

	5/21	5/28
Call To Worship	David Gulledge	David Gulledge
Scripture Reading	Tucker Hopkins	Carson Hopkins
Song Leader	Jimmy Garner	Stan Mitchell
Prayer	Hugh Kelly	Greg Nash
Preside Lord's Supper	Rick Sharpe	JD Branch
Usher	Steve Hopkins	
Sermon	Dave Rogers	Jonah Dawes
Closing Prayer	David Gulledge	Andy Johnson
Evening Worship		
Announcements	David Gulledge	David Gulledge
Song Leader	Jimmy Garner	Stan Mitchell
Prayer	Rick Sharpe	Curtis Hurt
Sermon	Dave Rogers	Singing Night
Lord's Supper	Rick Sharpe	JD Branch
Prayer	Eric Hagin	Larry Rose
Worship Assignment Coordinator for May: Cliff Nash		

## PTP 2023 Early Bird Registration is Now Open



POLISHING THE  
**PULPIT**  
AUGUST 16-24, 2023



Volume 29, Number 21

May 21st, 2023

## Basic Facts from...2 John

by Dave Rogers

Five times in the first four verses of John's very brief letter to "the elect lady," he emphasizes the role *truth* must occupy in a Christian's life. He first notes that his love for this "elect lady" is **root-ed** in truth, vs. 1.

(The recipients of this letter, whom John addresses as the "elect lady *and her children*," are thought by some commentators to be an actual sister in Christ and her family. Those who hold this view generally assign her either the name *Ku-ria* or *Electa*, literal translations of the words "lady" and "elect." A more commonly-held view in recent years supposes that John is addressing a specific congregation and its members, rather than an individual Christian sister and her family. There IS a biblical precedent for this view, as Peter refers to the congregation in Rome as "she" in 1 Peter 5:13. Regardless of which view we take concerning the identity of John's original readers, the truth and applicability of his message does not change in the slightest degree.)

No relationship at all would likely exist between John and the recipients of his letter but for the common ground they occupy because of "truth." John expands this theme by including all others who share this common ground – "all they that know **the** truth" – and in the process he moves our thoughts from a generic image of things that are true to the very specific context of God's message about judgement, salvation, and eternity: **THE** truth.

At verse 2 he *again* expands the image of truth by further pointing out that the love these Christians share is absolutely rooted in the **mes-sage** ("truth") that lives within them. In other words, God's truth is the animating force of the

love they share, and because His **truth** abides forever (cf. Matthew 24:35; 1 Peter 1:23) so shall the love it produces (1 Corinthians 13:13).

Unlike many of *Paul's* letters, *John's* opening "benediction" at verse 3 does not express a prayerful desire for God's grace, mercy, and peace on behalf of his readers; rather, he emphasizes these qualities as common consequences that necessarily result from the presence of truth and love in the heart of every Christian. The practice of everything God's truth **requires** ("walking in *truth*" according to the Father's commandments, vs. 4) thus becomes a source of great joy for John because their common practice of God's will is a clear demonstration that they – like he – are united together by the motive, values, and purpose of the Father.

John defines the commandment for Christians to love one another (vs. 5) by describing the *prac-tice* of Christian love in verse 6 – Christians are to "walk" (a metaphor for the overall conduct of our lives) according to the commandments God has given. Much as Paul and Peter urged Christians to "*be of the same mind*" (cf. Romans 12:16; 1 Corinthians 1:10; Philippians 4:2; 1 Peter 4:1), John's words here reflect the common motive and perspective all Christians should share. The presence of "deceivers" and "antichrist" in the world (vs. 7) – who contradict the reality of Jesus' incarnation – challenges all Christians to pay attention to what we believe and how we "walk," lest we be led astray by their error (vv. 9-11) and lose the benefits/blessings we have obtained. We must recognize the connection John makes between **truth** in vv. 1-4, the **commandments** of vv. 5-6, and the **doctrine of Christ** in vv. 9-11.

