

THE YOUTH GROUP SIDE OF THINGS

Beginning this issue, the back page of our bulletin will contain information concerning our youth group. We appreciate our elders for having enough interest in our young people to reserve dedicated space each week in this bulletin. We are in a sense "upgrading" our youth program. Perhaps in the past some have mistakenly thought that Lads to Leaders (L2L) was our youth program. However, the better way to view the relationship is to consider L2L a part of our youth program, rather than seeing our youth program as solely consisting of L2L. Though we will still be involved in L2L, we also want to involve our youth in year 'round devotional and fellowship activities! In fact, we already have. A few weeks ago, 15 of our young people and parents attended the "Youth Explosion" hosted by the Hilltop church of Christ, Winter Haven. Last Sunday, we took 10 girls and 2 moms to the GIGS (Girls in God's Service) event hosted by the Airport church of Christ, Valdosta, GA (see picture below). The better the involvement of the whole congregation, the more spiritual our youth (and congregation) will be! Please keep informed through this bulletin, our top notch website, bulletin boards, and/or congregational announcements. See Brian Kenyon if you have questions or suggestions concerning our youth program! Together we can grow in the Lord!



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The End of Your Search for a Friendly Church . . .



September 8 --- Following our morning worship services, there will be a pot luck / fellowship meal and congregational meeting. This meeting will be an awareness, encouragement, and planning session for our youth, their parents, and all those interested in working with our youth. We have a great bunch of kids in this congregation, and they could use as many positive influences in their lives as possible. They are not only the church of tomorrow, but some are the church of today! Join us to learn about our program and ways you can help!

Saturday, September 14 --- There will be a youth devotional and fellowship with activities. The time will be 6:00 pm, and the location will be determined later. Please stay tuned for further information!

Upcoming Events --- We are excited about our youth program this year! Although your help, to a certain degree, will impact how high toward heaven our youth group can soar, we want to involve them in as much "extracurricular" activities with the youth of other churches of Christ as is practically possible. We have our sights set on, to name a few, YES (Youth Enrichment Seminar) Weekend at Forest Park, Valdosta in February 2014 and doing well at the L2L finale in Orlando in April.



Our GIGS girls in Valdosta! Standing: Lorelly, Elly, Heidi, Courtney. Kneeling: Zsazeli, Emily (from Springhead), Amy (from Bartow), Alida (from Haines City), Emily. Sitting: Alex

The South Florida Avenue MESSENGER

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ELDERS

David Anderson
Kenny French
Bobby Sheumaker

DEACONS

Jeff Bingle
Jimmy Sweeney
David Williams
Chuck Wyatt

MINISTER

Robert McAnally
(863) 682-3600

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Brian Kenyon
(863) 944-8565

SECRETARY

Virginia Walker

OFFICE PHONE

(863) 682-4702

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

WEDNESDAY

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

HOME OF

Florida School of Preaching

MISSION FIELDS

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

EMAIL

SFA.church@gmail.com

WEB PAGES

www.southfloridaavenuechurchofchrist.com
www.sfacc.net

The Sad Sadducees

When we study the enemies of Jesus Christ in the New Testament, our focus is normally on the scribes and Pharisees. We know the ways of the haughty Pharisees so well that 'Pharisee' and 'hypocrite' are almost synonymous. The Sadducees, on the other hand, are in the background, not really confronting Jesus often. The Sadducees were more a political party than a religious sect, although they were members of the aristocratic priestly families. Their name meant 'to be righteous.'

Only mentioned directly about a dozen times in the New Testament, they would be included in the oft mentioned 'chief priests.' Historically, they favored the adoption of Greek ways after Alexander the Great conquered the area, and they had opposed the revolt of the Maccabees against Antiochus Epiphanes. The Pharisees were more respected by the people.

Their views differed significantly from the Pharisees. They accepted only the written law, while the Pharisees counted as authoritative the oral traditions of the scribes. They rejected the resurrection and the existence of angels and spirits. Their hope was only in this life. Paul said that *'if in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable'* (1 Corinthians 15:19).

Luke describes a theoretical question the Sadducees put to Jesus concerning seven brothers who died in succession, each married to the same woman according to Levirate law, but producing no descendants. *'Therefore in the resurrection whose wife of them is she?'* they asked (Luke 20:33).

Answering their trick question, Jesus appealed to scripture to show the error of their doctrines.

The children of this world marry, and are given in marriage: but they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage: neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection. Now that the dead are raised, even Moses showed at the bush, when he calleth the Lord the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. For he is not a God of the dead, but of the living: for all live unto him (Luke 20:34-38).

-Bob Prichard

The Son of Man and Compassion

Gary C. Hampton

Though it might seem to be improper for polite conversation, compassion is usually the English translation for *splanchnizomai* meaning properly “to be moved as to one’s bowels, hence to be moved with compassion, have compassion, (for the bowels were thought to be the seat of love and pity)” (Thayer 584). It is a fitting description for Jesus, as is seen by the fact that inspired men used it twelve times (Matthew 9:36; 14:14; 15:32; 18:27; 20:34; Mark 1:41; 6:34; 8:2; 9:22; Luke 7:13; 10:33; 15:20).

Jesus taught about compassion in answer to the lawyer’s question, “And who is my neighbor?” The Samaritan, in contrast to the priest and the Levite, saw the man who had been wounded and left for dead and had compassion on him. It was displayed in his pouring oil and wine on his wounds, bandaging them, setting him on his own beast of burden, taking him to an inn and caring for him (Luke 10:25-37). The Master also described the compassionate father of the prodigal running to him, falling on his neck and kissing him, before killing the fatted calf for a celebratory feast (Luke 15:11-24).

