



The South Florida Avenue church of Christ



MESSENGER

1807 S. Florida Ave., Lakeland, FL 33803

Vol. 74 No. 6 February 9, 2021

ELDERS

David Anderson
Kenny French
Brian Kenyon
Bobby Sheumaker

DEACONS

Tyler Anderson
Jason Hendrix
Stacey Paulin
Jimmy Sweeney

MINISTER

Hiram Kemp

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Vince Daugherty

SECRETARY

Dee Parramore

OFFICE PHONE

(863) 682-4702

SUNDAY SERVICES

Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Ladies Class.....10:00 a.m.
Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

EMAIL

SFA.church@gmail.com

WEB PAGE

SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist.com

YOUTUBE.com

SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist

HOME OF

Florida School of Preaching
since 1969

MISSION FIELDS

Dub Hill.....Russia
Don Iverson.....India
Marc Veary.....Malawi, Africa
Graham McDonald..Scotland
J. Paguaga.....Honduras, C.A.
Joey Treat.....Pacific Islands
Ted Wheeler.....Ghana, W.A.

You are invited to a

Spring Gospel Meeting

hosted by the

South Florida Ave. church of Christ

March 7 – 10, 2021

Islam in Christ's Eyes

A study of the origins of Islam and the Christian response

Sunday, March 7 – 9:30 am (Bible class hour)

The Quran or the Bible?

Sunday, March 7 – 10:30 am (Sermon in worship)

I am an Arab, and I am a Christian

Sunday, March 7 – 6:00 pm (Sermon in worship)

Abraham, Muhammad, and the

Golden Butterfly

Monday, March 8 – 7:00 pm

Evolution

Tuesday, March 9 – 7:00 pm

Islam Myth Buster

Wednesday, March 10 – 7:00 pm

For We Do Not Wrestle



Wissam Al-Aethawi
Dearborn, MI



Live stream will be available



South Florida Avenue church of Christ channel

Wisdom From Solomon

Hiram Kemp

When Solomon became King of Israel, he was instructed by his father to faithfully follow the Lord and obey his Lord (1 Kings 2:1-4). Solomon reigned as King of Israel for forty years, though he did not always follow the advice of his father, but as long as he did, he was successful (1 Kings 11:41-43). When Solomon was given the opportunity to ask God for whatever he desired as king, he asked for wisdom. God granted Solomon's request and gave him wisdom that would far surpass any king before or after him in Israel (1 Kings 3:5-12).

Solomon's wisdom was on display through his problem-solving skills (1 Kings 3:16-28), building projects (1 Kings 5-9), and through the various proverbs and songs that he spoke (1 Kings 4:32). Fortunately for students of Scripture, Solomon's wisdom did not die with him but is preserved for us through many of his writings, especially the Book of Proverbs. Notice a few important lessons about wisdom that we learn from the wisest king in Israel's history.

Fear the Lord (Proverbs 1:7, 9:10)

While our world equates wisdom with reading many books, a high IQ, and lots of degrees, Solomon paints a different picture. Solomon tells us the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and knowledge (Prov. 1:7, 9:10). The wise person is one who understands his or her role in relation to the Creator of the universe. True wisdom realizes that God is the omnipotent and omniscient one before whom we should bow and honor. Solomon received his wisdom from God, and we also will as long as we remember where we stand in relation to Him (Colossians 2:3; James 1:5). The Lord gives wisdom (Prov. 2:6), but only to those who fear Him. Some arrogantly approach God and others apathetically ignore Him, but the wise approach Him in godly reverence. Wisdom does not start with human intelligence but instead with a healthy fear of the Lord (Matt. 10:28).

Wisdom Resides with the Humble (Proverbs 11:2)

Pride brings shame (KJV), dishonor (NASB), or disgrace (ESV), but with the humble there is wisdom. Wisdom is the practical application of knowledge. It involves the ability to live skillfully. Wisdom involves making good choices based on instruction, experience, or observation. Proud (arrogant) people are eventually brought low because they are God's enemy (Prov. 6:16-19), but the lowly are wise to allow the Lord to exalt (James 4:6, 4:10; 1 Peter 5:6). Wise people do not praise themselves. They let others notice their good qualities (Prov. 25:27, 27:2). Solomon started off humbly, but he was ruined through pride and rebellion. As we read his wise words in Proverbs, we should guard against letting success go to our heads because pride always leads to destruction and ruin (Prov. 16:18).

