

# the theme

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH  
Bi-monthly newsletter

FALL 2015

## SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

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# From the pastor's heart...

What has God been showing you in your life?

What has God been doing in your life? (Psalm 107:2)

When Jesus walked with the people on this planet, there were no sedentary moments in their lives. There were still moments. But even in those still moments, the activity of abiding in the presence of Christ was ongoing. God's activity in the people's lives was continuous and steady as Christ walked with the disciples and others.

If the question could be posed to the disciples, "what has Christ shown you in your life", it would not take a long, awkward moment of fishing to find a report to give. The trouble with this question posed to the disciples would not be in the discovery of a report to give, but rather, in the limitation and the summation of words to adequately give the report. Why? Because they would not have to look very far to see what God has been showing and doing in their lives. Why? Because they were consumed in the presence of God (John 15:1-9). They might not know the depth of God's work in their lives or how to encapsulate the words, but there would be no shortage of a report to give as to the fact that God was busy doing something.

How about you? What evidence of God's work do you see? Is He living out His Word through you? Are you becoming more Christ-like (Galatians 2:20)? A few weeks ago, I spoke to the fact that the Law of Moses was to be an identification of God's people (Exodus 19:5-6). I demonstrated in that message that Israel would never live up to this law, nor could they. I then presented the understanding that Christ is Himself, the full identity of the law embodied (Romans 8:1-3). When you see Christ, you see the perfect righteousness of the Law of God lived out in the person of Christ. When you receive Christ as your Lord, you are then infilled with the righteousness of God by the presence of the Holy Spirit.

In other words, the completeness of the Law of God now resides with and in you. To be obedient to the law is not to strive to twist and to contort your will to external demands of

obedience. No! To be obedient to the law is to allow that which is already present in you, the righteousness of God through Christ, to be lived out through your actions (Romans 8:4). Christ's identity simply demonstrates who He is through you! You are not following the law, you are being overwhelmed by Christ. When the identity of Christ shines through your life, there will be a separateness from the ways of the world, including your own ways, which will define you a person of God. That was the whole ideal set forth for Israel.

The reason the disciples would have a report to give was because everywhere they looked, they saw Christ through their lives as they walked with Him. Miracles, revelations, love and purpose marked their discoveries of God through Christ.

The reasons we sometimes cannot give a report may be because we are still living according to our old nature. We grieve the Holy Spirit and His work in our lives. Therefore, it is not a work of God that presents itself through us, it is a work of the flesh. Or, we have not put on a new nature at all. We are still separated from the presence of God and have not embraced the identity of Christ that has been offered to us through the satisfaction of the law. Only you can even begin to answer these questions? And only an honest answer will accomplish gain. Are you walking with Christ or away from Christ? The evidence of the activity of God that you see in your life answers that question?

Read these verses to follow the thoughts above: Psalm 107:2, John 15:1-9, Galatians 2:20, Exodus 19:5-6, Romans 8:1-3, Romans 8:4

In Christ's Love,

*Leroy Williams*

I have reserved my portion of the Theme to share a blog from Tim St. Clair with his blessings. *Pastor Shannon*

## ALL SIN IS NOT THE SAME!

I'm sorry to tell you ... but, ALL sin is NOT the same!

"But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of 'his own lust,' and enticed. Then when lust has conceived, it brings forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, brings forth death. Do not err, my beloved brethren." (Jms.1:14-16)

I have hesitated for a long time to write about this, but it **MUST BE SAID!**

Has it ever bothered you to hear a preacher say, "Well after all, you know ... we're all sinners anyway!" Well, it has bothered me! And the reason is because when I look at the scriptures, I just don't find that to be accurate **IN ITS INFERENCE**. It seems to imply, "who are we to judge someone else in their sin, when even though ours may be different, we still sin just the same?" While it is certainly true that we are all sinners (and any sin is deeply serious because of the cost of payment which Jesus covered on the cross), all sin does not carry with it the same degree of evil, the same degree of destruction, or the same degree of consequence.

