thought at first that the patient would be unable to communicate. Despite appearances Kevin was able to carry on a two-way conversation, relating to the Forcey member that he was a retired Marine who had fought in Desert Storm. He confided that he had suffered a stroke and heart attack

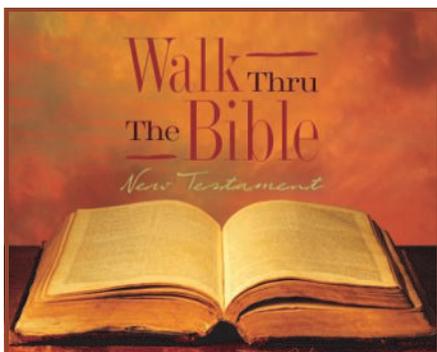
just a few days earlier, and also was fighting a losing battle with diabetes. Sensing the gravity of the situation, the Forcey member began to share with Kevin the gospel, emphasizing the sufficiency of Christ’s death to atone for his sins, and that Christ was a living Savior who was able to save him completely and immediately. He listened carefully and, when the invitation was given, eagerly called upon the Lord Jesus to be his Savior.

With deep gratitude Kevin thanked the Forcey member for visiting with him. As he left the room, the Forcey member also gave thanks in his heart that come what may this former Marine was now assured of eternal life because of his faith in Jesus Christ.

~ **Ralph Zimmerman, Evangelism Team**

BEING DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES

Want To Take Another Walk?



Many of us had a great time taking a Walk Thru the Old Testament back in October. The follow-on event (Walk Thru the New Testament) will not be offered at Forcey any time in the near future. But if you’re eager to get that training, it is being offered at the Church of the Atonement in Wheaton next month. The event will be split between Friday evening and Saturday morning, on 21-22 February. All of the information is available at the Atonement website: <http://www.atonementlife.org>.

“But I know so much about the New Testament already. Why do I need this?” Because when the event is over, you’ll know how all those pieces fit together into one grand story. You’ll understand what happened in between Malachi and Matthew. You’ll understand the influence of Greece and Rome on the culture that Jesus came into. You’ll see how God took a room full of frightened disciples and turned them into a force that changed the world.

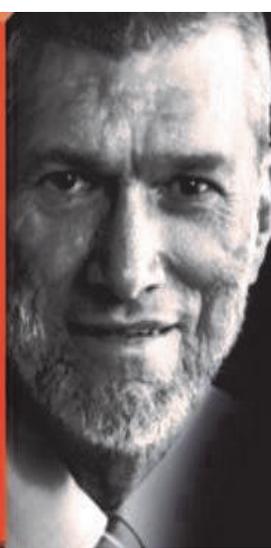
There’s always so much more to learn. Why not take a walk, and see what you learn?

~ **Bob Wiltrout, Walk Thru The Bible Facilitator**

Bill Nye
BILL NYE
THE SCIENCE GUY



DEBATE
2.4.14
AT THE
CREATION
MUSEUM.



Ken Ham
KEN HAM
ANSWERS IN GENESIS CEO

Forcey will show a live streaming of the Evolution/Creation Debate between Bill Nye, host of Bill Nye the Science Guy, and Ken Ham, President of Answers in Genesis.

The debate begins at 7 p.m. We plan to show the live stream in the Sanctuary, so please arrive at the church by 6:45, to be ready for the 7 p.m. start.

For more information about the debate, or if you are unable to attend the live stream at Forcey, visit <http://debatelive.org>.

THE HOUSE BUILT ON THE ROCK



Church Finances and our New Building

No one walking through Forcey Bible Church today can deny the great blessing it is to have our new Fellowship Hall, education wing and office suite. Our expanded facility is used seven days a week as a springboard for all manner of ministry, for which we are greatly thankful to God and to you.

As we enjoy the facility, we must also remember the debt we took on to build it and our responsibility to retire that debt as soon as we are able. Our minimum payments on the building loan are now approximately \$31,000 per month. While the church's overall financial position is strong, giving toward the loan is dropping substantially, requiring us to use monies from the General Fund to subsidize the loan payment.

We wholeheartedly thank each of you who are helping to reduce this debt. If you are not giving toward the building loan, please prayerfully consider the role God might have you play there. Gifts that are designated for the building are used 100% toward paying off the loan. No gift is too small to help move us toward the goal of being debt-free.

