



# South Florida Avenue CHURCH OF CHRIST MESSENGER



1807 S. Florida Ave.,  
Lakeland, FL 33803

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## 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](mailto: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](http://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.

## A Sample of Christ's Example

Brian R. Kenyon

In Romans 14, Paul instructed the Christians in Rome how to get along with one another despite some brethren's scruples (i.e., doubts as to the morality of certain actions) over eating certain foods and/or observing certain days. Those who were strong in faith should not despise those who were weak in faith. In this context, the "weak" refers to Christians whose opinions of former laws and habits have bound their faith to the point they could not in good conscience practice some liberties allowed by the gospel. These were Christians who were not knowledgeable enough in the Scriptures to distinguish between that which is essential to pleasing God and that which is indifferent (cf. Heb. 5:12). Some things are matters of obligation (such as baptism, the Lord's supper, church organization, music, etc.). Some things are optional, or matters of expediency, and are morally right, but can be morally wrong in certain situations (such as some eating meat cf. 1 Cor. 8:1-13). Paul made clear that all Christians, whether weak or strong, belong to the Lord (Rom. 14:7-13), and that all Christians should seek peace with one another (Rom. 14:14-23). Paul thus began Romans 15 by giving the example of Jesus and how Christians should react to this sample of His example.

## Encourage Others

Paul wrote, "We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification" (Rom. 15:1-2). We are not to live to merely please ourselves (Rom. 15:1-2 cf. 1 Cor. 10:33). The "strong" are the key to solving the potential conflicts with the "weak" (Rom. 15:1 cf. Rom. 14:15-17). The word "ought [have an obligation, ESV]" means to be bound or obligated (Rom. 13:8; 15:27). Bearing the scruples (doubts) of the weak refers to more than just tolerating them, but also includes the idea of bearing their burden with them (cf. Gal. 6:2). "Edification" simply means to build-up, strengthen, and/or encourage (Rom. 14:19).

Christ did not live in order to please Himself. "For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, 'The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me.' For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope" (Rom. 15:3-4 cf. Ps. 69:9). Jesus proved this by bearing the world's reproach on the cross (cf. 2 Cor. 5:21; Gal. 3:13; 1 Pet. 2:22-24). The term "reproaches" refers to the insults, abuse, disgrace, and shame that came upon Jesus throughout His earthly ministry, especially from the time of His betrayal until He breathed His last breath (Mt. 26:47-27:50; Mk. 14:43-15:37; Lk. 22:47-23:46; Jn. 18:1-19:30). As Christians, we are to follow Jesus' example, even bearing His reproach. "Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate. Therefore let us go forth to Him ... bearing His reproach. For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come" (Heb. 13:12-14).

## **Glorify God**

“Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Rom. 15:5-6). In order to glorify God, we must be of the same mind as Christ (Rom. 15:5 cf. Phil. 2:5). God is a God of “patience” and “comfort.” The word from which “patience” is translated refers to patient endurance, steadfastness, perseverance (Rom. 2:7; 5:3-4; 8:25; 15:4; 2 Cor. 1:6; 2 Cor. 6:4). “Comfort [consolation, KJV; encouragement, NAS]” means to encourage, or help (Rom. 12:8; 15:4; 1 Cor. 14:3; 2 Cor. 1:3-7; Phil. 2:1; Heb. 13:22). Paul’s prayer here is that God would grant the saints in Rome to be “like-minded [the same mind, NAS; live in such harmony, ESV]” with both God and one another. Christians are to live in harmony of mind (cf. Phil. 1:7; 4:2). When we do this, God will be glorified (Jn. 17:20-26).

With that oneness of mind, we must glorify the Father (Rom. 15:6). The word translated “one mind [one accord, NAS; together, ESV]” is found again only in the Book of Acts (1:14; 2:46; 4:24; 5:12; 7:57; 8:6; 12:20; 15:25; 18:12; 19:29). Notice how this “one mind” glorifying God took place in the Jerusalem church: “Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common. And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all” (Acts 4:32-33). With both the preaching of the gospel and the willingness to sell possessions to help those in need, the apostles’ testimony had a huge influence toward church growth. When Christians today are of the same mind, the results will be great in glorifying God (cf. Phil. 2:3-11).

