



# The Edge

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FOREST HILLS CHURCH

### *From the Pastor's Perspective*

### Monthly Church Events

*"Bless the Lord, oh my soul, and let everything in me bless His holy name! Let my whole being bless the Lord and never forget all his good deeds!" -Psalm 103:1-2*

Messy love messes with our messed-up minds!

In September we looked closely at the four times where the Bible gives the Second Greatest Commandment, to "Love others as yourself." We found that this way of love—which God calls His people to live—is messy! Loving others isn't easy, and this has revealed the inner conflict within each of us as we try to live our daily lives.

This month we begin our next message series: Battles from the Boardroom of the Soul. This was a series originally back in 2002 by Rev. Colin S. Smith (born in Scotland, trained in London), who now serves as senior pastor of Orchard Evangelical Free church in Illinois.

We're going to be taking a fresh look at this series, although still with the same six Board Members of the Soul: Mind, Heart, Will, Conscience, Memory, and Imagination. Our daily decisions are made in the messy debate among these six characters: big and small decisions, important and mundane. Each board member brings a different approach, along with strengths and blind sides. All six go after each issue, each decision, each action, and together they determine the outcomes we each make.

Most of us experience a lot of inner struggle as we are called by God to live holy and godly lives, while wrestling with the selfish pulls and vested interests of each of our six board members. We usually don't pay much attention to the competing interests as the inner debate continues. For many of us, our "boards" meet seemingly behind closed doors to hammer out the great issues of our lives, and we are even surprised by what we actually think, do, and say.

There are, however, seven chairs in the boardrooms of our

*Continued on page 2...*

<b>Oct 1</b>	10:30 am - Book club 12:00 pm - Sarah Circle
<b>Oct 2</b>	7:00 am - Grow Group
<b>Oct 3</b>	9:00 am - Unite Methodist Men
<b>Oct 4</b>	10:00am - Holy Communion Outdoor & Online Worship
<b>Oct 5</b>	8:00 am - Morning Men, Prayer Knitters, Comfort Quilters
<b>Oct 7</b>	6:30 pm - Wednesday Night Programing for all ages 7:30 pm - Sanctified Rehearsal
<b>Oct 8</b>	1:00 pm - UMW Meeting 6:30 pm - AMT Meeting
<b>Oct 9</b>	7:00 am - Grow Group
<b>Oct 10</b>	5:45 pm - Adult Fellowship
<b>Oct 11</b>	8:30 am - Grow Group 10:00 am - In Person & Online Worship 11:30 am - Grow Group
<b>Oct 12</b>	8:00 am -Morning Men, Prayer Knitters, Comfort Quilters 8:00 pm - Grow Group Zoom
<b>Oct 14</b>	6:30 pm - Grow Groups No Kid Programing MEA Break 7:30 pm - Sanctified Rehearsal
<b>Oct 16</b>	7:00 am - Grow Group 2:00 pm - Unload Food Truck
<b>Oct 17</b>	6:00 am - Set - up Comm. Care 8:00 am - Community Care
<b>Oct 18</b>	8:30 am - Grow Group 10:00 am - In Person & Online Worship 11:30 am - Grow Group
<b>Oct 19</b>	8:00 am -Morning Men, Prayer Knitters, Comfort Quilters 8:00 pm - Grow Group Zoom

## Pastor's Perspective Cont.

souls! The seventh chair is the Board Chair's chair. Sometimes, on good days, Jesus sits in the chair. Sometimes an outside competing interest takes the spot. From time to time, one of the six board members shifts over to the Chair's chair. But most often, the chair sits empty.

In this series, we will open the doors of our souls board. We will learn about how we make our decisions and determine our actions, and the struggles and debate that go on there. But most importantly, we will also hear the Bible's call to invite the Holy Spirit to sit in the Chair's chair. We will learn how to do that, and how when we do, the board functions as it was intended. This is the way God created us to run. No, it does not get easy, and the debate never subsides. But when we invite the Holy Spirit to serve as the chair of the board, we are able to work "of one mind" to pursue holiness of mind, heart, and life.

Join me on the journey this fall as we head (pun intended) inward. Be ready to open the doors of the boardroom of your soul and intentionally install the Holy Spirit as your Board Chair. A great future awaits us when we do!

