



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
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Rick Kenyon
Stacey Paulin

MINISTER

Joshua Cantrell

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Vince Daugherty

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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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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.

Working Towards Working Together

Joshua Cantrell

When we watch sports they teach us a great deal about togetherness. The importance of family, and teamwork. Great coaches have always demanded their players go the extra mile, and do whatever it takes to achieve greatness. Hundreds of sports movies have been made showing us principles that would take average teams to greatness. It's evident that when we read the Bible, God has given us a team and a family. The New Testament often refers to Christianity as a race (1 Corinthians. 9:24; Hebrews. 12:1-2). We train our minds to think like Jesus (Philippians. 2:1-10), ultimately causing us to live like him (Titus. 2:1). The Church of our Lord is one of togetherness, unity, family, and teamwork. Like any sport, each person has to pull their weight. Each person has to go the extra mile to insure that victory is achieved. For Christians today, victory is already won (1 Corinthians. 15:57). Because of that fact, we each have to continue to work together to get people to Heaven (Luke. 19:10). Teamwork is attainable if we are willing to work towards, working together. Let's examine what Teamwork means.

T - Together As A Unified Unity Of Brethren

The Apostle Paul makes it clear that Unity is something we don't have to look for, we just have to keep it (Ephesians. 4:1-7). Unity has been given to the Church, based on the unity of the Godhead. The Father, The Son, and The Spirit show us what perfect unity looks like. God would command us to keep the unity if He did not think it was possible. When we all think like Jesus, His will and ways will ultimately be exemplified in our lives. Paul would say, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." (Philippians. 2:5). His mind is the mind we need to have, which will allow us to be unified on all other matters (Philippians. 2:1-4).

E - Each One Of Us

The military has a quote I often reflect on: "Where there is unity, there is victory." When Unity is displayed in local congregations of the Lord's body, we see how influential they are in a community. The saints in the first century made such an impact that "every creature which is under heaven" heard the gospel preached. (Colossians. 1:23). When each person lifts their side of the weight we are perfectly balanced. We are not lifting ourselves, but the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Each one of us has to carry our weight in sharing that with everyone in this world (Romans. 1:14-17)

A - Achieving The Work God Has Set Before Us

Before Jesus ascended back into Heaven he left the Disciple with a Great Commission. To Preach the Gospel to the whole world (Matthew. 28:18-20). The whole duty of the whole church is to preach the whole gospel to the whole world. We have enough before us in this world. As long as there is a soul that needs to be saved, there is work for us to do. Jesus would say, "Lift up your eyes, and look on the folds; for they are white already to harvest." (John. 4:35). Each of us must be busy or get busy doing the work that Christ has left for us.

M - More Than We Could Ever Do On Our Own

In each sports movie, you will find multiple similarities. In particular, the coach will explain to the best player they don't have to play by themselves. There are members of the church who have great abilities and talents. God wants us first to use those for his purpose, and secondly, help others as well. God did not just bless us to bless us. He wants to let our light shine, so his name will be glorified (Matthew. 5:13-16). There is enough work in the kingdom for everyone that one individual does not do it by themselves. It cannot just be the Elders, or Deacons, or Preacher, but each member. Writing cards, emails, and calling the sick are just a few ways to work together.

W - Working The Mighty Work Of God

Oftentimes we fail to appreciate that God has commissioned his children to Preach the Gospel. God has given us everything we need to complete this great work. We often have to be reminded that God is with us during this process. He will never leave us nor forsake us (Joshua. 1:5; Hebrews. 13:5). Often we use those verses to show how God is with us in dark times. Which is certainly applicable. God is also with us as we do his great work. As we teach the lost the Gospel. As we edify each other unto love and good work (Hebrews. 10:23-24). Trust that God is with you while you complete this mighty work.

