



Forest Hills

Lutheran Christian School

Forest Hills Friday News
December 9, 2016

This really is an exciting time of year. It can be a time that fills up our calendars and contains more scheduled events than any other time in the year, but it really is a time of joy and a time of celebration.

One of the things that I enjoy most about this time of year are the Christmas lights. I love driving around and seeing the variety of lights, decorations, and lawn ornaments that people have put out for the Christmas season. It's neat to see the progression of lights over the years. Technology has even entered the Christmas light business with people buying projectors to put different images on their home. The lights are certainly a part of the season that get me into the Christmas spirit!

I think the most powerful thing about the Christmas lights is the fact that they truly pierce through the darkness. One of the things that I like the least about this time of year is how short the days are. It's a regular occurrence to come to school in the dark, and head home in the dark as well. Seeing the darkness really makes you value the light.

I think the image of darkness and light also applies to Jesus' birth. The world was steeped in darkness - it was all around. Mankind had fallen into sin. They had consistently turned their back on their loving God. Darkness was prevalent in the world. However, in that darkness, the light of Christ shone through. In the manger in Bethlehem, over 2000 years ago, a light entered the world. This wasn't any ordinary light. It wasn't a dim light, or a flickering light. It was much more powerful than that.

In John 1:5, we read, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." In some translations, that last phrase is translated as, "the darkness has not been able to put it out." Jesus was a different type of light. He actually pierced the darkness so that darkness could not rule over our lives any more. The darkness of the sin and shame of all those who have ever lived was flooded with light that offers forgiveness, life, and salvation. That same light floods your life and mine.

Jesus is the eternal light that will never dim, never fade, and never extinguish. On the day when He returns, the darkness will be put out for eternity, replaced only by the light of Christ. This image of Christ as a light is clearly seen throughout this Christmas season by the lights we have in our homes, in our churches, and in our communities. So many people celebrate light by having official lighting ceremonies. They gather at common events for the turning on of the lights. It's a big deal. Each and every day, you and I can celebrate the light of Christ in our life. As the Spirit enters our hearts, it's a big deal. The light of Christ shines in your life, and in turn, you are called to shine that light into the lives of others.

This season, I encourage you to drive around and check out the lights. This coming Thursday at our Bethlehem Walk, you will see a lot of light on campus. The darkness of night will be replaced by search lights, rope lights, star lights, twinkling lights, icicle lights, and many more. As you see this light, let it be a reminder of the light of Christ that entered our dark world so that you and I could shine forevermore.

Mike Schiemann. <><
Principal

Final Days for Student Council Hosted a Food Drive

NOW through **December 15th**, students are asked to bring in canned food for our school-wide competition against Pilgrim Lutheran School. Which school do you think can bring in the most items to support the Oregon Food Banks?



Donations can be dropped off in the food-collection barrels in every building, but any glass bottles will need to go to the Main Building in the box labeled 'Glass'.

Thank you for your contribution!



In today's Family Envelope you will find a donation form for our Classroom Competition. Please make sure to attach a donation form to **each** item that is donated. Thank you so much!

Thank you all for the generous donations of wine! We are well on our way of "stocking our cellar" for the 2017 Wall of Wine at the auction. We have quite a few bottles that didn't have a donation form attached - if you donated a bottle, but didn't fill out your form, please come and see (or email info@fhlds.org) Patti White to get credit for your donation.



CLASS Meeting Minutes
December 2, 2016

