



South Florida Avenue CHURCH OF CHRIST MESSENGER



1807 S. Florida Ave.,
Lakeland, FL 33803

Vol. 75 No. 40 October 11, 2022

ELDERS

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Bobby Sheumaker

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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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Joey Treat Pacific Islands
Ted Wheeler Ghana, W.A.

FOUR THINGS JESUS LEFT THE CHURCH

Joshua Cantrell

Within the ministry of Jesus, we see the many tasks he had to fulfill. As we open the book of Acts, Luke records Jesus Christ's ascension back into Heaven (Acts. 1:10-11). Our Lord left many tasks for us to fulfill on this side of eternity. He left us great work to do. Matthew records, "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." (Matthew. 28:18-20).

JESUS LEFT US AN UNFINISHED TASK

The work of Christ is now the work of Christ's people. Luke records, "Of all that Jesus began both to do and teach." (Acts. 1:1). When Christians say "they don't have anything to do" that is not a statement of being misinformed. The Gospel of Jesus Christ does not just save us from sin, it changes the way we live. If we are the image of Christ and we follow his example (1 Peter. 2:21), then there is much work for us to do. Luke says in his book, "For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost." (Luke. 19:10). Mark records, "And he said to them, go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved; but he does not believe will be condemned." (Mark. 16:15-16).

We will never bring all the world into Christ until we bring Christ into all the world. We will have not faith in the mission before us unless we have faith in the master behind us. We will never get others to obey the great commands until we obey the great commission. We cannot expect the world to react to the word until we act on it. We will never get excited over sowing the seed until we get excited over seeing the need. We can't make Christ mean anything to others until we make him mean everything to us. We will never convert others when we have no convictions. We will never consider the lost until we consider the cost. We are not going to bring in the sheaves until we roll up ourselves. Christ left us an unfinished task and it's time we get to work.

JESUS LEFT US AN UNCHANGEABLE MESSAGE

We do not have to worry about preaching the truth only to find the truth has changed. We all can take great comfort in knowing the Bible does not change. If an individual is not willing to change they will not like what the Bible has to say. Those of us who love God and truth, again take comfort that God in knowing that his word will not change.

The author of truth is not going to change, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever." (Hebrews. 13:8). The message itself is not going to change, "Beloved, when I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints." (Jude. 3). The benefits of truth are not going to change, "And you shall know the truth, and truth shall make you free." (John. 8:32). The power of truth will not change, "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." (Romans. 1:16). The specifics of the truth will not change, "There is one body and one spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." (Ephesians. 4:4-6).

JESUS LEFT US AN UNLIMITED POWER

Our power is provided for us by God. The power of the gospel is still an unlimited power (Romans. 1:16). Paul would write to Corinth, "For the preaching of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, by to us who are being saved it is the power of God." (1 Corinthians. 1:18). When we read of those who stood behind God, God gave them the power and strength to fight off whatever the difficulty was. David did not defeat Goliath by his strength, he was able to succeed because of God (1 Samuel. 17). Paul was not about to endure his thorn in the flesh himself, God gave him the strength to continue (2 Corinthians. 12:6-8).

Paul would encourage Timothy, "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and love, and of a sound mind." (2 Timothy. 1:7). In Ephesians 1, Paul shows those brethren the same power Jesus used in raising himself from the dead, is the same power that is within us today (Ephesians. 1:18-120).

JESUS LEFT US UNFAILING PROMISES

God promises us his closeness. Throughout the Bible, God gives assurances to those who faithfully believed in him and trusted in him. God promised Joshua after the death of Moses that he would always be with him. Joshua records the encounter (Joshua. 1:1-4). Our key thought is found after these verses, "There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, not forsake thee." (Joshua. 1:5). God will never make a promise that he does not keep. He is a promise keeper. Abraham that he would have a son. Paul records of Abraham, "Who against hope believe in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able to also to perform." (Romans. 4:18; 21).

God promises his salvation for those who are scripturally baptized into his son (Mark. 16:15-16). He promised us a way for our prayers to be heard by the father (John. 14:13). He promised that he would come and take us home with him (John. 14:1-3). Satan will promise that which he cannot deliver. A promise is an unpaid debt. Christ never made a promise that was too good to be true.

CONCLUSION

As Christians, we have a great responsibility that Jesus Christ has given to us. Are we going to answer the call? God is present with us (Hebrews. 13:5). God will protect us (Genesis. 15:1). God will empower us to stay the course (Isaiah. 41:10; 2 Timothy 4:6-8). Jesus Christ has called you to carry out the task. Let's get to work!

