

# The Covenanter

## Silverhill Covenant Church

"To work for God, God's people, and to win souls for His Kingdom"

16094 State Highway 104

Post Office Box 125

251-945-5143 (Office)

251-979-4794 (Pastor's Cell)

Check us out on the web at: [silverhillcovenant.org](http://silverhillcovenant.org)

Several years ago in our newsletter, we had a column written by Paul Edhegard called "Get to Know..." It was written about various members, old and new, to let people "get to know." We are going to re-run some of these and add new ones. We have many new people and the old ones will get an update...so you "get to know."

This month we are highlighting Ted Forsman who was the subject of the column in the February 1998 newsletter. Times have changed for Ted since then. Now when he is able to attend, he sits in the library on a "soft" chair because of back problems. He will be 89 years old in October 2008. Christ and the Church have been the center of Ted's life and the way he has lived those 89 years have been a testimony to how much Jesus means to him. His example has been a positive influence on more people than he will ever know. Next time you see him; tell him "Hello."

If you did some research and then constructed a pyramid of church members, you might find that the oldest member (on top) in terms of church membership would probably be the person we focus on this month in our church family – Joy Olaf Fredrick "Ted" Forsman.

Ted was born in Silverhill, about a mile or so south of town just off Highway 55. The second son of Art and Erica Forsman, Ted lived in the same location with his parents and brother Earl until he and Margaret Seaquist, from Sister Bay, Wisconsin, were married on June 2, 1940. Margaret had come down from the "North" to visit relatives when she met Ted and the return trip North was delayed for several years.

Ted and Margaret were married in Pensacola, FL after a short courtship and Ted jokingly remarked that following the wedding, he treated Margaret to a milk shake at a local ice cream shop.

With very little money and looking for a home, Ted took a job in the Edhegard Feed Store in Silverhill with a salary of \$12 a week. "That was pretty good pay in those days," he said.

Ted worked at the feed store for about three years, but had to return to the family farm to help his father following an accident his dad had while connecting a combine to the tractor, crushing his arm. When his father was again able to handle the farming operation, Ted left the farm

And began working in the construction business with Elmer Anderson and Victor Olson. It was in September 1944 that "Uncle Sam" called and Ted was drafted into the Army.

Following basic training in Camp Blanding, FL, Ted was sent overseas and landed near Naples, Italy, but according to Ted, he and many other American troops were quarantined on the ship because of illness. "No sooner had I gotten over the measles, then I got the mumps" he related.

When the war (WWII) ended Ted came home to get reacquainted with his wife and two children. Dixie was just three and Peco a year old when Ted left for military service. In 1946 times were hard and jobs were not easy to come by. Ted and Margaret decided that perhaps they could, working together, start a dairy and sell milk commercially. On 80 acres which they had purchased, they began buying milk cows and soon the herd was large enough to begin operation. This venture lasted nine years until government regulations forced them and many small dairy businesses to close.

Following the sale of the dairy and property, Ted went to work in the construction trade once again, where he continued for eight years, until he took a job at the Feed Mill in Robertsedale. After a couple of years he decided to go into the business of repairing and remodeling homes. Just completing his first home, Ted was visited by Jim Langley, who at the time was working for 4-Star Builders. He asked Ted if he would be interested in building cabinets for the company. "I felt this was something the Lord had sent my way" he said. "I told Jim I had never given any thought to building cabinets, but I would give it a try." Ted stayed with the cabinet building business with 4-Star for about 15 years until the company quit operation.

At this time he began building cabinets for other contractors and private individuals and still continues in that work today.

Ted has attended the Evangelical Covenant Church since 1919, the year he was born, when his parents carried him in their arms to services. According to Ted, he has held various positions in the church including the chairmanship on and off totaling probably 30 years – "Maybe more" he said. He is currently an usher and can be seen every Sunday morning at the front door of the church greeting members and guests as they enter.



### News from the SEC Annual Meeting

The 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southeast Conference of the Evangelical Covenant Church was held in Atlanta, GA April 17-19. Pastor Jesse and Karen Adams, Wayne and Rose Doubrava, and Peco and Irene Forsman represented Silverhill Covenant Church with dignity. (Peco represented the SEC Executive Board). The theme of the Conference was "There is room at the table for you." Delegates and church members from every state in the SEC attended. The Atlanta churches, which hosted this conference, went all out in the extension of hospitality, their conduct of worship, and their making us feel welcome. Silverhill Covenant Church was honored when the delegates voted to accept our invitation to the Conference to come to Silverhill for the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, which will be held April 23-25, 2009. Our Church Chairman, Wayne Doubrava, will tell us more at our Quarterly Business Meeting today after the morning service. Please stay and learn more of what's going on in our Church and Conference.



**1<sup>st</sup> - National Day of Prayer Luncheon** at the Summerdale Community Center. Guest Speaker: Harold F. See, Assoc. Justice Alabama Supreme Court. Lunch provided by area churches

**4<sup>th</sup> - Committee Workshops**

**11<sup>th</sup> -Mother's Day**

**13<sup>th</sup> - SWAP Team** 11:30 am \$2 will buy a Pizza Lunch. Karen Adams will talk about becoming a Nurse/Practitioner

**18<sup>th</sup> - Bridal Shower for Emily Pitts** in the Christian Center (She is Ruby's granddaughter and grew up in our church before going off to college) 2-4 pm

**24<sup>th</sup> - Silverhill Car Show & Water Ministry** – Bottled water donations can be left in the Christian Center. Last year we gave out more than 300

bottles of water and ran out early. We need around 400 bottles of water this year. Also, we will need several large ice chests. And, if anyone would like to volunteer to pass out water from 9:00 until 3:00, please see Kathy McGrew. (Any water not used at Car Show will be used at VBS or camp).

June 9-13 – *Vacation Bible School* – Help is still needed. See Tonya Sterling if you can help.

July 13-16 – *Covenant Campers Youth Retreat*

### From the past...

Evangelical Covenant Church of Silverhill bulletin on Sunday, August 26, 1979... CONGRATULATIONS TO DAVE AND ANNIE SIMMONS on the birth of their daughter (and second child) – Heather Marie – born Monday evening. We rejoice with Dave, Annie, and Jason at this happy time for them!

**Jimmy Langley** is still having new aches and pains associated with his fall and broken bones. Keep him and his wife, Treva, in your prayers.



**A BIG THANK YOU** to all who fed us a wonderful meal of fried fish and all the trimmings on Casual Sunday.

### CONGRATULATIONS

to Randa Pope and Eli Grider on completing their two year Confirmation study. It took much dedication and work to achieve that goal. What you learned will stay with you for the rest of your life...I know, I completed my Confirmation April 25, 1954 and what I learned has sustained over the many years.

**Always remember, time flies like the wind, but fruit flies like bananas.**

**I will be helping** Mrs. Tina with the monthly newsletter and in turn will need help from all of you. If you have news you want in the next newsletter, please get it to me no later than the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month. Please submit ideas, articles, poems, your testimony, news... Teachers let me know what your class is doing – any outings planned? Any special goings on in your class? What's happening in Children's Church? (You know if we don't get news, you're at our mercy of what is in the newsletter). My e-mail address is: [dixiefw@yahoo.com](mailto:dixiefw@yahoo.com) and my phone number is 945-5388. If I'm not home, please leave you number and I'll get back with you. Thank you in advance for the help.

Dixie White