O - Overcoming The Opposition Of The Evil One

We need to forget while God is with us, the evil one is against us. He seeks to devour us (Luke. 22:31; 1 Peter. 5:8). Too often Saints try to fight the evil one with earthly tactics. As noted earlier, the victory is won. God gives us what need to fight off the evil one (Ephesians. 6:10-17). The Christian's armor is not just to look good in uniform, it's to fight off the devil. He will use many schemes and devices to distract us. Thankfully, we are not fighting alone. We have a family, we have Unity from those in the Body of Christ.

R - Relying Upon God's Will And God's Word

The Will of God is found in the Word of God. Once we discover what God will have us do, we will get to work. We rely on God's word for everything in this world. Our sustenance, our obedience, and our lives are all rooted in the Word of God. We don't look to the Bible for some answers, we look to the Bible for the answers. Life is an open book test; thankfully, we have the Bible to rely on as our guide.

K - Kingdom Growth Occurs And People Are Led From Earth To Eternity

Each of us will have to enter into eternity. We should not enter unprepared. The Rich Man (Luke. 16:19-35), entered into eternity unprepared. We see just how hopeless his situation was. Lazarus was comforted in the bosom of Abraham. When teamwork is exemplified in the Body of Christ we see just how influential that body of believers is for their community, but most importantly God. Working together can be a task or burden, but it doesn't have to be. If we do it according to the Bible we can achieve that.

Conclusion

Working towards working together should be something we all strive to do. With all the great sports movies today we can indeed learn a lot about togetherness, unity, and teamwork. Those movies pale in comparison to what we read in the Bible. I'm thankful that God has given us an example to show us how this is attainable. My earnest prayer is that we continue to work towards, working together.

NO FRIEND TO HELP WAS THERE

Luke 23 recounts the final events of Jesus' execution for the crime of being, "The King of The Jews" (v. 38). The definition of ironic is that something is the opposite of what is expected. To the Jews it was ironic because they accused Jesus of making Himself equal with God, when in fact He was the Christ, the Son of God. The Romans saw it as a joke, saying here is what we think of your king of the Jews on His way to be executed. Something that is heartbreaking is to consider how lonely Jesus must have felt. Herod treated Jesus's situation like a joke (v. 8, 11). Although Pilate found no fault in him, he still gave Him up to be crucified (v. 14, 24). The Jews requested a murderer to be released rather than the obviously innocent Jesus (v. 18, 19). Soldiers mocked Him (v. 36). Another criminal blasphemed Him (v. 39). As I read the story I could not help but shout out, where was anyone to stand with Jesus? One way to think of our relationship with Jesus is to see Him as a friend. Would you have stood by Jesus's side in His time of need? That is what a true friend would do.

-VINCE

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 Blake @ Bradenton
 George Davis- toe surgery, Nov. 2nd

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
 Neyome Brunson- trip to Sri Lanka
 Charles Paulin- health

(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

Fellowship in Service



This Sunday, following evening worship. Please bring food and stay to sing cards!



CONSTRUCTION WILL BEGIN SOON AS WE REMODEL THE CHURCH OFFICES. THE OFFICE WILL RUN AS CLOSE TO NORMAL AS POSSIBLE. WE APPRECIATE YOUR PATIENCE DURING THIS TIME.

Feed the Preacher



There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board to volunteer to feed Brother Jenkins during our upcoming gospel meeting.



We are in need of gas cards again for benevolence purposes. Please give the cards or money for cards to Rick Kenyon or drop them off at the office. Thank you!

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

November

Designated Elder - David Anderson

Wednesday, November 2nd, 2022

Announcements David Anderson
 Song Leader/prayer Frank Hamby
 Devo Kyle Faneuf
 Closing Prayer Rick Kenyon

Sunday, November 6th, 2022

10:30 A.M.

Not Made to Fit In Pt.4... Joshua Cantrell
Luke 15:1-3

6:00 P.M.

Rise, Fall, Restoration... Joshua Cantrell
Psalm 51:1-3

10:30 A.M.