## **Welcome Each Other**

Even when scruples abound with brethren, Christians should follow Christ’s example in dealing with this. First, “Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God” (Rom. 15:7). Since Christ welcomed us in spite of our weaknesses, we ought to welcome others in spite of their weaknesses. The word translated “receive [accept, NAS; welcome, ESV]” means to welcome, accept, receive (Rom. 14:1, 3; Acts 18:26; Phil. 17). Based on Christ’s acceptance of us, we have no grounds to deny other Christians fellowship! Second, Christ ministered to make the Gentile’s inclusion possible (Rom. 15:8-12). Jesus was a servant of the Jews (“the circumcision”) on behalf of truth to prove God’s intent to include the Gentiles (Rom. 15:8). Scripture also proved that God intended for the Gentiles to glorify Him for extending mercy to them (Rom. 15:9-12). David represented himself among the Gentiles praising God (Rom. 15:9 cf. Ps. 18:49). As a result of what Christ would do in establishing the Messianic kingdom: (1) the Gentiles would rejoice with God’s people (Rom. 15:10 cf. Deut. 32:43); (2) the Gentiles would praise the Lord as God’s people (Rom. 15:11 cf. Ps. 117:1); and (3) the Gentiles would submit to the Messiah’s reign and trust in Him (Rom. 15:12 cf. Isa. 11:1, 10). Let us welcome one another as Christ exemplified, no matter their scruples.

## **Have Much Hope**

“Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit” (Rom. 15:13). The God of hope blesses those who believe. Jeremiah declared, “Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, And whose hope is the LORD” (Jer. 17:7). Christian hope is tied to the power of the Holy Spirit (cf. Rom. 8:9). The word “abound” means to increase; provide in abundance (Rom. 3:7; 5:15; Phil. 1:26; 4:12, 18; 1 Thes. 3:12; 4:1, 10). God provides us abundant, overflowing hope! He does this “by [through, KJV; in, ASV] the power of the Holy Spirit.” This abundance of hope is not found in the miraculous, but in what the Holy Spirit has done through revealing truth (Rom. 15:4), liberating by “the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus” (Rom. 8:2), indwelling the Christian (Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 3:16-17; 6:19), and guaranteeing inseparable blessings to the faithful (Rom. 8:10-39). Let us live in hope, knowing that God has provided all we need to overcome this world and to live in God’s glory forever!

## **Conclusion**

We must follow the example of Christ in dealing with our brothers and sisters in the local church. The sample of Jesus’ example Paul reminds us of in Romans 15 involves encouraging one another, glorifying God, welcoming each other, and having much hope. Are we following this sample of Jesus’ example?

PRAYER LIST

**Current:** Wayne Shearer will be starting chemotherapy on June 29th; Jim Turner has a uti and will hopefully have a pacemaker inserted July 7. Kimberly (sister of Jean McCarter) diagnosed with cancer.

**Continual** Melissa Craft (health); Declan Potvin (eye); Marissa Estridge (knee surgery); Debbie Bush (struggles); Brian Smith (heart health); Antoine & Marcella Swain (health); Geny 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**

"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16

The angels in heaven are rejoicing and so are we! Daila Mohundro (granddaughter of the Sheumaker's) was baptized into Christ last Saturday!

COOKOUT!

BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY AND JOIN US FOR FUN, FELLOWSHIP AND FOOD!

WE WILL HAVE A COOKOUT AND WATER ACTIVITIES FOR THE KIDS! Games begin at 2:00 pm and food will be served at 5:00 pm

\*\*Bring side dishes, desserts and drinks to share!

