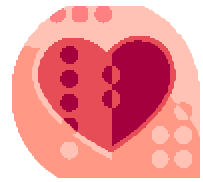




Friendly Family News

Friendly Avenue Church of Christ
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On Our Prayer List

Maria Smith is preparing to be added to the waiting list for a kidney transplant. Please keep the Smiths in your prayers as they continue this journey.

Mark Slayton is recovering from surgery.

Continue to remember:
Tricia Parker's parents
Melanie Clayton's mother
Amy Gilbert's mother

New to Friendly ?

We are inviting anyone who is new to our church to join us on Sunday mornings from 9:00-9:45. Beginning Feb-7th for a three week welcoming group. It's designed to help those who are new to Friendly more fully experience the family of faith at Friendly Avenue. This group is for both members and non-members. It is for anyone who wants to know more about our church.

The Rock

Promise ~ Protection ~ Platform

Join us for a New Sermon Series from the book of II Samuel starting February 7, 2010.

Message from the Elders

The Vision:

We are a bible believing, non denominational church that is dedicated to attracting others to God through our worship, our study and our service to God and to the community. This should be the purpose of every church. God's purpose for His Church is to draw people into a relationship with Him. We are His tools, here to do His work. All of our ministries, staff and resources should be directed to that goal.

The Focus:

The Deaf and Hispanic work here at FACC are part of that focus. The ability to worship God in one's own language draws people into this church that may never otherwise come. Both ministries continue to grow and are a vibrant part of the fabric of FACC.

The Children's Education program is growing stronger each year and will soon move to another part of the building to accommodate that growth. FACC will continue to be a place where young families can come and learn together about God and how to serve Him. Additional Staff resources are going to be directed in this area in 2010.

The Sunday Morning Worship will continue to be a time focused on people seeking God, a door into our faith community. The role of Worship leader will become more defined and continue to drive the dynamic and uplifting service we seek.

The Sunday Bible Study Seasons of Life Communities and Small Groups will continue to be a place where people can connect with each other and mature in Christ through Bible Study and fellowship.

Some people have said that evangelism has been left off this focus. I disagree. The very essence of our life here on earth is to become more like Christ. Christ's mission was to draw people to the Father. If we are like Him, we will be that city on the hill, that light that cannot be hidden, willing labors in the white harvest field. Being a Christian without sharing Christ is like being a fish and not being in water! It is impossible.

Everything we do here is for the goal of bringing others to the Father.

2010 Challenge:

Getting Involved

The challenge for you in 2010 is to find your place at FACC. Where do you fit in? What can you contribute? If we are a church that attracts people seeking God, how can you help?

1Pet 4:7 ff

⁷The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray.

⁸Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. ⁹Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. ¹¹If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

How are you going to serve God this year?

Are you going to teach or help in the children's or youth programs?

Are you going to teach a class, lead a small group?

Are you going to "host" a small group in your home?

Are you going to participate in classes and small groups to continue to mature?

Are you going to serve in the community through our outreach programs?

Are you going to serve the body by greeting, serving the Lord's Table or tending the Nursery?

Are you going to sing on the praise team?

Are you going to give generously to support those who are serving?

Are you going to encourage?

The Elders are willing and available to talk to anyone about where they can fit in. There are many needs. God has a purpose for His Church and a purpose for you.



Forgiveness

We've been called to walk according to the new life we have been given through Jesus Christ our Lord who is the perfect example to follow. He had a desire to serve and glorify the Father, but probably the most challenging aspect of Jesus' life was His ability to forgive; "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34).

The walk of a Christian is a life-long process of being transformed into the likeness of Jesus (Rom. 8:29). This process brings us continually closer to God and, in a very real way, shows the gospel message to the world. There is no clearer demonstration of a transformed heart and true love for Christ than when we forgive one another. The fact that it's so difficult makes forgiveness a blazing light into a dark and dying world. The unity obtained through forgiveness causes those in the world to be drawn closer to Christ.

"May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that You sent Me and have loved them even as You have loved Me" (John 17:23).

Being united is never a call to compromise the essential truths of the gospel; but it is clearly a call to put aside quarreling over trivial issues and stamp out all jealousy, envy and, one of the greatest evils known to man, pride! Pride keeps more people separated from God and more relationships locked in unforgiveness than any other sin.

On the other hand, continued forgiveness demonstrates the Gospel because it requires us to honestly face our pride, place our trust in God, and walk in absolute humility. Forgiveness is not something we can do in our own strength. When we've been wounded, unfairly treated and misunderstood, our pride wants things to get "even" - it demands the other person to confess, repent, and bow to kiss OUR feet. True forgiveness of others brings us back to the cross where we must confess the ugliness of our heart, acknowledge our need for His forgiveness, and, once again, remove ourselves from the throne.

Continued forgiveness requires a daily crucifixion of our fleshly, pride-filled self, and a submission to the leading of the Holy Spirit. It requires a complete trust in our Heavenly Father to continue the process He has begun in our life and to fully work in the life of others according to His perfect timing. This is a life which definitely shines and causes the world to notice.

Let's take a new look at any unforgiving attitudes that we might be harboring and determine once and for all to give them to the Lord. Let's glorify our Father and become a living example of the gospel. Let's live in unity through love and forgiveness...so that the world may see Jesus living in us!

Keep the Faith!!

Our Ministries

Assembly Management
Audio – Video
Benevolence
Deaf
Education
Fellowship
Finance
G.E.M.S. (Women's Ministry)
Hospitality
Interior Design Coordination
Interfaith Hospitality Network
LASC
Leadership Training for Christ
Maintenance (Building, Grounds)
Marriage and Family
Missions
Man to Men (Men's Ministry)
Music
Nursery/Children's Worship
Rainbow of Christians
Small Groups
Spanish Ministry
Super Seniors
Worship
Youth

Please Join Us

Sunday

Bible Study 9:00 AM
Worship 10:00 AM

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 PM

Pantry Shopping List:

1. canned meat/stew
2. flour
3. sugar
4. canned fruit
5. cereal



Senior's Fellowship

February's Senior Eat-Together will take place at the Applebee's Restaurant on Wendover Avenue, Greensboro. The theme is of Valentine's Day so that reds and pinks can be worn. In addition to their regular menu, there is a menu of "2 FOR \$20" (your choice of 2 full-size entrees and 1 appetizer). The reservation is for Thursday, February 11th at 5:00PM. There will be live instrumental music with a jazz flavor playing just for you!

A menu and sign up sheet are in the church lobby.

Thank You Notes

I would like to thank the Church for the prayers sent up for my mom. She is much better and almost back to all she was doing before she fell ill. Thank you so much.

Shirley Kruse

The family of David Offutt acknowledges with grateful appreciation your kind expression of sympathy.

Dear Friendly Family,

Thanks to all who came out we were able to collect 38 units of blood at the blood drive. I want to thank every one who signed up, even if you were deferred. I also want to thank all those who helped to run the blood drive and gave of their time and cookies and especially all the young people who helped sign up donors. This was a big help to Red Cross and the local blood supply.

Maria Plott

Paper Items Needed

During the month of February, we will collect ***paper towels, bath tissue and Kleenex*** for the GIHN day center. Our goal is to collect 100 rolls of paper towels, 300 rolls of bath tissue and 50 boxes of Kleenex.

Collection boxes will be in the lobby and beside the benevolence room.

Thank you for your help.