

THE FORCEY FOCUS

A NEWSLETTER FOR FORCEY BIBLE CHURCH - MAY 2017

STEPHEN MINISTRY



Our church has trained caring individuals, called Stephen Ministers, who provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to those in our congregation and community who are experiencing difficulties in their lives. The difficulty or crisis may be loss of a loved one; hospitalization; divorce or separation; loneliness or discouragement; spiritual crises; unemployment or job crisis; a terminal illness; incarceration; aging; birth, adoption, miscarriage, or infertility; a chronic illness; relocation; recovery after an accident or disaster; or other concerns.

As an additional outreach to our community, Stephen Ministers will be serving with the H.E.R.O.E.S Care, Hometown Support Program, designed to meet the needs of military service members and their families with the goal of preventing and lessening the psychological, moral, and spiritual injuries that often accompany deployment.

You have an important role in our Stephen Ministry! Here's what you can do:

- **Pray** for God to bring hope and healing to hurting people through our Stephen Ministry.
- **Accept care** from a Stephen Minister during your time of need. God doesn't expect you to bear your burdens alone.
- **Tell a friend**, neighbor, coworker, or relative who is hurting about our Stephen Ministry.

For more information or to make a referral, call Pastor Ron Jones 301-622-2200, or Stephen Leader, Flo Strawser at 301-218-2875.



FORCEY ON THE MOVE - IN THE POKOT REGION OF KENYA

This summer (July 15 - 29), Forcey is sending a team of nine to the Pokot region of Western Kenya to partner with Pokot Outreach Ministries and Julius Murgor (our Harvester's Missionary in the region). Please read below to find out more info about who's going, the Pokot people we'll be serving, and opportunities to rally behind the team.



WHO IS ON THE KENYA TEAM?

LEADERS

Lonnie Harris & Mary Jane Barrow

TEAM MEMBERS

Hope Lee, Gilbert Nwosu, Andreas Scesa, Catherine & Abraham Ajenifuja, Sharon & Wayne Lamy



WHO ARE THE POKOT?

The Pokot region of Western Kenya was a location ravaged by war and largely untouched by the gospel, until God used the ministry of Julius Murgor to begin planting churches and impacting the region with the power of the Kingdom of God. Now there are several orphanages where kids are learning about Christ, there are multiple churches that have been planted, and Julius continues to reach out to the surrounding areas - (even into South Sudan) where people have not yet called upon the name of Jesus and there is no vibrant, indigenous church.

To learn more about the Pokot, read the following Joshua Project Article: https://joshuaproject.net/people_groups/14428/KE, and check out the video links below:

- [General Pokot Outreach Ministry overview video \(esp. orphanage\)](#)
- [Church planting](#)
- [Children's Homes](#)
- [Education](#)

[Forcey On The Move continued](#)

WHAT WILL THE TEAM BE DOING?

- Holding Bible Clubs at several orphanages established by Julius and his team
- One-on-one evangelism & discipleship ministry
- Open Air Preaching & general outreach in Chepturu (Many are still unreached & the church there will appreciate our encouragement and assistance in the effort)

HOW IS FORCEY RALLYING BEHIND THE KENYA TEAM?

CARDS FOR KENYA - Forcey kids ministry is on the move by making 300+ cards of encouragement that the team will deliver to the children at the orphanages that we visit. They launched this effort during the missions conference in March.

PRAYER WARRIORS & FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS - In light of the fact that the work will be difficult & costly (\$4000 per person), we appreciate that God has begun raising up prayer warriors and financial supporters for the team. Please consider partnering with us in this way so the team can be well-sent.

GENERAL FUNDRAISING EFFORT - Please mark your calendars and keep your eyes open for more info so that you can participate in these upcoming fundraising initiatives:

- Yard Sale at Forcey (May 20)
- Swahili Village Restaurant Fundraiser (May 26- June 26) - 15% of each meal eaten at Swahili Village will be donated to the team when the server is presented with the Forcey Fundraiser Coupon.
- Shoe Drive (set aside new and/or used shoes of any type, and they can be used to help us raise funds)

KENYA FESTIVAL (June 25)

Julius has been longing for Forcey to send a team for the last 20+ years, and we are excited that we will finally have the opportunity to get a glimpse of this amazing ministry, and to be a part of this great work that God is doing through Julius and his team.

