

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. 70 No. 49 12-26-17

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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
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.

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IN
SEARCH
OF THE LORD'S WAY

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

REACHING OUR 2018 GOALS

Brian R. Kenyon

As we approach the New Year, it is good to set goals for 2018. Of course, our main goals should always involve pleasing the Lord. Below are some goals that will help us, both as an individual Christian and as a congregation.

GODLINESS

Simply put, “godliness” is being God-like. Since the source of knowledge for godliness is the word of God (2 Pet. 1:3), this goal entails a renewed commitment to studying the Bible. Pursuing godliness will keep us from being diverted from the truth by “fables” (1 Tim. 4:7). Many set goals to lose the weight that was gained from all the “goodies,” which are a part of the season. However, we must realize that “bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come” (1 Tim. 4:8).

OFFERING TO GOD

In order to realize our goals for the Lord, we must make sacrifices. First, we must offer ourselves to God. Listen to the words of Paul, “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service” (Rom. 12:1). When we fully give ourselves to God, as a “living sacrifice,” then giving of our financial means will be a priority, no matter how wealthy or poor we may be (2 Cor. 8:1-5). Rest assured, in this present culture it takes money to advance the cause of Christ. Especially in the year 2018, the South Florida Avenue church will need our continued financial support. The congregation has been doing great the last few years in meeting and exceeding the budget. We must continue our present support, and even increase if possible. Increasing membership by conversion will also help in advancing the cause of Christ.

ATTITUDE

Attitude has to do with our mindset. There are only two possible mindsets: the mindset of the flesh or the mindset of the Spirit (Rom. 8:5-8). Having the right attitude is necessary for any successful venture. Reaching our goals for the Lord is no exception. If we “scratch off” to a good start, but do not maintain the proper attitude, we are destined to fail. However, when we have the *(continued on page 4)*

Make Plans Now to Be a Part of This Study!

Monday is MLK, Jr. Day! Use the holiday for the Lord! The afternoon program has young people in mind!



Forest Antemesaris



Stephen Atnip



Rico Brown



Brownlow-Dindy, Sr.



Jimmy Clark



B. J. Clarke



Bill Davis



Cloyd B. Frock, Jr.



Elvis Galbreath



B. Kenyon, Director

Florida School of Preaching

1807 South Florida Ave, Lakeland, FL 33803
(863) 683-4043 ♦ www.fsop.net ♦ fsop@fsop.net

Do You Understand



Bruce Harris



Jason Hendrix

The Biblical View of the Home?

43rd Annual Lectureship

January 15-18, 2018

Brian R. Kenyon, Director



Hiram Kemp

Monday

9:00 Family Beginnings (Gen. 2:18-25) Stephen Atnip
9:40 Blended Families: Different from the Start Jerry Martin
10:20 BREAK
10:50 Does OT Polygamy Justify Polygamy Today? Dan Stearsman
11:30 LUNCH

Forum: Young People and Family

1:30 A Christian in a Non-Christian Home Forest Antemesaris
2:00 What to Look for in a Spouse Ty Rhymes
2:30 Why Abimelech Could Not Have Her (Gen. 20) Hiram Kemp
3:00 BREAK
3:30 Questions And Answers On Forum Topic
4:30 DINNER
6:30 Congregational Singing
7:00 Biblical Role of Wives Troy Postlethwait
7:45 Wives Married to Non-Christians (1 Pet. 3:1-6) B. J. Clarke



John L. Lewis

Tuesday

9:00 Breakdown of the Home's Impact on Society Jason Hendrix
9:40 Harmonizing the Home Bill Davis
10:20 BREAK
10:50 Dealing with Adultery Logan Summers
11:30 LUNCH

Forum: Extra Effort Families

1:30 Special Needs Children Cloyd B. Frock, Jr.
2:00 Making Strides with "Steps" Teral Walker
2:30 Rearing Children in Blended Families Elvis Galbreath
3:00 BREAK
3:30 Questions And Answers On Forum Topic
4:30 DINNER
6:30 Congregational Singing
7:00 Biblical Role of Husbands Bruce Harris
7:45 Husbands Living with Their Wives (1 Pet. 3:7) Jimmy Clark