So, I hope to illustrate for you the fallacy of this thinking. While we know that "a man who looks on a woman to lust is guilty of committing adultery with her **IN HIS HEART**" according to Jesus (and of course I **TOTALLY** agree with His assessment), would you say that is as great a sin, as the man who goes further and commits the **ACTUAL ACT** of adultery? (I Cor.6:18)

Is it not true that while **BOTH** are sin, one carries with it greater damage to others and obviously greater consequences for all parties involved? If King David had stopped at "just looking" at Bathsheba from the rooftop (even though it was still lust), would it have carried as great a degree of wrong (in the eyes of God and man) as it did when he sent for her & fulfilled the lusts of his own heart through the actual act of immorality? No! [It's possible that other men as well, had at some time looked upon her with desire (lust) since she was obviously a beautiful woman, but no others fulfilled their lust. No others violated the marital vow of Uriah & Bathsheba.] Certainly each level of David's lust took him to a deeper level of sin. The "lust of the eyes" led him to **DESIRE** her, the "lust of the flesh" led him to **TAKE** her, and the "pride of life" caused him to **MURDER** her husband in an attempt to cover up his own sin. (I Jn.2:16) So here is my concern with saying "we're all sinners anyway!" There are degrees of sin (because of the depth of rejecting God's truth), there are degrees of the damage of sin, and there are degrees of the consequences of sin, even as Jesus indicated as He pronounced judgment upon certain cities in His days upon the earth. (Mt.10:15; 11:22,24, Mk.6:11, Lk.10:12,14)

I am using this principle to help us understand that the sin of the homosexual, is indeed of a different nature than the sin of others. Why you say? Because the Bible records that while you and I face "natural" sins according to the lusts of our flesh ... their sin is clearly declared to be "unnatural" sin – meaning it goes against the very laws of nature as God created us. Paul tells us they have "changed the natural use into that which is against nature." How, you may say?

God's original command for all of nature was to "multiply and replenish the earth." How was that to take place? By the reproduction process which God had originally designed into nature. Each producing "seed after its kind, whose seed was in itself." This was true, not only in the plants, but also in the animals – to whom God said, "be fruitful and multiply," each after its kind to replenish the earth. God's design for **PROCREATION** is only accomplished through obedience to His natural laws. The male bearing the seed and "implanting" it into the female – created by God with the "instrumentality" to conceive and obey God's original intent in reproduction. This command is **IMPOSSIBLE** to be fulfilled in "man with man" & "woman with woman" connections. That is one reason why their sin is "unnatural." As they suppressed the truth, rejected what (according to God) they already knew to be right in their own conscience, so "God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves." Don't forget, this unnatural sin brought about the destruction of Sodom & Gomorrah with fire and brimstone! (What other sin, that you know of, has brought about the total annihilation of a group of people by God, since the flood? (Gen.6:5-8)

Yes, friends, "**UNNATURAL**" sin is indeed **WORSE** than "natural" sin because of 1) its origin, 2) its total rejection of God and His truth, 3) its militant nature to force its lies upon others (they do not "just want to be left alone" - they will **NEVER** be satisfied until we accept & approve of their lifestyle as if it is "natural") & 4) because they are in rebellion against God's original creation. The answer for their salvation is surely just the same as ours – there **MUST BE** repentance from their sin and faith in the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus in their behalf. Just as Jesus told the woman taken in adultery in Jn.8 – "neither do I condemn you, **GO ... & SIN NO MORE!**" Again, I say ... all sin is **NOT** the same in the sight of God.

Blessings,

*Tim*

## The Peace Speaker

“When the world that I’ve been living in collapses at my feet.  
When my life was shattered and torn; and though I’m windswept and I’m battered,  
I will cling to His cross, and I’ll find peace, peace in the midst of my storm.

There is peace in the midst of my storm-tossed life;  
There’s an Anchor, there’s a Rock to cast my faith upon.  
Jesus rides in my vessel so I’ll fear no alarm.”  
He gives me peace in the midst of my storm.”

Stephen R. Adams gives the background of the above lyric he penned: “In 1974, 365 mph winds decimated the downtown area of Xenia, Ohio. The church I served as minister of music was lost: sanctuary, annex, and next-door parsonage. I was buried alive in a furniture store a few blocks away. At the time, little did I know that the Lord would birth a song in my heart with which a generation of fellow believers could identify. Those of us who’ve known the calm of Christ’s presence in the midst of crises sing a song that can’t be silenced by the storms.”

