

The South Florida Avenue **MESSENGER**

A Friendly Church With a Vital Message Proclaiming the Unsearchable Riches of the Lord Jesus.
The Messenger is published weekly by the South Florida Ave. Church of Christ meeting at 1807 South Florida Ave - Lakeland, FL 33803 Vol. 69 No.35 08-30-16

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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.

HOME OF

Florida School of Preaching

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.

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IN
SEARCH
OF THE LORD'S WAY

Sundays @ 8:30 a.m. Check local listings

The Wisdom We Need

Hiram Kemp

If you could ask God for anything what would it be? I suppose some would petition for wealth, knowledge, or maybe even supernatural abilities. When Solomon became King of Israel after the death of his father David, he knew the task before him was great. Solomon was aware of the fact that he could not govern the people of God without Divine assistance. He prayed to God and asked for a discerning heart so that he would be able to distinguish between both good and evil (1 Kgs. 3:5-9). Solomon essentially says to God; I need wisdom so that I can properly lead these people. Solomon knew prestige, wealth, and military might were not enough to be successful and that he needed wisdom that comes from God. God honored the request of Solomon and said since he did not ask for many of the vain things that often occupy the hearts of men (long life, riches, enemy's downfall) he would be granted wisdom unlike any before or after him along with other blessings (1 Kgs. 3:11-13). Even now the name of Solomon is scarcely mentioned without a reference made to the wisdom he possessed (Mt. 12:42).

The Bible has a lot to say about wisdom. True wisdom comes from the Lord and having the proper attitude toward Him (Prov. 1:7, 9:10). There is wisdom that is heavenly and from above and there is wisdom that is devilish from below (Jas. 3:13-18). Wisdom is often described as the application of knowledge. Wisdom does apply knowledge but more than that, wisdom is the ability to see how a course of action will play out and behaving accordingly. We can be wise concerning this life without getting all of the bumps and bruises that come from mistakes. It is possible to see the mistakes of others and not repeat their error (Neh. 13:26-27). Many times people mistake a wise person for someone who has a lot of formal education and numerous degrees. While a person can be wise and have secular knowledge, the educational attainments of this world should not be equated with wisdom. Jesus says there are really only two types of people in the world: wise and foolish. Wise people hear what Jesus says and do it, while the foolish hear the same teaching and fail to do what is taught (Mt. 7:24-27). To be truly wise is to hear the words of God and conform one's life to the teaching found therein (Eccl. 12:13-14). Paul would inform Christians in Colossae that all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are found in Christ (Col. 2:3). According to what Paul wrote and what Jesus said, a lot of foolish men have degrees and a lot of wise people do not. Like Solomon we should ask God for wisdom, and He will lavishly provide it for us (Jas. 1:5). According to the way the Bible defines wisdom, are you wise? Another way to ask this question would be, are you hearing what God has said and living accordingly?

Take advantage of this great opportunity to learn more of God's word and fellowship His people!

SPEAKERS

6th Street Labor Day Lectureship

Devotional (song service & prayer) will begin at 9:00 a.m.
Lunch will be provided at 12:00 p.m. following our last speaker.

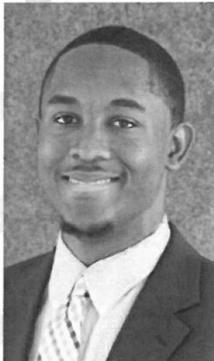
Introducing our 2016 Speakers...



Thomas L. Bowling

Tom Bowling is a 2012 graduate of the Southeast Institute of Biblical Studies in Knoxville, Tennessee. Since graduating from school, he has served as the associate and youth minister of the Dayton church of Christ in Dayton, Tennessee, and the pulpit minister of the Charlotte Avenue congregation in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Tom is currently the pulpit minister of the Cavern Road church of Christ in Marianna, Florida. He and Summer, his wife of nineteen years, are both natives of Cleveland, Tennessee and have two sons (Bradley and Tyler). Tom has been a member of the Lord's church since 1981.

The Mind of Christ concerning WORSHIP.....9:20-10:00 a.m.



Hiram Kemp

Hiram Kemp is a native of Hollywood/Miami, Florida. Hiram obeyed the Gospel of our Lord on June 30, 2009, and was also married to his wife Brittani in that same year. They have two children, Nadia (age 3) and Andre (age 1). Hiram is a 2016 graduate of the Florida School of Preaching in Lakeland, Florida. Since graduating, he has served as the pulpit minister of the South Florida Avenue church of Christ in Lakeland. Hiram has conducted a number of Gospel Meetings across the United States, and has spoken on seminars and lectureships in various cities. He is also involve in evangelistic work in Nicaragua, Central America.

