



The Lamplighter

February 2002

Volume 18, Issue 2

Heart To Heart

By Pastor Richard Wright



Inside This Issue

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| Forestdale School News | 2 | I was asked by a couple of family members to help them with a budget. I'm no financial wizard by any means, but I do know that many Christians have difficulty handling money and are heavily in debt, which leads to discouragement and enslavement and even divorce. It takes money from the cause of God and from one's own family. In the book of Counsels on Stewardship (p.249) it says, "many, very many, have not so educated themselves that they can keep their expenditures within the limit of their income." Therein lies the problem. People heavily in debt spend more than they have and they have not learned to live within a budget or even plan a budget. A Christian should not be in that position. Most of us think that if we made just a little more money than our troubles would be over, but the truth is that people of all income levels are in debt, because they haven't ever learned to live within their means no matter what they make. |
| Pillars Of Faith | 3 | |
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| Bible Lab & Outreach | 5 | Counsels on Stewardship (p.257) says, "Be determined never to incur another debt. Deny yourself a thousand things rather than run in debt...avoid it as you would the smallpox." People who continually borrow money over their lifetime pay thousands and thousands of dollars in interest. If a person buys a new car for example at a cost of \$18,000 that's only worth \$15,000 as soon as they drive it off the lot and they borrow that \$18,000 to pay for the car, they are going to end up paying \$22,000 or so. So now they are paying \$7000 more for something that will be worth nothing by the time they get it paid for. Why not buy a good used car and pay cash for it? Christians should make as much money as possible and use it for the honor and glory of God. They should pay God first, then themselves and borrow from themselves when they need to make purchases, then pay themselves back. We live in a society that says, buy now and pay back much later. We then become slaves to debt. Christians should be good stewards of the goods that God gives them to manage. I Corinthians 4:2 says, "Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." There are services available free of charge to help people manage their finances and that will set up a plan to get out of debt. We need to take advantage of that counseling so we can be good stewards and live as God would want us to live, debt free. Think how good that would be. |
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Who Am I?

Today I would like to introduce you to Faye Wilson Taylor. She was born in Norway, Maine at Stephans Memorial Hospital. She is the baby amongst a crew of 6 brothers and 1 sister. She met her husband through a friend of her brother. She keeps busy as a housewife as well as a permanent fixture at the Forestdale School Store. She has 2 children, a boy and girl and 7 grandkids. Her hobbies include cooking & crocheting. Her favorites in foods include most fruits, while her dislike includes turnips. She enjoys the Gospels most of the books of the bible. When asked what animal she most wants to play with in heaven her answer was a Koala bear. Please get to know Faye if you get the chance. She is an incredibly sweet person. Her dedication to her grandchildren knowing the Lord I know makes God smile.



The Lamplighter

Forestdale School News



**Life can only disappoint
you if you let it.
Mark Hopkins**

Forestdale's playground is covered with a white blanket of snow. This has added lots of excitement to these moments of recess that are so special to the students. As you drive by or visit you see sleds and snowboards being navigated by enthusiastic young people in hopes of receiving a thrilling run down the hills. Snow forts, snow animals, and snowmen decorate the playground as the children happily construct their great snow creations. One sunny afternoon a few weeks ago students and faculty took a break from classes and had a sledding party at Nancy and Earl Mason and Heather Tetreault's home. Their entire back yard is a gradual slope that provides a seemingly endless sled ride. The hour went by quickly and tired people headed back to school.

Recess and fun activities are only a small part of Forestdale's program. Each class is busy with daily academics. Each week finds the students busy with assignments as they master new concepts in the curriculum. Interspersed with academics are the many spiritual lessons that can be gained as we learn more of Christ and His teachings. What a wonderful direction for our lives as we look to Him.

As the Staff at Forestdale make daily lesson plans they also look ahead to next year. Planning starts early as subjects, activities, and projects are looked at. Presently we are studying the enrollment for next year and would like to develop an accurate count of students. If you have a perspective student or know of a possibility the staff would like to hear from you within the next few weeks.

