



South Florida Avenue CHURCH OF CHRIST *MESSENGER*



1807 S. Florida Ave.,
Lakeland, FL 33803

Vol. 77 No. 22 May 30, 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

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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

Missionary - Huron, SD
Casey & Emily Paulin

MISSION FIELDS

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

All Are Invited **VBS** June 4-7

"Give Me Oil In My Lamp"

For You will 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 Antimisarís

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



Bring Your Friends & Neighbors!

Basics of Encouragement to Share the Good News

Brian R. Kenyon

The great commission was given to the apostles before the Lord ascended to God's right hand (Mt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:15-16). Since no apostles are living today, does this mean that no one has the responsibility of evangelizing the world? Contrary to popular thought, sharing the good news of the gospel is not exclusively the work of preachers, elders, or deacons. It is every Christian's responsibility and opportunity to lead souls to Christ (cf. Mt. 5:16; Acts 8:4). Here are some reminders that are intended to encourage us to share the good news within the sphere of our influence.

The Need There is a tremendous need to teach the gospel because all accountable people have sinned and need the blood of Christ to cleanse them spiritually. Sin separates human souls from God (Isa. 59:1-2). The Bible explicitly defines "sin" as "lawlessness," or "transgression of God's law" (1 Jn. 3:4, KJV); as "unrighteousness" (1 Jn. 5:17); as when a person "knows to do good and does not do it" (Jas. 4:17); and as any action "not from faith," which refers to a person's going against personal conviction, or violating the conscience (Rom. 14:23). Given those Bible definitions of sin, it is clear that "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). Obedience to the gospel is sin's only remedy, for the gospel is "the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes" (Rom. 1:16). Faithful Christians cannot ignore the need!

The Examples Jesus, of course, is the best example we have of everything, especially when it comes to seeking the lost. He succinctly summarized His mission: "for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Lk. 19:10). We can also glean important truths from other soul winning examples. Consider what Paul exemplified in First Corinthians 9:19-23, "For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more ... I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. Now this I do for the gospel's sake." Like Paul, we must be willing to adapt culturally in order to reach lost souls! Because we have liberty in Christ to do something (like eat meat, 1 Cor. 8:1-9), does not mean we have to exercise that freedom, especially when our refraining from certain liberties can reach more people for Christ (cf. 1 Cor. 8:10-13). Consider also the example of Timothy's character, of whom Paul said, "I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state. For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus. But you know his proven character" (Phil. 2:20-22). When we cultivate the character traits of these biblical examples, we will lead more souls to Jesus (cf. 1 Cor. 11:1).

The Candidates There are basically two major categories from which candidates for Bible studies come: people who come to us and people to whom we go. Sometimes, people were sent to Jesus (Jn. 7:32) and sometimes Jesus purposely approached people (Jn. 4:4-7), but either way Jesus would turn the situation into a profitable discussion of spiritual matters (cf. Jn. 4:19-30; 7:33-46). First, people who come to us many times are coming to sell something or to service something of ours. These are often great opportunities to discuss Bible subjects. Often, a salesman's pitch can be turned into an invitation to look into God's word (such as responding to a pitch, "What do families need most?" with "The love of God in their homes [Eph. 5:22-29]"). When people come into our homes, for example, to repair appliances, our friendly, Christ-like demeanor can cause them to ask questions like what we do for a living, to which we can interject the important role Jesus and His church has in our lives (cf. Gal. 2:20; Phil. 1:21). Second, when we approach people, such as in door knocking campaigns, we must respect privacy, not be forceful, and, again, show a friendly and Christ-like demeanor that will prompt spiritual discussions (Mt. 22:41-42).

The Application There is no substitute for getting out and sharing the good news. There are many good "programs" of personal work, all of which are good and successful ... if we would only put them to practice! Sometimes, lack of sharing the gospel is because of fear, while for others it is a matter of slothfulness. Concerning the former, "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind" (2 Tim. 1:7). Concerning the latter, Christians are to be "not lagging in diligence," but "fervent in spirit, serving the Lord" (Rom. 12:11). Let us look for and take advantage of opportunities to share the good news!