[Forcey On The Move continued](#)

MISSION POSSIBLE 2017 - (JUNE 26 - JULY 24)

Leaders: Paul and Carmiña Adams

Members: Cameron Adams, Garrett Bradley, Christian Conway, Kathryn Eller, Max Keen, Meredith Keen, Jonathan Kraus, Katherine Mackie



Mission Possible 2 has the amazing blessing of working with OAC Canada this summer in Calgary and Vancouver. We begin the first two weeks helping a church plant in Calgary by cleaning up a neighborhood in the church's location, doing door to door evangelism, and handing out fliers inviting the kids in the community to a VBS we will run in conjunction with the church the second week. During this time we will also be doing some evening outreaches in Calgary and towns in the surrounding area. The third week we will do outreach in Calgary as the biggest rodeo in the western hemisphere comes to Calgary and the town is flooded with real cowboys and their fans. The final week we head to Vancouver via Kelowna where we will do outreaches in both locations together with the local churches.

Please pray for us as we prepare and go - "Forcey on the Move." You can support us financially by coming to the car washes on May 20 and June 5 or by making a check out to Forcey Bible Church and indicating it is for Mission Possible.

HOPE IN THE VALLEY – BAYLY'S LEBANON REPORT



As we entered the tent, home to a Syrian family in the Bekaa Valley, we saw the beaming faces of the beautiful little Syrian girls who had gathered there, waiting for the arrival of the teacher from the "House of Love." Like thousands of other Syrian children, whose families have fled the war and are living in Lebanon, they do not have access to formal schooling. These afternoon lessons that had recently become available were a gift from the Christians that run the House of Love.

The teacher, a Syrian refugee also, pulled out a dry erase board and handed out paper and pencils for the girls to use. The girls meticulously copied the letters and numbers on the board. We then watched as the teacher pulled out a laptop that we had brought and given to the House of Love. The girls watched with rapt attention as it played educational lessons, and then a lesson and song about forgiveness. At that moment, watching the girls and listening to them sing along, we experienced a deep satisfaction in our hearts. We wished that we could beam each of you, our brothers and sisters at Forcey, to see the inauguration of this great gift you provided through your giving to the Forcey Missions Project. Imagine, this scene was taking place at other tents, or "micro-schools" with other laptops that you provided. We personally delivered five laptops from Forcey. The House of Love plans for the teachers to use the computers to show songs and stories about Jesus for the children to learn.

Your prayers and giving made a difference; and impacted each day of the trip. We are so grateful to each of you. Stay tuned to hear more about our recent trip to Lebanon and how God is at work!

~ Diane & Kevin Bayly

An Important Date is Getting Close

You know we have a great facility. It meets the needs of our church and school in more ways than we can count. You likely also know that we borrowed money to build our facility expansion, and we are still paying off the loan.

At the end of June 2017, we are scheduled to refinance our building loan. Last year we launched an effort to raise funds that will allow us to pay the principal balance down before refinancing. Many of you responded generously to that appeal and as of April 30, \$126,605 in additional funds were given! Thank you very much!

But we're not out of time yet. About six weeks remain before we finalize the re-fi paperwork, so we still have time to add to that fund, which will allow us to pay the loan off sooner with less interest expense.

Our loan balance is now approximately \$4.1 million. Every extra \$100 in principal we pay off before we refinance will save us \$43 in future interest payments; or every extra \$1,000 we pay off now will save us \$430 in interest.

Now is the time to make some headway in getting this loan behind us and gaining the freedom to use our resources for direct ministry needs. Any funds given by June 11 and marked "Loan Campaign" will be used entirely to pay down the principal balance of the loan before we refinance.

- If you are giving toward the Building Loan, thank you very much. Our facility is a great blessing to hundreds of families. We appreciate your part in making it possible.
- If you are not giving to help pay down the Building Loan, please pray and consider what God would have you do.

It is our desire to honor God in all that is done at Forcey, including the management of our finances. Thank you for your role in this important part of our ministry.