Dean Miller



Troy Postlethwait

Wednesday

9:00 Sustaining Faith Through Unexpected Death Rick Kenyon
9:40 Reeling in Rebellion Bill Davis
10:20 BREAK
10:50 How the Love of Money Impacts the Home Jimmy Clark
11:30 LUNCH

Forum: Home Wreckers

1:30 Divorce David Stearsman
2:00 Pornography Jack Wilkie
2:30 Selfishness Chad Tagtow
3:00 BREAK
3:30 Questions And Answers On Forum Topic
4:30 DINNER
6:30 Congregational Singing
7:00 Traits of a Successful Father Christian Torres
7:45 Why Some Fathers Fail Terrance Brownlow-Dindy, Sr.



Rick Kenyon



Jerry Martin

Thursday

9:00 Surviving Widowhood Dean Miller
9:40 Turning Trials to Triumphs Bill Davis
10:20 BREAK
10:50 Biblical Principles on Training Children Melvin L. Otey
11:30 LUNCH

Forum: Challenged Families

1:30 Inner City Families Rico Brown
2:00 Single Parent Homes John L. Lewis
2:30 Culturally Mixed Marriages Philip Vanwinkle
3:00 BREAK
3:30 Questions And Answers On Forum Topic
4:30 DINNER
6:30 Congregational Singing
7:00 Is the Lord Building Your House? Hiram Kemp
7:45 Christ: The Pattern for the Home Melvin L. Otey



Melvin L. Otey



Ty Rhymes

Broadcast live at www.fsop.net ♦ Lectureship books available \$16



Daniel Stearsman



David Stearsman



Logan Summers



Chad Tagtow



Christian Torres



Philip Vanwinkle



Teral Walker



Jack Wilkie

Invite Your Family, Friends, and Neighbors!

SFA FAMILY MATTERS

Prayer List

Our Members: Wanda Bruno has been diagnosed with colon cancer. She will start chemotherapy treatment the first of 2018. She thanks everyone for the cards and prayers, but asks to please continue to keep her in prayer. Also remember Genny Johnson, Ginny Hamby, Jim Turner, Brenda Mask, and Margaret Coone in prayer.

Shut In Members: Virginia Plumlee, Dick & Joyce Burbage, Don Starks, Evelyn Wyatt, Sharon Edler.

Others: Lynn Stevens (cousin of Daniel Stearsman), Bob McAnally, Jerry Cole, (brother of Linda McShane) who has been diagnosed with Lymphoma, Duane Nelson, Joyce Stearsman and Jack Pinckert.

Upcoming Events

Sunday Dec. 31st: Chili Cook Off after evening services. Bring your best chili. Cooks sign up in foyer. All others attending will judge. Anyone can bring chili without being in the cook-off. Please bring drinks and desserts. A New Years Eve ball drop will take place at 8:30 p.m. Cornhole contest for those under 18 years of age. All ages welcome! Bring friends and neighbors.

Sunday Jan. 7th: Fellowship In-Service following evening services. Please bring finger foods.

Saturday Jan. 13th: Ladies Day at the Orange St. Church of Christ. The speaker will be Shenja Brownlow-Dindy.

Sunday Jan. 14th: Elder's and deacons meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Jan. 15th-18th: F.S.O.P. Annual Lectureship. Please plan to attend.

Tuesday Jan. 23rd: Seniors (or others interested), there will be a Crime Prevention presentation at 10:00 a.m.

Updated Address and Phone Numbers

Julie Fontaine will be relocating, her new address will be 550 Okeechobee Blvd. West Palm Beach, FL 33401, her phone is 561-837-1983. We wish her well. Sharon Egolf has a new phone # 863-608-0581 and Adam Dyal's new phone # is 863-608-0581.