PRAYER LIST

Current: Declan Potvin is having complications from eye surgery, pray for positive results, Wayne Shearer recently had a PET scan and is requesting prayer concerning this, Brandi Brown is asking prayer for an upcoming move to Clearwater in June. Edna Kelly, a regular visitor, who recently lost her husband. Marissa Estridge injured her knee. Vince Daugherty is dealing with kidney stones at this time. Kathy Nester asks for prayers as she travels to Michigan for the summer.

Continual Melissa Craft (health); Debbie Bush (struggles); Brian Smith (heart health); Antoine & Marcella Swain (health); Genny Johnson (health); Bill & Carlene Long (health & strength); Ron & Judy Ford (health); Bobby Simpson (health); Annett Phillip (health); Janie Wise (health); Jim Turner (health); Margaret Coone (health); Kathy Nester(health); Melody Baxter (health)

Shut-ins: Joyce Burbage, Carol Eason, Kenny & Reba French

Extended family and Friend are Emailed Weekly



BABY
in bloom

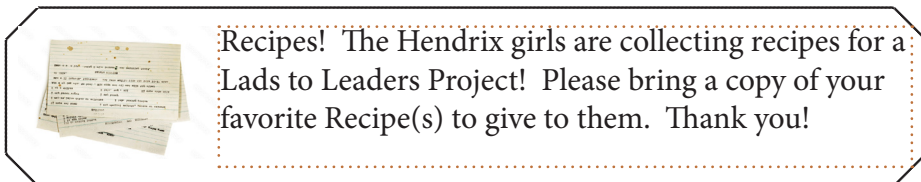
Please Join us for a Baby Shower to honor
TIFFANY DAUGHERTY

SATURDAY
JUNE 10TH

2 - 4 PM

S. FLORIDA AVE, CHURCH OF CHRIST
1807 S. FLORIDA AVE, LAKE LAND FL 33803

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP,
PLEASE SEE STEPHANIE KENYON OR CASEY POTVIN

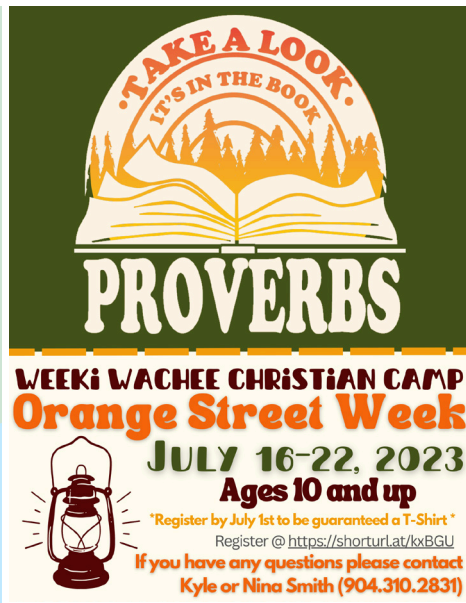


Recipies! The Hendrix girls are collecting recipies for a Lads to Leaders Project! Please bring a copy of your favorite Recipe(s) to give to them. Thank you!



Jesus called them one by one.

WWCC K-5 CAMP
Entering Kindergarten- Finishing 5th Grade
July 13-15, 2023
Register by June 25th to be guaranteed a T-Shirt
Register @ <https://shorturl.at/wAEYO>
If you have any questions please contact
Chad (863.412.0022) or Sabrina Tagtow (863.268.5811)



TAKE A LOOK
IT'S IN THE BOOK

PROVERBS

WEEKI WACHEE CHRISTIAN CAMP
Orange Street Week
JULY 16-22, 2023
Ages 10 and up
Register by July 1st to be guaranteed a T-Shirt
Register @ <https://shorturl.at/kxBGU>
If you have any questions please contact
Kyle or Nina Smith (904.310.2831)

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

June Designated Elder - Brian Kenyon

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Announcements.....Bobby Sheumaker
Song Leader/prayer..... Rick Kenyon
Devotional
Prayer Paul Sweeney

Sunday, June 11, 2023

10:30 A.M.
Sermon.....Vince Daugherty

6:00 P.M.

Sermon..... Rick Kenyont

Those to Serve

10:30 A.M.

