

Happy Harvest



The *Talk*, since 1974, has been a monthly newsletter for the Forest Hill Church of Christ and is dedicated to Christian unity. The usual deadline for submission of articles is the last Sunday of every month with the exception of December.



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Talk



a newsletter for the Forest Hill Church of Christ since 1974

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As I drive around I see some trees are completely golden now. Others are still plenty green, but my flowers are beginning to look a bit tired. And so it goes. One season, thoroughly enjoyed but now spent, and we are on to the golden harvest season with cooler temperatures and breath-taking vistas of orange, red, gold, brown, and green.

How fortunate for us that we live in a place that shows God's glorious face so dramatically every year. Even though we know it is coming and we know what this tree and that tree will look like; we still pause in jaw-dropping awe at the beauty of it.

And that is just as it ought to be! After all, God has told us that He is in everything He has made for us. In other words, when you are gazing at that gorgeous red and golden tree on your walk or your way to work—that is God's face!

Just like the quote from Alice Walker's book, *The Color Purple* "I think it upsets* God if you walk by the color purple in a field somewhere and don't notice it." Recognize the hand of the Almighty when you see a purple 'anything' in nature. Appreciate the various colors we enjoy throughout the summer. This is God not only talking to us, but it is a whole conversation—if we will be still enough to listen.

The next thing to ask yourself is, *why*? Why would God create trees that change color as they sleep for the winter? Why would He give us the myriad hues of green? Why are there flowers in absolutely every color imaginable—and, why did He give us a heart that loves those colors?

To show us His majesty? To show us His love for us? To lift our spirits?

*I cleaned up the original quote right there.

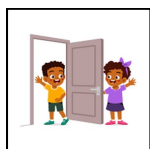
—pt

Plan now for next month's Harvest Meal, on November 12th, right after morning services. Stay tuned to find out what you can bring! Let's make this the biggest, best ever! Invite your friends, neighbors, family to come and share God's blessings with us and offer thanks.



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Kip & I had a nice visit with Elizabeth West and Clyde & Debbie Caver at their house a couple of weeks ago. They were all up and feeling ok. It was a delightful visit. Debbie requested that more of you stop by for a visit. Any time, just give them a call! They miss us all, and they deeply desire to return to services when their various illnesses are in better check.

We began this morning a month-long study on the book of Ruth in the Old Testament. Please make sure to attend Bible Study at 9:30. It is so much more fun when you are there. Also, we usually have a rousing discussion on Wednesday nights at 7:00—we are in Acts presently. Come and join us.



Thank you to the gentlemen who are 'pinch hitting' in Sunday School, leading the singing, preaching, and Wednesday nights. Your effort is noted and much appreciated.



In your prayers please remember: Elizabeth West, Clyde & Debbie Caver are shut-in due to illness. The Thornton's son-in-law Victor who lost his job suddenly due to his restaurant closing. Jeannene & Derwood and Matt & Alison that they will stay in good health and adjust to their new homes. Pray for our congregation that we can grow in numbers and in spirituality. And pray that we will listen for and hear God when He guides us to our next chapter. May God bless you all.

Of interest...

I KNOW THE WAY HOME

© by pam thornton

Have you ever been lost? I mean really lost. Like ‘I-don’t-see-anything-I-recognize lost?’ I have. It is a terrible, terrible feeling! These days with cell phones and GPS it is less likely that we will get lost on the way to somewhere, but it can still happen.

I got lost in Shaker Heights once years ago. Stop laughing. None of Shaker’s streets are straight except for a couple, and I wasn’t that familiar with Shaker back then. I got lost driving back from Texas once (driving alone) because I got off the highway for some reason. Mom and I got lost trying to get out of San Antonio one time. We stopped, actually, a couple of times to ask for directions. I got lost in China once—had to phone Anna (who was living there then) to help me out. Very scary. Granted, I am not known in my family for having a stellar sense of direction; however, one thing I am sure of is: I know the way home.

Oh, I don’t mean our house on Demington Drive. I mean home to *my real home*. Home in heaven with God!

When we finally find the path we are so happy and confident strolling along, and then the devil throws in the death of a parent. Wait, now I’m confused, because I have had my eyes closed crying—where was I going? Is this the way? Then God gives us the Bible to

help us and the Holy Spirit may guide us to John 14:6, “I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” Ok, the path is clearer now.

We learn along the way that there are beautiful, alluring things that we’d better stay away from. Then God sends us a Christian partner to travel with and the path becomes easier.

We trip occasionally because of rocks or dips in the road, but we get up, learn our lesson and promise to watch out for those things farther down the path. Sometimes physical pain or heartache can derail us, but the Holy Spirits spurs us to talk to God and trust His word and His people. When we do the weeds and brambles that trip us up along the path seem to lessen. We learn how to be that kind of help for those coming behind us.

Now we have been on the path to ‘home’ for a long time, let’s say 50 or 60 years. It is easy for us to help others walking behind us. It is easier to avoid the pitfalls along our way. Even though our bodies are not as strong as when we began our journey we still have the Holy Spirit, the Bible, and our Christian friends.. Plus, our determination and our faith in God is stronger than ever.

However, now that we are old and have traveled a long way on the path to home there may come the worst trial ever. This time it is

not a rock or a dip in the road; it is a full, huge tree lying across the path that will be difficult, painful and exhausting to get past. This could be the death of a spouse, a parent, open heart surgery, or the death of a child. This is no small obstacle, and we must call on all of our learning, all of our faith, all of our belief and trust in God's Holy Spirit to survive past this road block.

Then we read this verse in the Bible, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." Hebrews 13:5 By this time in our journey *we know positively absolutely when God makes a promise He keeps it.* **'Never will I leave you.'** God is right there with us to help us get past that enormous roadblock on the path to home.

We are not, nor ever will be, orphans. We do not travel on this path alone. As we mature in our faith and in our love of God we are confident that we *know* the way home—at last.

Prisoners currently in our Ministry: Jose Agosto, Michael Bell, Terrance R. Boyd, Larry Duncan, Glen T. Evans Sr., Michaellyn Hutchins, Christopher Konkel, Albert Lacy, Derrick Lartdale, Latrina Lewis, Chris Love, Scott Markel, Ralphonzo Martin, Bradley Mason, Thomas McCarthy Sr., Leon Napier, Lakiesha Phillips, Melvin Reardon Jr., Antonio Spates, Thomas E. Stephens, George Weaver, and Timothy Wilson. **Also, for those released—** Kenneth Anderson, Nicholas Bowers, Greg Breville,



Tony Campbell, Alfred Cleveland, Dean Dupont, Leonardo Frazier, Emmanuel Gonzales, Willard Hall, Tyrell Havergne, Keith Hume, Israel D. King, Juan Rentas, Mark Slayton, Jewell Trischler.

Please remember to keep these people in your prayers. Their burdens are heavy, and if they will only see Jesus helping them the way might get a bit easier.

HALLOWE'EN was also sometimes called "snap apple night." In England a game called 'snap apple' was played where apples were suspended on a long piece of string. Contestants had to try and bite the apple without using their hands. A variation of the game was to fix an apple and a lighted candle at opposite ends of a stick suspended horizontally and to swing the stick around. The object was to catch the apple between the teeth whilst avoiding the lighted candle.



THE ELDERS have specifically requested that we, as a church family, be praying about the next chapter of our Christian walk. Pray that the elders will listen for and hear God's voice amongst all the babble. Pray for divine direction. Pray that we, as a family, can grow in number and in strength of conviction. None of us is finished with our work for God until we take our last breath and join Him for ever more. So let's be diligent and find out where we go from here. We hold in our deepest heart the most wonderful news ever given to humankind. Spread it around.

F.Y.I. Healthspot...

Keeping Up With COVID-19 Vaccines

In a 13-1 vote, the CDC's panel of vaccine experts decided that near-universal vaccination for everyone six months or older would provide the best protection against another serious surge in infections this fall and winter. Hospitalizations due to COVID-19 have been increasing since mid-July, CDC scientists reported, and while most of those have involved young children and older people, half of the children under five who have been hospitalized did not have underlying health conditions, a reminder that even otherwise healthy people can experience serious COVID-19 illness.

Some members questioned whether the updated vaccine should be recommended for most people, or just for those at highest risk of COVID-19 complications, such as the very young, the elderly, and those with compromised immune systems. Dr. Matt Daley, senior investigator at the Institute for Health Research at Kaiser Permanente Colorado said that when the group began discussions earlier this summer they did not assume that the updated vaccine would be recommended for everyone. "We viewed this as an opportunity to re-evaluate the vaccination program, and started from a blank slate," he said. The work group therefore asked the CDC for more detailed data on who was being hospitalized, who was experiencing more severe disease, and who was dying from COVID-19, so it could better understand if certain populations were more vulnerable to complications and could benefit from vaccination. What they saw was that "Disease burden does vary greatly by age, but serious illness occurred across all age groups including among those without underlying medical conditions," Daley said. "That was the most persuasive argument for me for universal vaccination."

