



January 8, 2023

# FLORENCE BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST

## “Go Deep!!!”

If you've ever played a game of pickup football then you already know that it's very different than an actual game of football. Quarterbacks in “pickup” games don't step into huddles and say “Jet right, slot right, curl, 52 post on two, ready... BREAK!” Now you can get pretty creative and it starts out well intentioned enough. You can draw up reverses, halfback passes, slants, flags, curls, and dig routes right there in the dirt. But after a bunch of incompletions, miscommunication, interceptions and accusations you eventually get to the point where you just look at the confused faces and say “Everybody just Go Deep!”

Now, that normally doesn't work in real football at any level. Yet, spiritually it should be the goal of every Christian to just go deep. Though certainly a new Christian must begin with the milk of the word (*1 Peter 2:2*), that is only the foundation of what a stronger faith with knowledge and wisdom are built upon. The Bible is God's treasure trove of wonderful riches (*Ephesians 3:8*) that we are to deposit in our hearts. And failing to go deep in study of scripture is to rob your own soul and by extension the soul of your family and those that you love. In fact, it isn't hard to see a child of God that lacks knowledge of the word and an understanding of its concepts and principles not to mention the application of its wealth and wisdom. They stand out. They look like a fan, not a player.

It is truly disheartening to hear the Lord's people talk in a shallow way about the deep edicts of God. Troubling to watch them elevate tradition and opinion in place of His commandments. Devastating to see them make decisions based on a worldly criterion. All these failures come from a refusal to “go deep” into God's word. That's a shame. The Lord's church desperately needs Christians with depth.

God's word starts out with these words in *Genesis chapter 1 and verse 1*: “In the beginning...” And in this beginning of a new year and a new reading program resolve yourself Christian to not only read, but get deep into God's word. For He needs people who will do more than read. They will share. More than share, they will explain. More than explain, they will instill. More than instill, they will show you just how deep they can go with the truth of God's word.

Now everybody, GO DEEP! Ready, BREAK!

*Gregg Elrod*

**Elders**  
Steve Clark  
Jake VanDyke  
Ken Vanhorn  
Mark Willingham

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

**Minister**  
Austin Johnson

**Youth Minister**  
John Birdwell

**Secretary**  
Sonya Cox

2502 FLORENCE BOULEVARD  
www.florenceblvd.org

PHONE (256) 766-3617

email: office@florenceblvd.org

FAX (256) 766-3546

Worship: Sunday 9:00 am & 5:00 pm; Bible Class 10:15 am; Wednesday: 6:30 pm

**FOR THE RECORD**

Sunday AM: 281 / On Line Views: 109  
Sunday School: 200 / On Line Views: 98  
Sunday PM: 196 / On Line Views: 164  
Wednesday: 240 / On Line Views: 97  
Budget: \$13,300  
Contribution: \$ 30,162

**JANUARY MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH**

**Wayne Barrier (Burma)**  
**PO Box 93**  
**Cloverdale, AL 35633**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

There will be an Elders and Deacons meeting **TODAY** at 3pm, followed by the Men’s Incorporation Meeting at 4 pm, in the Fellowship Hall. All men of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

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**BABY BOY DIAPER POUNDING**

We will be having a Baby Boy Diaper Pounding, for Kristy Hinton, beginning today and will go through January 22<sup>nd</sup>. A basket is located, on the bench, in the foyer.

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**MEN’S BREAKFAST GROUP**

If you signed up to attend the Hockey Game, you will be leaving the church parking lot at 5:00 pm on Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please see Duane Alexander.

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**THANK YOU**

*To my church family,*

*Thank you so much for all the kindness shown to my family during Imogene’s long illness and death. Your visits, calls, cards, and prayers were comforting to my family. The flower sent and the food prepared for us after the funeral were truly appreciated. It’s a great blessing to be a part of the Florence Blvd church.*

*In Christian Love,  
Louise Woodfin (imogene’s sister)*

◇\*



The entire Bible can be summarized as Jesus is coming, He came, and He is coming again. **Our theme for 2023 is “In the Word: Anticipating Jesus Together.”** We are going to read through the Bible together as a congregation in 2023. I will be preaching each Sunday over the scriptures we will have read in the previous week, so come each Sunday having read the assigned Scriptures, ready to worship and grow!

As you read, take notes, ask questions, and see how each scripture can point to Jesus. No doubt there will be places of Scripture that we read through that may be confusing and you might need help understanding. We have created an email account for this purpose. Email: [intheword@florenceblvd.org](mailto:intheword@florenceblvd.org) with your questions and comments. People can also post on our church Facebook page, call the office, or write down questions and turn them in to me or any of our Shepherds. Who knows, your question may be covered in a sermon, bulletin article, Bible class, or Facebook post. Regardless, our aim in 2023 is to make a collaborative effort to “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.” Be excited and prayerful, God is on the move!

Please pick up a brochure and bookmark on the tables in the foyer with the reading schedule.