



SOUTH FLORIDA AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST MESSENGER



1807 S. Florida Ave.,
Lakeland, FL 33803

Vol. 75 No. 17 May 3, 2022

ELDERS

David Anderson
Brian Kenyon
Bobby Sheumaker

DEACONS

Tyler Anderson
Jason Hendrix
Rick Kenyon
Stacey Paulin

MINISTER

Joshua Cantrell

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Vince Daugherty

OFFICE PHONE

(863) 682-4702

EMAIL

SFA.church@gmail.com

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.

WEB PAGE

SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist.com

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HOME OF

Florida School of Preaching
since 1969

Huron, SD Mission Work
Casey & Emily Paulin

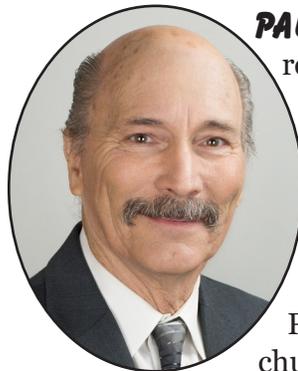
MISSION FIELDS

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.

TWO FSOP STUDENTS GRADUATING SUNDAY NIGHT, MAY 15



ZACHARY JONES came to FSOP from the Lake Drive church of Christ in Vinton, Virginia, for whom FSOP graduate Tommy Blewett preaches. Zach became a Christian in 2018. Before enrolling in FSOP, he worked as an ice rink attendant. While a student at FSOP, Zach served as the school's "I.T.guy." He started FSOP during the covid-19 pandemic and was invaluable in setting up the school with new equipment for online classes. After graduation, Zach plans on going back to Virginia and working with Tommy and the Lake Drive church of Christ.



PAUL WALTER came to FSOP from North Texas, having retired as chief of police after a twenty-seven year career with various departments in Mississippi and Oklahoma. He is a Marine Corp veteran. He is also a licensed general contractor, plumber, HVAC, and electrician. While in school, Paul went on a mission trip to Ghana with Ted Wheeler. Paul has been involved in Orange Street church of Christ's jail ministry. After graduation, Paul plans to return to Texas and to work with the Linden church of Christ and others in the area.

Continuing to Value Gospel Preaching

Everytime we host an FSOP graduation, it reminds me of how thankful I am for the South Florida Avenue church of Christ! Since 1969, the school and the church have worked together harmoniously. The main reason is because both the church and the school value the Gospel and its proclamation. Paul wrote, " I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek" (Rom. 1:16). Again, the apostle wrote, "For 'whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.' ¹⁴How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵And how shall they preach unless they are sent?" (Rom. 10:13-15). Preaching/teaching the Gospel is necessary for people to be saved! Whether in person, online, or in writing, people must be taught in order for them to connect with salvation. May all of us continue valuing the Gospel and its urgent need to spread throughout this world! ♥ *Brian*

Timothy's Mother's Influence

Mothers have a great influence! Twenty-nine times in the Old Testament, we find the phrase "... his mother's name was ..." (Lev. 24:11 to Jer. 52:1). Timothy's mother, Eunice, had a great influence on her son, who became one of Paul's most trusted coworkers (Phil. 2:19-22). There are just a handful of verses that highlight Timothy's mother and grandmother. From these verses, let us note how Timothy's mother influenced him.

First, Eunice exemplified submission to God. On Paul's second missionary trip, he met Timothy, "the son of a certain Jewish woman who believed, but his father was Greek" (Acts 16:1). Despite being in a religiously mixed marriage, Eunice was able to instill spiritual values in her son. Incidentally, this shows that Christians being married to non-Christians is not inherently sinful (cf. 1 Cor. 7:12-13), although unwise (cf. Mt. 6:33; Col. 3:1-2). In the first century, marriages were often arranged long before the husband and wife knew each other. Nevertheless, wives are to "submit" to their own husbands, "as to the Lord" (Eph. 5:22), even if those husbands are not what they should be spiritually (1 Pet. 3:1-6). In showing proper submission, Eunice showed her son a life patterned after God's will. Mothers today must properly fulfill their God-given roles. This will teach their children from a very young age the first steps to godliness!

