

August 6, 2023



# FLORENCE BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST

## SAVIOR LEAD ME LEST I STRAY

If only the children of Israel had truly submitted themselves to God's leadership! They could have avoided so much suffering and heartache... As we read through the book of prophet Isaiah we are quickly reminded of the hardships Israel and Judah experienced during the times of the divided kingdoms and on into the exile.

In Isaiah 40 we see a possible turning point with an announcement of hope towards a coming kingdom. This chapter highlights the characteristics of Yahweh that are the attributes of a true and holy leader. As we look at God's model of leadership, let's be determined to submit fully to Him so that we may not repeat some of the mistakes God's people made so many years ago!

Isaiah 40 makes it clear that our Father God is the Ultimate leader as He models:

1. Comfort and Security — In verses 1-2, God supplies comfort and security to His people. Reflecting on the leadership of Christ, aren't comfort and security enjoyed by all who led by the Good Shepherd? Though we may face trial and hardship in this world, we know that our souls are secure in His hand!
2. Empowerment and Delegation — Verses 3-8 highlight how God makes a straight path for those He's redeemed. In addition to this, we see how the word of Yahweh is proclaimed and we in turn are to continue to pronounce His Word. Grass withers, flowers fade, but God's Word will last forever!
3. Shepherding and Direction — Again we see in verses 9-11 God's gentle and strong leadership. What great peace is afforded to those who hear and obey the message of the good news! Let's be listening for God's direction and put our trust in His Word and follow Him!
4. Power and Authority — Verses 12-17 illustrate the unequalled power and strength. All these other nations that Israel put their faith in are nothing compared to God! Let us see that no matter how great our nation is or the power of another, it is only "a drop in the bucket" when compared to the majesty of our Creator and Savior!
5. Creator and Developer — As we read verses 21-26, we see God is the transcendent Leader who builds and develops others. Many times as we seek to increase the borders of our "kingdoms" we must not forget that everything relies on God and His will!
6. Wise Counselor and Provider — We are reminded that Yahweh is the source of every need we may have in verses 27-31. Those who rely on Him can be renewed and strengthened! Our God crawled beneath the cross and suffered on the tree so we could rise up!

Though we may be weary and even may fall, let's rely on the Savior to lead us!

AJ Gooch

**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  
David Gooch  
Lee Handley  
Will Hodge  
Brian McManus  
Jamey Medley  
Ronnie Putnam  
Dave Schmidt  
Mark Vanhorn

**Minister**  
Austin Johnson

**Youth Minister**  
John Birdwell

**Secretary**  
Sonya Cox

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

**FOR THE RECORD**

Sunday AM: 243 / On Line Views: 296  
Sunday School: 183 / On Line Views: N/A  
Sunday PM: 185/ On Line Views: 202  
Wednesday: 176 / On Line Views: 166  
Budget: \$14,620  
Contribution: \$ 12,315

**AUGUST MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH**

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

**AM Speaker:** John Birdwell  
**PM Speaker:** Austin Johnson

**TODAY**, following preaching, all teachers, students, and anyone else that is associated with the school system, please meet down front for a prayer service.

**SUNDAY BIBLE CLASSES**

**TODAY:** Bartholomew (Nathaniel); taught by Chris Moran  
**August 13<sup>th</sup>:** Andrew, Peter's Brother; taught by Mike Davidson

**MEETINGS**

Elders and Deacons **TODAY** at 3 pm followed by a Men's Meeting at 4 pm.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES**



*August*

- Mark Vanhorn  
**Philippians**  
(AUDITORIUM)
- Dax Holt  
**Studies in Exodus**  
(49ER'S CLASSROOM)
- AJ Gooch  
**Psalm 119**  
(LADIES CLASSROOM)
- Caleb Sampson  
**Media & Tech in Ministry**  
(FAMILY ROOM)
- Mark Willingham  
**Am I Really a Pilgrim?**  
(FELLOWSHIP HALL)

**HEART MOM GROUP**

There will be a meeting, **TODAY**, at 4 pm, for all Florence Blvd women, who would like to be a Heart Mom, which will begin in September. The meeting will be in the 49er's Classroom. Please come with ideas to help improve our ministry.

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**LADIES TRASH PANDA GAME**

If you signed up to go watch the Trash Pandas game, don't forget it is on Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup>. For more details, please see Cheri Suns.

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**LADIES OVER FOOD FOR SICK**

We are in need of some ladies that are willing to call people to provide food for ones that are sick or have had surgeries or babies. You only have to do this for a month. **The months that are needed are: September, November, & December.** If you can help with this, please see Sonya Cox asap.

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**AREA EVENT**

Mars Hill Preschool is looking to hire part-time afternoon workers and substitutes immediately. Interested parties should contact the preschool office at 256-767-1273 or email us at [marshillpreschool1@comcast.net](mailto:marshillpreschool1@comcast.net).

9 week Grief Support Class at Killen Church of Christ Annex, 1560 Hwy 72, Killen, AL. Classes began meeting on Wednesday Night, August 2<sup>nd</sup> and will go through September 27<sup>th</sup>. Time: 6:30 pm-7:10 pm, with Don Williams. The class, material, and handouts will be free. If you have any questions, call Don Williams at 256-366-3327.

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"...walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him; bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God." Colossians 1:10