

# the theme

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH  
Bi-monthly newsletter



# May & June

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## From the Pastor...

I've always enjoyed being stretched beyond my current capacities. A new project that I've never done before, bring it on. A new place I've never been before, I'm game. A challenging concept I've not encountered before, I'll be enthralled. To a point, that is human nature. That's why we reach for the stars and have put men on the moon.

When Paul was teaching at the Areopagus, the response of the men there was, "May we know what this new doctrine is of which you speak? For you are bringing some strange things to our ears. Therefore we want to know what these things mean." (Acts 17:19-20). Think about that for a second. "We want to know what these things mean." And what did Paul teach them? He taught them the basics of Christianity. He taught them of God the creator and sustainer. He taught of God the just and righteous. He taught of God who transcended time and space to bring Himself near to man and man to himself through the resurrection from the dead. Some scoffed and some wanted to hear more.

My point being that man looks for answers. Man wants to know where we came from, why we are here and what is next. That's what Paul gave the hearers on the Areopagus. To them, it was new. It was challenging. It was strange.

For many of us in the church, these teachings have become old, stale and common. I don't say that with disrespect or to demean anyone in the church. I say that because our very drive to discover something new leads us beyond where the crucial foundations are laid and they become passé. "Salvation, yeah I know what it's about." "Baptism and the Lord's supper, yep, got it." "Eternal security, everyone knows about that." I believe this was at the heart of the admonition in 2 Timothy 4:3 where it is warned "*For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers.*" Had they become bored with what some would call "the basics"? They just wanted something new.

I get it. We love to see the expanse of the Millennial Kingdom. We enjoy spiritually imagining the splendor of Heaven. It is challenging to logically work out how good and evil are a part of God's plan. It is equally challenging to plumb the sovereignty of God in conjunction with the will of man. And hear me now, it is good to seek to study and to grow in any and all of these. But not at the expense of leaving the basics behind.

What many in the church today see as "basic", to those men that day on the Areopagus, those doctrines were anything but basic. And to much of our world today, what we know from scripture concerning Christ is new, challenging and strange. And get this, if you find an audience, based on human nature of discovery (because God created us that way), people will listen. They may scoff. They may want to hear more. But they will listen.

And that's why I am praying for you. As we go through these weeks of discipleship as a church, I am praying you are receiving the equipping God is giving us. I am praying you know God has an Areopagus for you somewhere. What you bring, as the foundational truths of God's Word, will be strange and challenging to some. And you may be just the one to challenge them right into the truth.

Don't think for a minute it's old news or passé'. The Gospel is still the power of God unto salvation. As I've been going through leading this discipleship study on these foundational truths, I've been rejuvenated. It has refreshed my soul. I pray it's done the same thing for you. I pray, you could also say:

*I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love;  
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true,  
It satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.*

In Christ,  
Pastor Leroy

## Growing Old Gracefully

The writer of Ecclesiastes encourages us to remember our Creator in the days of our youth. The writer finds nothing fulfilling in life apart from one's relationship with the LORD. In Chapter 12 the writer gives a poetic picture of old age. Growing older is not always pretty, but the Christian can hold to the promise that God's grace is sufficient. Yes, we are saved by God's grace, however, God's grace continues to sustain us throughout life and His grace will lead us home. God has always been and will continue to be faithful throughout every stage of life.

Fanny Crosby penned over 8,500 hymns during her lifetime. She continued writing hymns until the day she died, though she did slow down a bit in her eighties, reducing her quota from two hundred hymns a year to about fifty. One of her last popular songs was "Saved by Grace." She later said it was inspired by a sermon preached by Dr. Howard Crosby, a distant relative and dear friend. In his message, Dr. Crosby said that no Christian "should fear death, for if each of us was faithful to the grace given us by Christ, the same grace that teaches us how to live would also teach us how to die." His remarks deeply moved Fanny, and she wrote "Saved by Grace" as a personal hymn, not to be published.

Some time later at a Bible Conference, D. L. Moody asked Fanny to share a word of testimony. Caught off guard, Fanny used this poem, saying, "There is one hymn I have written which has never been published. I call it my soul's poem. Sometimes when I am troubled, I repeat it to myself, for it brings comfort to my heart."

Soon thereafter it was published, and became one of her great, although seldom heard songs. Here are the wonderful lyrics:

*"Saved By Grace"* – Fanny Crosby, 1891

1. Someday the silver cord will break, and I no more as now shall sing;  
But, oh, the joy when I shall wake within the palace of the King!  
  
