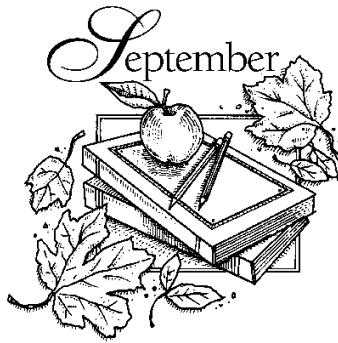


FORCEY MEMORIAL CHURCH

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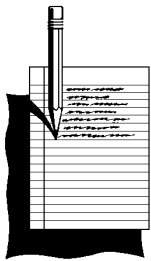
September Calendar Highlights

- 6 Band of Brothers Breakfast
- 7 Teen Parent Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- 15 SAM Trip - Jim Henson Muppet Exhibit
- 16 SAM Bible Study - 10 a.m.
- 20 Block Party 2:00 p.m.
- 27 FMC Yard Sale

FORCEY FOCUS NEWSLETTER

Just Do It!

Occasionally a slogan used to sell something can also state a principle of life that just can't be said any clearer.



A good number of people have told me recently that they have made Forcey their "home" in the last few months because of the love they experience here: "it just feels like home!" For those of you who made this happen—keep it up! However, there have been a few who said Forcey felt cold and uncaring. So we still need to improve. C.S. Lewis had some good insights for us:

"But though natural likings should normally be encouraged, it would be quite wrong to think that the way to become charitable is to sit trying to manufacture affectionate feelings. Some people are 'cold' by temperament; that may be a misfortune for them, but it is no more a sin than

having bad digestion is a sin; and it does not cut them out from the chance, or excuse them from the duty, of learning charity.

"The rule for all of us is perfectly simple. Do not waste time bothering whether you 'love' your neighbor; act as if you did. As soon as we do this we find one of the great secrets. When you are behaving as if you loved someone, you will presently come to love him. If you injure someone you dislike, you will find yourself disliking him more. If you do him a good turn, you will find yourself disliking him less. There is, indeed, one exception. If you do him a good turn, not to please God and obey the law of charity, but to show him what a fine forgiving chap you are, and to put him in your debt, and then sit down to wait for his 'gratitude' you will probably be disappointed. . . . But whenever we do good to another self, just because it is a self, made (like us) by God, and desiring its own happiness as we desire ours, we shall have learned to love it a little more, or, at least, to dislike it less. . . .

“The difference between a Christian and a worldly man is not that the worldly man has only affections or ‘likings’ and the Christian has only ‘charity.’ The worldly man treats certain people kindly because he ‘likes’ them: the Christian, trying to treat everyone kindly, finds himself liking more and more people as he goes on—including people he could not even have imagined himself liking at the beginning. . . .

“Some writers use the word charity to describe not only Christian love between human beings, but also God’s love for man and man’s love for God. About the second of these two, people are often worried. They are told they ought to love God. They cannot find any such feelings in themselves. What are they to do? The answer is the same as before. Act as if you did. Do not sit trying to manufacture feelings. Ask yourself, ‘If I were sure that I loved God, what would I do?’ When you have found the answer, go and do it.” (Mere Christianity, pp. 116-117)

Just do it!

Pastor Phil Powers

Soul Winning at Forcey

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast” (Eph 2:8-9). It is important in presenting the gospel to lost sinners to make sure that they understand that their good works cannot make them righteous before God. Once this hurdle is cleared, the prospect is not far from the kingdom of God. A recent encounter by a Forcey member at a local hospital illustrates this point.



As the Forcey member visited from room to room, he entered the room of a middle-aged patient named Charlene. When she was asked about her assurance of going to Heaven one day, Charlene responded with a “works” answer, mentioning some of her good qualities that she felt would gain her eternal life. At this point the Forcey member began to share the gospel message with her, emphasizing the fact that one’s good deeds cannot erase even one sin from their record. As he continued to press home this point, Charlene

seemed to grasp the truth of her lost condition before God because of her sins. Once she fully apprehended her true standing before God, she was ready to receive God’s gracious provision for her sins through Christ’s atoning death on the cross. Within just a few minutes she called upon the Lord Jesus to be her Saviour.