We ask for your prayers. We appreciate the many gestures of kindnesses that are extended from the church family toward the school family.

Forestdale Staff Writer

Linda M. Wiggin

A little boy is telling his Grandma how "everything" is going wrong. School, family problems, severe health problems, etc. Meanwhile, Grandma is baking a cake. She asks her grandson if he would like a snack, which, of course, he does.

"Here, have some cooking oil." "Yuck" says the boy.

"How about a couple of raw eggs?" "Gross, Grandma!"

Would you like some flour then? Or maybe some baking soda?"

"Grandma, those are all yucky!"

To which Grandma replies: "Yes, all those things seem bad all by themselves. But when they are put together in the right way, they make a wonderfully delicious cake!"

God works the same way. Many times we wonder why he would let us go through such bad and difficult times. But God knows that when He puts these things all in His order, they always work for good! We just have to trust Him and, eventually they will all make something wonderful!

God is crazy about you. He sends you flowers every spring and a sunrise every morning. Whenever you want to talk, He'll listen. He can live anywhere in the universe, and He chose your heart.



Pillars of Faith

By faith Enoch was taken from his life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Hebrews 11:5 & 6

Enoch was a descendant of Seth. Seth's descendants for the most part remained faithful to God and worshipped him. Notable among those in this godly line was Enoch who was the son of Jared and father of Methuselah. He lived for a total of 365 years and walked with God. In other words, he led a righteous life of faith in service of God. Instead of his death being recorded, it is simply said of him, "then he was no more because God took him away" The writer of Hebrews, commenting on the faith of some of the great heroes of the past, says that Enoch "did not experience death" because "he was commended as one who pleased God" He goes on to make the point that "pleasing god" is only possible by means of faith in him. Thus Enoch was counted "righteous" before God by his faith; a teaching that the writer demonstrates its essential to a proper understanding of Christianity. Interestingly enough Cain also had a son named Enoch.

Beginning At The End

Each of the following is the last verse of a book of the bible. Can you name them?

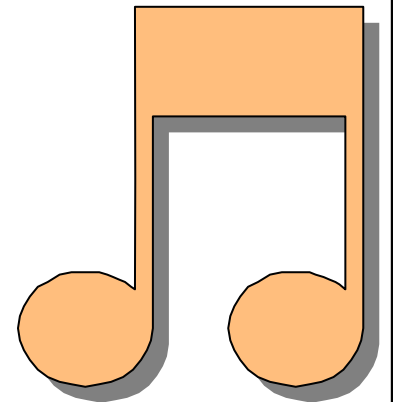
1. Remember me, O my God, for good.
2. But thou hast utterly rejected us; thou are very wroth against us.
3. And they were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen
4. For he served Baal, and worhiped him, and provoked to anger the Lord God of Israel, according to all that his father had done.
5. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen

Who was Adonijah & Haggith?

Adonijah followed in the footsteps of his older brother Absalom, David's fourth son by also threatening the ailing kingdom of David. His bitterness over the assumption that Solomon, rather than he, would become David's successor, led him to plot a political coup, which failed through Nathan's skillful intervention. Solomon showed tolerance of Adonijah, which ran out when he made a bid for David's former nurse Abishag, resulting in his execution at Solomon's hands.