♥ Thank you



Special thanks to all who helped with hurricane relief in Venice! Some sent much needed funds and supplies and/or were able to help on site. Ted Wheeler and the Venice church of Christ express huge thanks to us! In the picture are brothers and sisters from SFA and FSOP along with other brethren from Venice, Stuart, and New Port Rickey churches of Christ. This was a beautiful display of Christian fellowship while bearing one another's burdens! May God be glorified (Matt. 5:16)! Continue praying for recovery efforts, including the reclamation of souls for Jesus!

SFA FAMILY MATTERS

Our Members:

Bob Pratt - health
 Jim Turner - health
 Brian Smith - heart health
 Debbie Bush - struggles
 Antoine & Marcella Swain - health
 Wayne Shearer - health
 Geny Johnson - health
 Sophia Smith- in TICU @ LRMC

PRAYER LIST

Ron & Judy Ford - health
 Bernetta Green - health & strength
 Bobby Simpson - health
 Annett Phillip - health
 Janie Wise - health
 Brenda Mask - health
 Bitsy Thomas - injury

(Please update the office of any changes)

The **EXTENDED FAMILY AND FRIENDS** prayer requests are emailed every week and posted on the bulletin board. Please let the office know if someone's status on that list needs to be updated or if a person needs to be removed from the list

Pray for our Shut-ins

Joyce Burbage Carol Eason

Brothers, pray for us. 1 Thessalonians 5:25



Please do not wear costumes to worship.
 There will be time to change afterward.

5TH SUNDAY COLLECTION

The next 5th Sunday collection for the Building Fund will be **October 30, 2022.**

if you would like to give additional funds at other times, 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.

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

October

Designated Elder - Bobby Sheumaker

Wednesday, October 12, 2022

Announcements Brian Kenyon
 Song Leader/Prayer..... Andre Medley
 Devo Josh Cantrell
 Closing PrayerGeorge Davis

Sunday, October 9th, 2022

10:30 A.M.

Not Made to Fit In Pt. 1 ... Josh Cantrell
Philippians 2:1-4

6:00 P.M.

Not Made to Fit In Pt. 2 ... Josh Cantrell
Colossians 3:1-4

10:30 A.M.

Song/prayer before classTucker Sweeney
 Announcements B. Sheumaker
 A.M. Song LeaderTerrance Dindy Jr.
 Scripture reading/PrayerJosh Potvin
 Lord's Table Jimmy Sweeney
 Closing PrayerWayne Shearer
 Open/Close bldg (both)Jason Hendrix
 GreetersRogers
 Attendance cards (both)Peyton/ Landan

6:00 P.M.

P.M. Song LeaderTerrance Dindy Jr.
 Scripture reading/PrayerDavid Anderson
 Lord's TableJimmy Sweeney
 Closing PrayerAndre Medley
 Greeters Brunson

Wednesday, October 19, 2022

AnnouncementsDavid Anderson
 Song Leader/prayer Frank Hamby
 Devo Stacey Paulin
 Closing PrayerRick Kenyon

Upcoming Events

October

9-13 - Eagle Lake
 Gospel Meeting
 15 - Men's breakfast
 21 - Fiesta Friday
 27 - Ladies' Night Out
 30 - Trunk or Treat

November

11-13- WWCC Fall Family Camp
 13- Elders, Deacons, &
 Preachers' Meeting
 13-16- Fall gospel meeting
 18- Youth Thankful Meal



~ HOW ARE WE GIVING ~

Sep 25	\$5,629.00
Oct 2	\$8,876.00
Oct 9	\$5,338.00
Contribution Average	\$6,614.33
Weekly budget	\$7,663.43

Thankful

Have you ever paused and looked up into the blue
To praise our God and say, thank you?
Thank you, God, for everything you have done for me-
Not just me, but for all humanity.
Giving us sunshine, rain, and the air we breathe,
For food, clothing, and shelter we thank thee.
May we never take your blessings for granted each day,
But instead choose to be thankful and pray.

Verses of Joy

Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy.

Psalm 126:5

*The humble also shall increase their joy in the Lord,
and the poor among men shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel..*

Isaiah 29:19

*Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The Lord God is my
strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, and He will make me walk on my high hills.*

Habakkuk 3:18-19

*My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,
knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.*

James 1:2-3

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**South Florida Avenue
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

1807 South Florida Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33803-2653

Return Service Requested

Behold, how good and how
pleasant it is
For brethren to dwell
together in unity!

Psalm 133:1



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