

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. 72 No. 28 7-16-19

ELDERS

David Anderson
Kenny French
Bobby Sheumaker

DEACONS

John McShane
Stacey Paulin
Jimmy Sweeney

MINISTER

Hiram Kemp
(386) 405-5372

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Vince Daugherty
(740) 801-1106

SECRETARIES

Michelle Paulin / Dee Parramore

OFFICE PHONE

(863) 682-4702

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.

EMAIL

SFA.church@gmail.com

WEB PAGE

www.southfloridaavenuechurchofchrist.com



IN
SEARCH
OF THE LORD'S WAY

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

First Corinthians 12 **Miraculous Gifts and Christ's Body**

Brian R. Kenyon

First Corinthians 12 is Paul's inspired treatise on miraculous spiritual gifts. In previous bulletin articles, we have studied the fact that true knowledge concerning spiritual matters must come from God (1 Cor. 12:1-3), which in our day is revealed through the pages of the Bible (2 Tim. 3:16-17); that there were a variety of miraculous gifts, but only one Deity (1 Cor. 12:4-6); that the purpose of miraculous spiritual gifts was to benefit all (1 Cor. 12:7); and to what each of the nine gifts listed referred (1 Cor. 12:8-11). In the rest of First Corinthians 12, Paul showed that each member of the church was important, no matter what miraculous gift he possessed or did not possess. Let us examine these important truths!

Christ's Body Is United

As the physical body is one, even though it is made up of many members, so also is Christ's body, the church. Paul declared, "For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ" (1 Cor. 12:12). With this statement, Paul seems to be showing how ridiculous it was for some of the Corinthians to think themselves superior to other members of the body because of their miraculous spiritual gifts. All were members of the same body and each one's function was as equally important as the other's. The statement, "one body, so also is Christ," shows that "Christ" is the same as His "body." Christ is the head of the body, the church (Eph. 1:22-23). To affect Christ's body, the church, is to affect Him (cf. Mt. 10:40; Acts 9:4). The term "members" does not refer to denominations, for denominations are not part of the true body of Christ (cf. Jn. 10:14-16; 15:1-8). Denominations do not respect Christ's prayer for unity (Jn. 17:20-21); they do not respect Paul's plea for unity (1 Cor. 1:10); and they do not respect the Spirit's platform for unity (Eph. 4:1-6).

All who are members of that one body of Christ were baptized into that body. Paul wrote, "For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit" (1 Cor. 12:13). The "Spirit" (through the word of God) is the agency of this baptism into one body (cf. Jn. 3:3-5). When one is taught the Spirit's word to be baptized into the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Mt. 28:19-20; Mk. 16:13-16), he or she can be said to be baptized by the Spirit, "not in the sense that the Spirit is the administrator or the element, but as one who has revealed (authorized or directed) the baptism" (Winters 169). The scope of this baptism into one body is all people (cf.

Rom. 10:12; Gal. 3:27-28; Col. 3:11). “Jews or Greeks [Gentiles, KJV]” include all people, no matter their religious background. “Slaves [bond, KJV] or free” includes all people, no matter their social standing.

Spiritual blessings are the result of this baptism into one body. The “all” who are baptized are the same “all” who are “made to drink into one Spirit.” The word translated “drink” can mean to give drink (Mt. 25:35, i.e., nourish, 1 Cor. 3:2) or to irrigate (1 Cor. 3:6-8). “Baptize” and “drink” have something in common: as Christians have been buried with Christ (Rom. 6:3-4), even clothed with Christ (Gal. 3:27), in baptism, so also are they nourished and/or irrigated with the Holy Spirit through obedience to His word. Jesus elsewhere connected the Holy Spirit with the concept of “drinking” living water (Jn. 4:10; 7:38-39).

Before leaving this point about being baptized into one body “by the one Spirit,” it is important for us to know the following reasons why this is not referring to Holy Spirit baptism (adapted from Winters 169): (1) the baptism mentioned here is also commanded by Jesus (Mk. 16:16; Acts 10:48), but Holy Spirit baptism was a promise (Lk. 24:49; Acts 1:4-5, 8); (2) the baptism mentioned here is commanded to those who first believe and do repent (Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38); (3) the baptism mentioned here is a burial into the death of Christ (Rom. 6:3-4; Col. 2:12); (4) the baptism mentioned here is a burial in water (Acts 8:35-39; 10:47-48); (5) the baptism mentioned here is for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38); (6) the baptism mentioned here places the penitent believer into Christ (Gal. 3:26-27); and (7) from the baptism mentioned here, one arises to walk in newness of life (Rom. 6:4-5).

