



Forest Home Church

Forest Home Church
1751 Old Natchez Trace
Franklin, TN 37069

www.ForestHomeChurch.org

November 20th, 2011

"Sharing, Loving & Exploring Life in Christ"

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



One came back to thank Him
"Ten Lepers" by Kershinsnik

PRAYER & PRAISE

- Remember our loved ones in Kenya— Jac Agak, Charles Ngoje, Jacob Randiek, and your orphan(s)
- Jac's recovery & Kenya nation in stresses of hard times
- Lord Thank You for our various employment and giftings for service
- Bless elders with continued wisdom and love
- Thank you Lord for all ministries of the body like Frank & Jimmy's Prison work; Karen, Tim & Ann's Counseling; Adam's attention to Youth; Tommy's Next Right Step; Ministers of the Word thru Teaching, Preaching, or Singing; Maintaining the building; Cooking for Wednesday fellowship; Liz & Gil for Winyo
- Bless Matthew Christy & many loved ones to make peace with Jesus
- Lord we pray for your knowledge throughout the land
- We are grateful for the many tangible answers to our prayers this year
- Grant us the wisdom to trust You when prayers aren't answered as we like
- Help O Lord our brethren in the Middle East amidst great persecution
- Thank You that Your Grace reaches and teaches us

On Skipping Thanksgiving

It's not yet Thanksgiving, but it is easy to be bombarded with "Christmas stuff" at a wide range of places. Once "turkey and pilgrim" themes abounded; they are more often passed over for winter snow globes and decorated reindeer. And who doesn't understand the "need" to extend the "buying season?" Oh yes, media elites might lose their jobs if they took one moment in gratitude away from the latest project of fanning the embers of protest. "Tis not the season," for thanksgiving that is. But is it wise to skip Thanksgiving?

Yes, yes, we will have our meals and family get-togethers. But will we be thankful? It is nothing but good for the soul to take time for thanksgiving. In what may be the Apostle Paul's earliest letter, he encourages the Christians in the way of life saying, "In everything give thanks" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). The heart of gratitude is a first order matter for walking with God. It was the first thing attacked with Adam and Eve when Satan cast his lying ideology with the assumption that the garden was not quite good enough.

Thanksgiving has never been more important, or counter-cultural, than today. It is the road less traveled, and it makes all the difference. Don't miss an opportunity to give thanks. It is natural to Godliness. Skipping it is inhuman! LH

"In the last days difficult times will come. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, . . . unthankful . . . (2 Timothy 3:1-2)

"Love your enemies . . . and you will be sons of the Most High, for He is kind to the unthankful and the evil" (Luke 6:35)

Announcement:

**No service or classes this Wednesday
November 23rd (before Thanksgiving).
Enjoy Fellowship at Home!**



Things Children are Thankful For

I'm thankful that I love everyone in our family and that they love me too. Lizzy, age 8

I'm thankful for my mommy, my daddy, my sister, my brothers and horses. Emily, age 9

I'm thankful for the doctor who fixed my heart. Jillian, age 12

I'm most thankful for my mom and dad . . . What? Am I missing somebody? Oh yeah, I guess my sister too. Ella, age 8

The zoo and the monkey bars . . . and breakfast bars. Bennett, age 3

I am thankful for my friends, because they are nice to me. They play with me. It is fun. Aerulan

Lizards, because they can run really fast away from their enemies. That's what my Dad told me. Christopher

Red, delicious apples, because they fall and hit your head. Because they're yummy. Sam

Water, so you can wash your hands. You can drink it. Megan

I'm thankful for Fridays because I don't have to do any homework. Steven, age 10

(Thanks to Christina Holt of "SheKnows Parenting" for these; and Stephen Kloosterman, Holland MI)

Timely Quotes from Mother Teresa

We raffled the car that Pope Paul VI gave me at Bombay. With the money we collected, we created a great center for lepers that we have named City of Peace. . . . With the Nobel Peace Prize money, we built homes for the poor because I only accepted the prize in the name of and as representative of the poor.

Let us not be satisfied just by giving money. Money is not everything. Money is something you can get. The poor need the work of our hands, the love of our hearts. Love, an abundant love, is the expression of our Christian religion.

In the developed countries, there is a poverty of intimacy, a poverty of spirit, of loneliness, of lack of love. There is no greater sickness in the world today than that one.

One of the expressions of our poverty consists in sewing, the best we can, our own dresses when we discover a tear in them. To walk down the street or around the house wearing a torn sari is by no means a sign of the virtue of poverty. I usually tell the Sisters, "We do not vow the poverty of the beggars, but the poverty of Christ."

A young brother came to me and said, "Mother, I have a special vocation to work with the lepers. I want to give my life to them, my whole being. Nothing attracts me more than that." I know for a fact that he truly loved those afflicted with leprosy.

