

Delores Clark

11485 Oakhurst Rd. - Bld.200-104
Largo 33774
Delores transferred membership 9/18.
She is the mother of Kim Godfrey.



BIRTHDAYS...

5 Chuck Beyer; 6 June Sumner;
8 Dakota Johnson; 9 Brian Dubach,
Linda Mize; 10 Rebecca Gibons;
11 Phyllis Gerdes; 12 Jim Wheeler; 13 Jenny Barr, Luke
Ellis; 15 Louise Sama; 17 Bob Simard, Cherry Spear;
20 Pearl Simard, Katie Hendrix; 23 Sidney Nelson;
24 Hayden Barr; 25 Mary Jane Hronek; 26 Hannah
Paradis; 28 Hank Gerdes; 29 Steve Bolin; 30 Phyllis
McKneelen

ANNIVERSARIES...4 Bob & Pearl Simard

“Thank you for all the prayers following the death of my dad. They brought so much peace for me and my family. Thank you to the family that helped us financially to get to Chicago. As hard as it was to lose my dad, your support helped us so much. God’s blessing to all.” In His Love, Dan & Debbie Baran



Women's Bible Study Ladies, if you plan to attend the Wednesday night study “Becoming More Than a Good Bible Study Girl”, you need to sign up no later than Sunday, October 16th, so books can be ordered. This study will encourage you to enjoy special time with God, discover life-changing words of Scripture and much more. Lori Mason leads the discussion.

Stewardship & Attendance

September 18, 2011

| | | | |
|--------------------------|----|------------|-----|
| Bible School | 86 | Worship | 228 |
| Tithes & Offerings | | \$5,079.00 | |
| Faith Promise—Missions | | \$914.00 | |
| Youth Building Loan Fund | | \$245.00 | |

September 25, 2011

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|------------|-----|
| Bible School | 106 | Worship | 231 |
| Tithes & Offerings | | \$5,937.75 | |
| Faith Promise—Missions | | \$1,752.50 | |
| Youth Building Loan Fund | | \$404.00 | |

October 2, 2011

| | | | |
|--------------------------|----|------------|-----|
| Bible School | 85 | Worship | 221 |
| Tithes & Offerings | | \$5,273.00 | |
| Faith Promise—Missions | | \$1,175.00 | |
| Youth Building Loan Fund | | \$282.00 | |

October 9, 2011

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|------------|-----|
| Bible School | 107 | Worship | 236 |
| Tithes & Offerings | | \$5,827.50 | |
| Faith Promise—Missions | | \$1,389.50 | |
| Youth Building Loan Fund | | \$347.00 | |

Church Staff

Andy Mason, Sr. Minister
Aaron Rosenberg, Associate/Youth Minister
Eric Jaqua, Creative Arts Director
Don & Aleta Hulsey/Larry & Mandy Renfro,
Living Link Missionaries
Secretaries: Phyllis McKneelen & Betsy Kray
Phone: (727) 393-2136
Website: www.fccseminole.org

Sunday Services

Traditional Worship – 8:30 a.m.
Bible School for all Ages – 9:45 a.m.
Contemporary Worship – 11:00 a.m.
Kids for Christ Worship - 11:00 a.m.

HARVEST FEST

FREE Community Event for Kids!

Saturday, October 29th
3:00-5:30 p.m.

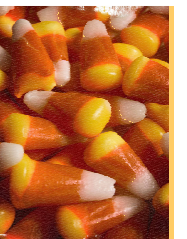
Pre-Kindergarten - Grade 5

More information at: www.fccseminole.org/harvest



If you have a large or small canopy we can use, please let us know. **Put your name on the case!**

If you can furnish wrapped candy for the Harvest Fest, please bring by Sunday, October 16th.



Clear 2 liter soda bottles with lids are needed for one of the games. Bring in what you have please.

Oh the Scandalous Cross...

Andy Mason

In my Wednesday night study, CrossWords, I've been teaching that there has always been something scandalous about the true message of the cross. I used that word "scandal" deliberately because that's the word Paul used. In I Corinthians 1:23 when he says the cross is a "stumbling block to men", the Greek work is literally "scandalon" which is where we get our English word "scandal." And many times in the New Testament the word "scandal" is used of the message of the cross. For example, Paul writes in Galatians 5:11, **"Brothers, if I am still preaching circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been abolished."** There really is something scandalous – or at least there *should* be about the message of the cross. There should be an offense about the cross that divides men.



Just this past week the mayor of Whiteville, Tennessee, said his community is under attack from a national atheist organization that is threatening to sue unless they remove a cross atop the town's water tower. *"They are alleging that some Whiteville resident feels very, very intimidated by this cross."* The mayor told Fox News Radio that the cross was erected on the town's water tower about eight years ago by a private group of citizens. They collected private donations to cover the costs. *"It's just a cross on the water tower,"* he said. *"All we're doing is exercising our right to practice our beliefs down here but this organization is now going to stymie that. We're not out here knocking on doors trying to convert people."* But the Wisconsin-based Freedom From Religion Foundation said the cross is a violation of

the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. They've given the mayor until the end of October to remove the cross. If he refuses, they have threatened to sue. Barker said they've been sending letters to the city since last year demanding that the cross be taken down, acting on behalf of an unnamed resident who complained. *"It offends many residents,"* Barker said of the cross. *"Many of them think the cross symbol is an offensive symbol – that it's an insult to humanity."* (emphasis mine).