The Body: Unity of Purpose in Diversity of Function

Christ’s body, the church, is like the human body in that it is made of many different members (body parts), but with a single purpose (1 Cor. 12:14). No one member of the human body (such as a foot) can say to another member (such as a hand) that because the other does not have the same function, it is not part of the body (1 Cor. 12:15-17). Each member is a vital part of the whole! In fact, if the whole body were made up entirely of one member, it could not be a body (1 Cor. 12:18-19). Suppose, for example, the whole body were an eye, how could it hear? Thus, no one member of the body can say that since it is “more important” than another part, it has no need of that part (1 Cor. 12:20-21). Paul even went on to say that members of the body that seem insignificant are actually very significant to the functioning of the whole body (1 Cor. 12:22-24a). Since God composed the body with all its members, humans have no business determining the composition of that body (1 Cor. 12:24b). This comparison to the human body shows the foolishness of the Corinthians’ division. Because one member of the church may have a miraculous spiritual gift does not mean he is more important than someone who does not. Likewise, because one member does not have a miraculous spiritual gift does not mean he is insignificant to the body of Christ. Every member is as important as the other members!

God arranged it this way for two purposes. First, “that there should be no schism [division, NAS] in the body” (1 Cor. 12:25a). All members of Christ’s body, guided by the same Head, must work together to God’s glory. Second, “that the members should have the same care for one another” (1 Cor. 12:25b). No matter what part of Christ’s body we are, we must truly care for one another so that when “one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it” (1 Cor. 12:26).

Conclusion

Christ’s body, the church, is beautiful and fully functional when each member fulfills his or her part. The local body of Christ properly functioning becomes another way “the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church” (Eph. 3:10). Let us all fulfill our function in Christ’s body and realize the unity that can convert others (Jn. 17:20-21)! *AE Brian*

Works Cited

Winters, Howard. *Commentary on First Corinthians: Practical and Explanatory*. Greenville, SC: Carolina Christian, 1987.

The Seven “Ones” Of Ephesians 4:4-6

- 1. One body**, church (cf. Eph. 1:23; 2:16; 3:6; 4:25; Rom. 12:5; 1 Cor. 12:12-14; Col. 3:15)
- 2. One Spirit**, the Holy Spirit (cf. Eph. 2:18; 1 Cor. 12:13; Acts 11:15)
- 3. One hope**, which is tied into the Christian’s calling (cf. 1 Cor. 1:9; 2 Thes. 2:14)
- 4. One Lord** Jesus Christ (cf. Mk. 12:29; 1 Cor. 8:6; 12:3; Rom. 10:9; Col. 3:17)
- 5. One faith** (cf. Eph. 4:13; Rom. 10:8; Col. 2:7; Jude 3)
- 6. One baptism** (Mt. 28:19; Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 1 Cor. 12:13; 1 Pet. 3:21)
- 7. One God** the Father (cf. Mk. 12:32; Rom. 3:30; 1 Cor. 8:6; 1 Tim. 2:5)

SFA FAMILY MATTERS

Prayer List

Our Members: Wadi Khoury will have back surgery on July 22nd at the VA hospital in Tampa. Ray Naschick, Faith West, Jim Turner, Sharon Washington, and Margaret Coone.

Shut In Members: Carol Eason, Virginia Plumlee, Joyce Burbage and Cheryl Barker.

Others: Bob McAnally, Eunice Powell, (grandmother of Stacey and Rene') Larry Lester (Toney Wilson's brother), Chrissi Fuesner, Tonya Mathis, Chip Bolding, Tony Seibert, Neil Entwistle Sr. (Neil Entwistle's father), Peggy Nabors and James and Ellen Shearer (Wayne Shearer's parents) and Maci Teagarden (friend of Dottie Fife's sister's, 10 month old baby). We are thankful that former member Sam Crow is doing well following cancer treatment.

Upcoming Events

Friday July 19th: Lock-In for middle school thru high school at the Orange Street church of Christ. The van will leave our building at 5:30 p.m. See Vince for more details. If your child plans to attend, please sign up on the list on the bulletin board.

Saturday July 20th: Men's breakfast at the Griffin Road church of Christ in Bartow at 8:00 am.

Saturday July 27th: V.B.S. at the Kissimmee church of Christ from 10:00 a.m-1:00 p.m. Classes for all ages.

Sunday August 4th: Fellowship In-Service after evening services.

Thank You

Thanks so much to Brian, Vince and Alex for their help moving some furniture for me last Saturday morning. I appreciated it very much.
Sharon Egolf

I would like to thank all those who sent cards and well wishes as I was in the emergency room, and at home sick. I will have back surgery on Monday July 22nd at the VA hospital in Tampa. Please continue to keep me in your prayers.
Wadi Khoury

Monthly Parents Meeting

July 14th we met after services to announce we will begin having regular meetings with parents. Parent meetings will be held once a month on the 2nd to last Saturday of the month starting August 24th, at 9:30 AM in the fellowship hall. The meetings will last one hour. Meetings are specifically designed for parents, not for kids. If you have to bring your children, no worries, they will be chaperoned, but the meetings are for parents. One part of the meetings will be dedicated to discussing parenting from a Biblical and practical perspective. The other part will be dedicated to discussing upcoming calendar events. By having regular parent meetings it is my goal to...