Song/Prayer before class.....Frank Hamby
Song Leader (Both Services).....Andre Medley
Announcements (Both).....Rick Kenyon
Scripture Reading.....Jimmy Sweeney
Lord's Table (Both).....George Davis
Closing Prayer.....Matt Willcut
Open/Close bldg (Both).....David Deal
GreetersNona/Janis
Attendance cards (Both).....Klark/Sawyer
Sound Booth(Both).....BrianW

6:00 P.M.

P.M. Song LeaderAndre Medley
Scripture reading/PrayerJimmy Sweeney
Closing PrayerGeorge Beals
Greeters PM..... The Shearers

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Announcements.....David Anderson
Song Leader/Prayer.....Landon Willcut
Devotional
PrayerBobby Sheumaker

Upcoming Events 2023

June

- 4-7 VBS at SFA
- 10 Baby Shower for Tiffany Daugherty
- 11 Elders/deacons/preachers meeting
- 13 FSOP Ladies Bible Class
- 17 Men's breakfast- Haines City
- 25 Fellowship In Service
- 26 thru July 2 - Faneuf Week at CFBC

~ HOW ARE WE GIVING ~

May 14.....	\$ 4,959.00
May 21.....	\$ 5,824.00
May 28.....	\$4,707.00
Contribution Average.....	\$7,185.29
Weekly budget	\$7,410.00

It's Me Lord,

Standing in the need of Prayer!

Remember that hymn?

"It's me, it's me, it's me, O Lord,
Standin' in the need of prayer.

Not my brother, not my sister, but it's me, O Lord.
Not the preacher, not the deacon, but it's me, O Lord.
Not my father, not my mother, but it's me, O Lord.
Not the stranger, not my neighbor, but it's me, O Lord."

Lord—not my husband, not children, not my friends, but me,
O Lord.

I stand in need of prayer, and I beg you for your forgiveness.
Thoughts come to my mind when the devil sees an opportune
moment.

Lord, I must quickly beg for forgiveness because "the devil
walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."
(1 Peter 5:8)

Wanting you to be longsuffering towards me, but not always
willing to suffer long!

Why do I expect mercy, but find that I am partial in giving
mercy?

It's me, O Lord, I stand in need of prayer!

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am weak; O Lord, heal
me, for my bones are troubled.
(Psalm 6:1)

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to your
lovingkindness; according to the multitude of your tender
mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly
from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

(Psalm 51: 1-3)

For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always
before me.

Overcoming Temptation

The patriarch Joseph is a great example to all Christians, especially those who are young. One great lesson we learn from his confrontation with Potiphar's wife is how to overcome temptation (Gen. 39:7-21). Note four musts in overcoming temptation:

1. Recognize sin for what it is (Gen. 39:7-9). Joseph did not want to disappoint Potiphar and break his trust. Joseph did not want to take another man's wife. Most of all, Joseph did not want to sin against God. He knew it would separate him (Isa. 59:1-2)!

2. Be willing to take drastic measures to keep from sinning (Gen. 39:10-12). When Potiphar's wife (seemingly) arranged an empty room to grab hold of Joseph, he ran out to the street. We must do all within our power to avoid sin (Matt. 5:29-30).

3. Be willing to suffer persecution for righteousness' sake (Gen. 39:13-20). Potiphar's wife lied to the men and to her husband about what happened. As a result, Joseph was put in prison. We must not let persecution keep us from doing what is right (1 Pet. 4:16).

4. Remember that God is with His people. An oft repeated phrase in the patriarch's life is "the LORD was with Joseph" (Gen. 39:2, 3, 21, 23). God has promised, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we may boldly say: 'The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?' (Heb. 13:5-6).

May we never be faced with the kind of temptation Potiphar's wife brought to Joseph, but if we face that temptation or any other, we are armed and need not yield to sin! God provides the escape if we seek it with the above points (1 Cor. 10:13)! ♥ Brian

www.SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist.com

Email us: SFA.church@gmail.com

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South Florida Avenue CHURCH OF CHRIST

1807 South Florida Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33803-2653

Return Service Requested

*"Blessed are they who keep His
statutes and seek Him with all
their heart."
Psalm 119:2*



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