The updated vaccine will be the first COVID-19 shot to be distributed in the way most vaccines have in the past, prior to the pandemic, on the commercial market for around \$120-\$130 per dose, rather than purchased and provided for by the government. That means that pharmacies and doctors' offices will purchase the vaccines at their own cost and get reimbursed for the shots. Most insurers, including Medicare and private companies, will continue to cover the vaccine, without co-pays, since it is recommended by the CDC.

Stay informed, talk to your doctor. You can read this article in its entirety at: time.com/6313497/new-covid-19-vaccine-booster/

For Kids Only...

Nehemiah 1:8-10

Every word listed in capitals below is contained within the group of letters. Words can be found in a straight line horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. They may be read either forward or backward. The leftover letters form a verse from Proverbs 1.

"Remember, I BESEECH thee, the word that thou commandedst thy SERVANT Moses, saying, If ye TRANSGRESS, I will SCATTER you ABROAD among the NATIONS:

"But if ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them; though there were of you CAST OUT unto the uttermost part of the HEAVEN, yet will I GATHER them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have CHOSEN to set my name there.

"Now these are thy servants and thy people, whom thou hast redeemed by thy great POWER, and by thy strong HAND."

— Nehemiah 1:8-10

T	S	E	R	V	A	N	T	H	O	W	L	O
R	N	G	Y	G	C	E	S	I	M	P	H	L
A	E	O	N	A	H	P	E	S	W	I	C	L
N	L	Y	E	T	O	L	O	O	V	E	E	R
S	D	N	A	H	S	S	I	W	M	P	E	L
G	I	C	I	E	E	T	Y	A	E	T	S	N
R	D	T	H	R	N	A	E	S	T	R	E	N
E	A	C	O	R	N	E	V	A	R	S	B	A
S	D	B	E	L	I	G	C	E	H	T	I	T
S	N	T	R	H	E	S	I	R	N	S	C	I
O	R	N	I	O	N	G	A	N	D	F	O	O
T	U	O	T	S	A	C	O	L	S	H	A	N
T	E	K	N	O	W	D	L	E	D	G	E	S

G'mon guys—you can do it!



Kids! Have a great Halloween night trick or treating. Be safe—and brush your teeth.



Recipe...

Taco Soup

1 pound ground sirloin or ground beef
 1 - 15 oz can black beans, drained and rinsed
 1 - 15 oz can pinto beans
 1 - 15 oz can Great Northern Beans
 1 - 10 oz can Rotel Tomatoes
 1 - 15 oz can diced tomatoes
 1 - 15 oz can tomato sauce
 1 - 11 oz can shoe-pegged corn
 1 - 15 oz can beef broth
 1 pkg. (2 TBSP) taco seasoning
 1 pkg. (2 TBSP) Hidden Valley Ranch dressing
 Top with: tortilla chips or Fritos, sour cream, shredded cheddar cheese



Brown the ground beef or sirloin in a large pot, chopping it into chunks as it browns. Drain all the grease from the meat. Drain and rinse black beans well. Add to pot. Open and add the next nine ingredients into the pot. DO NOT drain anything except the black beans. Stir to combine. Gently heat but do not bring to boil. To serve, place tortilla chips or Fritos in bottom of each bowl. Ladle the soup over the chips and top with sour cream and shredded cheddar cheese, if desired.

****Note:** this soup is very good the next day. Putting chips on bottom of bowl may make them too soggy—I put them on top.

This recipe is very easy and very delicious!

From YouTube show: *Come Sit at My Table*

If you would like to contribute to the next *Talk* just get it to me Sunday night October 29th. You may: hand it to me at church, put it in my box outside the church office, snail mail it to me at home or email me at: pthorn50@roadrunner.com. Thanks!

-pam

Birthdays...

November

5-Angelle Holman
 11-Ada Harris
 19-Pam Hawkins
 23-Sallie Cole

Have a celebration.
 Your birthday only shows up once a year so when it comes have a real blow out.
Happy Birthday to you!



There is no season when such pleasant and sunny spots may be lighted on, and produce so pleasant an effect on the feelings, as now in October.

— Nathaniel Hawthorne

October's poplars are flaming torches lighting the way to winter.

— Nova Beir

October is the treasure of the year, and all the months pay bounty to her store...

—Paul Laurence Dunbar



Good News...

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

I Peter 2:8-10

☞Our mission: to love like Jesus, to serve like Jesus and to teach others to do the same☞