Haggith was the mother of Adonijah and one of King David's wives. Haggith's son was born to her while David's court was in Hebron and was David's fourth son born there. He later tried to usurp the throne

CHRISTIAN MUSIC SALES
ARE UP 12% SINCE
SEPTEMBER 11,
COMPARABLE TO 3%
SALES OF SECULAR
MUSIC



The Lamplighter

Community Services Report - 2002

The Community Services department of the Woodstock SDA Church has had a very busy holiday season. If you were a visitor at Thurlow Hall and saw the room where the large banana boxes were packed, then you know that they were filled with a good variety of basic foods and topped with fruits and vegetables and some goodies. A lot of love and hard work went into these boxes. Our students at Forestdale School started at Halloween time when they went to the surrounding towns and collected cans and other food items. They presented each home with a nicely printed sheet explaining their project and who they were and about their school. Our church people donated food, made bread and gave money. The school children also helped bake cookies. We gave 21 boxes of food and 22 fruit plates at Thanksgiving. At Christmas we delivered 25 boxes of food, 20 fruit plates and 16 poinsettia plants to needy families, shut-ins and friends. We want to thank every one who helped with this outreach. Our leaders have been able to help people at other times through the past year, one or two boxes have gone out each month and some clothes and bedding given. We are hoping that our food shelves can soon be restocked with basic food stuff. We receive a donation twice a month from Wal-Mart, mostly damaged goods, but usable. We request that our members continue to bring foods to the box in the church foyer. We are still able to buy from the Shepherd Food Bank at a greatly discounted price. Your donation of money to Community Services makes this possible. Our total expenditure for the holiday boxes and fruit plates was approximately \$400.00. The poinsettias were purchased with Sunshine Money. Thanks again to all whom have helped with this important outreach program. We anticipate more calls for food as the year progresses. We are eager to be ready to fill these needs. We have some good clothing on hand. Our need in this department is for good blankets, sheets and pillowcases, towels, washcloths and kitchen linens. In case of fire, we need to be ready to help. Our space is very limited therefore only good quality clothes can be saved. Please no adult shoes, good clean children's shoes can be used. We have no place to store other household items. Keep this type of goods for the School sale this spring. Thank you again for your generosity and God bless you as you plan what you can do this year for this important church ministry



Isabel Brown
Assistant Community Services Leader

WORD SEARCH

Find the books of the New Testament in this word puzzle.

- | | |
|------------------|------------|
| Matthew | I Timothy |
| Mark | II Timothy |
| Luke | Titus |
| John | Philemon |
| Acts | Hebrews |
| Romans | James |
| I Corinthians | I Peter |
| II Corinthians | II Peter |
| Galatians | I John |
| Ephesians | II John |
| Philippians | III John |
| Colossians | Jude |
| I Thessalonians | Revelation |
| II Thessalonians | |

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A X S W E R B E H K K L S I E I X
K J S P A M I J O H N X N P I I S
I A U O S M A R K S S C A Y X P N
P M O D S T E T L U K E I H S E A
Q E S W E L J N T P P I P T N T I
O S S I I L H I H H C R P O A E N
R C O K I O T T E O E X I M I R O
X O K J J O S S R T W W L I H N L
X L M V O O I I E V J K I T T O A
P O D A H A N P V C I S H I N M S
X S N I N T I P E L T I P I I E S
E S B S H S C L L C R U L E R L E
J I C I K G A L A T I A N S O I H
B A A B L A Y H T O M I T I C H T
T N A F N H O J I I I L I N I P I
S S G S N A I N O L A S S E H T I
X S W Q Q E W E N S A W W T W W Y
    
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And A Little Child Shall Lead Them

Forestdale Bible Lab & Outreach Updates

Please Note that the Bible Lab at Forestdale has terminated its use for used church periodicals due to the complications of the mailing process plus the cost factor. We want to Thank all that have contributed to this program for the past 8 years.

\$105.00 was received for the Prison Ministries offering. Thank you Forestdale students, teachers and church family.

If you would like to buy a butterfly to be released on July 4, 2002 at McLaughlin Garden in South Paris please see one of the Forestdale School Students or call 674-2655 for more info. They have to be ordered by January 31, 2002. This program is a national release for "ecology", "freedom", & "independence".