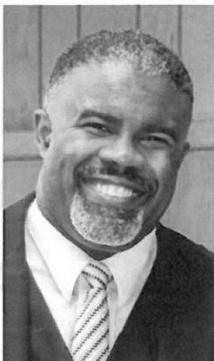
The Mind of Christ concerning CHRISTIAN DEDICATION.....10:00-10:40 a.m.



Tyler Jenkins

Tyler Jenkins was born in Anniston, Alabama. He spent most of his formative years in Oak Grove, Missouri where his father served as the pulpit minister of the Oak Grove church of Christ. Tyler is a 2014 graduate of the Memphis School of Preaching in Memphis, Tennessee. Since graduating, Tyler has served as the associate minister of the Center Star church of Christ in Killen, Alabama, and is presently the Gospel preacher of the Redland church of Christ in Valdosta, Georgia. Additionally, Tyler serves as one of the assistant team leaders of the Jamaica Campaigns for Christ. He and his wife of four years, Tabitha, have a son, Boaz, and a daughter due to be born in December of 2016.

The Mind of Christ concerning FORGIVENESS.....10:40-11:20 a.m.



Terrance Brownlow-Dindy, Sr.

Terrance Brownlow-Dindy, Sr. is a native of Ada, Oklahoma. Terrance has been preaching the Gospel for seventeen years. He is a 1995 graduate of the University of Oklahoma where he met his wife of twenty-three years, Shenia. They have four children: Destyni, Terrance Jr., Gabriel, and KeVontre. Terrance graduated from the Brown Trail School of Preaching in Bedford, Texas in 2000, and from the Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver with a Master of Biblical Studies in 2016. He is the Gospel preacher of the Sixth Street church of Christ in Lakeland, Florida. He has also preached for congregations in Dallas, Texas; Belton, Missouri; and Kinder, Louisiana. Terrance has conducted Gospel Meetings, evangelistic campaigns, seminars, and has spoken on lectureships in various states. He is also an assistant team leader with the Jamaica Campaigns for Christ.

The Mind of Christ concerning THE CHURCH.....11:20-12:00 p.m.

SFA FAMILY MATTERS

Prayer List

Our Members: Jim Turner is real weak, running fever and still has infection. He sees the infectious disease doctor this week. Please call before you visit with him. Carlene Long was taken to the hospital and had tests that came back good, but she still asks for prayers. Also keep Ginny Hamby, JoAnn Hoback, Jaquelin Dopwell, Elizabeth Tubbs, Janet Crosby, Michelle Paulin, Carla Moore, Debbie Horsley and Margaret Coone in prayer.

Relatives: Joe Shanes, Wayne Hendrix, Bonnie Patterson, Tonya Mathis, Dee Moore, Margie Bolding, Lydia Tubbs, (Elizabeth Tubb's mother), Preston Craft (Melissa Craft's brother) and Harold Rister.

Shut In Members: Virginia Plumlee, Ann Howard, Dick & Joyce Burbage, Duane Nelson and Sharon Edler.

Others: Jackie Stearsman, Chrissi Fuesner and Alyssa Buckner. Keep all of these in your prayers.

Upcoming Events

September 4th: Fellowship In Service following evening services. Please bring finger foods.

September 5th: 23rd Annual Labor Day Lectureship at the Sixth Street Church of Christ. The theme is "The Mind Of Christ."

September 7th: Ladies Bible class will resume at 10:00 a.m.

September 17th: Men's breakfast at the Hilltop Church of Christ in Winter Haven at 8:00 a.m.

September 18th: Baby shower and potluck dinner after the morning worship service for Josh and Marissa Estridge. They are registered at Target and if you would like to give towards a money tree please see Kathy Sweeney or Kelcey Grimes.

Sympathy

Sharon Egolf's niece was killed in a car accident on 8-21 in Savannah, GA. Also Vicky Rapley's cousin Marilyn Mason, passed away 8-23 in Lake Placid, Fl. Please keep these families in prayer.

Response

Ginny Hamby and Tiffany Jackson responded Wednesday night and asked for the prayers of the congregation. Please let's encourage and keep them in prayer.

Visitors

Tiffany Hash, Megan and Sam, Dotty Gutzler, Renee Hurn, Matthew & Shannon Willcut and boys, Victor Travis, Chaz & Molly Hine and Carl Matousek.

