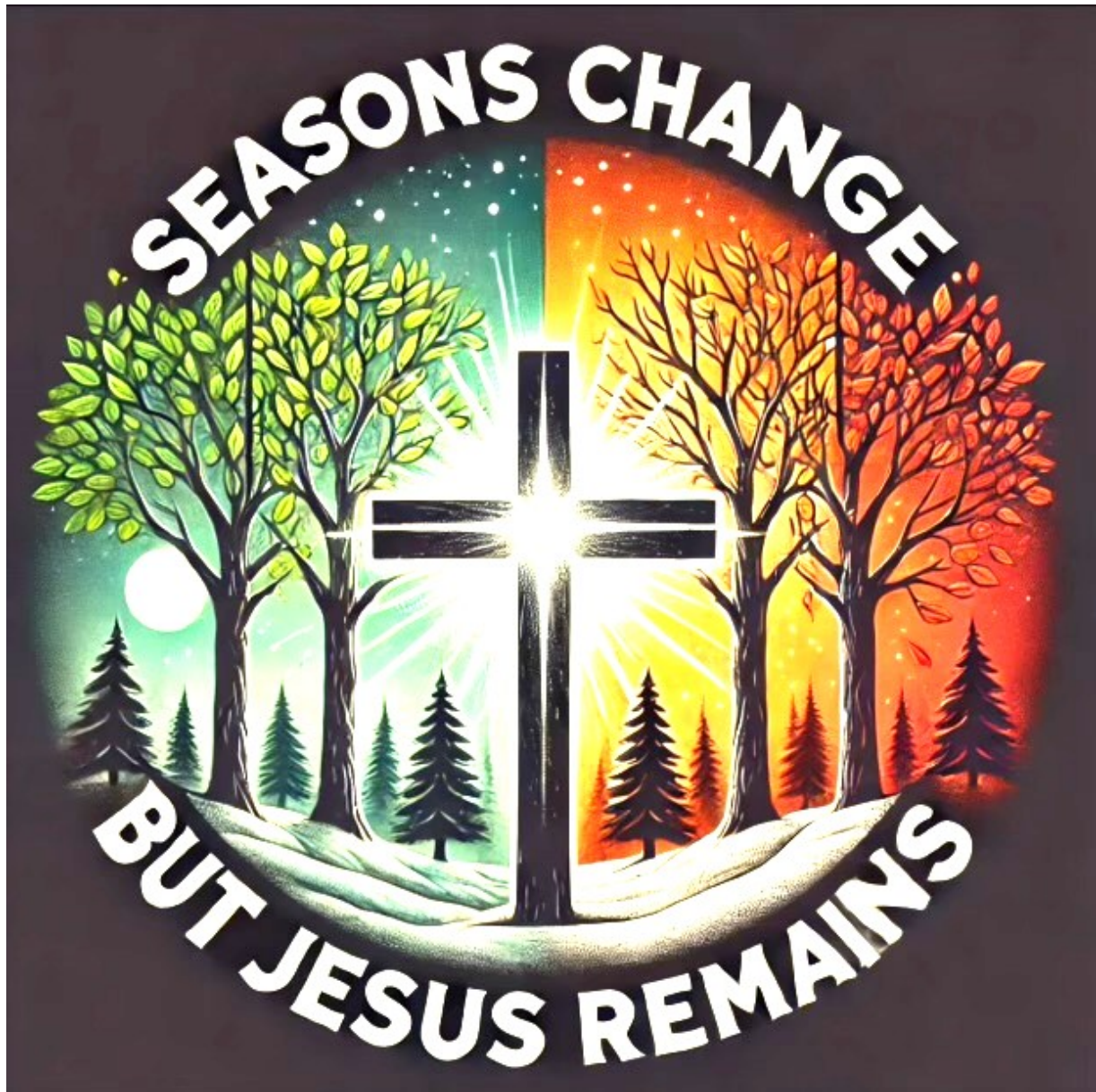


THE MESSENGER

A monthly publication of Zephyr Christian Church



NOVEMBER 2nd 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Dear Zephyr Christian Family,

I imagine you could use some encouraging news today, right? Well, let me share with you something that I think is encouraging. If you've attended one of our New Member Classes, you know that during the first class we spend time talking about the historical roots of Zephyr Christian Church – that we are part of the Restoration Movement and how that movement came about and what that movement stands for. Probably the most contemporary statement of the purpose of the Restoration Movement I have seen is something that Matt Proctor, president of Ozark Christian College, wrote recently: *Christian unity under biblical authority for evangelistic mission*.