*Refrain:* And I shall see Him, see Him face to face,  
and tell the story—I've been saved by grace.  
Yes, I shall see Him, see Him face to face  
And tell the story saved by grace.
2. Someday my earthly house will fall; I cannot tell how soon 'twill be;  
But this I know—my All in All has now a place in heav'n for me.
3. Someday, when fades the golden sun beneath the rosy tinted west,  
My blessed Lord will say, "Well done!" And I shall enter into rest.
4. Someday 'til then I'll watch and wait, my lamp all trimmed and burning bright,  
That when my Savior opens the gate, My soul to Him may take its flight.

As we grow older, let's remember this last verse. Is your lamp trimmed and burning bright? It reminds me of a song I learned as a small child: "Give me oil in my lamp; keep me burning. Give me oil in my lamp, I pray. Give me oil in my lamp; keep me burning. Keep me burning 'til the break of day."

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

## Kids These Days...

When hearing a sentence that begins, “Kids these days...”, it is almost certain the sentence will end in a negative tone. There seems to be countless derogatory memes on the internet devaluing teenagers and young adults today. Early in the new year the news outlets were reporting as if it were an epidemic; teens taking the Tide Pod Challenge. These news reports were followed by social media comments beginning; “Kids these days...” by multiple older generations suggesting that this generation of teenagers is the worst generation of teenagers of all generations. Who’s responsible?

There is a generation called “The Greatest Generation”, and I’ve often wondered if the greatest generation is the one who parented those considered to be The Great Generation. I certainly value those named The Great Generation by Tom Brokaw and recognize that what made them great had much to do with their selflessness and great sacrifice. The circumstances of their time created an opportunity for them to do great things.

Back to these so called, “brainless teens” of today, oh, that’s not my title for teens, it’s the words printed on a meme that has been passed around social media since the whole Tide Pod Challenge. Here’s the deal, every generation of young people have had the challenge of being identified by their worst. Maybe a handful of kids out of millions do something stupid and there goes the reputation of every teenager. So, the challenge for adults today is to be careful in how we finish the sentence “Kids these days...” and the challenge for teens is as Paul expresses to Timothy “*Let no one despise you for your youth*”.

I would imagine every generation of youth has been criticized by the older generation since the first 13 to 20 year olds in history. Paul was obviously aware of this dilemma when preparing Timothy for his journey when warning Timothy “*Let no one despise you for your youth*”. We really have no control over labels and we certainly have no control what one generation of people will do and how we are perceived by the other. However, we can have a say in our own reputation and with Whom we are identified. Looking at the rest of the verse in 1 Timothy 4:12 we see Paul not only warns Timothy regarding his reputation, but he goes on to give wise counsel when it comes to guarding the reputation of his youth so Timothy can be most effective in his ministry, “*Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.*” So, the warning is to not give any reason for anyone to despise him and the action is to set a believers example in speech, and to set a believers example in conduct, and to set a believers example in love and in purity and in faith. Here, Paul reminds Timothy who he is and whose he is.

To our graduates, you have a challenge ahead of you. Just like Timothy and every generation of young people before you – many people will have formed a perception of you based on you because of the worst of your peers. But like Paul challenges Timothy, I would also like to challenge you and remind you that you are a child of God. Allow people to see that in you, in your speech, in your conduct, in your love for God and others, in your faith, and in your purity. You are loved by God and He is with you always! Congratulations on your academic achievements and on your graduation.

Our 2018 High School Graduates are: Mary Helen Williams, Caitlyn Vaught, Emma Reeves, Anastasia Clarkston, Blake Allen, and Andrew Lawson. Our 2018 College Graduates are: Justin Foley and Austin Cavanaugh.

Shalom,  
Shannon England

# Graduate Recognition



**Congratulations to all our 2018 graduates!**

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

**Mary Helen Williams, Caitlyn Vaught, Emma Reeves,  
Anastasia Clarkston, Blake Allen, and Andrew Lawson**

## **COLLEGE**

**Justin Foley and Austin Cavanaugh**



## **LIBRARY NEWS**

To parents of small children,  
Your church library has many books available to read to your little ones to teach them about God and Jesus.  
There are also many easy Bible stories to read to them.  
We are open on Sunday mornings from 8:45 - 9:45, and Wed evenings from 4:00 - 5:30 for you to stop in.  
We'll be looking to see you and hope you will take advantage of this great opportunity!  
We are located behind the kitchen area (lower sidewalk).  
Shirley Parrish

# Preschool Ministry



Ready to Play



Playground Dedication March 25, 2018

## WOW! WHAT A JOURNEY IT HAS BEEN!

The journey began in prayer, seeking God's will and direction. In any journey God puts us on, He seeks His will and in His time. God provides. He provided more than planned, bigger than imagined! Provisions and talents of people to build both a preschool and an elementary playground. Working together where God leads.

