

THE FORCEY FOCUS

THE FORCEY BIBLE CHURCH NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2019

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Hope and Help in the Hoosier State

By Pastor Mike Foster



For me, it was when I was sitting in premarital counseling, about three years after I had trusted in Christ as my Savior. I had read the Bible, had been devouring my devotions as I sought to follow Jesus closely in college, and had been developing a very high view of Scripture. But it was in premarital counseling where the lightbulb fully turned on – WOW – God speaks with wisdom to ALL the areas and issues of life. Conflict resolution, in-law relationships, sexual intimacy, financial management, and on and on and on – it’s all right there in Scripture! Every principle we need! Through the power of God’s Spirit (“not by might, but by my Spirit” says the Lord!), with the help of God’s church (encourage one another daily, as long as it is called “today”!), in the shadow of the cross (let us fix our eyes on Jesus!), we can find real HOPE and HELP in God’s Word and experience real breakthroughs and victories in our hearts and lives!



Do we believe this, Forcey BIBLE Church?!

This is why I have sought biblical counseling in my life and prioritized it in my ministry. And last month I was blessed to have Pastors Lonnie and Mike along with Forcey sisters Donna and Heather join me in journeying to a church in Indiana for a biblical counseling conference with a couple thousand others from the body of Christ. We were in the first of six tracks, and some of our 35 sessions (admittedly we may have skipped a few!) included: *Understanding*

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the Heart, Walking in the Light, Trials and Suffering, Basic Truths Concerning Marriage, Biblical Principles of Sex, Helping Those Suffering with Depression, Understanding Biblical Forgiveness, Understanding and Overcoming Sexual Sin, How to Handle Anger Biblically, Four Rules of Communication, Biblical Parenting for the Glory of God, Overcoming Worry and Fear, Guilt and Repentance, Counseling People with a Medical Illness, and Counseling People with a Psychological Diagnosis. And church – WE can do this! In fact, we MUST! We must help one another do more than COPE, we must help one another to find true HOPE in Christ for real and lasting change! We must offer not just our best ideas, but real HELP from Scripture. Paul writes to the church of Thessalonica: “And we urge you brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone” (5:14). What do we do? Warn and encourage and help each other! Who does it? Everyone! How? With patience – lovingly and carefully – without being simplistic when dealing with the complexities of sin and suffering.

Friend, are you overwhelmed by sin or suffering today? Would you let someone in our Forcey family know? There is hope and help for you! We can do this TOGETHER! And if you're interested in being equipped and empowered to more effectively come alongside of others with the hope of Christ and help of Scripture, please let me know! It's an honor and joy to follow Jesus with you, Forcey family!



FORCEY MINISTRY FAIR

SUNDAY
MARCH 17

SCHEDULE

9:15-10:00 – 1st Hour Worship
10:00 – 11:00 – Ministry Fair
11:00-11:45 – 2nd Hour Worship
11:45 – 12:30 – Ministry Fair