Second, Eunice enriched genuine faith. Paul was filled with joy when he wrote to Timothy and recalled "the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also" (2 Tim. 1:5). The word translated "genuine [unfeigned, KJV; sincere, ESV]" is from a word that literally means without hypocrisy (found also in Rom. 12:9; 2 Cor. 6:6; Jas. 3:15; 1 Pet. 1:22). Children can read their parents. They know if their parents are sincere in their Christianity. Mothers' attitudes and actions certainly speak louder than their mere words. A child can both see and experience his or her mother's faith or the lack of it (cf. Pr. 23:26). If Hebrews 11 teaches us anything, it is that genuine faith is action! Mothers today must model genuine faith way before their children are old enough to read, and they must continue modeling that faith throughout their lives!

Third, Eunice educated God-breathed Scripture. Paul exhorted Timothy, "But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus" (2 Tim. 3:14-15). Although Paul would certainly be among those who taught Timothy the Scriptures, it all started with Timothy's mother and grandmother! Eunice knew her son needed to learn the Scriptures (Rom. 10:17). Eunice knew the Scriptures were of essential spiritual value (2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:3). Mothers today must also view education in the Scriptures as essential to their children's well-being. After all, God's word is "a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Ps. 119:105).

We thank mothers who, like Eunice, exemplify their God-given roles, enrich genuine faith in their children, and educate them in the Scriptures! May the Lord provide us with many more in the mold of Timothy's mom, Eunice!

♥ Brian

SEARCHING

Wayne Shearer

Many years ago I had an experience with some drugs and alcohol I'm ashamed to say and was frightened to my very core concerning my final place after death. Knowing my impending doom, I started an intense search for my salvation. First question I encountered was where do I go, so I began my search going to different denominations and asking their pastor why were there so many and why each one was different in one way or another from creeds, end of days, how one was to be saved, etc. Needless to say the more I looked the more I became confused. So one night after a very long day of searching, I got on my knees to pray. Matthew 7:7-8 **"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened."**

After a few days, one of my aunts heard I was searching and asked if I talked to anyone in the church of Christ. I told her I never heard of it. She then gave me a phone number which I called immediately and two men came and showed me the truth through scripture and only scripture. I was shortly thereafter baptized into Christ Mark 16:16 **"He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."** This whole experience proved to me very special verses: James 1:5-8 **"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways."**

If you truly want the truth in Christ, ask for it and search diligently for it. The truth will set you free!

Bible Trivia

on Kahoot!

Every Thursday at 7:00 pm.

Quarterly Challenge is on Wednesday,
June 1 - Are you ready?

SFA Family Matters

Our Members:

Bob Pratt - health
 Jim Turner - health
 Bernetta Green - health & strength
 Bobby Simpson - health
 Margaret Coone
 Annett Phillip - health
 Vanessa Palmer - health
 Bill Long - health
 Toney Wilson - health
 Declan Potvin - surgery

Prayer Requests

Ron & Judy Ford - health
 Charles Paulin - health
 Brian Smith - heart health
 Debbie Bush - struggles
 Sharon M. Washington - health
 Antoine & Marcella Swain - health
 Janie Wise - health
 Wayne Shearer - health
 George Davis - health
 Chuck Wyatt - surgery

(Please update the office of any changes)

The **EXTENDED FAMILY AND FRIENDS** prayer requests are emailed every week and posted on the bulletin board

Pray for our Shut-ins

Joyce Burbage Carol Eason

Updates & Prayer requests

Chuck Wyatt had his gallbladder removed and is home recovering

Declan Potvin is home and recovering from his surgery.

