

South Florida Avenue CHURCH OF CHRIST

MESSENGER



1807 S. Florida Ave., Lakeland, FL 33803

Vol. 77 No. 20 May 16, 2023

ELDERS

David Anderson Brian Kenyon Bobby Sheumaker

DEACONS

Tyler Anderson Jason Hendrix Rick Kenyon Stacey Paulin

MINISTER

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 Worshi	p6:00 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

Missionary - Huron, SD Casey & Emily Paulin

MISSION FIELDS

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

All Are Invited June 4-7

"Give Me Oil In My Lamp"

For Youwill light my lamp; The Lord my God will enlighten my darkness. (Psalm 18:28)

Bible Classes for All Ages!

Adult Class Topics, Schedule, and Speakers Below

Sunday beginning @ 6:00 pm

Elijah and the Widow from Zarephath (1 Kings 17:8-16) Mike Whisenant

Monday thru Wednesday beginning @ 7:00 pm

Monday: Elisha and the Widow's Oil (2 Kings 4:1-7)
Brian R. Kenyon

Tuesday: The Anointing of Jesus (Mark 14:3-9)
Forest Antimisaris

Wednesday: The Wise and Foolish Virgins (Matthew 25:1-13) Robert Jackson

Bring Your Friends & Neighbors!

Biblical Christianity: A Conservative Cifestyle

George F. Beals

Holy Spirit-inspired Paul, in Roman 14:23, wrote: "But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because he does not eat from faith; for whatever is not from faith is sin" (NKJ). This is the "when in doubt, don't" principle. Such a doubter who does the action is in the position of doing what, as far as he knows, could be sin. This passage forbids him from doing the action.

Let me illustrate the "when in doubt, don't" principle with an experience I had while Marion and I were vacationing in Ireland several years ago. I was driving on a narrow road that meandered through the beautiful countryside. The road turned to the left, then to the right, then down a hill, then up a hill. I approached another vehicle moving along very slowly. I wanted to pass but there was not a long enough stretch of road without a bend or a hill to allow me to do so and assure my own safety, as well as that of others. So I waited until I could see far enough down the road to give me the certainty I needed to pass safely. This is the Romans 14:23 principle.

Why Risk Danger?

There is a real danger in sin. The Bible teaches that if a person is not forgiven of his sins, the consequence is severe. Second Thessalonians 1:8-9 reads, "in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power."

The Lord requires people to become New Testament Christians by following the Bible plan of salvation. He wants the direction of the Christian's walk to be toward Him. He wants people to live righteously in this present world as He defines it in His Word so that we can be in His righteous presence forever. Notice Titus 2:11-15:

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹²teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, ¹³looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. ¹⁵Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

Why Not Follow His Guidance?

So, we must try to be righteous and avoid being unrighteous. He wants us to examine everything carefully and hold fast: "Test all things; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil" (1 Thes. 5:21-22). And "when in doubt, don't" (Rom 14:23). This results in a real, inner happiness, a powerful peace with God. Notice these beautiful words: "... whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. ⁹The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you" (Phil. 4:8-9).

An Easy Yoke with a Wonderful Result

The Christian lifestyle, as described in the New Testament, is a careful, deliberately conservative lifestyle, therefore. Though at times this can result in burdens, these are relatively light. The Savior said, "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light" (Matt. 11:29-30). It is much better than the alternative (2 Thes. 1:8-9), and such burdens are not even worthy to be compared with the future glory: "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Rom 8:18). Indeed, "Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority" (Titus 2:15).

(Some of this article was drawn from the author's book, *How Implication Binds and Silence Forbids: Studies in Biblical Hermeneutics.*)



PRAYER LIST

<u>Current</u>: Carlene Long broke her arm and is now in Highlands Lake Center, room 405A. The Faneuf Family have all been sick lately.

Frank Spica (Kathy Nester's brother) has passed away. **Declan Potvin** is having complications from eye surgery, pray for positive results and that no further surgery will be necessary

Continual Brenda Mask (blood pressure issues); Debbie Bush (struggles); Brian Smith (heart health); Antoine & Marcella Swain (health); Geny Johnson (health); Bill & Carlene Long (health & strength); Ron & Judy Ford (Ron-hip pain, Judy- shoulder and tests); Bobby Simpson (health); Annett Phillip (health); Janie Wise (health); Jim Turner (health). Margaret Coone (health) Kathy Nester(health), Melody Baxter (health), Melissa Craft (health),

Shut-ins: Joyce Burbage, Carol Eason, Kenny & Reba French Extended family and Friend are Emailed Weekly

Graduation Celebration

Join us on May 21, 2023 as we celebrate our High School Graduates with a Drop in Reception in the Fellowship Hall between 3:00 and 5:00 pm.