Trusting in God every step of the way, as Proverbs 3:5 & 6 says: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and HE will direct your path."

Soon the playground will reach completion with pathways to the entrances and sail shades. But God is not done, let's see how He works in the lives of the children!

Thank You church family for your prayers, financial support, words of encouragement, and to those who have given their time and hard work in bringing it to completion. And to our Lord we thank, who made the playgrounds possible! ~To God be the Glory! ~

*In Christ Love,*

*Karen White*

### **Volunteer Needs Continue-**

**Need volunteers and a paid worker to help fill in the gaps**, especially through the summer months due to shortage of volunteers and paid workers with vacations, camp counselors, births and family plans.

Be in prayer for this need and how you can be an answer to that prayer. Thank You!

For inquiries **Contact the church office (321) 723-3681, or Karen White at karenw@cfl.rr.com.**

**Preschool Director Position** for the next church year is open. If you can help in a supportive role or want to lead this important ministry, please see Karen White, Jimmy Black or Ted Wolfe. Thank You!

### **Answered Prayer-**

God has provided an assistant teacher for the 1's & 2's Sunday school class, and a co-teacher for the 3 to 5 year old class. Thank you ladies!



# Missions at Central

Isa 6:8-9 "Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me. And He said, go, and tell this people."

Matt 28:19 "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

Committee Members: Harry Sauter, Noi Nonkuketkhong, Lea Ann Burdette, Curt Parrish, Fred Troglin, Priscilla Mercer and Ed Snedeker.

## What's New?

As you may know, Harry Sauter has vacated the chair position on the Missions Committee and it has been filled by Ed Snedeker. Harry will remain very much included in the matters of missions at CBC.

We have been supporting Jeff and Julie Johnson at the Seafarer's (Port Canaveral Ministries) for quite some time now, but effective May 1st, Jeff and Julie are moving on from Seafarer's and will be going to Thailand. Jeff spoke twice at CBC and it has been decided to continue supporting them in their Thailand calling. This is presently being done at \$70.00 per month. Please consider sending Jeff and Julie some support by way of prayer or fiscal support. He needs a total of \$4,000 per month.

Pastor Leroy and I met with Ciaran and Jamie Stirling from Overland Missions ([overlandmissions.com](http://overlandmissions.com)) and were blessed by the outreach they have in South Africa. Ciaran, a humble man that is full of the spirit, has spoken at Men in Motion and again with our teens on Wednesday night. He is not exactly in our camp but the evidence of God's blessing is undeniable. Pastor sought out some doctrinal clarification and we both came away with positivity, but it needs to be a matter of prayer. Ciaran needs \$7,500 a month to minister in Zambia and has shared that 95% of his support comes from individuals at small amounts monthly. Would you make this a matter of prayer and lift up Ciaran, Jamie and Overland Missions and see if God wants us involved?

In closing, my door is always open for discussion on missions at CBC. Any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

In Christ,

Ed Snedeker



## Florida Baptist Children's Homes Annual Offering

Their mission is to provide Christ-centered services to children and families in need.

From the opening of their first orphanage in 1904 to their present-day ministries they provide safe, stable, Christian homes and services to children and families in need across the state and round the globe.

**YOUR GENEROSITY CAN MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE IN THE LIFE OF A CHILD.**

# Women's Ministry

I am writing on the heels of attending the ASPIRE Women's Conference, which was an amazing night of worship, learning and fellowship.

I took several things away from the evening, one being how different men and women truly are and advice on how to better communicate with my husband and my boys. Shaunti Feldhahn had so many good tips on improving relationships, she has many books, but the ones I have read and can recommend are "For Women Only" and the "Kindness Challenge." The advice found in "For Women Only" can truly make a positive difference in how you relate to the men in your life.

Another take away of the evening and what had a seriously astounding effect upon me was the message on "Complaining." In fact, I found myself in the days following reading more on complaining, the affects it has on you and on your relationships and on what the word of God has to say about it. Complaining can really damage marriage and other relationships. Complaining is one of the most pervasive attitude problems in our culture, and let's face it ladies we complain a lot, at least I know I do, a confession. We gather together and as ladies in almost every situation, we are complaining about something and in certain situations I've found that I enjoy complaining. However, now it doesn't feel as enjoyable, after I realized how much God truly hates. That's right, He hates complaining. If you find it hard to conceive that God would "make such a big deal" about complaining, then check out Numbers 11:1. *"And when the people complained, it displeased the Lord: and the Lord heard it; and his anger was kindled; and the fire of the Lord burnt among them, and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp."* Here's this group of people standing around whining and grumbling about something. Whatever they were complaining about it, it angered God and He sent fire among them. If that doesn't tell you how God feels about complaining, nothing will!