This peace resounds more loudly than the raging storm. In Mark 4:35-41, Jesus is asleep in the boat with the disciples when a tremendous storm terrifies the passengers. Jesus is awakened by the disciples and asked, “Master, don’t you care that we are perishing?” Jesus arose and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace, be still.” The scripture records that the winds ceased and there was great calm. Notice that this peace comes because of Christ’s presence. O that we can know Christ’s presence and hear Christ’s voice declaring peace in the storms of our life.

Charles Lowery shares the following story. “I was once on a plane surrounded by so much fog I couldn’t see the wing and smoke appeared to be coming out of the air conditioning ducts. Then I heard a weird noise. The fear on the plane was as thick as the fog outside of the plane. People were wondering if the take-off and landing would come out even. (By the way, this is a great time to witness.) I was getting a little tense myself. I confessed sins I just thought about doing, and even thought of some of you and confessed your sins.

Then we heard a voice. “This is the Captain speaking. I know all of you can see the fog, but we are flying by instruments. Some of you have reported seeing smoke in the air conditioning vents. That is coming from the high humidity and what you see is water vapor which will taper off as the cabin dries out. The noise you heard was the landing gear. I have a new co-pilot who was demonstrating to me how well he can operate the landing gear. We won’t let him do that anymore. Everything is on schedule, and we will be in sunny Florida in two hours.”

The whole plane relaxed because we had a word from the Captain. When life is foggy, you see smoke, and hear strange noises, relax because the Captain of life says, “Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.” (sbclife.net)

Remember dear friend that peace does not come from the lack of conflict in your life; it comes from the presence of Jesus Christ. I hope you have this wonderful Savior in your life. If so, listen to His voice. He is pronouncing peace. Indeed, he is the “Peace Speaker.”

**PraiSing Him,**

*Pastor Jeff*

### Get Involved!

- Children’s Choir (Grades 1-6) - Wed. at 6pm
- Adult Choir - Wednesdays at 7:00pm
- Orchestra - Sundays at 9:00am.
- Youth Praise Band - Sundays at 5pm

# Fall Sunday Evening Class

DAVE RAMSEY'S

# FINANCIAL *Peace*<sup>®</sup> UNIVERSITY

*This changes*  
**EVERYTHING!**

**Your money. Your story. Your life.**

Learn God's ways of handling money with  
Dave Ramsey's *Financial Peace University!*

The average turnaround is \$8,000 in just  
the first three months!

**Free preview night August 30th at 6 pm. PLUS** Attend the first class FREE with no obligation. But you must purchase a membership to continue in the class for the next 8 weeks. You can do that by registering online for the class. When you register for the class you may order your Financial Peace membership and materials directly from the website. They will be shipped directly to you.

This isn't your typical "money class". Financial Peace University (FPU) is practical, entertaining and fun!

More than 1.5 million families and individuals have taken FPU.

The average family completing the course pays off \$5,300 and saves \$2,700 in just 90 days That's an \$8,000 change in position!

Whether you're struggling to make ends meet or you're a millionaire, FPU has something for you.

FPU is based on more than 800 verses of Scripture and is a proven plan that will work for you.

**Led by Randy & Lori Boyd** ~ register at: <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/class/279091>

# Additional Fall Sunday Evening Classes

## EXPERIENCING GOD

HOW TO KNOW AND DO THE WILL OF GOD

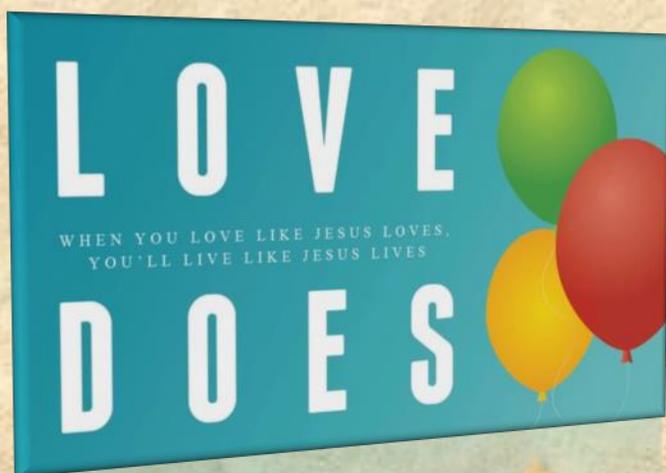
**Experiencing God** by Henry & Richard Blackaby & Claude King

*This revised and expanded edition of the classic best-selling course guides learners to experience the kind of relationship with God through which they come to know and do His will. Through examination of biblical and contemporary illustrations, participants will understand and apply seven realities of experiencing God.*

**Led By: Pastor Leroy Williams ~ Book price is \$10.00**



In *Love Does*, Bob Goff shares remarkable stories from his life and shows how living and loving to the fullest is the best way to make Jesus known in this world.