SATURDAY, JULY 8 AT SFA CHURCH OF CHRIST



TEEN RECHARGE WWCC 2023

Investigating the reality of the resurrection It really happened In Real Life! August 4-6 For ages 12-18

Register before July 20 to guarantee a t-shirt Register at <https://forms.gle/pkSTwZfRw5x2YPhU9>

If you have any questions, please contact Vince Daugherty (740) 801-1106 or email [vdaughero81013@gamil.com](mailto:vdaughero81013@gamil.com)

Congratulations to Jimmy Sweeney on his retirement from the Polk County School District after 31 Years of Service!

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

June Designated Elder - Brian Kenyon

Wednesday, June 28, 2023

Announcements.....Jimmy Sweeney  
Song Leader/prayer.....Andre Medley  
Devotional .....Jeff Stewart  
Prayer .....Phil Fife

Sunday, July 2, 2023

10:30 A.M.

Sermon.....Brian Kenyon  
"The Message of the Cross" (1 Cor. 1:18)

6:00 P.M.

Sermon.....Vince Daugherty  
"Lies, Conspiracies and Informers (Neh 6)

Those to Serve

10:30 A.M.

Song/Prayer before class.....Frank Hamby  
Song Leader (both services).....David Williams  
Announcements(both) .....Stacey Paulin  
Scripture reading/Prayer.....Ralph Rogers  
Lord's Table (both).....Nigel St Bernard  
Closing Prayer.....Jeff Bingle  
Open/Close bldg (both).....David Deal  
Greeters.....Janis W/Nona Williams  
Attendance cards (both).....Ellis/Declan  
Sound Booth (both).....Jason Hendrix

6:00 P.M.

P.M. Song Leader .....David Williams  
Scripture reading/Prayer .....Josh Potvin  
Closing Prayer .....Tim Croson  
Greeters PM.....Bea P/ Jeanelle T

Wednesday, July 5, 2023

Announcements.....Bobby Sheumaker  
Song Leader/prayer.....Terrance Dindy  
Devotional .....Vince Daugherty  
Prayer .....Paul Sweeney

Upcoming Events 2023

July

- 8 Cookout and Games at SFA
- 8 Family/Friends Day at North Lakeland
- 11 FSOP Ladies Class @ 7:00 pm
- 29 Orange St VBS 9:00 am-?

August

- 4-6 Teen Recharge Retreat WWCC
- 5 VBS North Lakeland 9:30 am
- 5 Baby Shower for Heidi (Bingle) Rhymes

~ HOW ARE WE GIVING ~

June 11.....	\$6,758.00
June 18.....	\$5,265.00
June 25.....	\$5,501.00
Contribution Average.....	\$7,099.90
Weekly budget .....	\$7,410.00

I am Heaven Bound; don't you want to go with me?

Don't you wanna go to that land? Don't you wanna go to that land?

Where I'm bound, where I'm bound.

Nothing but love in that land, where I'm bound.

Nothing but peace and joy in that land, where I'm bound.

The Savior is in that land, where I'm bound.

\*\*\*\*\*

I'm going that way, I'm going that way,

And Jesus the Savior I adore is with me each day.

I'm clinging to Him, and never to stray,

Yes, singing His praises all day long, I'm going that way.

\*\*\*\*\*

Jesus said in John 14:2-3

"In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to myself; that where I am, there you may be also."

Paul said in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus, we shall always be with the Lord.

Therefore comfort one another with these words."

**Find 16 Books of the Bible in the paragraph below:**

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu, kept people looking so hard for facts, but for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. The truth finally struck home to numbers of people but for others it was a real job. I want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some real easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a very smart person to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is not found. One little lady says she brews a cup of tea to help her concentrate. See how well you can compete. Relax now for there really are sixteen names of books of the Bible.



Please let Stephanie Kenyon know if you would like to help with food for the baby shower for Heidi Rhymes!

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**South Florida Avenue CHURCH OF CHRIST**

1807 South Florida Avenue  
Lakeland, FL 33803-2653

Return Service Requested

*"And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma"*  
*Ephesians 5:2*



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