Our graduates this year are Paul Sweeney (son of Jimmy and Kathy Sweeney) and Mitchell "Mac" McClamma (son Keely Cooper).

Please plan to come and help us celebrate these young men and this great accomplishment!





SCHEDULED TO SERVE

<u>May</u>

Designated Elder - David Anderson

Wednesday, May 17, 2023

Announcements......Brian Kenyon Song Leader/prayer.....Stacey Paulin DevotionalJeff Stewart PrayerWadi Khoury

Sunday, May 21, 2023 10:30 A.M.

Sermon.....Jesus Paguaga Simple Ways to Understand God's Will"

6:00 P.M.

Sermon.....Vince Daugherty The Tutor That Brings Us to Christ (Gal. 3:23-25)

Those to Serve

Song/Prayer before class......Frank Hamby Song Leader (both services).....Andre Medly Announcements(both)....Jimmy Sweeney Scripture reading/Prayer....Tyler Anderson Lord's Table (both)....Brian Williams Closing Prayer....Wayne Shearer Open/Close bldg (both)....Bobby Sheumaker Greeters....Van Allens Attendance cards (both)....Caelen/Camron Sound Booth (both)....Paul Sweeney

P.M. Song LeaderAndre' Medley Scripture reading/PrayerRalph Rogers Closing PrayerGeorge Beals Greeters PM.....Brenda M/Darlene

6:00 P.M.

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

Announcements......Tyler Anderson Song Leader/prayer.....Vince Daugherty DevotionalBobby Sheumaker PrayerKyle Bingle

Upcoming Events 2023

May

19-21 Youth Retreat CFBC

20 Mens's Breakfast North Lakeland

21 Elders/Deacons Meeting

21 Graduation Celebration

21 Day of prayer for CFBC

27 Basket Auction to Benefit FSOP

June 3

3 VBS Workday

~ HOW ARE WE GIVING ~

Apr. 30	\$7.930.00
May 7	
May 14	
Contribution Average	
Weekly budget	

Developing A Love for the Church

Ingrid Stewart

While watching a show about unusual homes around the world, two men said something that caught my attention. I have used their ideas to make spiritual applications about developing a love for the church.

1. If we don't love the members, if we aren't exposed to them or spend time with them; then there's no way we will be involved in preserving the church. We find a joy in looking after something when we really love it. Like our fleshly family, we look after them because we love them. We must be willing to spend time with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Exposure to one another will lead to the development of love. When we love something or someone, we are prepared to give of ourselves to preserve it.

Do we have a love for the church of our Lord?

2. As the family of God, we are all linked to one another. We become linked when we are baptized into Christ and added to the church. Once we realize that it doesn't matter about our skin color, race, nationality, or what country, city, or street where the church meets that we are part of the same family, then the church will thrive based on our common link—we ALL belong to Christ when we obey His word.

Do we love and pray for the family of God worldwide?

1 John 4:11 "Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."

YOUTH SECTION

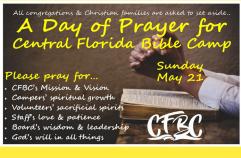
V. Daugherty

<u>Lessons from II Timothy</u> Dassing Down Faith (II Timothy 1:5)

Paul said Timothy had "genuine faith". How did he get it? Paul said it first came from his grandmother Louis. That faith was handed down to his mother Eunice. How then was that faith transferred from generation to generation? No doubt by teaching and hearing. The early years of a child's development are critical. Godly parents and even grandparents know they must take advantage of the time given them. Every parent's goal ought to be what Paul said about Timothy, "from childhood you have known the Scripture that is able to make you wise unto salvation which is in Jesus Christ" (II Tim 3:15). The word he received was the substance by which that faith could be passed down. Parents, are you making sure you are passing down faith? Kids, what are you receiving?









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For sermons and podcasts, find us here.









"He that believeth on me, as the Scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water."

John 7:38

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1807 South Florida Avenue Lakeland, FL 33803-2653

Return Service Requested