Remember the joy and excitement as a kid of being invited to a big party? You felt valued, included, wanted and ready to have a good time. Goff believes that every day of life can be lived with the same childlike enthusiasm and sense of humor. Whether you've travelled to meet dozens of world leaders with your kids, and started a school in Uganda like Goff, or are simply seeking a new perspective on the Christian life, you'll learn that love is a verb, not just a feeling. His insights and joyful reflections will help you discover what it means to live as Howard Thurman intended when he said, "Don't ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive."

**Led By: David Medina ~ Book price is \$11.00**

# Ark Encounter Project Update

*By Ted Wolfe*

The day finally came on June 15, 2015 when the first bent (ship terminology for rib) was hoisted in place on the completed foundation of the Ark, see picture below. After some time refining the on-ground assembly process for each bent and then some more time to resolve issues with lifting each bent in place

without overstressing it, the two-crane lifting process was initiated and the first half bent was successfully set in place. Precision location of each half bent of this scale on the concrete foundation is no easy process and requires the ability to tweak the lifting apparatus in order to guide each massive tenon into the steel mortises attached to the concrete foundation. The construction team overcame this problem with the first bent after a few head scratches, a few cable tweaks, and waiting for gravity to take affect with the three foot tenons finally fully engaging the mortises. After both half bents are hoisted and set in place they are secured to the



foundation with temporary bracing as the connecting timbers are attached. After each successive bent is installed and braced, the bents are connected to each other with additional timbers until enough of them are in place to install the remaining cross timbers and ultimately the flooring on each of the three decks.

On June 25, an “Ark Raising” media day event was held on site to offer numerous over 24 local and national media the opportunity to view the construction site and the first of the timber



frame installation. They heard from president of Answers in Genesis Ken Ham, project director Mike Zovath, and chief communications officer Mark Looy. They were given a tour of the construction site (which allowed them to walk on top of the concrete structure) and had the opportunity to interview various people, including several Amish men who were on site employing some of their

traditional wood-building knowledge along with modern techniques to bring to life what research shows will be the largest timber-frame structure in the world.

As of this article, eight bents have been installed and flooring on several decks has begun, see picture below. Because the weather is a big factor in any construction project the three masonry towers, the Ark is attached to, are behind schedule due to the very wet winter, spring and now summer seasons.

To help minimize this schedule impact the construction managers have decided to seal off the existing sections of the Ark, as shown, and start the electrical, plumbing and eventually the exhibit installation with the remaining construction continuing with other sections of the ark as the adjacent towers are completed. To allow the bent installations to continue while the three towers are being completed, only the front half bents will be installed which will require another 40 foot jib to be added to the large crane so the adjoining half bents can be lifted completely over the top of the Ark and lowered in place.



This will certainly be a sight to see when it occurs since these massive timber frames will be well over a hundred feet in the air before they are lowered in place. I hope to have pictures of these events in the next article.

As the Ark construction continues now at a feverish pace, the exhibit production team is also working to complete the design and production of over 100 exhibits that will fill the Ark spaces once they are completed. As mentioned in previous articles, the exhibit designs are meticulously created and produced to display a very specific message that is integrated into the overall message of the Ark Encounter as a whole.