After reviewing with the patient the security of her salvation in Christ, the Forcey member departed rejoicing in his heart that Charlene now possessed Christ’s perfect righteousness instead of her own.

Ralph Zimmerman



Our Commitment to Prayer

About 4 months ago, we at Forcey made a commitment to pray for a large number of unreached people in Indonesia. These people are located in the southern part of the island of Sumatra. The vast majority have never heard the gospel in their own language, and have no outside missionaries actively working in their area. We believe that the Jesus film was translated into the regional trade language and shown in the region a dozen years ago. To the best of our knowledge, there has been no follow-up.

The center of this region is a large city. There is a small Christian presence in the city, and perhaps a half-dozen small churches. It is a relatively tolerant part of Indonesia, although last July the Indonesian government broke up a major terrorist cell operating in the area.

Our primary concern is with the 14 separate people groups in the regions surrounding the city. In these communities there is no significant Christian presence, and the Gospel is not available. We are praying primarily for the people of the region – although prayer for the people of the city is certainly permissible!

We have just been advised that we should not be too visible in our focus. If our specific interest and commitment becomes known to strong Muslims, they might respond by targeting that region themselves. J. never speaks the name of her particular tribe. Her prayer team knows the real name, but in correspondence and in the worship services, only the general reference is used.

We have been praying in our public worship services for “the people of ...” since early April. From now on, we will be praying for “the people of southern Sumatra.” But you’ll know who we mean. In your personal prayer life, in your small groups and Bible studies, in any semi-private situations, we would encourage you to specifically pray for the people of the region.

In future issues of the FOCUS, we will highlight some of those individual groups, so you can pray even more specifically during that month. That information might be provided under a heading like “Sumatra”, or “Geography Lesson” or “Did You Know?” But it’s there to help inform your prayers with more detailed information.

Thank you for praying! Thank you for being faithful! Trust God for Great Things in this difficult part of the world.

Bob Wiltrout

Mark your calendar for upcoming special missions events!



Christmas in October

Saturday, October 18

Enjoy fellowship with our missionaries.

Breakfast 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Teen Family Night 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

ACMC Conference

(Advancing Churches in Missions Commitment)

November 7 & 8

Forcey is hosting the ACMC Conference. If you would like to volunteer to help with the conference, contact Mark Heazlit, markheazlit@gmail.com or Ann Hunt, ann-hunt@forcey.org.

See www.acmc.org for more details. Check with the church office for information about a Forcey discount.

"Welcoming Team"

Forcey needs your smile! Come join the "Welcoming Team" at the Welcome Center. You will greet guests, help them find their way around the building, answer questions, and be alert for security and medical emergencies. Time commitment is one hour a month. If you would like to be a part of this trained team, meet Sunday, September 28, from 12:30 to 1:30 in room 227/229 for an informational/training session led by Pastor Phil. A pizza lunch will be served. All current members of the Forcey Welcome Center are welcome and expected to attend. Questions? Contact Sarah Madden, sarah.r.madden@gmail.com.



SIS DAY RETREAT "SPIRITUAL FRIENDS" OCTOBER 4, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m

If you have ever slammed your finger in a door, you know that when one part of your body hurts, the entire body goes on "high alert" to stop the pain, to protect from further injury, and to begin the healing process. It should be just like that in the Body of Christ as well!

- ☞ My friend's husband died yesterday. How can I comfort her?
- ☞ I have a family member who is angry and running from God. What should I say or do to help him turn back?
- ☞ My co-worker often seems to be in conflict with our boss. What should I do that will encourage her to respond correctly?
- ☞ I wish my single friend felt more connected. Any ideas how I can be a better friend to her?

On **Saturday, October 4** we will have the opportunity to learn to provide “**God's care for the soul**” of a



fellow believer ~ applying godly principles in Christ-centered relationships. This Day Retreat will give you the opportunity to come away from your busy schedule, gather or sharpen the skills needed to be a

Spiritual Friend, and fellowship with your *Sisters in Symphony*.

Our keynote speaker is **Mrs. Ellen Barney**, the First Lady and Director of Women's Ministries at New Antioch Baptist Church in Randallstown, MD. Ellen is a

wife, mother, grandmother, and a licensed professional counselor, a national certified counselor, and adjunct professor for Capital Bible Seminary. A gifted teacher, administrator and speaker, she has a burden for the women of God as well as bringing the unsaved to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Mrs. Barney holds a Masters of Arts Degree in Christian Counseling and Discipleship from CBS and a Masters of Science Degree in Pastoral Counseling from Loyola College in Baltimore, MD.

She has served as Director of Women's Ministries at New Antioch Baptist Church of Randallstown for over 16 years, guiding the spiritual growth and Christian education of hundreds of women. Ellen teaches Women's Discipleship classes, as well as classes for Lay Encouragers and Disciples aimed to equip women to impact others for Christ.

Register in Person:

At the SIS Table in the Church Lobby on Sunday mornings throughout September.

Or, by mail:

Registration forms are available at the SIS Table on Sunday mornings or from the church office. Please include registration form and check made out to Forcey Memorial Church.

Mail to: Forcey Memorial Church
Attn: Sisters in Symphony
2130 E Randolph Rd
Silver Spring, MD 20904

For Questions:

By Phone - Sandy Van Bibber or Dawn Ford in the church office | 301-622-2200 M – F

By E-mail - Neva Powers | philneva@comcast.net

*THE MINISTRIES of
Sisters in Symphony ARE GROWING!*

Forcey Memorial Church is rich! We have women at every stage of life, with every type of personality, from many different cultures and nations, with a wide variety of talents, abilities, and gifts. And each woman at Forcey, from the casual attender to the busiest worker, has an impact on someone else in the Body of Christ whether intentional or incidental. Believing that God has called us to make fully devoted followers of Christ (Matt 28:19), the *Sisters in Symphony* ministries exist to provide resources and encouragement for women in each stage of life with the goal of producing spiritually mature women who intentionally impact the people God brings across our path. (Colossians 1:9-12)

To meet that commitment, the leadership team has identified five major areas of ministry that need to continue to be developed and expanded through ministry teams. We are in the process of forming

teams that will be led by 2 or 3 co-coordinators and will have limitless possibilities for your involvement at a variety of levels from "mom-sized" jobs to leadership roles. Some teams have small year-round opportunities, others involve preparation and planning for annual or biennial events, and some teams will focus on networking and communicating. There are opportunities that will require very little preparation time, and some that will give you an opportunity to brainstorm and dream, while still others will give you freedom to express your creative side. **THERE IS A PLACE FOR EVERY WOMAN TO BE CONNECTED** - a little or a lot! Help us help you find your niche in the opportunities for women at Forcey - give us an opportunity to get to know you and to encourage you wherever you are in your walk with the Lord!

START NOW! Pick up a SIS brochure at the table in the church lobby to see what activities and events are taking place on a regular basis. **Join us** on October 4 at the Day Retreat for a time of learning, encouragement, and fellowship. **Pray** with your SIS on Saturday morning from 7:00 -8:00 a.m. in room 220 whenever your schedule permits. **Mark your calendar** for the SIS Christmas Celebration on Tuesday, December 9.

Contact Neva Powers at philneva@comcast.net or Sandy or Dawn in the church office 301 622-2200 to explore where you and your gifts, interests, and personality are needed in a ministry.

**Body & Soul Fitness
"All The World" Fall 2008**



**"...let your light shine before men that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."
Matthew 5:16**

The new session of Body & Soul Fitness, *All The World*, is about shining your light, and sharing God's love to those around us as we *follow the Son, rejoicing and resting in Him* along this *journey* of life.

Jesus said "I am the light of the world. If you follow Me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you have the light that leads to life," Jesus shared not what the light was but Who the Light is. The lyrics to one of the songs this session encourages us to reflect the Light: "All the world is a place for me to be your voice, to be your touch, to give an answer, to show your love, to hold out hope, to offer peace, to shine your light for all the world to see."

This session also encourages us to reach out to those around us. As followers of Christ, we have so much to offer others. There is power in genuine love; Power to change the world...one deed...one circumstance...one life at a time. "It just takes one...to change a life forever, touch the world and make it better." (From song: *It Just Takes One*)

Ladies are invited to join us for the fall session of Body & Soul Fitness, *All The World*. Our 75-minute workout includes cardio, strength, flexibility, Pilates, and core training. Exercise programming is designed to help equip ladies for activities of daily living.

