

# THE FOREST HILL NEWS

Published weekly by the Forest Hill church of Christ

*Visit our Website at [www.foresthillchurch.org](http://www.foresthillchurch.org)*

## **Forest Hill Church of Christ**

3950 Forest Hill-Irene Rd.  
Memphis, TN 38125

Office: (901) 751-2444  
Fax: (901) 751-9711  
Info Line: (901) 392-2449

### **Elders:**

Anthony D. Callahan  
Floyd M. Hayes  
Harold D. Mangrum  
Leonard Watson

### **Ministers:**

Barry M. Grider  
Matthew L. Martin

## **VISIT US SOON!**

### **Sunday:**

Bible Study..... 9:30 A..M.  
Morning Worship.....10:30 A.M.  
Evening Worship..... 6:00 P.M.

### **Wednesday:**

Bible Study .....7:00 P.M.

**HOME OF  
MEMPHIS SCHOOL OF  
PREACHING**  
[www.msop.org](http://www.msop.org)

### **Missions Supported:**

Iglesia de Cristo (Getwell)  
Kakinada, India  
Manila, Philippines  
Murmansk, Russia  
Far East/World Evangelism  
In Search of the Lord's Way  
Truth for the World

Volume 33

June 21, 2005

Number 25

## **A MEDLEY OF MATTERS**

Barry M. Grider

### **Memphis School Of Preaching Graduation Service**

Once again the Forest Hill congregation had to say goodbye to a number of special families. Students received their certificate of graduation this past Sunday evening. We often agonize over the loss of these Students, along with their wives and children, because we grow so close to them. Yet, we realize they are here for a reason. They are here to get a solid, sound biblical education, which will help them preach the glorious gospel of Christ. Almost all of these graduates have a located work into which they will soon enter. The graduation service was truly a memorable occasion. Esteemed gospel preacher, Garland Elkins, who serves as Dean of Public Relations, in the Memphis School of Preaching, delivered the commencement address. Brother Curtis Cates, outstanding director of the school, presented the graduates with their certificates, as each received congratulations from our faithful elders. While we are proud of each student and the diligent work put forth while studying in the intensive program, several brethren did receive special honors. John Barker, Mike Dugger, and Roger Goodwin were recognized for academic excellence. Jason Hilburn was selected for the Outstanding Student Award. Jeremy Walls was chosen as the most improved student. The service was brought to a close with two powerful hymns, "Valiant Soldiers of Christ Our King" (written by W.D. Jeffcoat in honor of Memphis School of Preaching) and "God Bless You, Go With God," led by Stephen Sutton. We appreciate so much brother Sutton, who has so ably directed our singing during the past year. He, too, received his graduation certificate, and will be moving on. We love our graduates and bid them Godspeed. New students are already arriving. Summer session begins June 27.

### **Matthew Martin Begins Work With Forest Hill**

Among our graduates, Matthew Martin, will be staying at Forest Hill. Several months ago our elders selected Matt as our new associate minister. I could not be happier. Matt is an outstanding young man. He will not only be my co-worker in the daily responsibilities at Forest Hill, but will also work with our youth and in the area of personal evangelism. Matt and his new bride, Lauren, just got married this past Saturday evening. It was an honor for me to perform the wedding ceremony. The newlyweds are now on their "honeymoon" in The Great Smoky Mountains. We anxiously await their return. Matt is a good writer. Please read his article on page 4.

### **Upcoming Activities**

Forest Hill is a vibrant, active congregation. We have something going on all of the time. This Sunday evening do not forget about our ice cream supper and finger food fellowship following the service. This has become an annual event and is most enjoyable. So bring out the freezers and bring your favorite flavor of ice cream to share.

I will also begin a new series this Sunday evening which will continue throughout the summer. Our theme will be, "The Seven churches of Asia." Come and hear what Jesus said to these various congregations. He is still speaking today through His word. We need to listen and heed the Master.

Also, mark your calendars for July 18-22. This will be Vacation Bible School week. Our theme will be, "Steps of Salvation." This fundamental series is always relevant to study. VBS will begin each morning at 9:30 a.m. Classes are preschool—6th grade. This will be a great week. It will also be a good time for our youth to "break in" Matt.

## SOMETHING TO REMEMBER COME SUNDAY

Dan Winkler

As Christians, public worship is one of our greatest privileges. Every week we are blessed to assemble and openly adore God by offering “the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name” (Heb. 13:17).

In fact, in this one verse of the Bible, we can learn the following:

### First, Worship is a “Concession.”

It is a time in which we are blessed to “sacrifice.” We sacrifice:

- Our feelings-in the songs that we sing;
- Our independence-by entrusting our cares to the process of prayer;
- Our monies-via the sacrificial giving of our means
- Our interests in everything else-when we pause to remember the death of God’s dear Son;
- Our thoughts-to a careful study and proclamation of God’s word.

We also sacrifice our preferences and dictates of culture by yielding to the specifics of God’s precepts for worship. In worship we sacrifice!

### Second, Worship is an “Expression.”

It is a time of “praise.” One of the main words translated worship (proskuneo) means, “to kiss toward.” It implies, respectfully, “blowing a kiss toward God.” In worship, we are blessed to pause and express the depth of our love and the breadth of our appreciation to God, our redeemer!

### Third, Worship is a “Confession.”

Instead of the words “giving thanks to His name,” some translations more accurately read, “which makes confession [literally, “which say the same thing”] to his name.” For example, in worship we say what God says about His majesty, His greatness and His authority.

Thoughts such as these remind us that our times of public worship are the happiest, yea, the greatest hours of our week and ...well, that is Something To Remember Come Sunday.

## DYNAMIC WORSHIP

Clarence DeLoach

Have you ever heard someone say, “I just don’t get much out of the worship service”? Such a statement could be a reflection upon the worshipper rather than the service. Study these suggestions that could help put quality into your worship.

1. **Make Sunday worship a priority.** It is the most important commitment of the week. It is nothing less than a meeting with God.
2. **Don’t bring God left-overs.** God has always demanded “first fruits.” He will not be satisfied with scraps. Get plenty of sleep on Saturday night and come to worship with an alert and refreshed mind.
3. **Prepare your mind.** Discipline begins in the mind and so does discipleship. Train your mind to concentrate on spiritual things.
4. **Be on time.** Rushing in late makes it difficult for you to settle into meditation and it disturbs other worshippers.
5. **Bring your Bible.** Coming to worship without your Bible is like going to drive your car without your keys.
6. **Open your mouth and sing.** Singing is not an option. It is a command. Those who violate this command are just as guilty as if they had neglected the assembly in the first place.
7. **Be friendly.** Worship is enhanced when done as a family. The members of the Lord’s family should know and love each other.
8. **Listen carefully to the sermon.** Taking notes will help. Follow along in your Bible. Take the message seriously: it will help you. It will encourage the speaker and he will do a better job.
9. **Make your worship God-centered, not man-centered.** Worship is primarily a giving situation. It is in the giving of ourselves that we get. No giving, no getting. Think about this the next time you hear someone say, “I just don’t get much out of the worship service!”

