



December 1, 2019

# Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church

10050 Ferguson Avenue ❖ Savannah, Georgia 31406

*Where Christ Is Exalted and the Fellowship Is Exciting*

## Announcements

### Poinsettias

The beautiful poinsettia arrangement on the table is given in memory of Christine Noha, by her son, Wayne Noha.

### Trip to Myrtle Beach

The group will leave Savannah in the morning tomorrow, Monday, **December 2**, and return Wednesday afternoon, **December 4**. **We will load up in time enough to leave at 8:00 a.m.** The trailer we are using to transport the luggage will be in the parking lot this afternoon. If you would like to load your luggage tonight, have it here between 4:30 and 5:00 p.m. in order to load up before the called congregational meeting.

### Special Called Meeting

Deacon election this afternoon, **December 1**, at 5:15, in the Fellowship Hall. Those willing to serve are: Lance Ficek, Michael Kleinpeter, Chris Leverett, Cole Morris, and Kelly Stanford.

### Coffee, Cocoa, Cookies, & Carols

We'll have this special service to officially begin the holiday celebrations during Evening Worship tonight in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m.! Bring homemade (or store-bought) cookies and other goodies to share!

### Joy Class

Their next meeting is scheduled for **December 10**, and it will be their Christmas Party! They will meet regularly again in January.

### Elders & Deacons

Elders meet on **December 3**, and Deacons on **December 10**.

**Cont. on p. 4**

## FABC Elders

Bob Dimmitt  
Senior Pastor  
912-398-4363  
bob@fabchurch.com

Tim Wade  
Assoc. Pastor/  
Youth  
912-231-7199  
tim@fabchurch.com

Tom Keller  
Assoc. Pastor/  
Senior Adults  
912-308-3767  
tom@fabchurch.com

Steve Posner  
Elder  
912-704-5617  
steve@fabchurch.com

10:30 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

\* **Opening Chorus & Greeting**

*“Joy to the World” v.1*

Words are on the back of the bulletin

\* Call to Worship

Luke 1:68-69

Pew Bible p. 856

\* **Hymn #84**

*“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”*

Prayer of General Confession

Tom Keller

Numbers 14:19-21

Pew Bible p. 122

Special Music

*“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”*

Words to follow along on p. 5

Scripture Reading

Exodus 32:1-24

Pew Bible p. 72

Steve Posner

Receiving of Tithes And  
Offerings

\* **Hymn #83**

*“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*

Message

Bob Dimmitt

*Singleness, Marriage, & the Prosperity Gospel*

1 Corinthians 7:25-31, 1 Corinthians #38

Pew Bible pp. 956

\* **Hymn, to right**

*“Doxology”*

Old Hundred tune

2 \* All those who are able, please stand.

6:00 p.m.

Welcome, Announcements,  
Prayer

Special Music

*“In the Bleak Midwinter”*

**Refer to the booklet for all the  
readings and music tonight!**

*“God, the Uncreated One”*

*“Sussex Carol”*

*“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”*

*“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

*“While Shepherds Watched  
Their Flocks”*

*“Angels We Have Heard on High”*

*“Good Christian Men, Rejoice”*

*“Angels from the Realms of Glory”*

*“God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen”*

*“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*

Devotional Message

Bob Dimmitt

*“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

## **Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings  
flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen

## A.M. Notes

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Singleness, Marriage, & the Prosperity Gospel

1 Corinthians #38

1 Corinthians 7:25-31

**Betrothed** = *parthénos* means a “mature young woman.”

The dangerous time that was upon them, and/or was coming, would affect all normal human relations.

In the Corinthian culture, marriage was everything. The pursuit of happiness, condemned in the NT was an obsession among the Corinthians.

The result was a worldview not unlike the prevailing one in our modern society today. People lived for the moment.

### 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

It's not that Paul views the married life as less spiritual than the celibate life, but that the celibate life is less distracted by worldly cares.

We now have a passage that appears to be strangely worded and difficult to understand.

### 1 Corinthians 7:36-38

Some think that this is advice given to a man engaged to be married, others, whom I believe correct, view it as advice to the father whose daughter is engaged to be married.

We live in a culture that glamorizes sex and is biased toward married couples; the latter is especially true in the church today. Single people often feel ostracized from the normal activities of the church.

## Senior Adult Bible Study

No Bible study this week.

## Homeless Ministry

Tom Keller preaches and serves lunch at the Old Savannah City Mission on the first Saturday of each month. **December 7** is the next date. Contact Tom if you would like to help!

## Sacred Harp Shape Note Singing

The Savannah Sacred Harp Singers will have their monthly singing in the church on Saturday, **December 7**, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. We meet in the piano side overflow room. We'll sing some holiday favorites! Loaner books are available. See Dawn in the office if you have questions.

## Christmas Banquet

Our annual banquet is scheduled for Wednesday, **December 11**, at 7:00 p.m. Please sign up in the hall!

We need some volunteers to help with the cleanup after the banquet. Please contact Tim or Dawn in the office if you are able and willing to help in this way.

