

June 20, 2021



FLORENCE BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST

Elders

Steve Clark
Bill Hames
Ken Vanhorn
Mark Willingham

Deacons

Greg Allen
Justin Beckman
Kevin Clemons
Jeffrey Cox
Myron Crunk
Mike Davidson
Kyle Dickson
Gregg Elrod
Nate Fulmer
AJ Gooch
Jamey Medley
Ronnie Putnam
Dave Schmidt
Mark Vanhorn
Matt Warner
Don Williams

Minister

Austin Johnson

Secretary

Sonya Cox

Good Church Members vs. Growing Disciples

I think this is a critically important point, and after thirty years of ministry and training ministers, I have concluded that all too often, **we have placed emphasis and focus on creating good church members rather than making growing disciples.** *Good church members* could be defined as those who: attend regularly, serve in some capacity, give consistently and sacrificially, and the really committed ones lead in some way. By this definition, [who] wouldn't want a church full of *good church members*? So, we emphasize and celebrate *good church members*. But in reality, could a person do all of these things and still not be living as a disciple of Jesus, who is increasingly becoming like Jesus?

Now to be fair, *growing disciples* usually do some of the same things as *good church members*... they serve, they attend, they give. However, those things are secondary to their life in Christ, not primary. Serving, attendance, giving, etc., flow out of their discipleship to Jesus, not their commitment to a church. Growing disciples could be defined as those who: arrange their life to be with Jesus, intentionally pursue the character of Jesus, increasingly love what Jesus loves, are committed to the mission of Jesus because of their devotion to Jesus.

For most churches and their leaders, shifting the focus to forming growing disciples is both subtle and massive. It reorients what we prioritize, what we measure, and what we celebrate. Making good church members often puts the organization first—its growth, its financial health, its size, etc. It emphasizes and celebrates everything *the organization* is doing and how many people *the organization* has involved. The leaders say things like “we couldn't do this without you...” The goal is to help the organization flourish, and people are called to and celebrated when they participate in accomplishing this goal. But when making growing disciples becomes the focus, the people move to the fore, and the organization exists to grow the people and enables the people to flourish.

When growing disciples becomes the focus, the questions then become:

1. How can we help people order their everyday lives around attachment to Jesus?
2. How can we intentionally guide people toward becoming like Jesus from the inside out?
3. How does transformation happen and are our programs and events facilitating transformation?
4. How can we resource people to live as disciples who make disciples?

I have found that for me and [others] I have worked with, recognizing the differences between a *good church member* and a *growing disciple* brings a lot of clarity to the priorities we should be focusing on as [church] leaders if we want to carry out the core mission of the church—disciple making. It clarifies the target and helps us to clearly see if our sites are set on the wrong things.

John Whittaker

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Worship: Sunday 9:00 am & 5:00 pm; Bible Class 10:15 am

Wednesday: 6:30 pm

Sermon Titles:

Sunday AM: The Father's Investment (*Romans 8:31-39*)

Sunday PM: VBS

SICK/PRAYER LIST

Lane Baker, **Colton Clifton** (deployed overseas), **Marjorie Cox**, **Rhoda Gist**, **Mary Garrett**, **Eleanor Martin**, **Leo Martin**, **Helen Parker**, **Larry Phillips**, **Paul Richardson**

FAMILY/FRIENDS: **Brian Allen** (son of Dwight & Linda Allen), **Willie Bird** (brother of Mary Garrett), **Bill Hogue** (brother of Elizabeth Prosser), **June Jones** (mother of Kaye Holderfield), **Larry Martin** (son of Leo & Hazel Martin-brother of Deb Harrington), **Virginia McCaleb** (mother of Beth Jordan), **Vance Pitts** (husband of Patsy Pitts), **Brett Wyatt** (10 year old son of friend of Amy Dickson-has leukemia)

CEDAR VIEW ASSISTED LIVING: **Doug Webster**, Room 111;

LAUDERDALE CHRISTIAN NURSING HOME:

Mary Nix, Room 6; **Glen Gist**, brother of Rayford Gist, Room 13

Happy Father's Day



To all of our dads here at Florence Blvd

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Begins tonight and will continue through Wednesday night.

Time: 6-8 pm

Ages: Birth-6th Grade; Adult Class

If you are helping with VBS, the schedules are located, on the Welcome Booth table, in the foyer, by the Sound Room.

JUNE MISSIONARY

OF THE MONTH

Evands Pierre

C/O Jean-Claubert Belton

Carrefour Michaud #46 Route Malpasse

Entrée Double Harvest

Croix des Bouquets

Haiti

WEDNESDAY SUMMER SERIES

June 23rd: VBS

June 30th: Ron Williams- "Clothes in the Bible" (Matthew 27:27-31; Luke 19:34-36)

49ER'S CLASS

The 49er's class will meet in the auditorium today.

PLACED MEMBERSHIP

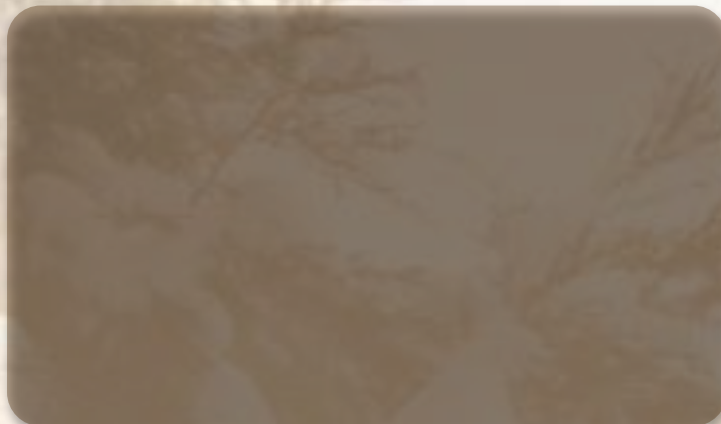
Tommy, Lorie and John Thomas (JT) Condrey placed membership at Florence Blvd, June 13th. Please welcome them into the Florence Blvd family! Address: 309 Cypress Cove, Florence, AL 35634; Tommy: 256-272-7948; Lorie: 256-335-4908.

CAMP MAYWOOD

Anyone interested in being a camper or staff member for Maywood, please sign sheet, on the youth table, in the foyer, or contact Austin or Brianne.

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday AM: 241/ **On Line Views:** 197
Sunday School: 195/ **On Line Views:** N/A
Sunday PM: 192/ **On Line Views:** 130
Wednesday: 179 / **On Line Views:** 113
Budget: \$13,300
Contribution: \$ 12,195



Sermon Titles:

AM:

PM:

Assignments

Morning Worship

Scripture Reader:

Evening Worship

Scripture Reader:

Leading in Communion:

Prayers

First –

Last –

Prayers

First –

Last –

Youth Led: (4:55pm)

Song:

Scripture:

Prayer:

Sermon Notes

Key Words:

Outline: