



# SOUTH FLORIDA AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST MESSENGER



1807 S. Florida Ave.,  
Lakeland, FL 33803

Vol. 74 No. 34 August 24, 2021

## ELDERS

David Anderson  
Brian Kenyon  
Bobby Sheumaker

## DEACONS

Tyler Anderson  
Jason Hendrix  
Rick Kenyon  
Stacey Paulin  
Jimmy Sweeney

## MINISTER

Hiram Kemp

## ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Vince Daugherty

## SECRETARY

Dee Parramore

## OFFICE PHONE

(863) 682-4702

## 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.

## EMAIL

[SFA.church@gmail.com](mailto:SFA.church@gmail.com)

## WEB PAGE

[SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist.com](http://SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist.com)

## YOUTUBE.com

[SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist](http://SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist)

## HOME OF

Florida School of Preaching  
since 1969

## 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.

## Thank you SFA!

*Hiram Kemp*

As our time at SFA is coming to end I wanted to take the time to say thank you (Phil. 1:3). My family and I have enjoyed our time here with the congregation over the last five years. We look forward to the years of continued friendship and fellowship that we will enjoy together with you all, even if in a different context. I have been blessed to serve as the minister here and was encouraged by so many faithful Christians who love the Lord and want to please Him. Brittani and I have grown so much by being here and being associated with all of you. Here are a few of the things we are specifically thankful for as we think about our time at SFA:

### A Chance Given

We were fresh out of preaching school in 2016 when we began our work with the congregation here. We are thankful that the elders gave us the chance to work with the church here and give us our first experience in full-time ministry. Even though we were young and inexperienced, we were not overlooked. Instead, we were entrusted with an opportunity to glorify God together (1 Tim. 4:12- 16). Like Paul thanked the Philippians for their fellowship in the gospel from the beginning (Phil. 1:4- 5), I am thankful for Kenny French, David Anderson, and Bobby Sheumaker for being the elders they were and hiring me to work with the congregation. I am thankful for Brian Kenyon and everything he has done as an elder in recent days and everything he has done before that to help me in the ministry here at SFA. No matter where ministry takes our family, we will always remember the support we received from SFA from the very beginning, thank you

### Co-Workers Together

Anything good that was accomplished while we were at SFA was accomplished because we had great co-workers alongside us, and God gave the increase (1 Cor. 3:6-8). Thank you for bringing friends, relatives, and neighbors to the worship service and inviting them to study the Bible. Our work was blessed because we did not have to do everything on our own (Eccl. 4:9-12). I have been blessed with great secretaries during my time here: Michelle, Ms. Virginia, and Dee. There have been faithful and capable men who stepped up and preached when I was away in meetings, seminars, and teaching elsewhere. Our Taco Tuesdays (mostly Brittani's effort) were supported well by everyone and a great time of fellowship. Working together on the mission field, during VBS, or with gospel meetings at SFA are things we will remember for years to come. Christianity is a team effort, and you all have been great teammates. Thank you.

### Constant Encouragement

We need to encourage each other daily (Heb. 3:13). We have been incessantly encouraged since we began the work here five years ago. I have kept every card of encouragement I have ever received from you in a drawer that I can turn to and read when I am discouraged. After classes, tough sermons, and days when I did not feel I did my best, it was always great to be told it made a difference and helped someone. Even when we made our announcement about moving to work with the Lehman Avenue congregation, we have been encouraged by everyone though we will miss each other. In ministry, flattery is poison, but genuine heartfelt encouragement is powerful. Thank you for always encouraging me. We are thankful that in Christ, relationships are eternal. We will never forget our SFA family.

Additional Bible Classes

**Exploring the Epistles Bible Class**

Monday Night Class will resume  
September 13 at 7:00 pm

Taught by Rick Kenyon



If you would like to attend, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Wednesday Morning  
**Ladies' Bible Study**

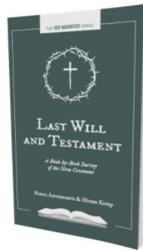
Starting September 1, 2021  
10:00 am

"Bible Women –  
Both Good and Evil"

If you would like to attend, please let Marion Beals or Jeanelle Thrower know

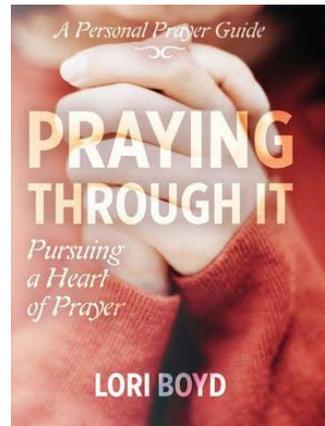
**LAST WILL  
AND TESTAMENT**  
*A Book-by-Book Survey  
of the New Covenant*

by FOREST ANTEMESARIS & HIRAM KEMP  
*Coming Summer 2021*



[thelightnetwork.tv/lastwill](http://thelightnetwork.tv/lastwill)

Add your name to the email list for updates on the release.