Jesus demonstrated compassion toward the hungry, sick, demon possessed and bereaved. He had compassion on the hungry multitudes, which led Him to feed the four thousand (Matthew 15:32-38; Mark 8:1-9). Our compassionate Lord touched and healed the leper (Mark 1:40-42). He cast unclean spirits out of those who were demon-possessed (Mark 5 5:1-20; 9:14-29). Jesus raised the son of the widow of Nain (Luke 7:11-17).

Jesus’ compassion for the lost was boundless. The Savior saw people as a ripened harvest desperately needing workers to bring it in, then sent the disciples out by twos to preach (Matthew 9:36-10:1, 5-15). Our saddened Lord, who had just learned of the death of John, took the disciples aside to rest (Matthew 14:13a; Mark 6:30-32; Luke 9:10). The multitudes learned of it and followed (Luke 9:11a). His compassion compelled Him to tell them about the kingdom, healing their sick and feeding the five thousand (Matthew 14:13b-21; Luke 9:11b-17).

The Son of God came to earth as a man because He was compassionate (Hebrews 2:5-8). The Incarnate Son of Man tasted of death for every man (Hebrews 2:9-10). His purpose was to sanctify man and deliver him from bondage to the fear of death (Hebrews 2:11-15). He served as a merciful and faithful High Priest (Hebrews 2:16-17). Jesus understood mankind was being tempted (Hebrews 2:18), which “referred first to the action of putting someone to the test to see what good or evil is in the one tested, and second, because so many broke down under the test and committed sin, the word came to mean a ‘solicitation to do evil’” (Wuest 66). He came to give them “aid,” properly “to run to the cry (of those in danger); hence univ. to help, succor, bring aid” (Thayer).

God’s Son showed compassion for the multitudes when He fed them, healed their sick and sent the disciples forth on the limited commission. Yet, no greater act of compassion has ever been displayed than Jesus’ death on Calvary. Thank God for our compassionate Lord!

SFA FAMILY MATTERS

Prayer List

Our Members: JoAnn Hoback is recovering at home after heart surgery. Ann Howard is recovering at her son, Larry's home. Dick Burbage is at Highlands Lake Center, Rm. 319. Also: Chuck Wyatt, Sam Bolding, Louise Starks, Jacquelin Dopwell, Joyce Burbage, Margaret Coone, & Sharon Washington.

Relatives: Jo Chancey, Jimmy Mathis & Annie Beth Coone.

Shut In Members: Artis Bassett, Mary Shoemake.

Others: Maurice Davis, Steve Roberts, Gene & Irma Dampier, Bonnie Hendrick, Christina Feussner, Kathy Peel, Katelyn Donavant & Danny Edmonds.

Upcoming Events

Sept. 1st. - There will be a "Fellowship in Service" after the evening worship service for anyone interested. Please bring finger foods, and join us in praying & writing cards for our members and visitors in special need of encouragement

Sept 15th - Men's Breakfast at South Florida Avenue at 8:00 am.

Visitors

Mr. & Mrs Jason Conners & son, Blaine. Gavin McConnell.

Baby Shower

There will be a Baby Shower for Jessica & Tyler Anderson next Sunday, after the evening service in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring finger foods and drinks. They are registered at Target and Buy-Buy-Baby. If you would like to contribute to buy a Group Gift, Please see Kathy Sweeney or Stefani Padilla.

Anniversary

Congratulations to Chuck and Evelyn Wyatt who will celebrate their 66th wedding anniversary Friday, August 23rd.

Hither, Thither and Yon

Sharon Egolf is visiting her brother in Savannah, Ga. for two weeks. Please keep her, and any others who may be traveling in your prayers.

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

August

Kenny French **Table** Charles Paulin
Charles Sanford **Assist** C. J. Grimes

September

Bobby Sheumaker **Table** Jim Turner
Fred Rapley **Assist** Kyle Williams

August 25, 2013

9:30 A.M.

Song at Bible Class Jeremy Padilla
Prayer Phil Fife

10:30 A.M.

Announcements David Anderson
Song Leader Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer Stacey Paulin
Closing Prayer Tucker Sweeney

6:00 P.M.

Song Leader Casey Paulin
Opening Prayer Paul Romine
Closing Prayer Jeff Bingle
Greeters Fred & Kathy Strickland
Att. Cards Quadarius Askew & Antonio Martin
Open & Close Building Jimmy Sweeney

Wed. August 28, 2013

Song Leader Jim Turner
Opening Prayer Kenny French
Closing Prayer Ken Walker

Please meet in the library. If you cannot serve, please call Jason Hendrix, so he can get a replacement - 537-0857

Sunday, September 1, 2013

9:30 A.M.

Song at Bible Class Frank Hamby
Prayer Jeremy Padilla

10:30 A.M.

Announcements David Williams
Song Leader Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer David Anderson
Closing Prayer Casey Paulin

6:00 P.M.

Song Leader Paul Romine
Opening Prayer Josh Estridge
Closing Prayer Ken Walker
Greeters The Williams family
Att. Cards Quadarius Askew & Paul Sweeney
Open & Close Building Bob Pratt

Wed. Sept. 4, 2013

Song Leader Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer Charles Paulin
Closing Prayer Brian Kenyon

~ HOW WE ARE GIVING ~

Jul 28 \$3,906.78
Aug 04 \$4,569.46
Aug 11 \$3,729.71
Aug 18 \$4,978.91
Contribution Average \$4,175.26
2013 Weekly Budget \$4,255.13



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WONN 1230 and WLKF 1430

or on our web page

www.southfloridaavenuechurchofchrist.com