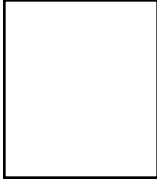




**Avon Park
Christian Church**
Jesus Saves



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www.avonparkchristianchurch.com
Greg Ratliff, Preaching Minister

Mailing Label Here

The Acclaim January 2024

Weekly Services & Times

Sunday: 9am Bible Study
10 am Morning Worship
*Please see Sunday Overhead
Announcements and Bulletin for
Listing of Special Services!*

Volunteers are needed in various areas within the church. There are many things that we can use your help with. Please sign up at the Welcome Center to assist us through this coming year. There is a job for everyone to do here at APCC and we all appreciate your help and desire to serve.

APCC Yard Signs and License Plates: Coming soon we will have APCC Yard Signs to be put out in your yard. These will be available for \$8.00 per sign. There are also APCC License plates available in the Office now. Please be on the lookout for more information on the price and dates of availability for these. If you are interested in a Sign or License Plate, please sign up at the Welcome Center.

LIVE STREAMING on YOUTUBE is still provided every Sunday! If you are having trouble viewing our YOUTUBE Worship programming, please see Tony Ratliff or call at your convenience. We will be happy to take you through the procedure step by step.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17

Please be in Prayer for YOUR church family: Many people are not able to return to Florida this year. We have lost others in death. Please remember and feel welcome to check with the office for addresses of those you miss. A card brightens the day!

APCC News and Upcoming Events

Jan 01	New Years Day	Jan 15	9AM Women's Bible Study
Jan 06	Undecorate the Church	Jan 17	6 PM Bible Study
Jan 07	9 AM Sunday Bible Study	Jan 21	9 AM Sunday Bible Study
Jan 07	10 AM Sunday Service	Jan 21	10 AM Sunday Service
Jan 08	9 AM Women's Bible Study	Jan 22	9AM Women's Bible Study
Jan 10	6 PM Bible Study	Jan 23	6 PM Bible Study
Jan 14	9 AM Sunday Bible Study	Jan 28	9 AM Sunday Bible Study
Jan 14	10 AM Sunday Service	Jan 28	10 AM Sunday Service
Jan 14	Annual Meeting	Jan 29	9AM Women's Bible Study
Jan 14	Dinner Following Meeting	Jan 31	6 PM Bible Study

Happy Birthday

Jan 1 Bill Courtney Jan 11 Deb Decker

Happy Anniversary

Jan 5 Les & Deb Decker

Please contact the office with updates and changes for Anniversaries and Birthdays!

January 2024 Servers

Open Up/Lock Up Host:

Tony Ratliff

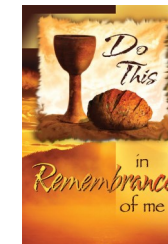
Communion Meditation:

Week Jan 07 Ricky Helms

Week Jan 14 Lee Taylor

Week Jan 21 Ron Byarlay

Week Jan 28 John Kornegay



January 2024 Servers

Communion to the Sick: *

Week Jan 07 Ricky Helms

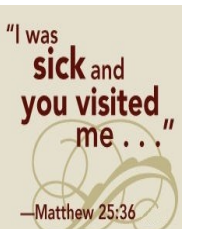
Week Jan 14 Lee Taylor

Week Jan 21 Ron Byarlay

Week Jan 28 John Kornegay

Communion Preparations:

Tony Ratliff



Please inform the office if you desire Communion brought to your home. Due to Covid, we respect your privacy. Please give us 1 day advance notice.

CHURCH FINANCES—Once again we have encountered a few more repairs to our building. Please share with the church a "special blessing" to help offset these repairs.

Togetherness Tuesday Has been postponed until after the Summer Season. We will make decisions about the start of it again as we approach that time. Please plan to join us and watch for updates!

Wednesday Evening Bible Study at 6pm

Wednesday Evening Bible Study has resumed. We are meeting every Wednesday at 6PM. We are currently studying the book of James. Handouts are available every Sunday Morning for the coming Bible Study that Wednesday Evening. Please see Ricky Helms for more information or to get a copy of the Handouts. We really hope that you will come and attend and be blessed by the Word of the Lord. It is our belief that when 2 or more gather, he will be there. Come be with the Lord and let the Spirit teach you.