But if you've attended one of our New Member Classes, or if you know your Restoration Movement history, you know that this unity movement split into three fellowships: the Disciples of Christ, the non-instrumental Churches of Christ, and the Independent Christian Church.

Now for the encouraging news – over the years, the Disciples of Christ churches have become a liberal denomination, and it has greatly affected their attendance. They had a membership of 2 million in 1967, but in 2022 they reported a membership of 277,864 with attendance at their services of 89,894. However, within that denomination there is a conservative renewal movement that is happening called the Disciple Heritage Foundation. It started in 1985 and has grown to a network of more than 150 churches – they are trying to influence the Disciples of Christ back toward Biblical Christianity. They describe it as “trying to navigate being a theologically conservative church in an increasingly liberal denomination.” As the Disciple Heritage Foundation grows in number and influence within the Disciples, it opens the door for increasing unity and fellowship with the Churches of Christ and the Independent Christian Churches.

The non-instrumental Churches of Christ has also declined in recent years – those tracking it are predicting that by 2050 Churches of Christ will be about one-third the number of churches and adherents they had in 1985. But efforts for greater unity are happening here also! Several non-instrumental preachers were invited to speak at North American Christian Conventions held by the Independent Christian Churches (when we had the NACC). And there are key players working hard to reunite the Churches of Christ and the Independent Christian Churches. Recently, Harding University (a non-instrumental school) invited preachers from both fellowships to their campus for prayer and to discuss discipleship in an increasingly secular world. Pray these efforts continue.

Every year the *Christian Standard* publishes a growth report for the Independent Christian Churches. It reported in 2023 that the growth rate for Independent Christian Churches was 12.8 percent. More than 70,000 baptisms were reported. And even though we call ourselves “Independent,” we are inter-dependent – we work together to support Christian camps, Bible colleges, Good News Productions International, Christ in Youth, and other necessary arms of ministry.

Jesus prayed that His Church would be united. If Jesus prayed for unity, shouldn't we be praying for it, too? And if Jesus prayed for unity, shouldn't we welcome our brothers and sisters of other fellowships? And if Jesus prayed for unity, shouldn't we be working toward being the answer to His prayer? Yes, yes, and yes!

So, the encouragement is that there are efforts toward greater unity and there seems to be a growing desire and momentum toward greater unity within churches that have the common background of the Restoration Movement.

Sincerely,

Jon

OUR MISSION NEWS

FAMILY MINISTRIES OF FLORIDA: Thank you for your gift of \$143.61, it is a great encouragement to us. I want you to know that thru your continued support you are making an investment in these children and we could not provide this environment without you. The Goforth's and their two boys are adjusting to life on campus very well. They have been busy caring for the children throughout the summer while our other houseparent's took a much needed vacations. They have been recently blessed with a family of five and we are thrilled with our new additions to the family. Please continue to pray for their transition, their children, and for the children that have been placed in their care. Another school year has started at Legacy and we are busy with academics, Spanish, and music, auto repair classes. We also have flag football and volleyball practices. The Drama class is currently working on preparing of our tenth annual musical production, performing on November 21st and 22nd. Stay tuned for more information. In behalf of the children and the staff we thank you for partnering with us to help build the spiritual character of the children we serve. In His service - Samantha Geise, Director of Child Care

LAKE AURORA CHRISTIAN CAMP: Father/Son Retreat: November 22-23, 2024-Cost: \$75/adult and \$50/child ages 5-17 (reduced rate for 5 and under) / Optional Camp Out Extension: November 23-24, 2024. - Cost: \$40/adult and \$30/child ages 5-17, online registration open. Take time out from your schedule to make memories with your child!