Nine neighborhood homes were visited by the Forestdale School students & church family on Friday night, December 21st. Christmas caroling along with a loaf of bread made with love by the students was given to each household. 32 loaves of bread & 26 dozen cookies were given in the Thanksgiving & Christmas boxes. These goodies were also made by the students. Many of the recipients sent cards, called or expressed their appreciation for the gifts of thoughtfulness.

Four families were adopted for Christmas by the students over \$600 was given for this project. All the students & teachers were involved in going to Walmart (which donated \$25) & shopped for needed articles of clothing, boots, sneakers, etc. for these families. After the purchasing of these gifts they were taken back to the school where they were wrapped & labeled. After this process, the students, teachers, and Maude Alice (who was in charge of the bountiful food boxes) took the gifts to the individual families. The participants sang songs & wished them blessings as well as also inviting them to Church & Sabbath School. Each family were overwhelmed with gratitude for the generosity & thoughtfulness. One family had no furniture except for 1 small table & three folding chairs. 3 living room chairs & 2 single beds were donated by parents of students or church members along with new bedding, towels & other necessities. Each student learned first hand what giving with love is all about. *"if you have done this unto the least of these my brethren you have done it unto me."* (Matthew 25:40)

Thank you Gen Soloninka for the beautiful knitted items you donated, Also Lisa Vail for shopping with the students, and the parents that help to wrap the gifts at school. Your help was appreciated. For each of you that gave a love offering for this project at the Christian Cantata. Thank you.

By Goldie & Jim Mason



I'd like to **"BUG"** you all about taking an active participation in the making of the monthly "Lamplighter Newsletter". I know there are those of you who are hiding your creative talents. **Please do so no more.** I welcome your input to the Lamplighter. If you would like to be a reporter of sorts, writing articles about various church activities, or you write poetry and you'd like to share it with fellow Lamplighter readers. Maybe the Holy Spirit is impressing you to share your Christian walk with others. There are no restrictions on age so I pray those of you that are in the primary, juniors, earliteen or youth will get involved in "a perhaps more behind the scenes" ministry to your own home church. I thank those of you that do submit things for publishing and I look forward to continued participation in this year of 2002.