But how does this process work on such a massive scale? Kendyl, one of the exhibit designers, says they start with the question, “*What would it have been like?*” and go from there. In one of the recent website blogs she describes the process as follows:

*Once I’ve collaborated with others and we’ve established the story of how it could have been, I use that in creating the atmosphere for the exhibit: whether it’s about Babel, or ancient man, or the door of the Ark. From there, I seek to figure out what emotions I should convey in the space through color, images, styles, signage, and any props. I want each element to point back to the overall theme and reinforce it.*

*I also need to keep in mind that the exhibit must appeal to a variety of learning styles and backgrounds. I would say that’s one of my biggest challenges: to design for the wide audience we reach. I think through how to best reach all ages, all life philosophies, and all religious beliefs with the truth that is being presented.*

*This process involves some trial and error. There are some designs that work really well from a conceptual point of view or as individual pieces, but for one reason or another they just won’t work for the whole exhibit. Here’s an example of an early design for our Babel exhibit complete with miniature figures to determine space and size that we decided needed to be overhauled.*



*A few people who are especially helpful in the process are Tim Chaffey (Content Manager), James de Leon (Lead Graphic Designer), and Patrick Marsh (Vice President of Attractions Design). Tim and I go back to the Bible and use that as the means of focus for grounding the artistic ideas on truth. James offers valuable input on the practical side of the exhibit. His questions take my creative thoughts and channel them into something that can work outside of my computer. And*

*while he's sometimes hard to track down because of how busy he is, I really enjoy working with Patrick Marsh. When he chats with me about various designs, I get to see his heart for each exhibit. I love being able to use my creativity and to try to match it with his direction and passion for truth.*

*Ultimately, I want to be sure that the design elements blend seamlessly with the teaching points so that we do our very best in sharing the truth of God's Word and the gospel of Jesus Christ.*

All the exhibit artists, fabricators, designers, and writers are currently swamped with work and are reminded daily of how quickly the clock is ticking on their numerous projects. To give them



a short respite from their labors recently, they took a trip down to the Ark Encounter to get an up close and personal look at the site where all of their endeavors will be visible for the world to see. As you can see from the photo, they picked the perfect day for

such a trip, and it was late enough in the day to not interfere with the construction workers. They were greatly encouraged by what they were able to see and returned to work the next day more invigorated than ever to continue their work with the exhibit production.

Once each exhibit is finally completed by the team it is disassembled and placed into the storage warehouse until it is time for it to be installed into its proper Ark location. Storing this many exhibits is no small task. Having been to this massive storage warehouse almost a year ago myself when it was basically empty, it is hard to imagine filling it with all the exhibits that will carry the message of the Bible's authority, its historical accuracy and ultimately the redeeming gospel of Christ's work on the cross.

It is anticipated that millions will experience this message not just as words on a page but through the multi-sensory imagery of these well designed and produced exhibits that will soon reside inside the massive Ark structure. For more information including videos and more photos and to keep up with the buzz of construction activity currently in progress at the Ark Encounter site, click on the following link <https://arkencounter.com/>.

## **“ARK” has landed in PRESCHOOL**

*We have a place for YOU to serve!*



Openings available:

\*Paid preschool worker (Sunday am and/or Wed. pm)\*

\*Volunteers for Sunday am and Sunday pm services\*

\*Welcome Center (Sunday's 10:30am-11:05am)\*

\*Rotation Schedule

Contact Karen White with any questions or interest.

[karenw@cfl.rr.com](mailto:karenw@cfl.rr.com) /720-7251

Thank you!

# YOUTH UPDATE

● Last Wednesday Event ~

September 30th

● Last Wednesday Event ~

October 28th

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*Discipleship Now Weekend*

*(Youth Ministry)*

*November 13 ~ 15*

*Friday ~ 7pm*

*Saturday ~ 9:30am-8:30pm*

*Sunday ~ 9:30-10:30am*



August 1, 2015

An audit was performed on the checking and savings accounts for the first and second quarter of 2015. All federal financial requirements are satisfied. The Audit Committee finds all to be in financial order.

In God we Trust,

William Pitman, Fred Parsons, Fran Tuggle, and Priscilla Mercer

# PROMOTION SUNDAY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

*With the recent start of a new school year students will move up to their new Sunday School classes on this date.*

# Loved beyond Measure

Pastors Wives' Appreciation Dinner

Saturday, September 5 at 5pm



Our Pastors Wives are:



An indispensable companion to her husband, others, and God.

*And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."  
Genesis 2:18, NKJV.*

This appreciation dinner is open to everyone and will be held in the Fellowship Hall.

Please RSVP to Chris Gibbs at 258-5579. or sign up on the sign up sheet found in your Sunday School box.

The cost will be \$4.00, the menu will be meat lasagna, vegetable lasagna, salad, & strawberry shortcake.



# REGISTER TODAY!!

The *Florida Baptist Convention's*, Sunday School, Groups & Discipling Ministries encourages you to attend this electrifying and inspiring event!