PHIL MCAFEE BRAZILIAN MINISTRIES: We have been heavily involved with the construction of the new temple for the past four months. We have had to stop the project because a lack of funds to continue. We again are meeting in the plywood structure that we have been using for the past 20+ years. Praise God for 44 years of ministry and for the opportunities to arise and to supply funds to provide for these opportunities! Pray for provision in our congregations, Sobradinho and Dorothy, both are very low income and poverty stricken.

NEIGHBORHOOD CARE CENTER: In need of volunteers: Monday and Wednesday donating/shopping 9AM -12PM, items needed bedding, clothes, shoes, utensils, small household appliances, and furniture. If help needed with water/electric must have proof of income, food stamps, identification & bill. Stocking/organizing Tues & Thurs 8AM-12PM.

S.A.C.M. : The Bibles are coming in. After visiting a few thrift stores and Half Priced Books in Fort Wayne Indiana, I found bargains in their Clearance section along with a few commentaries. In addition, there were folks who have ordered Study Bibles which will be arriving in a few days. Then Dave Foust (Northview Christian Church, Coldwater, MI) emailed about seven skids being delivered to the storage facility. My friend, Jim Tompkins, came to help and unload the shipment of 10,000 Bibles. Eddie Cook in Colorado (Thanks, Eddie!) had a few layers that had to be removed by hand before they could be taken off of the truck. Dave's team will start packing the boxes inside the Bible Barn. So far, it appears as if there is a half container load already there. More deliveries are coming soon. I spent Sunday with my sister, Sara and her friends Julie, Laurie, Julie and Daphne at Kentwood Christian Church. Patrick Gill, the minister, and the leadership have been instrumental in collecting Bibles for many container loads. The church actually filled one 20' container by the generosity of their members! We serve an Almighty God!!!

**The Missions we support are as follows: Family Ministries of FL ~ Lake Aurora Christian Camp
~Phil McAfee Ministries ~ Neighborhood Care Center ~ South African Christian Mission**

*******You can review full reports on the messenger board in the church fellowship hall*******

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER

If you want the Prayer Chain to be started, call Tom Baker (863-670-2215).

If no answer, call Karen Baker (863-602-5180).

Thank you to the young men of our church who have helped me by mowing my lawn. Right now I am physically unable to do it and they have been there to do it for me with great attitudes. I thank the Deacon Ministry of Zephyr Christian for organizing it. - Jon



find hope & compassion at

Pregnancy Care Center of Zephyrhills

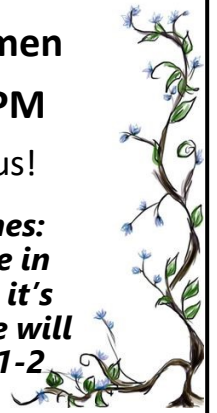
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to mentor young mother's to be and young mother's in need! Monday -Thursday/ 10AM-4PM
813-780-6885 / www.standingwithyou.org/

Zephyr Christian Women

October 8th at 2:00 PM

We hope you will join us!

*I will bless the LORD at all times:
His praise shall continually be in
my mouth. My soul will make it's
boast in the LORD: the humble will
hear it and rejoice. Psalm 34:1-2*



Potluck

October 6th following Sunday morning services, please plan to join us and bring a dish to share!

Sundae Sunday

October 27th at 7:00 PM

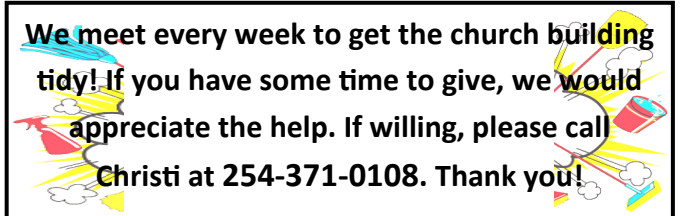
Please join us to celebrate October Birthday's and Anniversaries!