I, in turn, answered him, "I think that you are somewhat wrong, Brother. Our vocation consists in belonging to Jesus. The work is nothing but a means to express our love for him. That is why the work in itself is not important. What is important is for you to belong to Jesus. And he is the one who offers you the means to express that belonging."

In Calcutta alone we feed about ten thousand people every day. This means that if one day we do not cook, ten thousand people will not eat. One day, the Sister in charge came to tell me, "Mother, we have nothing left. We do not have food for so many people." I felt numb. It was the first time that such a thing had happened. Around nine in the morning a truck loaded with bread arrived. Every day the government gives the poor children a slice of bread and a glass of milk. I do not know why, but the city schools were closed that day. All the bread ended up at Mother Teresa's. You see, God had closed the schools. He could not allow our people to go hungry. It was the first time they were able to eat bread that was very good, and eat it until they were satisfied. The daily bread is another proof of God's tenderness.

We are not social workers. We may be doing social work in the eyes of some people, but we must be contemplatives in the heart of the world. For we are touching the body of Christ and we are always in his presence.

We will be collecting orphan letters from now until SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4th. We have to be strict about this deadline because we are sending goodie bags to all the WCA students for Christmas and want to include your letters in there. PLEASE write your sweet orphan a note and let him or her know who you are and that you are praying for them...what a way to share Jesus with them! We will be enlisting the help of Forest Home kiddos to color pictures so that every orphan has a little something in addition to the goodie bags, but feel free to make letter writing a project with your kids...how amazing to have a pen pal in Kenya! You can hand in your letters or mail them or email them. Thank you so much, -Liz and Gil

What They're Reading

As daylight shortens and the coolness of winter shrouds us, what better time to curl up in a chair and read a book? There are so many good books out, there's no reason to waste time on a bad one. Periodically, I update FH on what the elders have been reading. Some are worth checking out. Within the last three months, here are a few of the books they have had at hand. (Sorry no nonfiction detected, but see the book club readings for ideas there.)

Ambassadors to Muslims (2011) by Fouad Masri, Founder of the Crescent Project || **What Is the Mission of the Church?: Making Sense of Social Justice, Shalom, and the Great Commission** (2011) by Kevin DeYoung, Senior Minister of University Reformed Church, MI || **I Will Be Your God: How God's Covenant Enriches Our Lives** (2002) by T.M. Moore, Dean of The Centurions Program and Principal, Fellowship of Ailbe || **Seven Days That Divide the World: The Beginning According to Genesis and Science** (2011) by John Lennox, Professor of Mathematics at University of Oxford || Re-Reading **When Helping Hurts: Alleviating Poverty Without Hurting the Poor. . .and Yourself** by Brian Fikkert, & Steve Corbett, both with The Chalmers Center for Economic Development, Covenant College || **The Dust of Death: The Sixties Counterculture and How It Changed America Forever** (1994) by Os Guinness, leader at L'Abri and Founder of the Trinity Forum

BOOK CLUB

This month's book is *Velva Jean Learns to Fly* by Jennifer Niven. It would be helpful but not necessary to read the prequel *Velva Jean Learns to Drive*. We will meet at Shannon Whitehead's in early December, Date & Time: T.B.A

Because Christmas falls on a Sunday and several families will be out of town the weekend before, we are doing the **Herdman Christmas play on Sunday, December 11th** this year. Please plan accordingly and put it on your calendars and to also let you know **that play practice needs to begin TODAY.**

2011 Calendar

- Nov 20th - Xmas child boxes due
- Nov 20th - Xmas practice begins
- Dec 4th - Orphan letters due
- Dec 11th - XMAS PLAY!!!!
- EACH MON+THURS 5:30-5:50PM@church, Intercessory prayer 4 anyone
- EACH TUES MORNING - 6:30am, mens bible study @ church
- EACH WED - Dinner @ 5:45pm & Women's Bible Study @ 6:15pm

DATE	NURSERY (Infants-2 yrs old) During sermon only	LORD'S SUPPER PREPARATION	WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER
Nov 20	Ronna King	Oct Austin	Nov 23 Thanksgiving
Nov 27	Cecile Allen	Nov VanderLinden	Nov 30 Ocie/Shannon
Dec 4	Kathy Grimenstein	Dec Christy	Dec 7 Pat/Karen
Dec 11	Shannon Whitehead	Jan D'Ann	Dec 14 Pizza
Dec 18	Lois McAlister	Feb McAlister	Dec 21 Sarah/Kathleen
Dec 25	Mari Ann Farmer	(Sub-Grimensteins) See Jim Grim with questions.	Dec 28 Liz/Dawn

New grandson born November 13th in Boston, MA. Alban Carr. He was born 4 weeks late after 36 hours of labor via c-section after Lydia and Taylor gave up on home birth with midwife. He is 9 pounds. Mom and son are OK. -JOHN C.

