# She Ecces Monthly NEWSLETTER OF FOREST-HILLS CHURCH

# **From the Pastors**

#### "Rebuilding with Nehemiah: A Journey of Restoration"

The upcoming sermon series, "Rebuilding with Nehemiah: A Journey of Restoration," holds promise for a deep dive into Nehemiah's life, offering valuable insights for our lives as adults navigating the challenges of today's world. Nehemiah's narrative isn't just a historical account but a blueprint for resilience, leadership, and faith that crosses generations.

In delving into Nehemiah's story, we unearth a treasure trove of timeless wisdom applicable to our modern lives. Nehemiah's response to the broken walls of Jerusalem isn't merely an ancient anecdote but a mirror to the brokenness we encounter in our own lives—be it personal struggles, relational hurdles, or societal challenges. His burden for the state of the city walls reflects our own concerns for the well-being of our communities, families, and even our own inner struggles.

The series offers a unique exploration of prayer, a pivotal aspect of Nehemiah's leadership. His reliance on prayer and seeking divine guidance in the face of adversity sets a compelling example. Through Nehemiah's experiences, we learn the profound impact of seeking God's direction in times of upheaval, highlighting prayer as a powerful source of guidance and strength amidst trials and when seeking renewal.

Nehemiah's stress on working together and staying strong when facing challenges hits close to home in today's world. His story feels like a manual, showing us ways to keep going and keep believing in God's guidance. In a world where we face so many obstacles, Nehemiah's experiences offer us insights on trusting in God's direction.

Nehemiah's strong dedication to worship and obeying God's ways, makes us want to align our lives with what God wants for us. His commitment serves as a vivid reminder of the significance of infusing every action, decision, and moment with praise to our God. His unwavering commitment shows how important it is to put real honesty and true dedication into everything we do, especially when life gets tricky and busy.

### **Monthly Church Events**

Jan 1	NEW YEARS DAY OFFICE CLOSED			
Jan 3	4:30pm - PAX - Andrew 5:30pm - Free Meal Served 6:15pm - Family game Night 7:30m - Sanctify Rehearsal			
Jan 4	10:00am - PAX - Sue 12:00pm - Sarah Circle 6:30pm - PAX - Julie (Remote)			
Jan 5	8:00am - Grow Group			
Jan 7	HOLY COMMUNION 10:00am - Worship			
Jan 8	6:45AM - Breakfast Club 8:00am - Monday Morning Men - Prayer Shawl Knitters 8:00am - PAX - Andrew 10:00am - Comfort Quilters 10:00am - PAX - Tracy Hansen			
Jan 10	10:00am - Birchwood 4:30pm - PAX - Andrew 5:30pm - Free Meal Served 6:15pm - Evening Programs 7:30pm - Sanctify Rehearsal			
Jan 11	1:00pm - UWF - Exec Board 6:30pm - PAX - Julie (Remote)			
Jan 12	8:00am - Grow Group			
Jan 13	5:00pm - Adult fellowship			
Jan 14	10:00am - Worship			

Lastly, reflecting on Nehemiah's legacy encourages us to contemplate the footprints we're leaving for the future. This sermon series invites us to consider the impact we're making and how our faithfulness today contributes to a legacy of steadfastness and restoration for generations to come. His life isn't just a narrative confined to ancient walls; it's a living testament to the timeless truth that our actions, regardless of the challenges we face, should resonate with our commitment to God. Join us in this journey through Nehemiah's story, where ancient wisdom meets our contemporary challenges, offering guidance and inspiration for our lives.

