



South Florida Avenue CHURCH OF CHRIST *MESSENGER*



1807 S. Florida Ave.
Lakeland, FL 33803

Vol. 78 No. 45 November 5, 2024

ELDERS

David Anderson
Brian Kenyon
Bobby Sheumaker

DEACONS

Tyler Anderson
Jason Hendrix
Stacey Paulin

MINISTER

Steven Ford

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

OFFICE PHONE
(863) 682-4702

EMAIL
SFA.church@gmail.com

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.....6:30 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
Ted Wheeler Ghana, W.A.

Join Us

FOR A SPECIAL SERIES OF STUDIES
WITH DR. STEPHEN C. ATNIP ON

The Holy Spirit

NOVEMBER 17-20, 2024

Sunday, November 17

9:30 am **Prevalent Views about the Holy Spirit**

10:30 am **The Baptism with the Holy Spirit**

Fellowship Lunch following worship

6:00 pm **The Gifts of the Holy Spirit**

Monday, November 18

6:30 pm Congregational Singing

7:00 pm **The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit**

Tuesday, November 19

6:30 pm Congregational Singing

7:00 pm **The Holy Spirit as Comforter**

Wednesday, November 20

6:30 pm **The Holy Spirit and Eternal Life**

Followed by a Fellowship Snack

Let's Invite Our Friends & Family!

PETES

(Post Election Trauma Enteritis Syndrome)

Steve Vice

With the end of the end of the election cycle there is a major void in our media “enjoyment”—Election Ads. Anyone watching television, listening to the radio, or connected to the internet has been receiving a constant stream of political ads. These ads can be very entertaining. Often these ads are based in fiction or half-truths. And when they do tell the truth, it is often stranger than fiction. They are like the “serial programs” of old. They never end, and we watch with rapt attention, watching for the next “cliff-hanger” to be revealed.

Now that it is over, those ads have ended. On top of this, about half of this country’s active voters are somewhat to extremely disappointed. So, there should be PSA’s offering counseling to those thinking of leaving the country or starting a civil war (see Romans 13:1-7). That is why I would like to see someone begin a PETES program. PETES is an anagram for Post Election Trauma Enteritis Syndrome. (Enteritis is an inflammation of the intestines—a stomach ache.) I am writing this on Monday, November 4, 2024, the day prior to the election, in anticipation of a great need that may arise on Tuesday night or Wednesday, such as sadness, anger, depression, thoughts of suicide, or worse, and, on the other side, arrogant smirks, egotistical outbursts, irate rants that often repeat the words, “I knew it!” and/or “I told you so.”

For PETES’ sake (more accurately, for Jesus’ sake), let us be the peace makers Jesus has called us to be (Matthew 5:9). Let us put aside all of Satan’s temptations toward pride or false piety. Let us put our trust in God who raises up kings and takes them down (Daniel 2:21). Pay close attention to Psalm 75:4-7.

“I said to the boastful, ‘Do not deal boastfully,’ And to the wicked, ‘Do not lift up the horn. Do not lift up your horn on high; Do not speak with a stiff neck.’” For exaltation comes neither from the east Nor from the west nor from the south. But God is the Judge: He puts down one, And exalts another.

The treatment for “PETES” Syndrome is simple, a complete trust in God. It is He who accomplishes His will in the lives or men. Job said, “I know that You can do everything, And that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You” (Job 42:2). The wise man of Proverbs says, “Listen to counsel and receive instruction, That you may be wise in your latter days. There are many plans in a man's heart, Nevertheless the LORD's counsel—that will stand” (Proverbs 19:20-21).

Amen!

Help Others Go to Grow...

A beautiful thing about the local church growing is that it provides new opportunities to serve and work together. We are in need of SFA members with cars (or who would like to use the church van) to pick up others who want to attend but do not have a ride to the building. Many of us would normally drive near the homes of those who need rides, making it even more convenient. If you are already picking up people, THANK YOU! If are able to help, there is a sign-up sheet on the podium.

& Gospel Seeds You'll Sow!

Fruitful in the Vineyard

Jesus answered a would-be disciple who “first” wanted to say good-bye to his family, “No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God” (Luke 9:61-62). This may seem harsh, but Jesus knew exactly what this man needed to know. Hopefully, we were not distracted from serving God with all this election stuff. If we were, however, let us resolve to “get back at it” in faithful service to the Lord! Jesus acknowledged, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few,” and then added, “pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest” (Matthew 9:37-38). Jesus can use every single Christian in His vineyard to carry out the mission He has already given (Matthew 28:19-20). Are we those Christians? Let us “work ... while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work” (John 9:4). ♥ Brian

PRAYER LIST

Current: , Karen Ritchey (Casey Potvin's mother) biopsy results were very good, Jaime (Helen Perrin's granddaughter) is having breast surgery on Nov. 6 ,Rosetta Vargas is having medical tests done and needs our prayers, George Davis' medical procedure was postponed until Nov. 14. Nancy Pratt (Bea's sister in law) - family issues, Vanne' Williams a frequent visitor requests prayers for strength and focus as she transforms to a better life. Melody Baxter is having throat surgery soon. Brenda Lynn is in much pain from pelvic fractures

Continual: Melissa Craft (health), Rachel Zapata (health), Jim Turner (cancer) Sharon Mathis Washington (Health & family); Stacey Wilson (health); Debbie Bush (struggles); Carlene Long (health & strength); Ron Ford (health); Janie Wise (health); Margaret Coone (health); Kathy Nester (health & travels).