### Upcoming dates to note:

- December 10 Joy Class Christmas Party
- December 11 Christmas Banquet
- December 16 Youth Caroling
- December 17 Senior Adult Tour of Lights & Christmas Party
- December 18 Youth Christmas Party
- December 20 Young Adult Christmas Party
- December 22 Adult Choir Cantata: *Noel, Night of Everlasting Love*
- December 24 Christmas Eve Communion Service
- December 31 New Year's Eve Chili Cookoff

**T**he biblical story can be told as a reflection on two Greek words: *kyriotes* and *autonomia*. The first means 'lordship' and refers to God's right to rule; the second means 'living by one's own laws' and describes man's effort to live independently of God. From Genesis to Revelation, the story of the Bible is one of God's assertion of his lordship – his 'right to rule' – over all the universe but more specifically over human beings, and of humans' counter-assertion of their right to live apart from God's rule. Genesis 3:1-7 describes humankind's decisive rejection of God's right to rule and thus the initial expression of human autonomy, while the rest of the Bible describes the disastrous consequences of that action and God's program of redemption to bring humans back under his acknowledged rule, forgiven and willingly submitting to him.

*Terry Chrisope, Professor of History at Missouri Baptist University*

# Of The Father's Love Begotten

Of the Father's love begotten,  
Ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega,  
He the source, the ending He,  
Of the things that are,  
That have been,  
And that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessed,  
When the virgin, full of grace,  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
Bare the Savior of our race,  
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer,  
First revealed His sacred Face  
Evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heav'n adore Him;  
Angel hosts, His praises sing;  
Pow'rs dominions, bow before Him,  
And extol our God and King;  
Let no tongue on earth be silent,  
Ev'ry voice in concert ring,  
Evermore and evermore!

Evermore and evermore!

CCLI Song # 2933359

Aurelius Clemens Prudentius | Karla Worley | Steven V. Taylor

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# Articles

## A Ugandan Thanksgiving

Danielle Hurley



Here in Kubamitwe in November, the rains are fading and the sun is heating up for our dry season. So while our tropical trees don't change color in November, the SOS missionary families decorate our homes with festive autumn flora and prepare for our Thanksgiving feast. Every 4th Thursday in November, the missionary families have traditionally celebrated our American holiday as one big family. For those of you foodies who are doubtful of a truly American feast, here is our menu:

- Turkey and gravy (frozen Costco turkey breasts checked in our luggage under the plane to Uganda in cooler bags!)
- Stuffing (Bisagni gourmet recipe made with local ingredients)
- Green Bean Casserole (French's fried onions brought in luggage by visiting American teams)
- Sweet Potato Casserole (Local butternut squash substitutes nicely with American pecans brought by teams)
- Mashed Potatoes (Amazing Basaba recipe which requires Philadelphia Cream Cheese checked in our luggage in cooler bags)
- Homemade Rolls (Bisagni recipe—yum!)
- Cornbread and honey butter (Looking forward to Stepanian contribution this year!)

- Cranberry Applesauce Jell-O (Hurley tradition, ingredients annually supplied by Nana Seehusen)
- Apple, Pumpkin, and Pecan Pies (all made completely from scratch, of course!)

Kinda makes you want to come to Uganda for Thanksgiving, doesn't it?! As you can see, ingredients graciously transported by visiting teams throughout the year make our Thanksgiving feel homey. We moms have found that maintaining as many familiar traditions as possible makes transition easier on our kids. While everything around them changes when moving continents and cultures, familiarities (especially food) comforts the soul.

While we enjoy providing comfort food, we know that God has called us missionaries to give up certain physical comforts, and all of us Christians to give up any comforts that would keep us from furthering His Kingdom. So as we all allow the Lord to stretch us beyond what we think is humanly possible in order to serve Him, we have found that thankfulness is the key to maintaining joy in the midst of discomfort.

Since the holiday of Thanksgiving is traditionally American, we as an SOS family have adopted our own tradition of thanking God for His faithful provision during the past year with our local staff of 127 employees on the Friday after Thanksgiving. During this time we sing hymns of praise, share a meal, and listen to testimonies proclaiming all that God has done within the year, ending with a time of prayer of praise.

The Thanksgiving holiday forces us to recount God's many provisions toward us instead of dwelling on deficits. The SOS family has too long of a list to share, but here are a few highlights of what we are especially thankful for this year:

- The blessing of 7 wonderful years with our beloved Cupp family
- The gift of the dear Stepanian family which immediately became family to us all
- The joy of looking forward to welcoming a new son-in-law, Stephen, into the family October 10, 2020
- Looking forward to finalizing adoptions of Ella and Elijah with court dates December 5th and 10th, respectively
- Completing a fruitful first year of training Ugandan and Sudanese pastors at STC
- Celebrating 10 years as a church family with Community Bible Church of Kubamitwe
- Seeing our friend, Pastor Abel become elected as the president of the Baptist Union of Uganda
- Seeing our children love Christ more this year than they did before
- The privilege of serving alongside the big SOS family full of Ugandans and Americans here and around the world
- Watching God provide through supporters like you beyond our expectations to enable us to proceed with Kingdom-ministry here in East Africa

- Providing partners in prayer as we seek God's help to impact His Kingdom
- The joy of resting in the righteousness of Christ as we are empowered to joyfully love and serve our King

Whether you are celebrating Thanksgiving near a cozy fire with crunchy leaves outside your backdoor or in a balmy jungle, may you enjoy your time with family and those you love. As you rejoice in all that God is doing in your own lives, please join with our SOS family in praising God for all that He has done this year.