Classes meet Saturday mornings at 8:30 beginning September 13th. Remember to bring your mat, water bottle, weights, and dyna-bands. For more information call Jennifer White, rjslwhite@msn.com.



Isaiah

A scriptural study of the first major prophet of Israel. Isaiah predicted the Babylonian captivity, the return of an Israelite remnant, and named the Persian ruler who would release them – Cyrus the Great – 150 years before Cyrus' birth. He forecast the birth of the Messiah by a virgin 400 years before Christ's birth. He first described the throne of God. This is a new course from Precept Ministries open to both men and women beginning September 11, 7:00-9:00 p.m. Call George Lane for details, 301-469-6523.

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) Ministry

Has your first name recently been changed to "Mommy?" Do you find "treasures" in your laundry – like rocks, paper clips, or Polly Pocket shoes? Do you miss moments of free time – even in the bathroom? Would you like the companionship of

other moms going through the same joys and challenges that you face each day?

If your answer to any of these questions is "YES!" then MOPS is for you!

MOPS is an international Christian organization that tries to meet the needs of moms who share a desire to be the very best moms they can be! This year, based on our theme, *Adventures in Mothering*, we will be learning more about ourselves as we go through the adventure of motherhood, celebrating and embracing the fun in the experiences, even in the midst of daily mom life.

Our first meeting is Tuesday, September 9th, from 9:15-11:30 a.m., with monthly meetings held the second Tuesday of each month. Child care is provided for ages 3 months through five years old.

If you are interested in joining this fun, spirit-filled group of women, let us know – spaces are filling quickly.

Contacts: Amy Miller, Coordinator, 301-460-0250
Jinny Szabo, Registration, 301-890-2014
E-mail: forceymops@yahoo.com

Opportunities are also available to volunteer with MOPPETS. This ministry supports MOPS by providing loving, curriculum-based childcare while the MOPS group meets. If you love children and would like to help, contact Maribel Avlonitis, 301-474-6980.

Block Party

On September 20, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m., we are having our 4th annual block party. Why do we do it? Why spend the money and energy on an event that only lasts one day? Is it worth it? Good questions. This is what has happened other years....

- 1200-1800 children, women, and men from our community visit us, and participate in our events.
- We get to feed them, distribute free clothes, and entertain with inflatable games, live music, drama, puppet shows, stories, and prizes.
- Our evangelism team does follow up and meets with these families throughout the

year in their homes. Relationships are built and some come to the Lord.

- We are friendly with our neighbors and bridges are built. Every year dozens give their hearts to the Lord as opportunity is given from the platform at the party
- Our church is unified, working together as servants to our neighbors as we prepare, rehearse, prayer walk, and gather to give.

What do you think? Is it worth it?

If you believe it is, I would encourage you to sign-up to help. There is much to be done! See the sign-up board. We also need funds. And most important, prayer! It has been said *“If you want to see the hand of God upon your efforts, you must seek the face of God in your preparations.”* I invite you to join us prayer walking our neighborhood. God changes our hearts and gives us a love for our community as we walk by homes praying for each person. Plus you get a little exercise and fellowship midweek! Idea: take on a project as a small group!

Be a blessing! Feel free to contact me at art-kennedy@forcey.org.

Art Kennedy

Thank You for the 75th Anniversary Celebration

This year marked an event like no other in the life of Forcey—a celebration of 75 years of God's faithfulness to His church and devoted servants. How did Forcey Memorial Church survive that long with all the issues facing the church these days? The answer is Christ Himself. During the Great Depression of 1933, the Lord's provisions were on a man who had a passion for both soul winning and making disciples—Dr. Clark Forcey. From what began as “tent meeting revivals” in D.C., to a community outreach in Silver Spring, to a passion for global missions, God has continued to bless.

The evening of celebration included memories of the past, encouragement from Wesley Willis, Ed Titcomb, Pastor Small, and Pastor Phil, along with a great variety of worship in music. For me it was a time of reflecting on what it takes to be a devoted follower of Jesus Christ. I was challenged in my

relationship and personal walk in response to the sacrifice He made on the cross for our sins so that we may obtain His forgiveness and mercy to live a life consecrated to Him. To God be the glory for the great things He has done. Happy 75th Anniversary!!

Kelvin Deril Basnight