First Baptist Church Dover  
3223 North Gallagher Rd.  
Dover, FL 33527



## Central Florida Sunday School Convention

September 19, 2015

8:30 am - 12:45 pm



A Cooperative Program Ministry of  
the Florida Baptist Convention

Register Today!



### CONFERENCE FACULTY

Key Speaker - Claude King

**General Leaders** - Jeff Edwards, Rick Howerton, Wayne Poling

**Adults** - Claude King, Harry Kurtz, Johnny Lane, and Alan Raughton

**Students** - John Paul Basham, and Richard Jones

**Children** - Bill Emeott, Deana Sellers, and Kathy Williams

**Preschool** - Teresa Hoffman, and Jerry Vogel

**Special Needs** - Deana Troyer



Conference Scripture:

*"This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel:*

*"Not by strength or by might, but by My Spirit,"*

*says the LORD of Hosts." Zechariah 4:6 [HCS]*

Breakouts include Leadership training for  
General Leaders, Adults, Students, Children,  
Preschool, Discipleship, and Special Needs



Florida Baptist Convention  
1230 Hendricks Avenue  
Jacksonville, FL 32207

Earlybird Registration \$10 until

September 4<sup>th</sup> (September 5 - 18, \$15)

Call or email to register TODAY!

Contact Laura Long

Phone: 904-596-3078

Email: llong@fjbaptist.org

**Registration forms can be obtained in the  
church office or requested by sending an  
email to [office@centralbaptist.net](mailto:office@centralbaptist.net).**

*Kingdom People Serving Kingdom Partners*



## **CHURCH WIDE FISH FRY**

Saturday, September 12

3-7pm at Central Baptist

Weather permitting our activities will be held outside. We will have games (volleyball, bocci ball, and cornhole)

The menu will also include coleslaw and hush puppies.

Everyone is Invited!

There is no charge.



# ***OUTREACH UPDATE***

## **Blessing of the Backpacks**



### **BACKPACKS FOR UNIVERSITY PARK ELEMENTARY**

Our church was recently able to supply some backpacks and supplies for the new school year.

Target, Walmart, and our Local Mission fund contributed funds to make this a successful ministry to the children.

There are still opportunities for us to minister to the school. If you are interested please contact Shirley Parrish or the office to discover ways you can help.

# Space Coast Seafarer's Ministry News

SPACE COAST SEAFARERS MINISTRY  
*Cordially invites you to attend*  
Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gala

*Anchored in Christ*



Thursday, September 17, 2015  
6:00 p.m. Doors Open  
6:30 p.m. Dinner Begins

Radisson Resort  
8701 Astronaut Blvd.  
Cape Canaveral, FL 32920

## SPACE COAST SEAFARERS MINISTRY 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL GALA

*Guest Speaker, Dr. Dennis "The Swan" Swanberg*  
*Emcee, J.B. Kump, Titusville Chamber of Commerce*  
*Special Entertainment, Angelia Bell*

### *Dinner Selections:*

Broiled Salmon with Chili-Orange Glaze  
Braised Beef Short Ribs  
Chicken Picatta

*Please note special dietary needs with RSVP*

*Dress: After 5' Evening Attire*

### *Sponsor Levels:*

Platinum Table Sponsorship Matching-Gift  
\$5,000 Gold Table Sponsorship  
\$3,000 Silver Table Sponsorship  
\$1,000 Bronze Table Sponsorship  
\$45 Individual Ticket

*Seating by purchased reservations only.*

*Tickets will not be sold at the door.*

*R.S.V.P. by September 4, 2015*

*Online at [seafarersministry.org](http://seafarersministry.org) • Phone 321.783.0007*  
*Mail to 8907 N. Atlantic Ave. • Cape Canaveral, FL 32920*



Thank you so much  
**CENTRAL BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

for the wonderful steam  
table!

Seafarers were thrilled  
with the hot food.

## They call it Dignity. We call it a Mission.



Since 1918, GuideStone Financial Resources has been on a “Mission” to provide “Dignity” to retired Southern Baptist ministers, workers and their widows. These are men and women who have faithfully served God’s people and now find themselves struggling to meet even basic needs. Many served small, rural churches that paid only modest salaries and couldn’t afford to contribute to their pastors’ retirement.