Adult Bible Study—Young At Heart Classroom

This month we begin a study of the books of I and II Peter. Jesus named Peter “The Rock,” a name fitting his bold character and what became his solid ministry. Referred to as “The first” among his twelve disciples, he was also the man God used to write these two dynamic letters. Though Peter was a Galilean fisherman, he was a person we can definitely relate to today. He was relegated to the highs and lows of life...from the days spent in fellowship with Jesus to the heart wrenching test of loyalty when he denied the Lord three times in the temple courtyard.

This is a bittersweet story that ultimately offers hope to refresh us in hurtful times. And it is an excellent reminder that when we make mistakes and falter, Christ will lend us His strong hand of restoration. Come join us each Sunday morning at 9 AM in the adult worship class to study these two thought-provoking books.

Celebration of Life Service:

We will be having the Celebration of Life Service for Pastor Greg on January 20th. There will be a time of Visitation/Viewing, followed by the Celebration of Life Service itself. The Visitation and viewing will begin at 11:30AM with the service at 2 PM. Pastor Mark Wingler will be doing the service. We would like to invite all to come and be here if you can. We will make this available online for those who are unable to make it for whatever the reason. Pastor Greg loved this Church, but more importantly he loved the Body of this Church.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

The Christmas season is soon approaching, and we will soon be bombarded with the commercialism of advertisers who don't necessarily want us to remember what Christmas is all about. This month we continue our study of the book *Giving God Your Future*. This book takes a look at what the Bible says about trusting God enough to give Him your all and being able to say, “Not my will, but your will be done.” The guide includes twelve weeks of lessons, wonderful illustrations, and reflections to help you move the truth from your head to your heart. Be sure to join us to insure that we remember what this Christmas season is all about. We meet each Monday morning at 9 AM in the adult Bible study classroom. You are sure to be blessed.

*The Christian must realize as a charge daily that he is **morally responsible to God and those around him/her**. He or she must put God **FIRST** in everything (Matt 10:37) and be submissive to the will of God. -copied*

*Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.
Isaiah 43:18-19*

New Year, New Day, New Month

Here we are at that time where we look back over last year, look forward to the New Year and are filled with the senses of wonder, excitement, worry, dread, fear, and well let's face it...the list can go on endlessly. There are a lot of new possibilities, hopes, dreams, and YES the potential for bad.

We've had our ups and downs over the past year and months. We've lost family and friends, jobs, etc. We've welcomed new family and friends, started new jobs, and taken on new adventures. I hear all the time of how people complain that they wish 2020 never happened, 2021 was just as bad, 2022, got even worse, and 2023 was a disaster. Lord how can 2024 even think of being worth while? Well, let's take a moment and look back and reflect the things that were joyful and happy. Look at it through a set of eyes not looking at the events, but at the joy and love. I'm sure that you will find that while there are certainly things that could have been or gone better, the good far outweighs the bad. Can you think of the reason why?

God doesn't want us to suffer. He wants us to be happy, in peace and filled with His love and grace. Some may argue that's not what His word says he wants. That He wants us to love Him, to be our God, and for us be His. Yes that's true, but it does also say go on to say more too.

***Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed,” says the Lord, who has compassion on you.
Isaiah 54:10***

What we don't seem to be able to do is to put that behind us and fill ourselves with the peace, love and joy that our Lord and God freely offers to us. We don't remember to turn everything over to Him and say, “Lord, I know this is too much for me to deal with on my own. I know that You have told us that there is nothing is too great for You. Father, I'm turning all of this over to you. I'm not going to be focused on anything but praising and service You Lord.”

As Said in ***James 4:7-8, 7 So give yourselves completely to God. Stand against the devil, and the devil will run from you. 8 Come near to God, and God will come near to you.***

Let's be sure that we take our focus and place it not on our thoughts, wants, and needs; but on the commands of love, worship, and obedience of God, with a very strong focus on well everything that is God. Be sure that as we go through this New Day, New Month, and New Year, we do so with our hearts, minds, and souls in the right place.



Annual Meeting Dinner:

Be sure to join us for our Annual Congregational Meeting Dinner on Jan 14th following the Annual Congregational Meeting. Please Be Sure that you are checking the Acclaims every month for exciting new Opportunities for you to Serve and for More Events and Going Ons here at APCC. If you are not getting an Acclaim please contact the Office or Tony directly to let us know so that we can make sure you are getting them and there are no postal issues.

We want everyone to have the opportunity.