Thursday Night  
**Ladies' Bible Study**

7:00 pm

"Praying Through It:  
Pursuing a Heart of  
Prayer"

Please let Rene' Bingle  
know if you'd like to  
attend

**YOUTH GROUP**  
**BOWLING**  
**NIGHT**

Friday, September 3, 2021 Sign-up sheet  
5:00 – 7:00 pm is on the board

**YOUTH GROUP NEWS**

**Devo and Service project will  
be Saturday, Aug. 28 at 3pm.  
Please sign up for supplies  
needed to assemble fruit  
baskets for the Lakeland Fire  
and Police departments.**



When Peter and John were put on trial before the same people who crucified Jesus, they confidently said that salvation was found in no other name than Jesus Christ. (Acts 4:10-12). The Jewish leaders were shocked at the boldness of Peter and John. Scripture says, "they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus" (Acts 4:13). This is a passage that gets me fired up. I want to have confidence and boldness like Peter and John. In the text, it says that they knew they had "been with Jesus." That is the key to our boldness - how much time we spend with Jesus!

1. Reading His Scripture
2. Praying Through Him
3. Obeying His Commands
4. Modeling My Life Like His

**Senior Saints** by John McShane

I was sitting on my back patio the other morning watching birds, bees, butterflies, and other assorted critters. They were all looking for something to eat and seemed to be enjoying themselves while doing it. What amazed me was the calmness in all this. There was no fighting, screaming, or animosity exhibited anywhere. In Genesis 1:26 we read " And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." If we have dominion over all the earth's creatures, we are surely not setting a good example for them. With all the hate and discontent now embracing the world, we are far from setting a good example to anyone or anything. Can you imagine what the result would be if all of God's critters acted like the human race is acting now? We may not be able to cure all the hate and discontent in the world, but we can do our part to act like we are the image of God in our small part of the world. In Matthew 22:37, a person asked Jesus which is the great commandment in the law, and Jesus answered, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Do you love yourself?

# SFA FAMILY MATTERS

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16

## Our Members:

Bob Pratt - health  
 Jim & Carol Edmonson - health  
 Bernetta Green - health  
 Brian Smith - heart  
 Bobby Simpson - health  
 Kathy Nester - health  
 Sharon M. Washington - health  
 Antoine & Marcella Swain - health  
 Flo Duffy - eye problems  
 Stacey Paulin - health  
 Janie Wise - health

## Recent requests:

David Anderson - covid  
 Tonya Anderson - covid  
 Angel Newkirk & family - covid  
 Darlene Thompson - health

## PRAYER LIST

John & Linda McShane  
 Ron & Judy Ford - health  
 Jim Turner - health, tests  
 Fred Strickland - health  
 Debbie Bush - health  
 Margaret Coone  
 Annette Phillip - health  
 Vanessa Palmer - health  
 Tanner Estridge - health  
 Dorothea Lauther - surgery recovery

Nellie Anderson - covid  
 Johnny Singh - covid  
 Melody Baxter - knee surgery  
 Neil Entwistle - heart attack

(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

Faith West                      Joyce Burbage  
 Carol Eason                      Ellen Shearer

Please call before visiting. Some locations are locked down again.

## Updates & Prayer requests

**Faith West** is now in rehab. She must quarantine for 2 weeks before receiving visitors

**Darlene Thompson** is not feeling well.

**Neil Entwistle** is in VA hospital in Tampa after suffering a heart attack

**Jim Edmonson** is back in the hospital

**Adeline Hine** is waiting for scan results

**Tonya Anderson** has tested positive for covid

**Jimmy Sweeney** is doing much better and has returned to work

**Paul Sweeney** is also feeling better and can return to school Friday

**Madison Caffee** is also better and has returned to work

*thank you*

There are cards on the bulletin board from  
**Kim Kemp                      Jim Turner**

## 5TH SUNDAY COLLECTION

The next 5th Sunday collection for the Building Fund will be **August 29, 2021.** if you would like to give additional funds at other times of the month, 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.