Invitation Responses

Marcella Swain asks for forgiveness for her absence in worship, also for strength for her home situation.

Bruce & Dolores Longfellow have moved to Michigan.

*There will be a farewell to
Courtney Williams
 on Sunday, May, 8 after the evening worship service.
 Courtney will be moving to Salt Lake City*

CLASS OF 2022

Please join us on Saturday, May 14, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall to celebrate

SFA's Graduating Seniors

Ian Enamorado Kaeli Shearer Dylan Willcutt

5TH SUNDAY COLLECTION

The next 5th Sunday collection for the Building Fund will be **May 29, 2022.**

if you would like to give additional funds at other times, please mail or bring them to the office. Be sure to designate the contribution as part of the Building Fund.
 It will be collected by the elders.

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

May

Designated Elder - David Anderson

Wednesday, May 4, 2022

Announcements David Anderson
 Song Leader/Prayer Frank Hamby
 Devo Josh Potvin
 Closing Prayer Allen Grimes

Sunday, May 8, 2022

10:30 A.M.

Sermon Joshua Cantrell
 There She Stood By The Cross Of Jesus
John 19:23-27

6:00 P.M.

Sermon Joshua Cantrell
 A Study Of The Tabernacle
Exodus 26:1-5

10:30 A.M.

Open/Close bldg (both) D. Anderson
 Greeters Fife
 Song/prayer before class Kyle Bingle
 Announcements Tyler Anderson
 A.M. Song Leader Vince Daugherty
 Scripture reading/Prayer Paul Sweeney
 Lord's Table Andre Medley
 Closing Prayer Frank Hamby

6:00 P.M.

P.M. Song Leader Vince Daugherty
 Scripture reading/Prayer Mike Van Allen
 Lord's Table Andre Medley
 Closing Prayer Zach Jones
 Greeters Waldon

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

Announcements D. Anderson
 Song Leader/prayer Andre Medley
 Devo Wadi Khoury
 Closing Prayer Bobby Sheumaker

Upcoming Events

May

5 - Kahoot, weekly
 8 - *Mother's Day*
 8 - Farewell to Courtney
 10 - SFA Men's breakfast
 10 - FSOP Ladies class
 14 - Ladies' Swap, 10 am
 14 - SFA graduation fellowship, 1 pm
 15 - Elders meeting, 4pm

May

15 - FSOP graduation
 20 - Fiesta Friday
 21 - Men's breakfast, N. Lakeland



~ HOW ARE WE GIVING ~

Apr 17 \$5,000.00
 Apr 24 \$5,457.73
 May 1 \$6,750.00
Contribution Average \$6,475.37
Weekly budget \$7,663.43

Women of the Word

Summer Ladies' Class

During the Summer quarter, there will be a Wednesday night ladies' Bible class in the fellowship hall. Several of our ladies from South Florida Avenue will take turns presenting a lesson. The quarter will begin on June 15, 2022.

The men will teach the kids' Bible classes during the quarter so that the ladies can enjoy this special study time.

Thank you to our elders for giving us this Bible class time to strengthen our Bible knowledge, deepen our love for the Lord, and to encourage one another in Christ.



the B-I-B-L-E that's the book for me

SFA VBS 2022

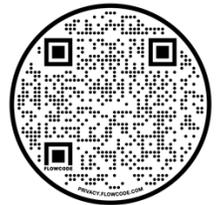
**Nightly classes available for
pre-school to adults**

Sunday - 6:00 - 7:30 pm

**Monday - Wednesday
7:00 - 8:30 pm**



Scan to pre-register
or go to
our website



www.SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist.com

Email us: SFA.church@gmail.com

For sermons and podcasts, find us here.



South Florida Avenue
CHURCH OF CHRIST

1807 South Florida Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33803-2653

Return Service Requested

**Yet you are He who took
me from the womb;
You made me trust You
at my mother's breasts.**

Psalm 22:9



If you prefer to receive the bulletin via email, contact us.