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

September

Charles Paulin **Table** C.J. Grimes
Tucker Sweeney **Assist** Bobby Sheumaker

Sunday, September 4, 2016

9:30 A.M.

Song at Bible Class Kyle Williams
Prayer David Anderson

10:30 A.M.

Announcements Stacey Paulin
Song Leader Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer Frank Hamby
Sermon Hiram Kemp
Closing Prayer Tyler Anderson

6:00 P.M.

Song Leader Paul Romine
Opening Prayer John McShane
Sermon Hiram Kemp
Greeters The Hendrix's
Att. Cards Paul & Ian
Closing Prayer David Anderson
Open & Close Building Phil Fife

Wed. September 7, 2016

Song Leader Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer David Anderson
Closing Prayer David Deal

Please meet in the library. If you cannot serve, please call Chuck Wyatt so he can get a replacement - 859-5231

Sunday, September 11, 2016

9:30 A.M.

Song at Bible Class Tucker Sweeney
Prayer Bobby Sheumaker

10:30 A.M.

Announcements Stacey Paulin
Song Leader Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer David Anderson
Sermon Hiram Kemp
Closing Prayer David Deal

6:00 P.M.

Song Leader Paul Romine
Opening Prayer Jimmy Sweeney
Sermon Hiram Kemp
Greeters The Kenyon's
Att. Cards Ian & Sebastian
Closing Prayer Tyler Anderson
Open & Close Building Phil Fife

Wed. September 14, 2016

Song Leader Steve Hunley
Opening Prayer C.J. Grimes
Closing Prayer Steve Hunley

~ HOW ARE WE GIVING ~

Aug. 07	\$6,252.21
Aug. 14	\$4,293.10
Aug. 21	\$4,394.02
Aug 28	\$4,535.83
Contribution Average	\$4,941.47
2016 Weekly Budget	\$4,422.60

“Gay Is The New Black” or Is It?

The statement, “Gay Is the New Black,” is not original with me. It was the title of a lesson at a popular 2016 lectureship/workshop. I commend those responsible for that program and their foresight and courage in dealing with potentially controversial, yet very relevant, topics. I purposely did not listen to that lesson so as not to influence this article, but I am simply using the title. Some who practice homosexuality and/or think it is acceptable are taking the angle that “gay” is like race, no one chooses to be that way, they just are. Especially in the late 1950’s and 1960’s, what we often call the Civil Rights Movement was in full-swing. There was (and is) no doubt that people of African decent were discriminated against and even physically harmed merely because the color of their skin. That was wrong (and still is wherever it occurs), even for those who choose a different sexual lifestyle. The question, however, is: Do people who choose to practice same-sex relationships fall under the same category as those who have a genetically different skin color? That answer is No! In the beginning, “God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness’” (Gen. 1:26). Adam and Eve had perfect DNA. It was likely not until after the tower of Babel that dominant skin color genes began to develop in the various regions of the world. Be that as it may, humans are still humans, no matter their skin color. Behavior, whether sexual or otherwise, is not genetically determined.

Genesis 1:26-27 OR **Romans 1:26-27** OR **Both plus the rest of the Bible ?**

It may be that certain people can genetically act certain ways, for example, when intoxicated, *(continued below)*



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



Ladies (young and older), take advantage of the opportunities to study God's word with other women. Beginning September 7, there will be a weekly class on Wednesday mornings at 10:00, and a monthly class Tuesday evenings at FSOP beginning September 20 @ 7:00 pm. Make plans to attend!

Good News: God forgives all sins of which a person truly repents, even sexual sins and murder! Read Luke 24:47; Acts 2:38; 22:16; and 1 Corinthians 6:9-11.

(continued from above) but genetics doesn't make a person lift that first beer. At least from 1991, with Dr. Simon LeVay's study on the hypothalamus, attempts have been made to link homosexual practice to genetics. No such study has proven such a link! Keeping up with all the “science” is not necessary. Just observe identical twins. If homosexual practice were genetic, it would be impossible for one twin to be “gay” and the other to be “straight”! The truth of the matter is that people choose to practice homosexuality, some from being deceived, some from ignorance, and some from outright rebellion. Such a choice, however, is not good. Paul wrote, “For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. ²⁷Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due” (Rom. 1:26-27). Later, the apostle said that neither “homosexuals, nor sodomites ... will inherit the kingdom of God” (1 Cor. 6:9-10). Every person has civil rights, no one deserves to be physically or mentally harassed, and just because one speaks against the practice of homosexuality doesn't make him or her a racist! ❤️ Brian