**This week's pantry item request:**  
 bottles of water, juice or  
 juice boxes/pouches

## SCHEDULED TO SERVE

### August

Designated Elder - David Anderson

### Wednesday, August 25, 2021

Song Leader/prayer ..... Matt Webb  
 Devo ..... Elder  
 Closing Prayer ..... Allen Grimes

### Sunday, August 29, 2021

#### 10:30 A.M.

Sermon ..... Hiram Kemp  
 "Confidence in God Amid Chaos"  
 Psalm 56

#### 6:00 P.M.

Sermon ..... Hiram Kemp  
 "Jesus' Farewell to His Friends"  
 John 14:1-6

#### 10:30 A.M.

Open/Close bldg (both) ..... Brian Kenyon  
 Greeter ..... J. Williams  
 Song/prayer before class ..... David Williams  
 Announcements ..... Bobby Sheumaker  
 A.M. Song Leader ..... Jason Hendrix  
 Scripture reading/Prayer ..... Alex Parramore  
 Lord's Table ..... Tucker Sweeney  
 Closing Prayer ..... Brian Kenyon

#### 6:00 P.M.

P.M. Song Leader ..... Jason Hendrix  
 Scripture reading/Prayer ..... Rick Kenyon  
 Lord's Table ..... Tucker Sweeney  
 Closing Prayer ..... Bobby Sheumaker

### Wednesday, September 1, 2021

Song Leader/Prayer ..... Matt Webb  
 Devo ..... Stacey Paulin  
 Closing Prayer ..... Charles Paulin

## Upcoming Events

### September

1 - Quarterly challenge  
 - Ladies class 10am  
 3 - Bowling night, 5pm  
 5 - Lads workday  
 - fellowship in-service  
 7 - Craft Night, 6:30pm  
 12 - Joshua Cantrell  
 - Joey Treat  
 13 - Romans class 7pm  
 14 - FSOP ladies class 7pm  
 18 - Youth Seminar 9am  
 25 - Teachers' workshop 9am

### October

2 - Ladies' Day  
 15-16- Family Retreat  
 23 - Sisters reveal  
 31 - Trunk or Treat  
**November**  
 14-17 Fall gospel mtg  
 19 - Youth group  
 thankful meal

### December

4 - Youth group  
 caroling & parties  
 18 - Wreaths Across  
 America

## ~ HOW ARE WE GIVING ~

Aug 8 ..... \$6,871.25  
 Aug 15 ..... \$4,352.00  
 Aug 22 ..... \$7,833.00  
 Contribution Average ..... \$7,035.39

## Women of the Word

### Ladies Prayer Night In

Friday,  
August 27, 2021  
6:30 pm

Rather than a ladies' night out in August, there will be a Ladies' Prayer Night In. Every SFA lady is invited. We will meet in the auditorium.

If you cannot attend but have a prayer request, please contact Dee or Stephanie.



PEACE LIKE A RIVER



JOY LIKE A FOUNTAIN



LOVE LIKE AN OCEAN

Mark your calendars!

South Florida Ave church of Christ  
Youth Seminar

Saturday, September 18, 2021

9:00 am - 12:00 pm



**Speakers:**  
Forest Antemesaris - Orange St.  
"Peace Like a River"



Rhone Jadis - Pine Castle  
"Joy Like a Fountain"



CJ Grimes - Sebring  
"Love Like an Ocean"

Lunch will be provided  
**RSVP**

## SAVE THE DATE:

South Florida Ave Church of Christ  
Annual Ladies Day

October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

Sweet Talk by Emily Hatfield  
Proverbs 16:24



8:30am Registration and Breakfast  
9:00 Start  
Lunch provided

RSVP: 863.682.4702 or sfa.church@gmail.com

Lunch will be provided  
**RSVP**

[www.SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist.com](http://www.SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist.com)

Email us: [SFA.church@gmail.com](mailto:SFA.church@gmail.com)

For sermons and podcasts, find us here.



IN EVERY THING GIVE  
THANKS; FOR THIS IS THE  
WILL OF GOD IN CHRIST  
JESUS CONCERNING YOU,

1 Thessalonians 5:18

South Florida Avenue  
**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
1807 South Florida Avenue  
Lakeland, FL 33803-2653

Return Service Requested