~ The Trustees of Forcey Bible Church

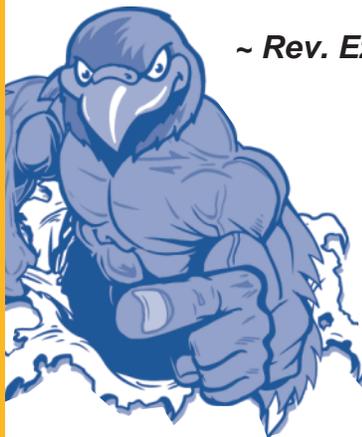
Forcey Christian School Open House

If you or families you know are interested in learning about how children age 3 through 8th grade can get a top-notch Christian education, then please consider inviting them to our open house on **Tuesday, February 4 at 7:30 PM.**

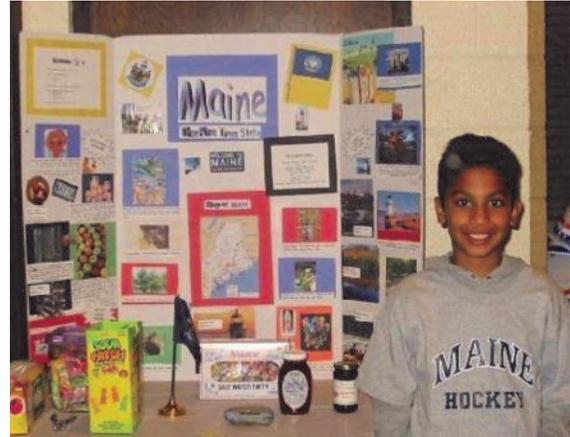
Mingle with teachers, listen to the jazz band, enjoy some refreshments, and come find out what the FCS advantage can mean to your family. You may call the office at 301-622-2281 for more information. You may also email me at zeke-wharton@forceychristianschool.org. Contact us right away to get placed on our waiting lists for the 2014-2015 school year. Priority preschool registration for Forcey Bible Church members ends February 10, and church members receive one free registration (a \$300 value).

Applications and other information will be available soon, so call the school office at 301-622-2281 to speak to our registrar (x828). Once again this year families may qualify for financial aid of up to 25% of their tuition, through a program administered by our tuition management company.

Spread the word about FCS!



~ Rev. Ezekiel Wharton, Administrator





Saturday, March 29 Lancaster, PA

Host church: Calvary Church
1051 Landis Valley Rd., Lancaster, PA 17601

Those who trust the Lord will find new strength and fly high on wings like eagles.

Life can be busy and hectic! How do you find time with God when there aren't enough hours in the day? Husbands, children, bosses, friends, cooking, car-pooling, homework, deadline after deadline...the hours just don't add up! Things can get out of control fast!

Praise God that even through our most stressful times, God is in control. SOAR is a one-day conference, created for women by women. It's designed to minister to a woman's own heart and soul within her very busy schedule. Learn from the nation's finest speakers on topics relevant to women. Topics that will refresh, renew and bring understanding from God's Word.

SOAR...a means to grow in God's love and purpose for our lives.

- S - SEEK HIS FACE DAILY**
- O - OBEY HIS LEADING**
- A - ARISE TO HIS CHALLENGES**
- R - REMEMBER HIS BLESSING**

One-Day Conference
8:30am - 4:30pm

Three Keynote Speakers
10 breakout seminar choices

Women of All Ages
(13 and up)

Christ-Centered Worship



Ruthie Davis
Living Out Your Faith In The Workplace



Sharon Norris Elliott
Power Suit: The Armor Of God Fit For The Feminine Frame



Valerie Elliot Shepard
Life In A Fish Bowl: Gentle Advice For Pastors' Wives



Gracie Malone
Off My Rocker: Grandparenting Ain't What It Used To Be



Arita Keagy
The Joy Of Seeking God First In All You Do



Gail Dudley
Transformational Prayer: Capturing and Writing Your Story



Andrea Stephens
You Are A.B.A.B.E.™ Beautiful, Accepted, Blessed & Eternally Significant

Ruth Graham
Shaunti Feldhahn
Tami Weissert

A sign-up sheet is now available at the SIS table in the church lobby. You will be contacted about payment by February 26th if we have enough participants to qualify for the early registration group rate.

Early Registration (by February 28th) Group (10 or more; price per person)	\$49.00
Early Registration (by February 28th) Individual (9 women or less)	\$59.00
Student Registration (Anytime) (ages 13-21; must be enrolled full-time)	\$29.00
Standard Registration - (March 1 or later) Group (10 women or more; price per person)	\$59.00
Standard Registration (March 1st or later) Individual \$69	\$69.00