Often, these loyal soldiers of the cross had to work extra jobs just to make ends meet. Mission Dignity currently helps almost 2,000 people with extra money needed for housing, food and vital medications. It has also ensured a well-deserved dignity, independence and, often, the ability to continue serving.

Through your generous giving to our church budget we are able to contribute each month to this ministry through our Mission Support area. If the Lord leads you to give over and above your budget and offering giving please stop by the Welcome Center for an envelope.

**’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears...**

When Dewey Seale sings the old hymn “Amazing Grace,” the words come from deep in his heart as he remembers God’s grace has always been sufficient no matter the circumstances. Dewey, with his wife Eloise at his side, served as a minister of music for 50 years during a time when full-time music positions were scarce. While salaries for most pastors were low in the middle half of the 1900s, they were even lower for full-time music ministers. Yet Dewey never failed to answer God’s call.

“I said, Lord, if you will lead me, I will go anywhere you want me to go. And I went from church to church, as I felt led of the Lord,” he recalled. “I was a music minister and I felt like God had given me this talent.”

Recalling those early days, Eloise — whose face crinkled into a smile at the memory — said, “I feel about this man like he’s just like a boy that I first met when I was a little girl. We’ve been together for over 65 years.”

Sitting in his modest mobile home in rural Louisiana, Dewey looked back over his long career and fondly remembered all the people who joined the choirs at each church — some armed with a love for God, but no musical skills. “It was a tremendous experience. I loved it. It was a great pleasure to go into a church where there was no choir and recruit people to sing in the choir. Most of them would say, ‘I don’t know one note from the other,’ and I’d say, ‘Don’t worry about that! We have a good pianist that will teach you the tune, so come on,’” he said.

Eloise lovingly remembered his skill at leading the newly formed groups, “I was in the choir and when I saw him up there he commands the attention of every choir member.”

Like many others called into God’s service, it was not a desire to stop working that caused him to retire, but a health problem that made it too difficult to continue serving full time. For the first few years of his retirement, Dewey qualified for a small disability benefit through his retirement plan with GuideStone. But when that benefit came to an end, Dewey and Eloise were looking at subsisting on Social Security & a small amount of savings.

While talking to a GuideStone customer service representative shortly before his disability benefit ended, Dewey learned about the Mission:Dignity ministry. The representative sent him an application and trustees for the ministry approved his application a short time later. Later that month, Dewey received his first \$265 monthly check from the ministry. Due to his many years of service in Louisiana, he also began receiving an additional check of \$65 provided by the Louisiana Shepherd’s Fund that is administered by the staff at Mission:Dignity.

“The help that we get from Mission:Dignity is so important to us. I don’t know how we’d make it. The check that I get helps me to buy her prescriptions,” Dewey explained as he reached over to gently pat Eloise’s folded hands.

Nodding her head in agreement, Eloise quickly confirmed, “It really does help. That check comes in usually when we are just about out of money. We are just so thankful that people see the need for helping people like us.”

Dewey and Eloise cling to God’s grace on those days when life seems uncertain. “Considering the rise in cost of living, it would be hard to survive without your help. We are amazed at how and when God’s blessings come,” Dewey affirmed.

Eyes bright with emotion, Dewey quietly added, “Without your financial help, we would be in big trouble. We sincerely know the Lord made your service possible for our existence. Please let any and all donors know we praise the Lord for their support.”

# SEPT.

2 - *Wednesday Activities*

3 - Builders Sunday School Class (1:30pm)...Central Home School (1:30pm)

5 - Pastors Wives' Appreciation Dinner (5pm)

6 - Regular Sunday Activities...pm classes

7 - Office Closed for Labor Day Holiday

8 - Men in Motion (12pm)

9 - *Regular Wednesday Activities*

10 - Central Home School 1:30pm)

12—Church Wide Fish Fry (3-7pm)

13 - *Regular Sunday Activities*

14 - Quilting Ministry (10am)...Food Pantry (11am)...Stewardship Meeting Conference Rm (6pm)...Deacon's Meeting-Bell Room (7pm)

15 - Men in Motion (12pm)...Estate Planning Workshop at Brevard Baptist Assoc. (10am)

16 - *Wednesday Activities*

17 - Seafarer's Gala (6pm)