Shut-ins: Carol Eason, Kenny & Reba French, Barbara Jones, Charles Paulin , Helen Perrin, bettye bolding, Cheryl Barker

Also continue to pray for those on the extended family and friends list!

Extended family and Friends List is Emailed Weekly.

Elders, Deacons & Preacher Meeting

Sunday, November 10

Submit any questions or concerns to them prior to the meeting so they can be discussed at that time .

Youth Thankful Meal

The youth group are invited to a "thankful meal" at the Kenyon's House on Friday, Nov. 15th at 6:00 PM. Everyone is asked to bring their favorite food to share. A sign up sheet will be in the foyer.



WALK OUT OF DARKNESS/ SUICIDE AWARENESS EVENT

at Lake Hollingsworth on Saturday, Nov. 16. 2024. We will be passing out water and snacks to those who will be walking in this event. We still need individually wrapped snacks (crackers, granola bars, fruit, etc) for this event. If you would like to be a part of this event see Stacey Paulin.

We need teacher's for all ages for next quarter. Please see Brian if you are available to teach or assist with teaching. It would be ideal if we could get some new teachers involved so that our regular teachers could get the opportunity to be a student this quarter!

Scheduled to Serve in November

Designated Elder Bobby Sheumaker

Wednesday, November 6, 2024

Announcements Bobby Sheumaker

Song Leader / Prayer Andre Medley

Devotional / Invitation Steven Ford

Closing Prayer Allen Grimes

Sunday, November 10, 2024

10:30 am Sermon Steven Ford

"Give" (Romans 12:1-3)

6:00 pm Sermon Steven Ford

"Trusting God" (Psalms 34:1-3)

Those to Serve 10:30 am

Greeters Brian and Jagie

Song/Pray before class Frank Hamby

Announcements (both) Stacey

Song Leader Andre Medley

Prayer / Bible reading Tucker Sweeney

Lord's Table (both) Nigel St Bernard

Closing Prayer George Beals

Open/Close Building Brian Kenyon

Attendance Cards ---

Sound Booth (both) Jason

Those to Serve 6:00 pm

Greeters Estridge's

Announcements Stacey Paulin

Song Leader Andre Medley

Prayer / Bible reading Josh Potvin

Closing Prayer David Anderson

Wednesday, November 13, 2024

Announcements Tyler Anderson

Song Leader / Prayer Terrance Dindy

Devotional / Invitation Steven Ford

Closing Prayer Wadi Khoury

How We Are Giving

October 20 \$6,262.17

October 27 \$8,109.58

November 3 \$10,247.60

Contribution Average \$6,942.02

Weekly Budget \$7,410.00

If you cannot serve as scheduled, please notify Stacey or the office. Even if you arrange your replacement, please notify Stacey or the office. Thanks!

CAST YOUR VOTE

This week we will cast our votes to decide who will govern our nation and our community. While this election is an important one that we need to pray about and choose wisely, there is a much more important "vote" that we cast each and every day! Marshall Keeble once said "God voted for you, Satan voted against you - you get to cast the deciding vote!" Each day we must choose to follow Jesus Christ! God voted for us the day He sent His son Jesus to the cross to die for our sins (John 3:16). But, our adversary the devil walks about as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour (1 Peter 5:8)! Satan is the father of lies (John 8:44) and will do his very best to deceive us, but the choice is totally up to you and I! God will provide us with the strength and courage to resist the devil every day (1 Cor.10:13). May our lives proclaim today and everyday (not matter who may win the election this week) that "as for me and my house we will serve the Lord (Joshua 24:15)!

LADIES' BIBLE STUDY

Taught by Susan Stearsman

The Spirit of Truth

Study of First John

November 12, 2024

7:00 PM

Future Class Dates:
 December 10, 2024
 January 2025 Three ladies classes during Lectureship
 February 18, 2025

All ladies are invited to join us in the FSOP classroom at 1807 South Florida Avenue, Lakeland, FL 33803 or Live stream through Zoom.

Receive the link to join class at <https://fsop.net/ladies-class-registration>



Ladies who miss class may watch the recording later when it is posted to our Facebook Group: FSOP Ladies Class.



If you have questions please contact us (865) 685-4045 jogies@fsop.net

*Gospel Meeting Potluck lunch will be Sunday Nov. 17, 2024 following the morning service.

TEAM 4 will be the team in charge of the kitchen that day. If you don't know which team you are on you can find out from the office or from the list posted in the foyer.

*Also, if you would like to take Steve and Gay Atnip out for lunch or dinner during the meeting please sign up on the sheet on the table by the foyer doors.



SAVE THE DATES:

- Nov. 16, 2024** - Walk out of Darkness Suicide Awareness Event
- Dec. 14, 2024** - SFA Holiday Party in the Fellowship Hall
- Dec. 15, 2024** - FSOP Graduation
- Jan. 3, 2025** - Bonfire at Kenyon's

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Lakeland, FL 33803-2653

Return Service Requested

"Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God."

Romans 13:1



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