Men's Breakfast

Zephyr Christian Church is hosting the Men's Breakfast October 12th 9:00 AM. Please Sign up!

We meet every week to get the church building tidy! If you have some time to give, we would appreciate the help. If willing, please call Christi at 254-371-0108. Thank you!



ELDERS MEETING

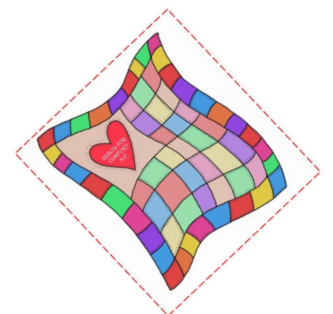


October 15th at 9:00 AM
All members invited to attend!

Sewing & Quilting Group

Wednesdays at 9:00 AM

Please call Karen (863-602-5180) if interested!



PRAISE & PRAYER

Bold Print Indicates

New Names Added or Current Updates

ISRAEL

WARS & CONFLICTS

FAMILY MINISTRIES of FL. - House-parents & children

NEIGHBORHOOD CARE CENTER - Volunteers/donations

All Nations will turn to God - healing spirit/body/land

Community - healing/protection/lost souls

Missionaries - protection/provision/strength

Allana Brandt - provision/vehicle

Ronald Burgard II - cancer (June Burgard)

Shelly Candy - brain tumor/discouraged

Vee Dalton - stroke/rehab/pancreatic cancer

Katherine Ferral - dementia (Michele Danella)

Mable Goward - cancer

Dale Ice - recovery from surgeries (Caroline Ice)

Lori Koontz - fell/severe trauma/recovery surgeries

Mickey Roberts - cancer (Michele Danella)

Heather Roque - brain surgery recovery

Sue - cancer (Tess Stacy)

Sue Sabatucci - Hodgkin's Lymphoma/chemo

Tess Stacy - Charlotte passed away/dad in deep grief/
comfort for family

Zephyrhills Pregnancy Care Center - Mentors

NURSING HOME RESIDENTS & SHUT-INS

American House - Ruby Perry

Gardens of Westbrook - Mae Kremplewiski

Pretty Pond Manor - Emma Loughren

Village Walk Apartments - Kathy Knapp

MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO ARE SPECIAL TO OUR CONGREGATION

Jon Bravinder - Air Force
(son of Jon Bravinder)

Rachel Smeed - Army (GA)
(Tim & Penny Herkel's niece)

POW / MIA US TROOPS & FAMILIES -

PROTECTION & SAFETY OUR COUNTRY & LEADERS OF OUR COUNTRY



"MISSIONS"

Family Ministries of FL.

Lake Aurora Christian Camp

Neighborhood Care Center

Phil McAfee Ministries

South African Christian Missions

September 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



NOVEMBER 2024						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

SUN

MON

TUES

WED

THURS

FRI

SAT

		1	2 Sewing Group 9:00 AM Children, Youth & Young Adults Group Dinner 5:30 pm & Bible Study All Ages - 6 PM	3 MEN'S TRAINING 6:00 PM	4	5
6  Potluck	7	8 Z.C.W. Meeting 2:00 PM	9 Sewing Group 9:00 AM Children, Youth & Young Adults Group Dinner 5:30 pm & Bible Study All Ages - 6 PM	10	11	12 Men's Breakfast ZEPHYR CHRISTIAN CHURCH - Please sign up 9:00AM
13 Guest Speaker	14	15 Elders Meeting 9:00 AM	16 Sewing Group 9:00 AM Children, Youth & Young Adults Group Dinner 5:30 pm & Bible Study All Ages - 6 PM	17	18	19 
20	21	22	23 Sewing Group 9:00 AM Children, Youth & Young Adults Group Dinner 5:30 pm & Bible Study All Ages - 6 PM	24	25  Family GAME NIGHT 6 PM - 8 PM	26
27 Steve with S.A.C.M. visits Z.C.C. 7PM Birthday & Anniversary Sundae Sunday	28	29	30 Sewing Group 9:00 AM Children, Youth & Young Adults Group Dinner 5:30 pm & Bible Study All Ages - 6 PM	31		