19 - Central Florida Sunday School Convention

20 - *Regular Sunday Activities*

21 - Food Pantry (11am)

22 - Men in Motion (12pm)

23 - *Regular Wednesday Activities*

24 - Central Home School (1:30pm)

25 - GA's Sleepover at Beth Nelson's home

27 - *Regular Sunday Activities...GA's recognition (pm)*

28—*Quilting Ministry (10am)*

29 - Men in Motion (12pm)

30 - *Regular Wednesday Activities*

## **Regular Sunday Activities**

Sunday School (9:30am)...Morning Worship Service (10:45am)...Youth Praise Band Rehearsal (5pm)...Joint Evening Worship Service (6pm) R.A.'s, G.A.'s, Acteens & Blitz & Adult Classes (6:30pm)

1 - Builder's Sunday School Class (1:30pm)  
Brevard Baptist Association Annual Meeting (6pm)

3 - Oley Humphries Golf Tournament

4 - *Regular Sunday Morning Activities*

5 - Food Pantry (11am)...Deacon's Meeting (7pm)

6 - Men in Motion (12pm)

7 - *Regular Wednesday Activities*

8 - Central Home School (1:30pm)

11 - *Regular Sunday Activities*

12 - Quilting Ministry (10am)...Stewardship Meeting (6pm)

13 - Men in Motion (12pm)

14 - *Regular Wednesday Activities*

15 - Central Home School (1:30pm)

18 - Regular Sunday Activities

19 - Food Pantry (11am)

20 - Men in Motion (12pm)

21 - *Regular Wednesday Activities*

22 - *Central Home School (1:30pm)*

25 - *Regular Sunday Activities*

26 - Quilting Ministry (10am)...Food Pantry (11am)

27 - *Men in Motion*

28 - *Regular Wednesday Activities*

29 - *Central Home School (1:30pm)*

## **Regular Wednesday Activities**

Supper (5:20pm)...Word Walking, Youth Group, Children's Choirs (6:00pm)...Bible Drill, Adult Choir Rehearsal, Kidz Central (7:00pm)

# OCT.

# LIBRARY NEWS



*In Loving Memory of Peggy Fuchs*

*(Betty Atkinson's sister)*

**the following books have been placed in our Church library:**

**Sabotaged** by Dani Pettrey

**Gone Without a Trace**

by Patricia Bradley

Placed by Betty Atkinson



## Maguire State Missions Offering

**Our Church Goal is \$5,000.00**

**MAGUIRE STATE MISSION OFFERING**  
2015 SEASON of PRAYER

*Grace UNIMAGINABLE*  
2015 MAGUIRE STATE MISSION OFFERING

**Goal: \$1,197,000**

**The Florida Mission Field By The Numbers**

**By the numbers:**

- 3** Florida's rank in population among U.S. states behind California and Texas.
- 27.4 percent** - Florida's non-English speaking population.
- 23.6 percent** - Florida's Hispanic population.
- 24** languages spoken each Sunday in Florida Baptist congregations.
- 95 million** people visit Florida each year.
- 1,000** people move to Florida each day.
- 820** churches, or 27 percent of all Florida Baptist churches, worship in a language other than English.
- 2,963** Florida Baptist congregations serving on mission in their neighborhoods.
- 60** percent of Florida's population live within 10 miles of coast
- 109** new churches started by Florida Baptists in past year.

Hebrews 13:16 NRSV "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

**Has a missionary purpose by doing good:**

- Helping new congregations through church site loans;
- Supporting free medical clinics for the needy;
- Spreading the gospel through evangelistic ministry;
- Preparing the next generation of mission leaders; and
- Providing a compassionate ministry for 'the least of these.'

**And a Biblical mandate:** .....Hebrews 13:16 NRSV "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

Through the 25 ministries supported by the Maguire State Mission Offering, Florida Baptists are serving as God's compassionate people in Florida, called by grace to be His Great Commission laborers together in our state and with our mission and ministry partners.

May the Lord bless and keep you. May He make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you.  
May He lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.

### MINISTERIAL STAFF

Leroy Williams, Senior Pastor  
Jeffrey Hagans, Minister of Music  
Shannon England, Minister of Students

### CHURCH OFFICE

Phone: 321-723-3681  
Fax Number: 321-722-9781  
Monday - Thursday 8am-5pm