- 1.) Better connect parents with youth to the church and events offered to the youth.
- 2.) Better connect parents to other parents who are going through similar situations for better support.
- 3.) Better connect parents to Biblical wisdom for the daunting task of raising Christ-minded young people in 21st Century America.

Thanks, Vince Daugherty

Visitors

Heather Glass, Johnny Davidson, Kaylee Dyal, Jeff Chliders, Nigel St. Bernard, Allen & Rachel Grimes, Cheyenne Durrence, Pam Dunlap, Jacqueline Irizarry and Margaret Khoury.

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

July

Designated Elder During Services - Bobby Sheumaker
Open/Close Building - Kenny French

Bobby Sheumaker..... **Table** Wayne Shearer
Phil Fife **Assist** Ken Walker

Sunday, July 21, 2019

9:30 A.M.

Song at Bible Class..... Jim Turner
Prayer..... Tyler Anderson

10:30 A.M.

Sound Booth..... Alex Parramore
Announcements..... Fred Strickland
Song Leader..... Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer..... Wesley Brunson
Sermon..... Vince Daugherty
Closing Prayer..... Alex Parramore
Greeters..... Sheumaker/Hendrix
Cards..... Willcutt boy's

6:00 P.M.

Song Leader..... Paul Romine
Opening Prayer..... Josh Estridge
Sermon..... Vince Daugherty
Closing Prayer..... Dustin Walling

Wednesday, July 24, 2019

Song Leader..... Jim Turner
Opening Prayer..... Kyle Bingle
Closing Prayer..... Wadi Khoury

July- Clean-up Jimmy Sweeney (E-K)

Please meet in the library. If you cannot serve, please call Stacey Paulin so he can get a replacement - (863) 838-8911

Sunday, July 28, 2019

9:30 A.M.

Song at Bible Class..... Tucker Sweeney
Prayer..... David Anderson

10:30 A.M.

Sound Booth..... Phil Fife
Announcements..... Fred Strickland
Song Leader..... Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer..... Kyle Faneuf
Sermon..... Hiram Kemp
Closing Prayer..... Wadi Khoury
Greeters..... McShane/Fanuef
Cards..... Caelen/Cam'ron

6:00 P.M.

Song Leader..... Paul Romine
Opening Prayer..... Tim Croson
Sermon..... Hiram Kemp
Closing Prayer..... Jeff Bingle

Wednesday, July 31, 2019

Song Leader..... Steve Hunley
Opening Prayer..... John McShane
Closing Prayer..... David Anderson

~ HOW ARE WE GIVING ~

June 23.....	\$7,197.45
June 30	\$6504.46
July 07	\$5,642.97
July 14	\$6,846.00
Contribution Average	\$6,520.72



Member Spotlight

Shannon Willcut



Shannon was born in Westfield, New York, and moved to Florida from that state. Her first job was at Hungry Howie's. She is currently a claims adjuster. She has visited Mexico and the Bahamas. In her rare moments of free time, she likes to go to the beach, springs, or on the boat. Her most satisfying accomplishment is being almost finished with her BA while working full-time and rearing and being involved with her sons. The best advice she's been given is "Never go to bed mad at each other." She and her husband, Matthew, have 3 sons.



Member Spotlight

Tim Croson



Tim was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and also lived in Texas before moving to Florida several years ago. As a child, he wanted to be a telephone man, which he was for several years. His first job was at Red Food Stores. He is currently a repairman. In his free time, he likes to "work, work, work." He is good at repairing disfunctional things. He likes cookies. His most satisfying accomplishment is becoming a Christian. The best advice he's been given is "Do right!." He and his wife, Chris, have 2 children, 7 grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren.



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 . . .



MISSION TRIP PERU

Pray for our young people and their chaperones as they gear-up for a mission trip to Haucho, Peru, July 19-27, 2019. They will knock doors, pass out tracts, and conduct one-on-one Bible studies.

We appreciate our elders for seeing the value in involving our young people. If you would like to contribute, see our elders.



Special Thanks to all those who organized and helped make to happen our "Celebrating Summer Fellowship Cookout." We had a great time getting to know one another better!



The youth group and their chaperones prepared a meal for parents and siblings staying at the Ronald McDonald House whose loved one is hospitalized with serious illness. A thank you card from those who ate is shown above right. Thanks to Dee for her behind the scenes work, to Vince for leading the way, and to all our young people who sacrificed their Friday afternoon. To God be the glory!



Save The Date **Oct. 5, SFA Ladies Day!**