~Forcey Bible Church Trustees

"I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase" (1 Cor 3:6). Often when the soul winner presents the gospel to a prospect, he finds that others have sown beforehand the gospel seed in their hearts. Recently, while visiting at a local hospital, a Forcey member found a person whose heart had been prepared by the witness of others.

When the Forcey member first visited a middle-aged patient named Michelle, she was engaged in an intense conversation with her guests. One of the visitors (a Christian) urged the Forcey member to return later to visit with Michelle privately. Sensing that the Holy Spirit was preparing Michelle for a gospel witness, the Forcey member left the room and continued visiting other patients. When he had completed his rounds for the day, the Forcey member returned to Michelle's room. After introducing

himself again, he began to inquire about her assurance of going to heaven one day. She admitted that she was not sure, but seemed eager to know how to get to heaven. Michelle listened closely as the Forcey member explained the gospel of Christ to her. After completing his gospel presentation, he asked her if she would be willing to trust the Lord Jesus for her salvation. With evident sincerity, she called upon the Lord to save her soul.

When the Forcey member later reflected on Michelle's conversion, he realized that he had helped to harvest one whose heart had already been softened by the testimony of others. Some planted, others watered, but God gave the increase.

~ *Ralph Zimmerman, Evangelism Team*

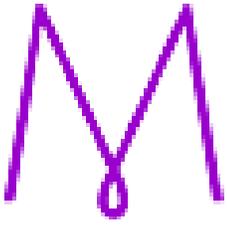
Soul Winning

LISTEN TO SERMONS
ONLINE

www.forcey.org/sermons



MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS (MOPS)



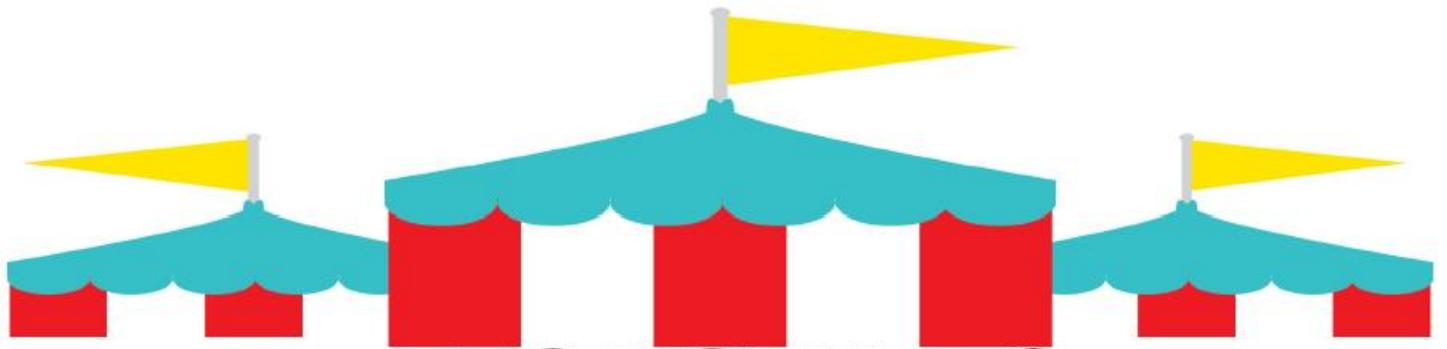
The Forcey Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) invites mothers of children up to the age of five to join us for the 2017-18 year!

We are a community of women who meet to laugh, cry, and embrace the journey of motherhood together. Our mission is "to encourage and equip moms of young children to realize their potential as moms, women, and leaders, in relationship with Jesus, and in partnership with the local church."

Our meetings are 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from September to May at 9:30-11:30 a.m. MOPS Kids is available for children five and under. Registration fee is \$85 without childcare, or \$200 including childcare. Scholarships and payment plans are available upon request. Registration is now open to all! Tell your family and friends! Go to www.forcey.org/mops to register. Contact forceymops@gmail.com with questions.

2017 MOPS TEAM





FORCEY
Family
CARNIVAL

Family-friendly Games ♦ Carnival-style Events ♦ Competitions

Saturday, May 6, 2017

10:30 - Noon

Hot Dog Cookout at Noon

All children through 6th grade and their families are welcome!

FREE

FREE

FREE

FREE

FREE