Wisdom Is More Valuable Than Treasure (Proverbs 16:16)

Most people in the world spend their time chasing financial prosperity and worldly treasure and usually end up empty handed (Prov. 23:3-5). Wisdom *(continued on page 4)*

~ YOUTH GROUP NEWS ~
CONGRATULATIONS
HANNAH HENDRIX
on completing 200
K.I.S.S. forms
(Kids Involved in Studying Scripture)

Senior Saints

by John McShane

As we travel through this world we meet many people thru school, our jobs, our hobbies and many other random activities. We have the opportunity to decide who we want to be friends with and who we want to avoid. Do we choose a Peter or a Judas? We need to be able to discern our Judas from our Peter. Peter had a bad day, Judas had a bad heart. Peter we restore and Judas we release. In our life we have to know who to restore and who to release. We need to choose friends that will accompany us on the road to everlasting life, not lead us to the gates of eternal damnation. It has been said that we become like the five people we spend the most time with. Choose carefully. The Book of Proverbs has a lot to say about choosing friends as we go through life on this planet. Proverbs 12:26 **The righteous choose their friends carefully**, but the way of the wicked leads them astray. Proverbs 17:17 A friend is always loyal, and a brother is born to help in time of need. And one last one. Proverbs 13:20 **Walk with the wise and become wise**; associate with fools and get in trouble.

SFA FAMILY MATTERS

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16

Our Members:

Bob Pratt
 Chuck Wyatt
 Adeline Hine
 Bill & Carlene Long
 Cieara Edwards
 Kathy Nester
 Sharon M. Washington
 Joyce Williams
 Sharon Roy
 Jeanelle Thrower

PRAYER LIST

Brenda Mask
 Linda McShane
 Bernetta Green
 Bobby Simpson
 Brian Smith
 Jim Turner
 Annette Phillip
 Ron & Judy Ford
 Geny Johnson
 Antoine & Marcella Swain

Carol Edmonson
 Wayne Shearer
 Ingrid Stewart
 Melody Baxter
 Geny Johnson
 Margaret Coone
 George Davis
 Ray Nashick
 Jim Edmonson

(Please update the office of any changes)

The **EXTENDED FAMILY** and **FRIENDS** prayer requests are emailed every week.

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Faith West Joyce Burbage Carol Eason
 Ellen Shearer Chuck Wyatt

Phone numbers are in the directory. Let's call to let them know we miss them and love them.

UPDATES & PRAYER REQUESTS

Geny Johnson had a successful hernia surgery last Thursday. She is home recovering.

Adeline Hine had a successful surgery to remove her kidney. Tests are being run to determine if her lymph nodes were affected.

Darlene Thompson's grandson, Jaxon, had a successful surgery.

Jerry Hill, former member here while her husband, Gene, attended FSOP passed away Feb. 8. Pray for the family.

Gift cards for **Casey & Emily Paulin** are being collected by **Michelle Paulin** until the end of February (registries are on board)

LADIES' CLASS

Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 7pm

Facebook Group: FSOP Ladies Class.

This month's topic:

Have you left your first love?

Revelation 2:4

Teacher: Shenia Brownlow-Dindy



As we continue pressing forward through the pandemic, we recognize our preachers, office staff, and "tech guys"! We thank Hiram, Vince, Dee, and the rotating brothers who work the booth for allowing God to work through them in keeping us connected to the Gospel, while still reaching out for lost souls!

—the eldership

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

February

Designated Elder - Bobby Sheumaker

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

Song Leader/Prayer Rick Kenyon
 Devo Ian Enamorado
 Closing Prayer Brian Kenyon

Sunday, February 14, 2021

10:30 A.M.

Sermon Vince Daugherty
 "Learning from the Failures of Cain"

GEN. 4

6:00 P.M.

Sermon Vince Daugherty
 "Tell the Truth"

10:30 A.M.