They are saying the same thing about the cross in our day as they did in Paul's day. That's why I think I'm going to stick with Paul's approach on this one. He wrote in I Corinthians 2:2, **"I decided that while I was with you I would forget about everything except Jesus Christ and his death on the cross."**

I'll See You Sunday, Andy

Attention Members:

You will be receiving a letter from the Elders and Trustees this week concerning a couple of non-budgeted items that will require a congregational approval before we can move forward with them. The letter will detail the need to purchase a new Church van and a new projector for the sanctuary. We plan to have a congregational meeting on October 30, 2011, to approve these purchases. If you have need any more information prior to the congregational meeting, please contact your Elders who will be happy to answer your questions.

Children & Teens...

Aaron Rosenberg

I'd like to share with you some thoughts about children and teens in this article. Lilah, our daughter is two and a half, pushing three and we've picked up on how her personality has developed over the last couple of years.

If you have a little one around 3, you know what I mean. Lilah loves her mommy and daddy to the ends of the earth, she wants attention and wants to know she is loved, she craves it, and it makes her feel complete. On the other hand, there are also times where it seems as though Lilah wants nothing to do with her daddy or mommy because she is upset, she is angry, she is furious because of one thing or another. Those two attitudes in a 2-3 year old can change almost instantly. If there was an effective mood prediction ring for a small child, I would buy it in a hurry, because sometimes it happens so quickly that a warning would be nice.

Through the instant mood swings and the thrown fits, discipline is essential. Whether its time out or a little spankin, Lilah receives direction when she misbehaves. Despite her fits, and sometimes naughty behavior, I still love Lilah with all my heart. Not a minute goes by where I don't think about her and how I can be a better Dad. Whenever I think of how I can improve my relationship with her I always think of one thing: spend more time. Whether it be one on one daddy daughter time, going to the park, or just playing at home, I know that the greatest way I can show my love to her is to spend time with her.

Lilah will grow up someday to be a teenager (research shows that 99.9% of all dads believe 2-3 year olds will always be the same age, which we all know is true!), and she may not want to spend as much time with me. She may, like many teens, slip into a phase where distance from parents is a goal. I hope that never happens,

but at some point or another I realize it probably will.

To parents of teens today who see their children who once wanted to spend all their time with them and now have a distant teenager: I want to encourage you with this: They still want your time. In fact even though they act standoff-ish, and act like they want nothing to do with you, they want your time so bad. I think one of the reasons teens act as they do sometimes is because of the lack of time spent with parents. This separation I believe can cause an attitude of rebellion. Now, I am not a psychology expert on teenagers, but I have spent a ton of time with them and talked with them about their parents. I want to encourage you that your kids want you, and if you spend time with them everyday and give of yourself, they will dearly appreciate it. Do you have time set apart to spend with your kids each day?

So I want to challenge you to spend more time with your kids. Maybe you work a lot and it seems difficult to do so, but make time. If you have time to watch TV then turn the TV off and spend that time with your kids. If you have time to eat dinner, eat it together. If you have time to read a book at night, read your bible with your kids. No matter how a child acts in response to time spent, they do appreciate it. You may not see that appreciation immediately, but over time you will.

In fact, I believe parenthood and youth ministry are very closely related in the sense that it may take years for children to realize and appreciate you. However, if you are willing to tough it out, and wait for that appreciation down the road, parenthood is one of the most rewarding things a person can be involved in.

Love you all, Aaron

Thanks and Updates...

Eric Jaqua

I want to thank each of you for your participation – not only in the services, but for everything you do and participate in, including Wednesday meals, classes, volunteering and for your prayers. I really enjoy seeing everyone greeting each other, especially those who are visiting us. It is SO important to make our guests feel welcome. And, I see many of you seeking out those who might be new. Sometimes that makes all the difference. Just think how you would feel if you were here for the very first time and someone came up and made you feel welcome. You'd be more likely to keep coming back, right?

And, thank you to everyone who signed up so far to help with Harvest Festival. It's a big deal for us around here, and it takes all of us to pull this off. But, think of the rewards. We want to get to know those in our community who might be looking for a place to belong – a family where they can be encouraged and help encourage others. More importantly, our hope is to be able to contact some-

one who doesn't yet follow Jesus Christ – and then teach them what that means. Harvest Festival is a great outreach tool to do just that. If you haven't yet signed up, please do so!

If you haven't heard, we announced that we are going to be putting on a Christmas musical this year! I had a short information meeting after second service this past Sunday, but auditions start this coming Sunday (October 16th) at 2:30 p.m. We need people who can sing and act, but we also need extras, stage crew, set builders/decorators and more. If you're interested in helping, please let me know. This will be another opportunity to invite our community to join us for an entertaining evening, but one with the good news presented in a musical form. You never know who might show up. God can use events like this to draw people unto Himself.

Worship Him! Eric Jaqua

Costume Party

Middle & Sr. High Youth

Friday Night - October 28th
7:30-9:30pm




Are you too old to wear a costume?
Of course you are. Does that mean you don't want to act like a child playing dress up? Of course not!

On Friday Night the 28th we will be dressin' up. All 6-12th graders are invited to the youth building for an all out costume party. There will be candy and prizes! It all starts at 7:30 p.m.

Dress appropriately please!