The reason we are putting on a ministry fair is simple: **Forcey is growing.**

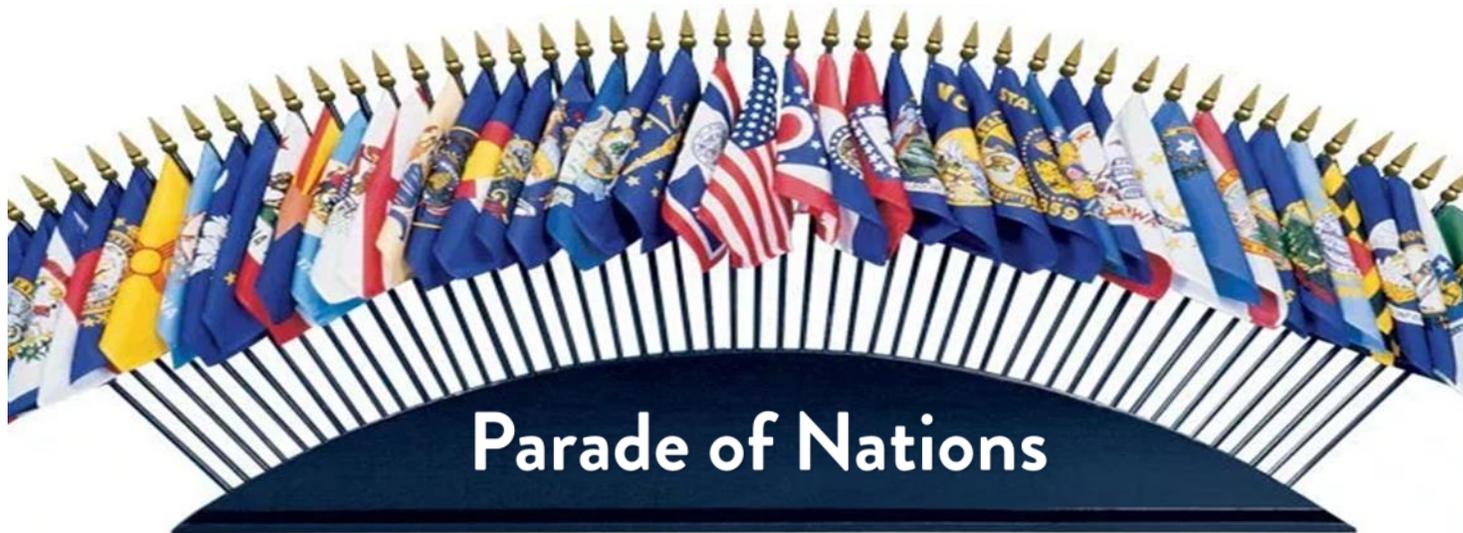
And because we're growing, our opportunities for involvement are many. This is a great way to get people excited about serving, showcase various ministries and make connections.

Below is a list of the ministries that are currently active at Forcey.

For more info, go to
[www.forcey.org/
ministryfair2019](http://www.forcey.org/ministryfair2019)

- 1.A/V
- 2.ABF
- 3.Baptism
- 4.Board Game Night
- 5.Bridge
- 6.Busy Ladies Bible
- 7.Café
- 8.Care Team
- 9.Care Wear
- 10.Children's
- 11.Choir/Orchestra
- 12.Christian Service Brigade
- 13.Communion
- 14.Creative Media
- 15.Dance
- 16.Decorations
- 17.Elders
- 18.ESL
- 19.Evangelism Team
- 20.FCS
- 21.Day Camp
- 22.GO Team
- 23.Home Groups
- 24.Karate
- 25.Kids Church
- 26.Landscaping
- 27.Library
- 28.Men
- 29.Mission Possible
- 30.Missions
- 31.Mother's Day Out
- 32.MOPS
- 33.One In Christ
- 34.Orphan Care Ministry
- 35.Prayer
- 36.Precepts
- 37.Senior Adults
- 38.Stephen Ministry
- 39.TeamKID
- 40.Teens
- 41.Trustees
- 42.Welcome Center
- 43.Widows
- 44.Women
- 45.Young Adults
- 46.Zumba

If you are a ministry leader that would like to have a table at the ministry fair, please follow the [link](#) and complete the registration by March 5th



On Sunday, March 24th, we will be having a parade of nations flag processional featured in both morning services. Our goal is to have as many flags representing countries of Forcey families as possible. We would like to have people wear national attire and carry the flag of their heritage. We will have a practice run on Sunday, March 17th after church.

If you are interested in representing your country by carrying a flag, contact Becky Ford - becky-ford@fcs.school with the following information: Name (first and last) / Country name

MY JOURNEY FROM ESL TO MINISTRY @ FORCEY

My name is Pay-Lu Mertus and I am married to Matino Mertus. We have two wonderful children, Olivier and Xavier. I was born in Haiti where the official language is Creole. I speak Creole fluently as well as some French, which until a few years ago was the other official language.

I have lived in the United States since September of 2013. I always wanted to attend a Haitian church. We visited several churches and finally settled at Forcey because it reminded us of our church in Haiti, Berea Baptist Church (Eglise Baptiste de Beree). My husband soon learned about the free English classes and I quickly enrolled in February 2014. Classes ended June 10, 2014 and the very next day I had my "ESL Baby."

Before I joined the ESL, my English was poor. I knew a bit of English, and in my country I could present myself. However, during my four months in the ESL program my vocabulary and English skills got better than I expected. I enjoyed my time spent at ESL. I remember that the first time I met Norma I was a little shy because of my accent and she helped me to find the exact words during my conversation with her. She helped me to feel confident in myself. My teacher, Mr. Phillip (Cormany) was really patient and attentive with the students. During snack time, teachers and students mingled, and introduced themselves to each other, and we prayed together every Tuesday. I can say that was a great experience.

I was born into a Christian family and went to church every Sunday. I participated in weekly activities but I did not understand that to be a Christian meant I had to believe that Jesus died for my sins and accept Him as my Savior and

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Lord. Even though I listened to many sermons about becoming a Christian I did not care because I was a “good” girl who never disrespected people, or robbed anyone, or did anything essentially wrong, so why did I need to accept Jesus? It was while I was attending one of the many weeklong conferences organized by my church that I realized I was a sinner just like a thief, a killer, a liar, etc. On the third day I asked JESUS to be my Savior and Lord. I believe in my heart that His sacrifice at the cross was for my sin and I know that His blood is super powerful to cleanse me of all my sins.

Romans 12:11 speaks about “. . . not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord.” I was very active in my former church serving in many areas – home prayer group, choir, young women’s acapella group, ushering, youth association, Sunday School as monitor and secretary, nursery, and decoration team.

After observing the Forcey choir for quite a while my husband and I felt led to join. When we met with Jonathan, we told him that in thankfulness to God for all

He has done for us we wanted to use our voices in service to Him. Sometimes I am able to learn a song quickly, but other times it is difficult as I sometimes struggle with pronunciation. I do not read music but I know a little something about notes so I am able to listen to the music and keep the right voice. I rehearse at home by listening to the music for 2 to 3 hours a day.

I really don’t know where next the Lord will lead me but I do know that every time He wants me to do something for Him, He touches my heart and puts me on the path He has chosen for me, like He did with the choir and the nursery. Now I have two ministries at Forcey. I thank God for all He has done for my family and me, choosing us to be His servants.

Thank you, Forcey family, for the opportunity to share with you my journey from ESL to ministry.

May God bless you! Bon Dye beni w (Creole)! Que Dieu vous bénisse (French)!

Soul Winning

~ by Ralph Zimmerman, Evangelism Ministry

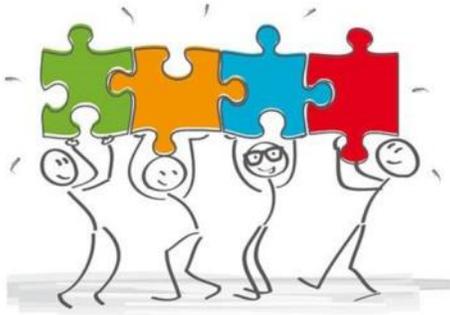
For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast” (Eph 2:8-9). In witnessing to others, the soul winner often encounters prospects that are depending on their good works to get them into Heaven. These individuals understand neither the gravity of their sin nor the grace of God.

Recently at a local hospital, a Forcey member talked to two patients in two different rooms, both of whom were hoping their good works would get them into Heaven. Both of these elderly patients (Samuel and Joyce) were

open to the message of salvation. As the Forcey member presented the gospel to them separately, he stressed that every person is a guilty sinner in the sight of God (Rom 3:23), and that “the wages of sin is death” (Rom 6:23). As he shared with them that God sent the Lord Jesus to die on the cross to pay that death penalty for them, he sensed that Samuel and Joyce did understand that Christ died for their sins (Rom 5:8). As he spoke of the resurrection, the Forcey member emphasized that Christ is now the living Saviour, seated at the right hand of the Father in Heaven, and capable of saving them completely (Heb 7:25). As he gave the invitation to these two patients, both called upon the Lord Jesus to forgive their sins and to save their souls (Rom 10:13). When he departed their individual rooms, both Samuel and Joyce thanked the Forcey member for leading them to Christ.

THIS IS US: PARTNERS AROUND THE GLOBE

Everybody has a part in missions – What is yours?



Last Fall, one of our speakers posed the question, “Who’s up to the task of reaching the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ?” The answer, of course, is “No one!” None of us by ourselves is up to the task. But God is up to the task. And God has chosen to include every believer in this task. In fact, God has commanded every believer to be a part of the process. We are all pieces of a puzzle of believers who, when working together, will bring about disciples of Jesus Christ in every nation, tribe, tongue and people group. Perhaps you will discover your part at our upcoming Ministry Fair and Missions Conference.

MISSIONS WEEK 2019 - March 23-30

Conference Schedule

Saturday, March 23

Men’s Breakfast

8:00 AM - Join the men in fellowship and hear how several from the Forcey family (past & present) have been serving the Lord in the great commission (Mt. 28:18-20).

Speakers include: Bob Arnold, Bob Ewerth, Mark Heazlit, and Henry Woo.

Sunday, March 24

Missions Sunday

9:15 & 11:00 *Joe Steinitz, speaker*

Look for Forcey missionaries in the services and ABFs.

6:00 PM – Missions Seminars

- Partnership in Prayer - Harriet Smith
- Hospitality to Internationals - Nancy Parlette & Blen Jaletta
 - Paint Boards in Open Air Evangelism - Bob Ewerth
 - Eyes on Asia: Bible Education in Nepal - Bob Arnold
- Summer Ministry Opportunities for Teens – Mike Maslin

Children’s Program 6:00-8:00 (child care provided)

Tuesday, March 26 - ESL at Forcey

Come interact with our ESL students and discover how the Forcey family is serving the nations through weekly English classes.

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Wednesday, March 27

Prayer for the Nations, 6:45 PM

Join the Forcey family as we partner with our missionaries in prayer

Children's Program: TeamKid 6:30-8:00 PM, serving pre-K4 to 6th grade (child care provided)

Saturday, March 30

International Pot Luck Dinner, 6:00 PM

Bring a dish to share as we celebrate our partners around the globe. Several of our missionaries will share highlights from the past year. Please sign-up at the Ministry Fair or in the church lobby.

Children's Program (child care provided)

Sunday, March 31

Conference Project Offering

Each year the Forcey family contributes toward specific projects and endeavors of several of our partners around the globe. This past year we were able to supplement the ministry of several of our missionaries through your generosity.

Conference Projects

- Ministry in THAILAND – Bob & Marcia Arnold (serving in their retirement)
- Evangelical Mobile Medical Clinics in TOGO – Michael & Cheryl Gayle
- Library books for children in HONG KONG – Linda Reynolds, ESL ministry
- Equip an international school for year-round use in PERU – Bill & Joy Carrera
- Launch a church plant in an unreached area, YEMEN;
- Sponsor a former imam for training in GERMANY – Hanna Shahin

Missionaries Participating

- Bob & Marcia Arnold – Serving in Mission (SIM)
- Zane Dempsie - Open Air Campaigners
- Bob Ewerth - Open Air Campaigners
- Mouna Gharib – Bridges International
- Mark Heazlit – Frontier Ventures
- Blen Jaletta – International Students, Inc.
- Bob & Sharon Mathieu – Inner City ministry (DC)
- Nancy Parlette – International Students, Inc.
- Harriet Smith – Bridges Internationals

LADIES SPRING CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, APRIL 6 - 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

If you are a lady from age 13-99, this conference is for you. Roseanne Rosenberg, a licensed/experienced counselor, a counselor at New Life ministry conferences along with other efforts to help women. She will share on being a woman of destiny and understanding the high calling and purpose that the Lord has on our lives. More details in the coming weeks.....

LADIES SPRING BIBLE STUDY

Basic Bible Study Methods

How often do you hear, "God helps those who help themselves?" Is that true? Where is that found in the bible?

You receive an email from an acquaintance with a link to a bible study, but would you know if the teaching is truly biblically based? Is this the correct interpretation and application?

You are watching a well-known bible teacher on television, but the message seems to contradict what you have been taught about the bible. How do you decide if the interpretation is correct?

God's word is the primary method for learning about God, His plans, and His ways, but sadly, many people read the bible, but do not actually know how to study the bible. In addition, I have found that many people own study bibles, many Christians have never learned how to study the bible for themselves. Scripture tells us *that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness by which they lie in wait to deceive (Eph 4:14, NKJV).*

Do you want to expand your understanding and application of Scripture? If yes, then consider joining the ladies spring Adult Bible Fellowship "Basic Bible Study

Methods" during the 2nd hour from April 7 – June 30, 2019. The sessions will be a discussion group to learn bible study methods of observation, interpretation, correlation and application. These are the foundational skills needed to develop effective methods of using a study bible to discover and apply biblical truths to life situations. A weekly study guide will be provided, but the class is based upon the book, *Studying, Interpreting, and Applying the Bible* by Walter Henrichs and Gayle Jackson. Ercelle Mayner will be the discussion leader.

With the help of the Holy Spirit you will learn to read, to study, and to listen to bible teaching with discernment. So, come! Meet other women and develop some new relationships. Look for the flyer with the class schedule for additional information. I hope to see you there!



STUDENT MINISTRIES FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

I want to share how our winter high school study of worldviews is going. We are studying worldviews to apply Colossians 2:8, where the Apostle Paul tells us to *“see to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ.”* Our goal is to learn about different worldviews so that we Christian students can discern the philosophies of the world around them and then effectively share the gospel of Jesus Christ with people who hold different worldviews. Our study is adapted from Summit Ministries *“Understanding the Times”* curriculum.

We began by learning about some of the major worldviews – Islam, New Spirituality (i.e. Buddhism, Hinduism, New Age), Secularism, and Postmodernism. Then, we began seeing how each of these worldview systems approach big topics such as origins of the universe, morality and ethics, psychology, and sociology. On Sunday morning, I teach a lesson about the topic, and on Sunday evenings at Teens, students discuss the



implications in small groups.

The response of the students has been so refreshing to me. I can sense that many are glad to be tracing out deep implications of Christ for their world. Students today live in an ever-increasing post-Christian culture. Preparing them to successfully live for the Lord in the midst of a culture with a kaleidoscope of ideas has helped them consider deeper what is really true, and the distinct difference Christ makes in their own lives.

Please pray with me as we continue this series.

~ By Pastor Mike Maslin



Beatrix "Trixie" Marianne Herndon was born December 4, 2018. Thank you so much to everyone who prayed for us, encouraged us, and brought us meals! We really appreciate everyone who has loved on Amelia during this transition to big sisterhood. She just adores her baby sister! We would also like to thank all the coordinators and volunteers who have filled in some of my roles as Children's Ministry Coordinator in the past 3 months to allow me to be home full-time with the girls. Please continue to pray for us as our new "normal" will change again as I come back to work.

Thanks again!

- The Herndons (Berkeley, Kelly, Amelia, and Beatrix)

FORCEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

The Forcey Christian School Fun Run is scheduled for Friday, April 26. All proceeds from the Fun Run will go towards the Forcey Forward Annual Fund. If you would like to donate to the Forcey Christian School Annual Fund and make a tax deductible donation please visit <http://fcs.school/annual-fund/>.

Annual fund donations will go towards integrating technology into our PreK through second grade curriculum, continued facility improvements, and a new(er) bus to meet our transportation needs.



OPEN ENROLLMENT

for Forcey Christian School 2019-2020 school year has begun.

If you know of anyone interested in Forcey Christian School, encourage them to contact Kelly-marroquin@fcs.school or call her at 301-622-2281 x 828 to schedule a tour today!