Lastly, contentment. If you are content you will have less to complain about. *"Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. After all, we brought nothing with us when we came in to the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it. So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content."* (1 Timothy 6:6-8) The Bible clearly teaches us to "be content" no matter what our circumstances are. In Philippians 4:11, Paul said, *"I have learned in whatsoever state I am in therewith to be content."* So the challenge I have for myself and for you fellow sisters is this, take on the challenge of mindfully being less of a complainer and to be more content, when you find yourself faltering go to God's word and pray for strength to overcome.

I will also leave you with this. If you've never been to ladies conference, retreat or meeting, you are missing out. The older women are instructed to teach the younger women and attending one of these meetings is a fantastic opportunity to soak up all their wisdom. Don't snicker at it, ignore it or think you don't need it. We need it. There is so much wisdom to be had if only we would seek after it. I encourage to attend the next one you can!

In Christ's Service,

Lea Ann

# Saints Alive

**MAY**



## MELBOURNE FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCIDENT PREVENTION

May 14th, 2018

11:30 AM

Fellowship Hall

Bring your favorite covered dish to share.

The Melbourne Fire Department will speak with us about accident prevention.

**JUNE**

## THE FOUR SISTERS

June 11th, 2018

11:30 AM

Fellowship Hall

Bring your favorite covered dish to share.

The Four Sisters will entertain us with music from the 1940's and other genres.



A recent picture of our Saints Alive group.

# VBS



**GEARING UP  
FOR LIFE'S  
BIG GAME  
2 PETER 1:3**

**Mark your calendars**

# July 9 - 13

# SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

What a blessing it has been for Debbie and I to join with our new church family at Central, and what a privilege to serve as the Sunday School Director. It has been a pleasure getting to know our Sunday School teachers and see their devotion as they serve so faithfully every week. Their ministry is at the very heart of Jesus' commission to "teach(ing) them to observe all that I commanded you" (Matt. 28:20a). Our teachers spend much time praying and preparing each week and I would encourage everyone to find ways of expressing your appreciation to them for their hard work. Next year we are looking at starting a few more Sunday School classes and I would love to hear from our church about potential classes. We really desire a place for everyone to engage in weekly Bible study. Please be in prayer for the following.

1. We have an opportunity for someone to serve as our pre-school director. Karen has done a marvelous job, but will be stepping down as the director. If you are considering serving in this position, but have concerns about doing the work there is GREAT NEWS. Karen will work closely with the new director to ensure a smooth transition. Please let me know if you are sensing God's call to serve in this area.
2. Pray for the new Sunday School classes we would like to start. The goal is to start classes that would serve those currently not attending Sunday School and meet the needs of those God will be sending our way.
3. Pray for our current staff of Sunday School teachers.

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15

Your brother in Christ,

Jimmy Black



## **Florida Baptist Disaster Relief Training**

**June 2nd**

**Stetson Baptist Church**

**1025 W. Minnesota Ave.**

**Deland, FL**

**Registration 8:30am**

**Training 9am - 3pm**

**See Chris Gibbs for questions and information.**

## April - May - June at a Glance

- ◆ **April 29th - Coastal Brass Concert/Youth Fundraiser**
- ◆ **May 5th - 20th Annual David Robinson Golf Classic**
- ◆ **May 6th - Graduation Recognition and Evening Reception**
- ◆ **May 20th - Safe and Secure Church Seminar**
- ◆ **May 20th - Business Meeting**
- ◆ **May 28th - Memorial Day - Church Office Closed**
- ◆ **June 24th - Lord's Supper**

### *Regular Sunday Activities*

9:30 am - Sunday School  
10:45am - Morning Worship Service  
5pm - Youth Praise Band Rehearsal  
6pm - Joint Evening Worship Service  
6:30pm - G.A.'s, Acteens, Blitz & Handbells  
College/Young Adults after evening service

### *Wednesday*

5:20pm - Family Supper  
6pm - Bible Study, Youth Group, Children's Choir,  
Ladies Bible Study, ESL  
7pm - Adult Choir Rehearsal  
8:30pm - College/Young Adults

### MINISTERIAL STAFF

Leroy Williams, Senior Pastor  
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Jeffrey Hagans, Minister of Music  
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Central Baptist Church of Melbourne, FL