Open/Close bldg (both services) David Deal
 Greeters Fife
 Song/prayer before class Kyle Bingle
 Announcements Bobby Sheumaker
 A.M. Song Leader Brian Kenyon
 Scripture reading/Prayer Tucker Sweeney
 Lord's Table Jeff Stewart
 Closing Prayer Josh Estridge

6:00 P.M.

Greeters Stewart
 P.M. Song Leader Brian Kenyon
 Scripture reading/Prayer Jimmy Sweeney
 Lord's Table Jeff Stewart
 Closing Prayer Terrance Dindy, Jr.

TODAY - Elders/Deacons/Preachers Meeting, 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

Song Leader/prayer Johnny Singh
 Devo Nigel St. Bernard
 Closing Prayer Wayne Shearer

ASSEMBLING UPDATE

We still encourage those who do not feel well and those who consider themselves high-risk to stay at home.

To side with caution, we are still requiring masks to be worn upon entering the building as we have since July 2.

We will continue live-streaming the services on YouTube as we have since March 22. Thank you for your cooperation. - Elders

~ HOW ARE WE GIVING ~

Jan. 24 \$7,417.00
 Jan. 31 (building fund) \$8,562.00
 Feb. 7 \$8,087.00
 Contribution Average \$7,572.95

DESPAIR

2020 has left some people in despair.

Be like the Bereans and read these scriptures to see what God has to say. (Acts 17:10-11)

- D – darkness, distress
- E – evil thoughts, exhausted
- S – sadness, sorrowful
- P – powerless, painful
- A – anxious, anger
- I – isolation, illness
- R – rage, recluse

- D – Deliverance (Joel 2:32; Luke 4:18)
- E – Enlighten (Job 33:30 5:18; 1 Timothy 6:17)
- S – Salvation (Psalm 18:1-2; Romans 1:16)
- P – Patient (Ecclesiastes 7:8-9; James 5:7-8)
- A – Acceptable (Psalm 19:14; Romans 12:1)
- I – Inheritance (Psalm 37:18-19; Acts 26:18)
- R – Reward (Isaiah 62:11-12; Colossians 3:23-24)

However, with God, these negatives can be turned into positives! (Psalm 30:10-12)

Let us remember 1 Peter 5:7 – “Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.”

Wisdom From Solomon *(continued from page 1)*

is more valuable than gold and understanding is worth more than silver (Prov. 16:16). Solomon is not condemning wealth or working hard to acquire financial security, for he was, after all, the wealthiest man in Israel’s history (1 Kings 4:22-28, 10:27). Solomon’s lesson on wisdom and treasures is about priorities. We should be more eager to draw close to God and acquire wisdom, than we are to acquire material possessions. Money will not last, but the wisdom from God will last. Wisdom was what God used to create the world, and it is what he uses as he presently governs the world (see Proverbs 8:1-36). If we want to navigate through the world God created successfully, we should acquire wisdom before we chase gold.

Conclusion

The Proverbs of Solomon should be studied, memorized, and applied to our daily lives. God gave Solomon wisdom and he passed it on to us through his inspired writings. Fear God, remain humble, and put wisdom before wealth. If we ask God for wisdom, he will give it to us as we study his word and apply its principles (James 1:5).

Dates to remember

- February 7** - Fellowship In-service before evening worship, 4:30 p.m.
- February 11** - Youth Group Kahoot Review, 7:00 p.m., See Vince for info.
- February 14** - Elders, Deacons, Preachers meeting, 4:00 p.m.
- February 16** - FSOP Ladies' Class, 7:00 p.m.
- March**
- March 7-10** - Gospel Meeting with Wissam Al-Aethawi. "Islam in Christ's Eyes"
- March 14** - Elders, Deacons, Preachers meeting, 4:00 p.m.
- March 17** - Quarterly challenge

www.SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist.com

Email us: SFA.church@gmail.com

Find us on social media



**South Florida Avenue
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

1807 South Florida Avenue

Lakeland, FL 33803-2653

Return Service Requested

AND UNTO MAN HE [GOD] SAID, BEHOLD, THE FEAR OF THE LORD, THAT IS WISDOM; AND TO DEPART FROM EVIL IS UNDERSTANDING.

JOB 28:28