

September 17, 2023



# FLORENCE BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST

## How Do I Experience God?

The population of this world often runs through their routines without acknowledging the presence and activity of God. Perhaps that very reality is the most unsettling truth of all. Even those who claim to be religious will buffer it by saying they are “non-practicing” — the equivalent of having a gym membership but not going. Like a bullet train passing through city buildings, so too the pursuits of man blaze past monuments that are intrinsic to the Mighty Creator. So, we are faced with a dilemma, and that dilemma revolves around the inquiry of how man can encounter God. Consider Psalm 136 as a remedy for such a conundrum. God can be experienced in:

**Creation** ([Ps. 136:4-9](#)) — In this beautifully composed Psalm, the participant of praise is immediately directed to God’s work in creation. Ceasing our motion of pursuit, we come to a position of observation. Looking, hearing, smelling, feeling, and even tasting aspects of creation bring about a natural progression of looking to the Creator. One of the most obvious places to look when seeking God is the world, we live in.

**Deliverance** ([Ps. 136:10-15](#)) — After graduating from a simple observation of God’s power, we tend to understand the magnitude of experiencing God’s power. Such is the case for our deliverance in this life. Can you recall all the ways that God has delivered you? Brought you out or through a situation? For the Israelites, Egypt was ever-present on their hearts. What is your Egypt? What did God save you from?

**Prosperity** ([Ps. 136:16-25](#)) — The easy highway to travel in this life is one of victimhood. Blaming, whining, and criticizing are all actions that demonstrate ingratitude. It is impossible to speak words of grumbling synonymously with an attitude of gratitude. Letting the sorrows of life completely veil the blessings is a way that God can be hidden from the sight of man. But when we remain constant and consistent in thanksgiving, God is more present in our life.

**Love** ([Ps. 136:1-26](#)) — 26 times. 26 times the phrase “His love endures forever” bears down in this emphatic worship to proclaim the wonder of God. The selflessness, care, blessing, patience, endurance, and foresight of God all bolster the love that surpasses the capacity of the human mind. Find those who are *truly* living the life of a Christian, not those who just wear the title; far too many wear “Christian” as a toll pass to get by. Associate yourself with the authentic Christian and you will see how the love of God vicariously works through humanity. It is through God’s love that we fully experience His inviting presence.

(copied)

**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

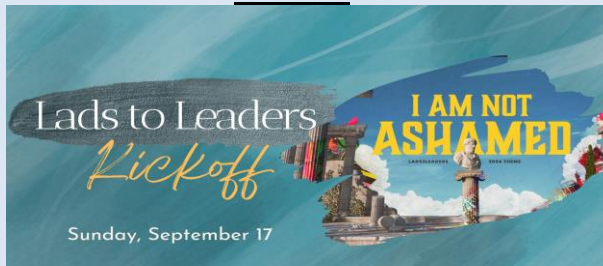
### FOR THE RECORD

Sunday AM: 297 / On Line Views: 150  
Sunday School: 255 / On Line Views: N/A  
Sunday PM: 199/ On Line Views: 141  
Wednesday: 188/ On Line Views: 78  
Budget: \$14,620  
Contribution: \$ 18,263

### SEPTEMBER MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH

**Jean-Claubert Belton**  
**Carrefour Michaud #46 Route Malpasse**  
**Entrée Double Harvest**  
**Croix des Bouquets**  
**Haiti**

### TODAY



### CEDAR VIEW ASSISTED LIVING

We are in charge of the services at Cedar View Assisted Living **TODAY**, at 2 pm. If you can help with this, please see Jake VanDyke.

### MONTREAT APARTMENTS

We are in charge of services at Montreat Apartments **NEXT** Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM. If you can help, please see Jake VanDyke.

### PLACED MEMBERSHIP

We are happy to announce that Preston Riley, has desired to place membership, here at Florence Blvd. He is a student at Heritage Christian University. Welcome him into the Florence Blvd Family.

### BAPTISM

We are happy to announce the baptism of Joseph Hamm. Joseph is the husband of Tiffany Phillips Hamm and son-in-law of Larry & Kathy Phillips. Welcome him into the family of God.

We are also happy to announce the baptism of Anna Vaughn. She is the bride- elct of Zach McFall (son of Jeremy McFall and Tina McFall). Welcome her into the family of God.

### FELLOWSHIP MEAL

Everyone is invited to a potluck fellowship meal **NEXT** Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, after AM services, celebrating those that have been baptized this year. Please come to celebrate, encourage and fellowship with these new Christians! Please bring a covered dish, drinks, and desserts!

**Meal Team #5 is in charge of set up and Meal Team #6 is in charge of clean up.**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Please mark these upcoming events on your calendars and make plans to attend: **Maywood Church-wide Retreat, October 13<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> (sign-up sheet on foyer table)** and our **Gospel Meeting , November 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>.**

### AREA EVENTS

Gospel Meeting at Glendale Church of Christ, Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>-Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. Sunday afternoon service: 1:30 PM; Monday-Wednesday services: 6:30 PM singing; Bible Lesson: 7:00 PM. Sunday Speaker: Joel Caudle; Monday: Vance Hutton; Tuesday: Sonny Owens; Wednesday: JT Harrison.

Ladies Day, at Cox Blvd Church of Christ, September 30<sup>th</sup>, with Debbie Dupuy, from 8:30 am-11:30 am, with lunch to follow. To RSVP, please call 810-241-2443.