### Communion Preparation

Available on the table in the foyer

#### Nursery—May

21 Melanie Boelsterli  
28 Staci Killingsworth

#### June

4 Jenny Gwinn  
11 Shelby Garner  
18 Connie Kelly  
25 Tara Nash

#### Visitors' Center

14 Janine Esler/Linda Armstrong  
21 Susie Graham/Lisa Tittle  
28 Sally Wallace/Sue Riley

#### Care of Building

16-31 Steve Esler/Stan Mitchell  
June 1-15  
16-20

#### Media Center

##### May 21

**Sound Board** DJ Phillips

**Streaming** Holden Cella

**Projector Computer** Steve Esler

**Training** Ethan Boelsterli

##### May 28

**Sound Board** Jon Buckner

**Streaming** Steve Esler

**Projector Computer** Dennis Graham

**Training** DJ Phillips

##### June 4

**Sound Board** Jon Buckner

**Streaming** Dennis Graham

**Projector Computer** Eric Hagin

**Training** Jon Buckner

##### June 11

**Sound Board** David Hopkins

**Streaming** Eric Hagin

**Projector Computer** Holden Cella

**Training** Carson Hopkins

#### Wednesday Evening

##### Devotionals

May 24 — Paul Lyons  
May 31 — Tucker Hopkins

### Preachers:

**Dave Rogers** — 361-649-6638  
dave.rogers@fcoc.com

**Jonah Dawes** — 205 514-1489  
(Youth and Family)  
jonah.dawes@fcoc.com

**David Gulledge** — 731 227-9001  
(Outreach and Involvement)  
Dgulledge88@gmail.com

### Office Administrator:

Susie Graham  
celiagraham@bellsouth.net

### Office Hours:

Mon, Tues & Thurs 10am-3pm

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Email: mail@fcoc.com

Web Page: <http://www.fcoc.com>

[www.Facebook.com/FCOCgeorgia](http://www.Facebook.com/FCOCgeorgia)



Attendance  
QR Code  
Use your  
phone and  
add your  
family

Georgia School of Preaching-  
South Metro Campus  
<http://gsoponline.org/>  
gsop-fayetteville-campus  
Rick Sharpe, Campus Director

### Our Mission Works

Graham & Elizabeth McDonald, Scotland

Victor & Esperanza  
González-Geronimo, Mexico

Raintree Village Children's Home

### WATCH!

*The Fountain of  
Life*

With **Larry Acuff**  
Saturdays at 7 am on  
channel 57

In SEARCH of  
the Lord's Way  
With **Phil Sanders**

Sunday at 7:30am,  
Stations 69 or 45  
5/28—CAN I REPENT?

### Elders

Tom Durden(770) 652-7389

Jim Garner (770) 461-3197

Greg Nash (404) 455-1546

### Deacons

JD Branch

Steve Esler

Dennis Graham

Eric Hagin

David Hopkins

Hugh Kelly

Andy Johnson

Stan Mitchell

Charles Nash

David Poskevich

Rick Sharpe

Jack Sorrell

### Records You Made – May 14, 2023

Bible Classes	87-6 Units Online
10 am Worship	149-24 Units Online
5 pm Worship	64-4 Units Online
Offering	\$6,805.00
Wednesday Bible Study	85-4 Units Online

### Assembly Schedule: Sunday

9:00 am Bible Classes  
10:00 am Worship Service  
5:00 pm Worship Service

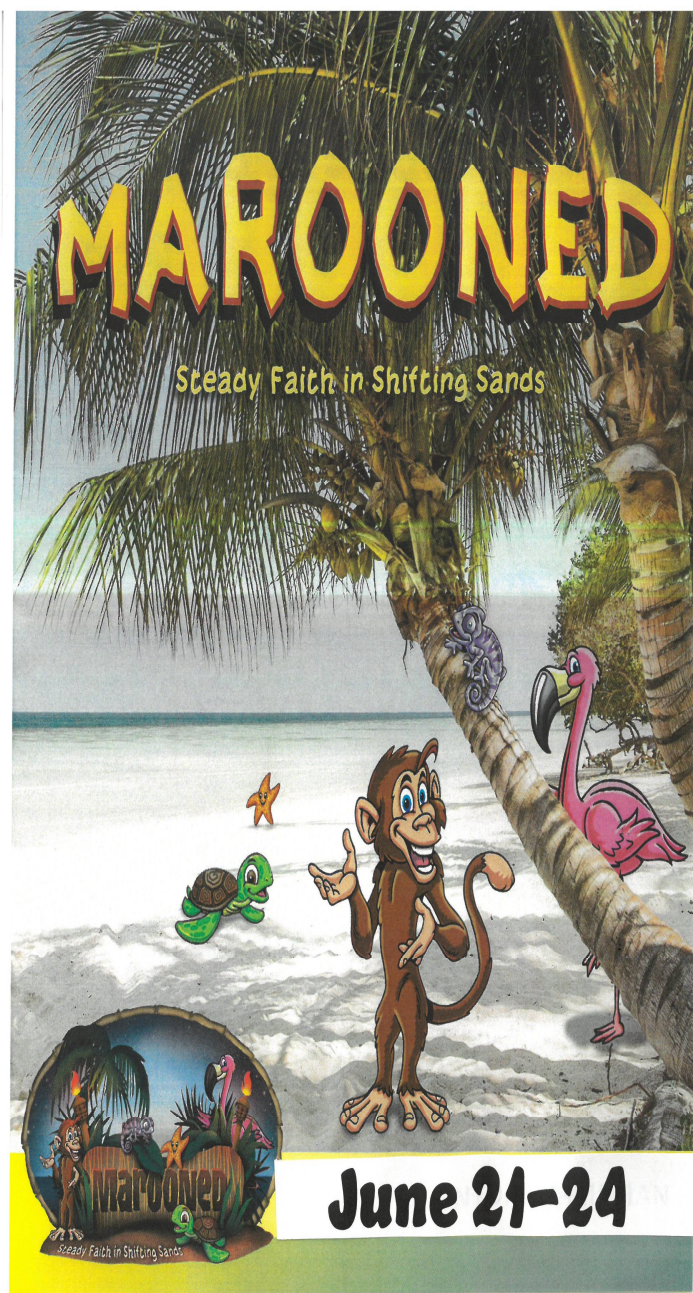
### Tuesday Morning Bible Study

10:00 am  
(Classes begins Sept 13 - May 16)

### Wednesday Evening

Bible Classes at 7pm





## Youth Calendar

**May 30** — White-water Rafting  
**June 2** — FROG's Day  
**June 5** — Guys'/Girls' Day  
**June 8** — Movie Night at Firepit  
**June 11-16** — Camp Inagahi



**June 18** — VBS Decorating Day  
**June 21-24** — VBS—MAROONED  
**June 26** — "Make Me a Servant" Week  
**July 1** — Six Flags Day  
**July 7** — FROGs' Day  
**July 18** — Movie Night at the Firepit  
**July 9-13** — VBS Mission trip to Warrenton, GA  
**Your help is needed!**



## Our Mexico Mission trip will be June 10-17, 2023 We need YOUR support!

We have an opportunity to serve the Lord in June by helping our brethren in Villa Ocuilzapotlan, Tabasco, Mexico. We're planning a mission trip to support the church there, and to introduce others to the gospel for the first time.

The dates for this trip are **June 10-17, 2023**. We will have Bible classes each afternoon, and a gospel meeting in the evenings. We will also visit shut-ins. The members are interested in purchasing the land and building their currently worship in, but your help is needed. See Dennis Graham for information. **One reason to help other congregations like this is because it strengthens the church here!**

## WELCOME, VISITORS!

We consider it a privilege to have you worship with us today. Please stay for a few minutes after worship so we can get acquainted with you, and you with us. **Please complete an Attendance Card**, located on the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate. We have an attended nursery and a training/cry room available. *Today's sermon can be viewed online by going to [www.fcoc.com](http://www.fcoc.com) — click on "live broadcast."*