Sincerely, Lamplighter Editor - Christie Hodson



The Lamplighter

In My Humble Opinion

By Lamplighter Editor - Christie Hodson

Having been an Adventist all my life I often wondered what it felt like “outside” the church. Though I never felt trapped completely by its doctrines, my curiosity of being the “one who came into the church”, always fascinated me. I felt being exposed to one angle of belief would somehow create a naïve conservative unaccepting person. My parents fortunately exposed me to other people’s beliefs and always showed an acceptance to their rights of their own views and lifestyles. Yet they always stood firm in their beliefs toward Christianity & Adventism which probably has a great deal to do with why I remained in this particular denomination. I couldn’t help but wonder though as I got older and reevaluated my beliefs outside of my parent’s direct guidance, why were so many leaving the church. Evaluating it further I found that they were not only leaving the church, but leaving God all together. It often baffled me why our outreach was for those “outside” the church while all the time people were slipping out the back door. Why were our missions in other countries when “their” churches were growing 10 times faster than ours in America. Somehow things just didn’t add up to make much sense. It forced me to analyze the organization I was a part of and try to discern why such scenarios were playing out. It was in examining Jesus’ life, strong Christians around me, human behavior and watching other churches that brought me to my conclusion. Or at least an idea of why this was and is still happening. The primary ingredient in all 4 areas was unconditional love. Jesus lived it, strong Christians showed it, human behavior craves it, relationships grow with it and growing churches are filled to the brim with it. Giving love, sounds so easy but we mustn't forget its not natural. Giving of ourselves takes energy, creates an uncomfortable vulnerability, and gets us more involved with others than we want to be. (We have enough to deal with already, right?). Believe it or not it’s the secret, yet obvious ingredient needed to keep us glued together despite opinion or denominational lines. I felt a burden to write this editorial this month as I have continually been hearing of church members that no longer are attending church. They’ve essentially dropped out of sight. People who have been an integral part to the growth and body of the Woodstock church. Woodstock church is known around as a healthy church but right before our eyes, we’re losing important body parts (members) to either discouragement, hurt, misunderstandings or just outright neglect. We cannot change the mind of others but we certainly can try to influence their decisions to return to worship and fellowship by showing our unconditional love, portrayed through the life of Christ. I will say personally that I’m not outgoing, not one to walk right up to these people and say I’m sorry & I miss you at church, but through my introverted way I want to publicly say I miss you all. In Cradle Roll we sing a song called “I miss you at my Church”. As I watch the older ones in class sing the song by memory, I pray silently that they will continually singing it loudly in their thoughts and actions and be an example to those of us who have become comfortable just bringing ourselves to church unbeknownst to those who are missing among us. I pray we continue growing the seed planted in our children’s division of being aware of those missing. The particular song I chose has to do with drawing lines around our denomination keeping “other beliefs” out of our thinking. Though it talks about denominational lines as such do exist, we can also apply the same principle to the boundaries that we put up amongst our own denomination and realize that we are not better off divided, there is room enough for all of us, that we can open our arms wide enough, and that our parts are not greater than the sum. We must have the heart of the one who stands at the door (Christ) who has bid everyone come! Nichole Nordeman speaks about the inspiration of writing “Please Come” by saying “I just wanted to write a simple song about the basics of the Gospel. To me the basics are about an invitation that’s been extended to every person without exception.” “The Gospel is about the invitation to come for each of us. And so this song is just about remembering what we have in common and not what makes us different, not what separates us. I don’t believe the Jesus really cares too much about denominations and doctrine and all that stuff that we spend our lives obsessing over. I think its about salvation , or need for it and the gift that’s been given.

Oh the days when I drew lines around my faith to keep you out, to keep me in, to keep it safe. Oh the sense of my own self-entitlement to say who’s wrong, or wont belong, or cannot stay. Cause somebody somewhere decided we’d be better off divided, and somehow despite the damage done, He says, “Come”. There is room enough for all of us. Please come, and the arms are open wide enough, Please Come, and our parts are never greater than the sum, this is the heart of the One who stands before an open door, and bids us, “Come”.

February 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 A-Glendon & Martha Hadley	2
3	4	5	6 B-Burna Wilson	7	8	9 B-Joshua Saladino B-Keith Hadley
10 B-Melody Hadley B-JoAnn Appleby	11	12 B-Faye Taylor	13	14 A-Keith & Darlene Hadley	15 B-Frank Glover III	16 B-Dale Gaudreau * - Church Potluck * - Submission Deadline For Next Newsletter
17 B-Emily Gaudreau B-Rodney Johnson Sr.	18	19	20	21 B-Zachery Wilday	22 B-James Mason III	23 B-Dorothy Comley
24 B-Robbie Slocum B-Allison Wiggin	25 B-Vikki Holmes	26	27	28		

Woodstock SDA Church
Perkins Valley Road
Bryant Pond, Maine 04219

We're on the web

www.woodstockchurch.com

I Am Thankful For....

.....the mess to clean after a party because it means I have been surrounded by friends

.....the taxes I pay because it means that I'm employed

.....the clothes that fit a little too snug because it means I have enough to eat.

.....my shadow who watches me work because it means that I am out in the sunshine.

.....a lawn that needs mowing,, windows that need cleaning and gutters that need fixing because it means I have a home.

.....the spot I find at the far end of the parking lot because it means I am capable of walking

.....all the complaining I hear about our government because it means we have freedom of speech.

.....my huge heating bill because it means I am warm.

.....the lady behind me in church who sings off key because it means that I can hear.

.....the alarm that goes off in the early morning hours because it means that I'm alive.

.....the piles of laundry and ironing because it means my loved ones are nearby.

.....weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day because it means I have been productive.