1.7 Sermon 1: "Broken Walls, Burdened Hearts" – Pastor Cassi • Nehemiah 1:1-4

1.14 Sermon 2: "The Power of Prayerful Leadership" – Pastor Andrew

• Nehemiah 1 & 2

1.21 Sermon 3: "Unity and Collaboration in Restoration" – Pastor Andrew

• Nehemiah 3

1.28 Sermon 4: "Overcoming Opposition and Adversity" – Pastor Andrew

Nehemiah 4-6

2.4 Sermon 5: "A Heart Set on Worship and Obedience" – Pastor Andrew

- Nehemiah 8-10
- 2.11 Sermon 6: "Passing on the Legacy" Pastor Cassi
- Nehemiah 12-13

#### Blessings

**Pastor Cassi Betker** 

## **Read The Bible In A Year**

As 2024 breaks upon us, we have taken on the challenge at Forest Hills Church to read through the entire bible this year! From the familiar parts to the sections we never open, the Bible is worth reviewing. And even though we are separated from the biblical authors by thousands of years, we believe God still speaks primarily through the bible. Even when it comes to Jesus, whom we serve and worship, the bible is our source of information on who he is and what he has done. As we read through some of the tougher parts of the Old Testament, we begin to realize that these words were the same bible Jesus read, the same bible in which Jesus trusted. Though it is made up of 66 books written by 40 different authors, we can't really see how it all comes together unless we read it all together.

Jan 15	8:00am - Monday Morning Men 8:00am - PAX - Andrew 9:00am - Birthday Breakfast 10:00am - Comfort Quilters 10:00am - PAX - Tracy Hansen			
Jan 16	10:00am - Rebecca circle 6:30pm - AD Council			
Jan 17	11:30am - Romeos/Juliets 4:30pm - PAX - Andrew 5:30pm - Free Meal Served 6:15pm - Evening Programs 7:30pm - Sanctify Rehearsal			
Jan 18	10:00am - PAX - Sue 6:30pm - PAX - Julie (Remote)			
Jan 19	8:00am - Grow Group 2:00pm - Unload Food Truck			
Jan 20	7:00am - Food Distribution			
Jan 21	10:00am - Worship			
Jan 22	8:00am - Monday Morning Men - Prayer Shawl Knitters 8:00am - PAX - Andrew 10:00am - Comfort Quilters 10:00am - PAX - Tracy Hansen			
Jan 24	4:30pm - PAX - Andrew 5:30pm - Free Meal Served 6:15pm - Evening Programs 7:30pm - Sanctify Rehearsal			
Jan 25	6:30pm - PAX - Julie (Remote)			
Jan 26	8:00am - Grow Group			
Jan 28	10:00am - Worship			
Jan 29	6:45am - Breakfast Club 8:00am - Monday Morning Men 8:00am - PAX - Andrew 10:00am - Comfort Quilters 10:00am - PAX - Tracy Hansen			
Jan 31	4:30pm - PAX - Andrew 5:30pm - Free Meal Served 6:15pm - Evening Programs 7:30pm - Sanctify Rehearsal			

As we read together, we also want to provide the opportunity to discuss together! Join our Facebook discussion group! You can ask questions, leave comments, or just follow along with someone else's thoughts. Reading together is always a better option than going it alone. Just log onto Facebook and search "FHUMC Bible in a Year".

A link to the reading plan itself can be found on the Facebook page or on our website. We also have physical copies on the welcome center or in the office. The plan will basically lead us through four chapters each day: Two full chapters in the Old Testament, a Psalm, and two half chapters in the New Testament. Each day's reading is listed. In addition, each month consists of only 25 readings so you can have extra days in each month to catch-up and/or study something you have come across in more detail.

It's not too late to join us! We have only just begun. Let 2024 mark a special milestone as we strive to read more of God's word!

For the King! -Pastor Andrew

## **ECHO UPDATE**

What a year we have had and we finished with a bang, This past month we focused on learning the reasons for the candles in the Advent Wreath. We also spent time on decorating our classroom for Christmas Camp.

That brings me to Christmas Camp; we had 13 kids and 2 student helpers this year. We learned about God's messengers including a visit from Gabriel and Michael (thank you Ezra and Noah). Coming up we will be digging into the 23rd Psalm.

I also want to say thank you to all the volunteers for Christmas Camp.

#### **Miss Sue**

Director of Children's Ministries



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## **January 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!

Brandon Yetter	01/17	Jim LeTourneau	01/24/
<b>Rozanne Foster</b>	01/21	Toby Leonard	01/25/0
Hellen Ash	01/21	Gloria Hair	01/30/4