## Family Matters

### Keep in Prayer

Keith Killingsworth — Will have shoulder surgery in June.  
 Emmett Libby — Hopes to have back surgery this month.  
 Harry Smith — Susan's husband is in Grady Hospital recovering from surgery last week.  
 Mary Lawrence — Is not doing well, she needs visits and help getting to her doctor appointments. The Oaks at Fayetteville, 1294 Hwy 54 West, Room 107, Fayetteville, 30214.  
 Harry & Mattie Williams — Both need prayers for their health issues.  
 Mark Royal — Allene Scoma's stepson-in-law had surgery for liver cancer last week, and his wife Kim also has health issues.  
 Jerry Cauthen — Joan Poskevich's brother suffered a stroke last week. He is hospitalized in Kentucky.  
 Earl Hopkins — David Hopkins' father is having health issues.  
 Patricia Walker — Mattie Williams' sister is in ICU in Augusta with blood issues. Also Sonny, the Williams' daughter, fell last week and is now having problems with her spine.  
**Our brethren on both sides of the war in Ukraine.**

### Continue Prayers for:

Jim Pelfrey — Continuing chemo & radiation treatment.  
 Jim & Sharon O'Brien — Jim has now begun immuno-therapy.  
 Burma Chapman — Hope Center Memory Care, 355 Brandywine Blvd, Sunny Suite #10, Fayetteville, GA 30214. Visitors are welcome.

### Members With Health Issues:

Andrew Williams, Martha Vickery, Donna Hagin, Margie Fields, Jeanelle McNease, Doris Buckner, Brian Harris, Tom & Christie Belk, David & Sue Riley, Paul & Decieta Lyons, Rick & RuPearl Sharpe, Dennis & Marlene Etheridge

### Shut-ins:

Una Fortson, Ruby Fowler, and Estell Higginbotham,

### Missionaries and their families:

Graham & Beth McDonald; Victor & Esperanza González Geronimo; Scott & Rebecca Shanahan.

### Others With Health Problems:

Catherine Burton (Jeanelle McNease's stepmother), Karen Gower (Holley Dalman's mother), Duane Esler (Steve's brother), Joyce Brown (Janine Esler's grandmother), Benson Smith (Harry's brother), Richard & Cathy Oliver (Brenda Mitchell's mother and stepfather), Eyvonne King (Annette Butler's cousin), Chris Lee (Cathy Harris' cousin), Aukse Harris (Linda Armstrong's adopted daughter), Myrtie Robinson (Sue Riley's sister), Jackie Couch (Ginny's husband), Xernonia Fortson, Ruth King (Melanie Boelsterli's aunt), Frankie Griffin (RuPearl Sharpe's sister), Lamar Elder, Carol Waites (Martha Vickery's daughter), Shirley Johnson (Andy's mother), Bob & Nancy Neff (Amy Nash's parents), Irving & Cornelia Rose (Larry's parents), Lil Cauthen (Poskevich family) and Joe & Judy Hand (Scoma family).

## Calendar Events

May 29 — Office Closed for Memorial Day  
 June 10—17 — Mexico Mission Trip  
 June 30, July 28, & Aug 25 — "Ladies' Night Light," a summer series for Women & Girls. Join us for fellowship, bible study, and a fun activity!  
 July 9-13—VBS at Warrenton, GA. Volunteers & financial assistance are needed.  
 July 30 — 5th Sunday Potluck Luncheon. Bring your lunch and some for our visitors.

## Needed for VBS

**Toilet Paper Rolls, Gold Metallic & Blue Sharpies, Orange foam, green & red feathers, pipe cleaners & light weight wire**

## Area Events

**Sunday, May 28  
 at 5PM —  
 "Areawide  
 Worship in Song"  
 Tara Church of  
 Christ, Jonesboro**

## May Birthdays

21  
 Keith Killingsworth  
 24  
 Jo Hurt  
 Jim O'Brien  
 Susan Posey  
 25  
 Cliff Nash  
 26  
 Aaralyn Phillips  
 31  
 Tony Burdette