MISSION of the MONTH:
FAMILY MINISTRIES of FLORIDA

131 New Legacy Dr.
Seffner, FL 33584 /
Phone-813 - 681-1942
Email-officeadmin@familyministriesfl.org

Birthdays:

- 2 - Haden Dobbs
- 5 - Char Henderson
- 7 - Chris Fulton
- 7 - Ruby Perry
- 7 - Dan Sabatucci
- 7 - Jon Stradtner
- 14 - Cherie' Osborne
- 16 - Bob Zeigler
- 19 - Fern Shank
- 23 - Lexy Murray
- 28 - Marti Bontrager

Anniversaries:

- 16 - Steve & Rosemary Cooper
- 31 - Kevin & Jessie Gardner



If you would like communion brought to you. We must have you call the church office by Friday morning 813-782-8893 and you will be put on the list. Thank you!

Luke 22:19-20 And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you, is the new covenant in my blood".

Biblical Training
to be, think, and act like Jesus

First Thursday of the month at 6:00 PM

COLLEGE AGE GROUP

Jeremiah 29:11



ZEPHYR CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sunday @ 9:00 AM

SHARING THE LOVE AND
JOY OF JESUS

& Wednesday @ 6:00 PM

RSVP by **OCTOBER 4th**
Family Ministries of Florida
invites you to

BREAKFAST

& Morning Coffee

Join us for exciting updates about Family Ministries, and networking with others in the community who share a passion for supporting kids.

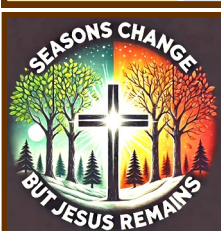
08:30 - 9:30 AM
October 11th, 2024

Bay Life Church
1017 Kingsway Rd.
Brandon, FL 33510

FAMILY MINISTRIES

Family GAME NIGHT

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM on October 25th
(Sign up sheet will be posted)



Donations needed for Fall Festival: water, chips, candy, baskets for basket give - aways, Items for themed gift baskets: movie, picnic, kitchen, arts & crafts. Items for blessings table: nonperishables, clothing, personal hygiene, towels & blankets. Monetary donations accepted as well. Thank you!

Stay Connected

Website: www.zephyrchristianchurch.org

Email: ZephyrCC@aol.com

ELDERS

Tom Baker

863-670-2215
Chr.

Larry Buckland

417-712-4098

Rusty Draper

812-946-2934
V. Chr

Cole Wernette

813 -345-7526

TRUSTEES

Tom Baker

Rusty Draper

Cole Wernette

STAFF

Jon Stradtner

Minister

Cherie' Osborne

Secretary

Zephyr Christian Church

5940 Dogwood Street

Zephyrhills, Florida 33542-3867

Ph: (813) 782-8893

Mission Statement: Sharing the love and joy we've found in Christ Jesus.

Serving In October 2024

COMMUNION SET UP

Fern Shank

GREETERS

Jennifer Andreson
Fely Jackson
Steve Jackson

HEAD OF TABLE

6 - Tom Baker
13 - Rusty Draper
20 - Cole Wernette
27 - Larry Buckland

Happenings at Zephyr Christian

Weekly Services

Sunday
Sunday School (All Ages) 9:00 AM
Worship Service & Jr. Church 10:00 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday:
Bible Study 6:00 PM
College Age, Youth & Children Dinner 5:30 PM
(3 years - Young Adults)

"October Services"

6 - POTLUCK 11:15AM
12 - MEN'S BREAKFAST 9:00 AM
15 - ELDER'S MEETING 9:00 AM
25- FAMILY GAME NIGHT 6:00 - 8:00 PM
27 - SUNDAE SUNDAY 7:00 PM

Wednesday Sewing & Quilting Class - 9:00 AM