Pastor David

<b>Oct 20</b>	10:00 am - Rebecca Circle
<b>Oct 21</b>	6:30 pm - Wednesday Night Programing 7:30 pm - Sanctified Rehearsal
<b>Oct 22</b>	6:30 pm - Grow Group
<b>Oct 23</b>	7:00 am - Grow Group
<b>Oct 25</b>	8:30 am - Grow Group 10:00 am - In Person & Online Worship 11:30 am - Grow Group
<b>Oct 26</b>	8:00am -Morning Men, Prayer Knitters, Comfort Quilters 8:00 pm - Grow Group
<b>Oct 28</b>	6:30 pm - Wednesday Night Programing 7:30 pm - Sanctified Rehearsal
<b>Oct 29</b>	6:30 pm - Grow Group
<b>Oct 30</b>	7:00 am - Grow Group
<b>Oct 31</b>	9:00 am - Fall Craft Fair 5:30 pm - Trunk-or-Treat

## Sunday worship moving indoors starting Oct. 11!

The seasons are changing and mornings are crisp. We are also launching our new message series and grow groups that Sunday. We are asking people to wear masks and stay distanced while indoors (we will have every other pew roped off). The pre-recorded service will continue to be available by email and on the church website by Saturday evening.

## Custodian Change

For the last five years (since February 2015), Jeff Hill has faithfully kept our church clean and usable. He has come in behind the scenes and made sure our facility is ready for ministry. His routine was coming in late afternoons each week day especially to keep the Head Start area shiny. He also came in on Community Care weekends to help out. We really enjoyed visiting with him Wednesday evenings when he stayed to eat and fellowship. Last year Jeff and his wife Sue moved to North Branch. In September, Jeff had a knee replaced, and he decided it was time to step away. We miss him, we so appreciate his faithful service, and we pray God's blessings on him as he recovers. An expression of our thanks is being extended to him on behalf of our church.

CMMT hired Matt Lindholm to serve as our church custodian, starting last week. Matt usually will be coming in late in the evenings each weekday to make everything spiffy (he is budgeted for 14-16 hours per week). He will also do the snow removal from the side walks this winter. Thank you, Matt, for serving not just as a job, but as a ministry among our church family. Welcome!

A special thank you goes to Lynn Ruter who has graciously stepped in to help keep our church sanitized during these past few months and who always is willing to fill in for temporary custodial coverage. She does a phenomenal job, and she has made our church able to keep moving in times of change.



## Trunk or Treat 2020

This year has been a marathon! We have been inundated with bad news about Covid statistics, bad news about wildfires and bad news about social unrest in many of our major cities. On top of all of that, we are not able to spend time with each other in the same ways. With all this bad news, people are sure to have a more depressed outlook. Our way of life has been diminished, especially the way we celebrate holidays and special occasions.

But this year, as Halloween approaches, we can finally take a bit of comfort in the fact that we mark this day by wearing masks anyway! As Halloween rolls around, we want to once again provide our community with a fun event for the whole family. We want to usher in a bit of joy to a time when things are so abnormal.

Speaking of abnormal, we need you! Wear a costume, decorate your car, supply some candy and bring your smile (even if it can't be seen)! This year is an especially great opportunity to let our neighbors know how much fun church can be, how God desires for them to experience his joy and how, even in this year, we can celebrate with a little normalcy.

Join us for Trunk or Treat Halloween night from 5:30 -7:30pm. Contact the office if you would like to host a trunk, donate some candy to the cause and let your neighbors know the best place to get candy this year: Forest Hills Church!

For the King,  
- Pastor Andrew

## Oct Birthdays

May your special day be blessed and filled with joy! If your birthday isn't listed, please call the office and let us know so we can add you to the list!

Nancy Fredrick 10/4  
Judy Dittberner 10/5  
Roy Pope 10/11  
Nathan Werner 10/12  
Amanda Rydell 10/16  
Silas Bonsell 10/18  
Shane Kargel 10/25

Bev Johnson 10/7  
Delores Ford 10/10  
Kay Bergerson 10/12  
David Werner 10/16  
Erik Kargel 10/17  
Mason Lindholm 10/18  
Julianne Benson 10/26





## Youth Group

We started off our year strong with 6 teens attending youth group on Wednesday nights. Our first message series was “Start Fresh.” We talked about having a clean start in life because God offers each of us a new life that transforms us and leaves us changed forever.