Visitors

Stacey Wilson, Imari Bennett, Leigh Ann Garland and Noah, Jack and Mason, Bob & Teresa Murrell, T'Jean Tomlinson, Lamarian Wilson, Bill Turner, Bitsy Thomas, Teresa Reeves and Kaylen, Emily Hernandez, Wayne & Anita Shearer and Kaeli.

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

January

Frank Hamby **Table** Fred Strickland
John McShane **Assist** Bobby Simpson

Sunday, December 31, 2017

9:30 A.M.

Song at Bible Class David Williams
Prayer Ken Walker

10:30 A.M.

Announcements Jimmy Sweeney
Song Leader Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer Charles Paulin
Sermon Hiram Kemp
Closing Prayer Bobby Simpson

6:00 P.M.

Song Leader David Williams
Opening Prayer Casey Paulin
Sermon Hiram Kemp
Closing Prayer Phil Fife
Greeters Tyler & Jessica Anderson
Att. Cards Willcut boys
Open & Close Building Bob Cooper

Wednesday, January 3, 2018

Song Leader Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer David Anderson
Closing Prayer Steve Hunley

Please meet in the library. If you cannot serve, please call Chuck Wyatt so he can get a replacement - (863) 602-9005

Sunday, January 7, 2018

9:30 A.M.

Song at Bible Class Frank Hamby
Prayer Stacey Paulin

10:30 A.M.

Announcements David Williams
Song Leader Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer Matt Willcut
Sermon Hiram Kemp
Closing Prayer Jim Edmonson

6:00 P.M.

Song Leader Tucker Sweeney
Opening Prayer Kyle Bingle
Sermon Hiram Kemp
Closing Prayer Paul Romine
Sound Booth Tucker Sweeney
Greeters Dixs
Att. Cards Colby and Ian
Open & Close Building Jason Hendrix

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Song Leader Jim Turner
Opening Prayer Jimmy Sweeney
Closing Prayer Jeff Bingle

~ HOW ARE WE GIVING ~

Dec. 03 \$6,147.12
Dec. 10 \$5,661.50
Dec. 17 \$6,414.95
Dec. 24 \$5,210.55
Contribution Average \$5,411.97
2017 Weekly Budget \$4,716.51



Tune into AM 1330 (station WWAB) with your friends and neighbors every Monday from 5:00-5:30 p.m. for the "Way of Truth" program. Let's influence Lakeland!

REACHING OUR 2018 GOALS (continued from page 1)

attitude “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” (Phil. 4:13), we will reach heavenly heights. Remember, “For as he thinks in his heart, so is he” (Pr. 23:7).



LOVE

The greatest commandment is to “love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind” (Mt. 22:37). The second greatest commandment is to “love your neighbor as yourself” (Mt. 22:39). We cannot succeed in anything spiritually unless we truly love God and our fellow-human beings. God supremely showed his love for us in the sacrifice of Jesus (Jn. 3:16). We show our love to God by doing what he says (Jn. 14:15). When we love God, doing what he says will not be burdensome, even though it may result in severe persecution (cf. 1 Jn. 5:3). We love our neighbor by seeking his or her highest good, which, of course, involves teaching him or her the Gospel!

SUPPLICATION

The key to making the goals above (and others) a reality is prayer. “Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, ²for kings and all who are in authority, (continued below)



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

Return Service Requested

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

Save the Date

Feb. 23-25, 2018

YES Weekend

Forrest Park, Valdosta

Theme: ENDURE

If you would like to attend YES Weekend, see Hiram or Brian so we can work on accommodations & travel logistics!

(continued from above) that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. ³For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior” (1 Tim. 2:1-3). God will grant us everything we ask that is in accordance with his will (1 Jn. 3:22; 5:14). With the Lord’s help, we must be persistent in the pursuit of all our goals. “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened” (Mt. 7:7-8). ❤️ *Brian*



Pray for and encourage our young people as they work with this year’s L2L program!

Think souls! Let’s Invite our friends and neighbors to church assemblies and/or to one-on-one Bible studies!



May the Lord help us reach our goals of

Godliness **O**ffering **A**ttitude **L**ove **S**upplication



Have a Safe and Happy New Year! As Always, Keep Jesus in First Place!