



South Florida Avenue CHURCH OF CHRIST *MESSENGER*



1807 S. Florida Ave.,
Lakeland, FL 33803

Vol. 78 No. 19 May 7, 2024

ELDERS

David Anderson
Brian Kenyon
Bobby Sheumaker

DEACONS

Tyler Anderson
Jason Hendrix
Stacey Paulin

MINISTER

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

Find us on

YouTube & Facebook

HOME OF

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.

Congratulations Graduates!



Landan Willcut will graduate May 11 from Victory Christian Academy. By God's grace, Landan has excelled through his high school career. He was inducted into the National Honor Society, he was on the track team (discus), and he played football. More importantly, he has been an exemplary young Christian man. From the time he emerged from under the pew as a toddler, he has been active in Bible camps, participating in Lads to Leaders, even preaching and song leading for regular worship services. He was awarded a Jack Zorn Scholarship from Faulkner University, where he will attend this fall. He plans on being a youth minister. Congratulations!



Ciara Edwards graduated May 2 from Polk State College with an associate of science degree in nursing. She will begin her nursing career in July, as she has accepted a job offer at Lakeland Regional Health as a registered nurse. Ciara is a great example to every Christian and a behind-the-scenes "hero" of the faith. She has faced and overcome many challenges (including earning this AS degree), yet she has not given up. She remains a faithful sister in Christ. She seeks "first the kingdom of God and His righteousness" (Matthew 6:33), and she does all she can to bring up her children in "the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4). Congratulations!

May God Bless You in Your Next Chapter of Life!



Mario Anderson, grandson of Kathy Nester, is graduating from Grand Rapids (Michigan) High School. He plans to go into business for himself.



Wesley Rogers, grandson of Ralph and Patricia Rogers, is graduating from Lakeland Christian School and will attend Harding University



Mason Barfield, grandson of Brenda Mask, is graduating from Valwood School in Valdosta, Georgia. He plans on enlisting in the United States Air Force.



Payton Spears, our precious sister in Christ, is graduating from George Jenkins High School and plans to attend Triviss Technical College.



Alexandria Martin, daughter of FSOP student, Kurtis Leaks, is graduating from Palmetto High School. She plans to continue her education in the nursing field.



Laila Terflinger, Frank Hamby's granddaughter, is graduating from Indian Rocks Christian School.

Keeping Motherhood in Perspective

When Joseph and Mary took their baby boy to Jerusalem to “present Him to the Lord,” they met a man named Simeon, who had waited all his life for this occasion (Luke 2:21-26). He told Mary, “Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed” (Luke 2:34-35). While motherhood is often joyous, it can also be heart-wrenching, as Simeon confirmed. Mary was told up front that her Son would have a tremendous impact on other people (Luke 2:34a, 35b). However, He would also be the object of opposition (Luke 2:34b), which would bring unimaginable anguish to her (Luke 2:35). We can only imagine the magnitude of hurt that wounded Mary’s soul as the blow of each nail rang through her ears. Mary remained faithful and, so far as we know, lived for God under John’s care (John 19:26-27). Mary disappears from the God-breathed record after Acts 1:14.

My heart goes out to mothers today whose hearts have been wounded by their children, not by living righteously, like Mary’s Son, but by those children’s unwise choices, a “foolish son is the grief [heaviness, KJV] of his mother” (Proverbs 10:1). I can only imagine the pain mothers feel whose children were “trained up in the way they should go” (Proverbs 22:6), but have still turned away (Isaiah 1:2). Let us pray for God’s comfort and strength to be with these mothers. Let us also pray, while there is still opportunity (Hebrews 9:27), that these children who are astray will come back to God! ♥ *Brian*

PRAYER LIST

Current: Jim Turner is in the VA hospital in Tampa, Phil Fife will have surgery Friday for a torn rotator cuff. Ron and Judy Ford both have Covid
Continual: Sharon Mathis Washington (Health & family) Fran Gabaldon (health), Stacey Wilson (health) Debbie Bush (struggles); Bill & Carlene Long (health & strength); Ron Ford (health); Annett Phillip (health); Janie Wise (health); Margaret Coone (health); Melissa Craft (health); Kathy Nester (health); Jim Turner (health)

Shut-ins: Carol Eason, Kenny & Reba French, Barbara Jones, Charles Paulin, Helen Perrin, bettye bolding, Sharon Roy, Nellie Anderson

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

David Deal has confessed sin and asked for prayers on his behalf.

SAVE THE DATE: VBS here at S. Florida Ave.