Our next series is “Blood & Guts” This four-week series walks students through the book of Hebrews, introducing them to key theological concepts in an engaging and practical way. The impact of Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross is most clearly understood when seen in the context of the Old Testament sacrificial system (the blood). But we want to help students see how to live out the practical side of what Hebrews means for them (the guts). This series will help do both!

Week 1: Jesus’ Divinity and Humanity

Week 2: Old Test. Sacrificial System

Week 3: The Hall of Faith

Week 4: Perseverance and Hope

We also have exciting news as a group from Bethel College will be coming this fall to lead a night of testimony, devotions and games. So, keep a look out for the date of that night!

Cassi Betker

Director of Youth Ministry



## Fall Grow Groups



Grow Groups are starting Oct. 11th! They may look a bit different, but we are committed to keep growing!

This season we are focusing on “how to handle the bad stuff.” The groups focus on handling conflict, the polarization of our culture and when life gets tough. We also have a group looking at Star Wars and how it can show how to share our Faith in Christ. To find out more information about each of these groups check out our website [here](#).

We also recognize that we are in unprecedented times and know that not every one is ready to meet in-person yet. That is why we are offering both in-person and Zoom groups this fall. If you are ready to sign up for a group you can go to our website [here](#) or sign up in the lobby on one of the clipboards or if you just can’t wait give the office a call and Cassi will sign you up.

## Membership Class

All people who get involved with Forest Hills Church become part of the church family! We invite active people also to consider becoming a Professing Member. Professing Members are those who “own” our church’s ministry and commit to making it happen. The five commitments are to support our church by your Time, Talents, Gifts, Service, and Witness. We hope to offer a 2-session Membership Class in early November. If you are interested in becoming a Professing Member, please connect with Pastor David.

## UMW FALL CRAFT SHOW: OCTOBER 31st

The United Methodist Women will be hosting their annual Fall Craft Show on Saturday, Oct. 31st from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will have our handmade crafts available for purchase as well as a prayer center available for any and all prayer needs. Sadly, we will not be doing a bake sale this year.

Due to the current pandemic situation, food will not be served on-site however our famous beef vegetable soup will be available in a to-go format! Our fabulous caramel rolls will be put on hold at this time but please watch for them at another time during 2021.

For the 2020 Craft Show, 25% of all proceeds will be donated to the newly opened Amborella House - a local women's shelter recently featured by the new ministry Hope Moves. We still have some volunteer opportunities available this year, even in this new format. Please see the sign-up table for soup ingredient donations and craft show volunteer sign-ups. We are also seeking craft donations as well! If you are interested in donating your homemade, new crafts please bring them to the church on Friday, October 30th between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm. Thank you in advance for your continued support!

If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Lucas or Gina Lindholm.



## Action Ministry Team (AMT) Update

It's hard to believe the year of 2020 is almost over. It's been a year we will never forget. Pandemic mandates, racism continuing to raise it's ugly head, lives lost, election woes, lost jobs, these are just a few terrible things we've endured this year. However, I also see people going out of their way to help those that have lost jobs, essential healthcare workers working long hours to care for Covid-19 patients, helping clean up streets in Minneapolis after looting, churches finding new ways to reach people for Christ.

Forest Hills has had to make many changes these last few months. Virtual grow group and leadership meetings, figuring out new ways to offer worship experiences, approving a pandemic plan, changing many activities to "outdoor experiences", these are just some of the few. The most important piece I see is the way God threads His message of hope through all things. At the beginning and end of our AMT meetings we pray.

We pray that our ears will be open to listen for God's words, that we as leaders will communicate and discern together the continuing vision for our church. We thank God that He forgives our failures and continues to push us out of our boxes to "dream new dreams for our church".

My prayer for all of you is that you will see the "hope" and find peace and comfort in the knowledge that our Lord and Savior has a plan for us.

God is good, all the time!

Your Lay Leader, Marilee Leonard