



Forest Home Church

Forest Home Church
1751 Old Natchez Trace
Franklin, TN 37069
www.ForestHomeChurch.org

December 12th, 2010 "Sharing, Loving & Exploring Life in Christ"

Send announcements, praises, and prayer requests to newsletter@foresthomchurch.org

Third Sunday in Advent (Coming of the Lord): A season of Light to Remember the Incarnation of the Son: "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich" (2 Corinthians 8:9)

Advent Message from the Word: How the Lord Treats His Enemies (Romans 5:6-11)



Elizabeth, meet Jesus! (Luke 1:41)

Prayers and Praises

- Our brothers/sisters in Africa: Jac Agak, Charles Ngoje, Jacob Randiek, and your orphan(s)
- Local Churches to partner in Tommy's "Next Right Step" Ministry
- Pregnancy of Lisa Grimenstein & Danielle Wood
- Lord's guidance & blessing FH in affirming elders
- Healing for Adam in midst of medical tests
- Mike Whitehead for full recovery from infection
- Lord's hand with several seeking new work and selling homes
- Lord's presence with Kathleen's mother Doris battling cancer & grief
- Full healing for Ann Vander Linden recovering from surgery
- Grace and Godspeed for Jim McAlister's writing project
- Lord's help for our local, state, & national leaders
- Light of the Lord on FH loved ones not knowing Jesus
- Health for Dawn Costello's uncle who has cancer
- Encouragement for Schumann Brewer
- Right placement & growth for new converts in Frank's prison work
- Health for Doug's grandmother & Sam's mother
- Lord help those with chronic pain in our number
- Lord bless Colby with local Christian fellowship
- Lord let our families be rooted in your ways
- Thankful that the Light is not overcome by darkness
- Teach us to love our enemies & pray for those who persecute us

Orphan letters are due December 19th, give your letters to Gil or Liz.

Incarnation: Saved by Jesus' Death and also His Life
"We shall be saved by His Life" (Romans 5:10)

In this season of reflecting on the coming of the Eternal Son into the world at Bethlehem, we are exploring the precious doctrine of the Incarnation. We are considering that Immanuel "God with us" means God **as** us-- the Word becoming flesh and dwelling among us. This is closeness indeed, for God not only draws near us, but actually gets "under our skin" being born the baby Jesus. This is closeness such that the Incarnation (the Word becoming flesh) touches human life in a deep and transforming way. By His union with us as God-and-Man, our Lord "lays hold of us in Himself and acts for us from out of the inner depths of His coexistence with us and our existence with Him, delivering us from the sentence of death upon us, and from the corruption and perdition that have overtaken us.... The whole of Christ became a curse for us, taking upon Himself our Adamic humanity, but triumphing over the forces of evil embedded within our existence, bringing His own holiness and obedience to bear in such a way as to condemn sin and deliver us from its power. It is the inner man, in his rational human soul, that man has fallen and become enslaved to sin. It is in the mind, not just the flesh . . . that sin is entrenched. This means that redemption is necessarily closely linked to revelation in which the teaching of Jesus is to be regarded as an essential part of His saving work. Christ's life, from cradle to grave, in which he took on our whole humanity, and not just his death, is to be considered part of the atoning reconciliation." (Quoting from Thomas Torrance through his student Andrew Purves). This deep work of God in the Incarnation is especially emphasized the Eastern and Orthodox churches this time of year. LH

The Arrival of the Jewish World Ruler (Messiah)

Did you know that the First Century world was aware of the great expectations of Jewish prophecy for a world ruler (Messiah) to come from Judaea? Two Roman historians mention this expectation, although they went on to claim that it referred to their own Roman emperors.

Some few put a fearful meaning on these events, but in most there was a firm persuasion, **that in the ancient records of their priests was contained a prediction of how at this very time the East was to grow powerful, and rulers, coming from Judaea, were to acquire universal empire.** These mysterious prophecies had pointed to Vespasian and Titus,

[Quote from Publius (or Gaius) Cornelius Tacitus (AD 56 – AD 117) who was a senator and a historian of the Roman Empire. Histories 5.13.2]

There had spread over all the Orient an old and established belief, that it was fated at that time for men coming from Judaea to rule the world. This prediction, referring to the emperor of Rome, as afterwards appeared from the event, the people of Judaea took to themselves;

[Quote from Suetonius (c. 71 – c. 135) who was a Roman scholar and official who wrote history, most notably *Lives of the Twelve Caesars*. Vespasian 4]

Thought Question:
Would the Son still have become Incarnate if there were no sin? St. Francis De Sales (1567 – 1622) thinks so: The primary reason for the Incarnation is that God might communicate Himself outside Himself.



From all eternity, God saw that the most excellent way to do this was to unite Himself to some created nature. The Incarnation is the ultimate self-communication of God to man. Therefore God willed it for His sake, to pour Himself out into creation.

2010 FH Progressive Christmas Dinner

Is this Wednesday night, December 15, starting a 6:00pm. Child care will be provided at the Forest Home building from 5:45pm-8:45pm. Carpooling is suggested as some of us have limited parking space.

- 6-6:45 Appetizers at Frank and Pat's house
- 7-7:45 Soup/salad at Jim & Lois's House
- 7:50-8:30 Dessert at David and Linda's house

Anyone wanting to stay later and sing carols are encouraged to do so.

SEE LINDA FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SIGN UP IF YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING.



Rabinath Tagore (Indian poet and sage who lived 1861 – 1941) had two sayings applicable to Advent:

- “Faith is the bird that feels the light and sings when the dawn is still dark.”
- “Every child comes with the message that God is not yet discouraged of man.”

(How much more is this true with the birth of Jesus—LH)



After Annunciation:
This is the irrational season, When love blooms bright and wild—Had Mary been filled with reason, There'd have been no room for the Child.
—Madeleine L'Engle
“The heart has its reasons, which reason knows not.” Blaise Pascal

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR THE FH ANNUAL FAMILY RETREAT ON FEBRUARY 4TH AND 5TH!
Make sure you plan on being there--no matter what it takes! A time of renewing and creating friendships, a time to play and laugh, a time to grow and fellowship!

CLASSES AND WORSHIP SCHEDULE @ FOREST HOME:
Classes begin at 9 am. Worship begins at 10 am.

Grades and ages break down as follow:
Pre-K – Kindergarten
1st grade – 4th grade
5th grade and up

2010-2011 Calendar

EACH TUESDAY	6:30 am @ the church, Men's Ministry
EACH WED.	5:00 pm @ the church, Women's Bible Study
December 15	Annual FH Progressive Dinner
December 19	FH Annual Christmas Play
December 19	Orphan letters due
January 9	Dinner-on-the-Grounds for Cheyenne & Priscilla
February 4-5	Annual FH Family Retreat

DATE	NURSERY (Infants to 2 yrs old) During sermon only	LORD'S SUPPER PREPARATION	WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER PREP
Dec 12	Leah Hickerson	Dec/Jan Christys	Dec 15 Progressive dinner
Dec 19	Kacy Pantall	Feb/Mar Allens	Dec 22 Sarah/Kathleen
Dec 26	Alethea Goodman	Apr/May Grimensteins	Dec 29 Lisa/Dawn
Jan 2	Kathleen Stewart		Jan 5 Linda/Lois
Jan 9	Anita Christy		Jan 12 Ocie/Shannon
Jan 16	Ocie Garner	(Sub-Grimensteins)	Jan 19 Pat/Karen
Jan 23	Barbara Jenkins	See Jim G. with questions.	Jan 26 Sarah/Kathleen