Saturday, June 8, 2024

Door Knocking Evangelism Campaign

May 13-18, 2024

We will be having a door knocking campaign along with the FSOP Students.

Please make plans to join us in this local mission work.

Sign up sheet in the auditorium

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20)

Happy Graduation



The Florida School of Preaching

Invites you to celebrate the

Spring Class of 2024

Roberson Louissaint

Graduation Ceremony
 Sunday May 19, 2024 at 6pm



Our congregation is providing food for the graduation reception. Please bring food to the kitchen before evening worship, enough for your family and guests
THANK YOU!

Team one will be responsible for the kitchen duties for the graduation reception.

Scheduled to Serve in May

Designated Elder	Bobby Sheumaker
Wednesday, May 8, 2024	
Announcements	David Anderson
Song Leader / Prayer	Stacey Paulin
Devotional / Invitation	Brian Kenyon
Closing Prayer	Jarred Spivey
Sunday, May 12, 2024	
10:30 am Sermon	Rick Kenyon
6:00 pm Sermon	Roberson Louissaint
"We Are Not Of The World" (Phil. 3:17-21)	
Those to Serve 10:30 am	
Greeters	Brenda Lynn
Song/Pray before class	Stacey Paulin
Announcements (both)	Brian Kenyon
Song Leader (both)	David Williams
Prayer / Bible reading	Tyler Anderson
Lord's Table (both)	George Beals
Closing Prayer	Josh Estridge
Open/Close Building	David Anderson
Attendance Cards	Sawyer
Sound Booth (both)	Jason
Those to Serve 6:00 pm	
Greeters	Rogers
Announcements	Brian Kenyon
Song Leader	David Williams
Prayer / Bible reading	Josh Potvin
Closing Prayer	Paul Sweeney
Wednesday, May 15, 2024	
Announcements	Rick Kenyon
Song Leader / Prayer	Kyle Faneuf
Devotional / Invitation	Bobby Sheumaker
Closing Prayer	Allen Grimes
How We Are Giving	
April 21	\$4,881.50
April 28	\$5,640.00
May 5	\$10,999.00
Contribution Average	\$7,238.64
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!

GRANDMA'S RECIPE

My daughter Heidi has an ETSY business and her best-selling item is either a plate or a hand towel that she transfers a recipe on to (usually grandma's recipe) and it is written in grandma's original handwriting. People are willing to pay a lot of money to have these priceless keepsakes made. Those recipes that are passed down to us are very special to us and we don't want to lose them. There is something about those recipes that bring back memories of the good ol' days. We know that if we alter these recipes in any way-if we add a dash of this, or leave out a dash of that, it will not taste the same as when grandma made it.

How about the "recipe" for salvation that God has left us? Is it that precious to us that we want to preserve it so that no one can alter it in any way? Do we allow men to add a little bit of this or leave out a step of that? Will it bring about the same results if we change it to suit our "tastes"? Absolutely not! God has given us His Word! Men were guided by the Holy Spirit to write each word down exactly as He intended (2 Pet. 1:20-21) and we have no authority to change it in any way. We must be diligent to preserve His Word forever (Deut 32:7), to write it on our hearts (Deut 11:18) and on the hearts of our children for generations to come they will get the exact same "recipe" that God intended. (Deut. 4:9)

Beware of those who want to add a little "sugar" to the "recipe" (God's plan for salvation), or maybe "spice it up" a little to make it seem more appealing to our palate- in the end the result will not be what God intended. (Revelation 22:18-19)

A Mothers's Precious Love

by Barbara Burrow

*God must have known there would be times
We'd need a gentle touch,
A tender, understanding heart
To love us very much,
He must have known we'd need someone
To listen to our cares,
To comfort and remember us
In loving thoughts and prayers,
So in His boundless wisdom,
He sent us from above
The dearest blessing in the world---
A mother's precious love.*



Spring Corn Roast

Saturday, May 18, 3:00-6:00pm



4:30 - 6:00pm
(Food Served)
\$15 Adults
\$10 Kids <12 yrs.

3:00 - 5:00pm
Hayrides, Zip Line,
Laser Tag & Axe Throwing

3:00 - 6:00pm
Disc Golf, Gaga Ball, Carpetball,
Corn Hole, Ping Pong, Basketball,
Volleyball & 9-Square-in-the-Air

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

For sermons and podcasts, find us here.



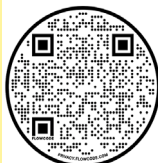
**South Florida Avenue
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

1807 South Florida Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33803-2653

Return Service Requested

**"And He said to them Go into all the
world and preach the gospel to every
creature. "**

Mark 16-15



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