Song/prayer before class Terrance Dindy Jr.
 Announcements Stacey Paulin
 A.M. Song Leader David Williams
 Scripture reading/Prayer Josh Estridge
 Lord's Table Jeff Stewart
 Closing Prayer Kyle Bingle
 Open/Close bldg (both) David Anderson
 Greeters Rogers
 Attendance cards (both) Klark/ Sawyer

6:00 P.M.

P.M. Song Leader David Williams
 Scripture reading/Prayer Andre Medley
 Lord's Table Jeff Stewart
 Closing Prayer David Deal
 Greeters Brunson

Wednesday, November 9, 2022

Announcements David Anderson
 Song Leader/Prayer..... Terrance Dindy Jr.
 Devo Josh Cantrell
 Closing Prayer Kyle Bingle

Upcoming Events

November

3- Ladies' Night Out
 10- Church Scrapbook Night
 12- Eagle Lake Men's Lectureship
 11-13- WWCC Fall Family Camp
 13- Elders, Deacons, & Preachers' Meeting
 13- Fellowship Meal (team 3)
 13-16- Fall gospel meeting

November

18- Youth Thankful Meal
December
 4 -Walk Out of Darkness
 8 - Ladies' Scrapbook Night
 11 -Ladies' Cookie Swap
 16 - Youth Polar Express Night



~ HOW ARE WE GIVING ~

Oct 16\$6,597.00
Oct 23 \$4,248.00
Oct 30 \$9,881.00
Contribution Average.....	\$6,908.67
Weekly budget	\$7,663.43

Lord, you know my heart, my deepest thoughts, and fears. You know where I have been and my life before Christ. You know my prior life and the sins I have committed. Even if I think you don't know, deep down I know you know my secrets. I cannot hide from you; my soul is bare, and you know it all. How I feel, think, act, and my sincerity. Heal me, Lord! Take my innermost thoughts and destroy all wickedness. Lead me in the strait path to eternal life. Give me strength to overcome temptation. Use me to your glory. Let me shine when I would rather be dim and dull. Give me sincere love when I would rather hate and dislike. Help me to be gracious and kind when meanness and envy fill my heart. Cleanse me, and mold me into what you created me to be. You are the God of creation and there is none like you. May my heart be restored to my days of innocence as a child. May my eyes see the beauty in each person I encounter. Let me never be ashamed of you or cause you to be ashamed of me. Hear my humble plea O God! I am your servant daughter and need you every moment. Thank you, Father, for your love, mercy, patience, and longsuffering. My hope is in you Lord! Amen
(Inspired by Psalm 139)

Verses about God's Kindness

For His merciful kindness is great toward us, And the truth of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!

Psalm 117:2

For the mountains shall depart And the hills be removed, But My kindness shall not depart from you, Nor shall My covenant of peace be removed," Says the Lord, who has mercy on you.

Isaiah 54:10

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus

Ephesians 2:4-7

PERMANENTLY
Christian

NOVEMBER 13TH - 16TH
SOUTH FLORIDA AVE. CHURCH OF CHRIST
FALL 2022 GOSPEL MEETING

1807 S. FLORIDA AVENUE
LAKELAND, FL 33803




please join us

Bible Study - "The Christian's Position"
A.M. Worship - "God's Plan"
Fellowship meal following A.M. worship
P.M. Worship - "The Christian's Practice"
Monday - "The Christian's Perspective"
Tuesday - "The Christian's Place"
Wednesday - "The Christian's Power"
Sunday: 9:30 AM, 10:30 AM, & 6:00 PM
Monday- Wednesday: 7:00 PM

JEFF JENKINS
Jeff has been preaching since 1973. He holds degrees from Faulkner University (AA - 1979), Freed-Hardeman University (BA - 1981), and has done post-graduate work at both Southern Christian University and Emory University. He is also a co-founder of The Jenkins Institute.

www.SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist.com
Email us: SFA.church@gmail.com

For sermons and podcasts, find us here.



South Florida Avenue CHURCH OF CHRIST

1807 South Florida Avenue
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Return Service Requested

But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit...

Titus 3:4-5



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