*It is good to give thanks to the LORD and to sing praises to Your name, O Most High; To declare Your lovingkindness in the morning and your faithfulness by night. Psalm 92:1-2*

## **God, the House-building God**

By Don Whitney

In 2 Sam. 7:2, King David noted the incongruity of him living “in a house of cedar, [while] the ark of God dwells in a tent.” He spoke with the prophet Nathan, who encouraged him in his plan to build a house—a temple—for God. It was good that David wanted to build a house for God. It was precious in God's sight that it was in David (initiated by God's grace) to want to do something great for God because of his love for God.

“But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, ‘Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? . . . The LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house’” (vv. 4-5, 11).

In grace God responded to David's love by promising something for David that was infinitely greater than David could have ever imagined. Although David wanted to build a house for God, God said that instead He would build a house for David; not in a structural sense, but in a human sense. From David's descendants would come a King—Jesus—who would reign forever. Through the coming Son of David, God promised to build the “House of David” and “establish the throne of his kingdom forever” (v. 13). David would have the joy of knowing that one of his descendants would rule not only Israel, but the entire universe and do so forever.

God was far from finished, however, in astounding His people with the grace of His house-building work.

Now, God makes us—believers in Christ—His house. “We are the temple of the living God,” the Bible proclaims in 2 Cor. 6:15. Eph. 6:22 says of believers in Christ, “In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.” God Himself now dwells by His Spirit in the body of each individual Christian and also in unique ways when the body of believers (the local church) is assembled.

Thus God now promises something that in many ways is greater than the promise to David. Not that there is any gift greater than sending Christ, but greater than the satisfaction David had of knowing that one of his descendants would be the greatest king of all. Greater than the inward satisfaction of knowing that one of your descendants would rule forever is the indwelling of the Holy

Spirit. Greater than any sense of gratification about what God would ultimately do through you is the Spirit of that King living within you from the first moment of faith and forever.

Then, in another stunning, gracious promise, God tells us there's even more to His house-building. He not only indwells our bodies as His house (temple), He is preparing a place where our bodies can dwell with him forever. As Jesus said in Jn. 14:2, "In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?" To think of living with that King in His heavenly home forever is a promise and a gift we could no more imagine or deserve than David could have dreamed of the house God would build for him.

Remember this when you think of the coming of Jesus. We gave Him no house—only a cattle stall—in which to be born. Later, as a man He would say, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head" (Mt. 8:20).

Despite how we shut Him out, He took upon Himself the sins that had shut us out of Heaven. And when we look to Him as our only door (Jn. 10:9) to God and Heaven, we will be welcomed by the Father. Then, like the astonishing outpouring of grace that He showed to David, He—the eternal King—is willing to make our bodies His house, and to give our newly-remade bodies a house with Him in glory forever.

## **J.C. Ryle's Eight Symptoms Of False Teaching**

1. ***There is an undeniable zeal in some teachers of error***—their "earnestness" makes many people think they must be right.
2. ***There is a great appearance of learning and theological knowledge***—many think that such clever and intellectual men must surely be safe to listen to.
3. ***There is a general tendency to completely free and independent thinking today***—many like to prove their independence of judgment by believing the newest ideas, which are nothing but novelties.
4. ***There is a wide-spread desire to appear kind, loving, and open-minded***—many seem half-ashamed to say that anybody can be wrong or is a false teacher.
5. ***There is always a portion of half-truth taught by modern false teachers***—they are always using scriptural words & phrases, but with unscriptural meaning.
6. ***There is a public craving for a more sensational and entertaining worship***—people are impatient with the more inward & invisible work of God within the hearts of men.
7. ***There is a superficial readiness all around to believe anyone who talks cleverly, lovingly and earnestly***, forgetting that Satan often masquerades himself as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14).
8. ***There is a wide-spread ignorance among professing Christians***—every heretic who speaks well is surely believed, and anyone who doubts him is called narrow-minded and unloving.

All these are especially symptoms of our times. I challenge any honest and observant person to deny them. These tend to make the assaults of false doctrine today especially dangerous and make it even more important to say loudly, "Do not be carried away with strange doctrine!"

## Missionary of the Week

Shannon & Danielle Hurley  
S.O.S. Ministries - Uganda

Sufficiency of Scripture (SOS) Ministries is a unique 501(c)(3) faith-based organization, dramatically impacting the precious people of Uganda through sound Biblical teaching and training in God's Word, and through sacrificially demonstrating Christ's love. Founded by missionary and preacher Shannon Hurley in 2002, SOS is headquartered in Uganda's impoverished Luweero District, operating out of Kubamitwe village. The SOS Board of Directors, senior leadership and staff are composed almost entirely of Uganda nationals.



This prayer update came on Wednesday, November 27. Please read the blog post by Danielle on page 6, "A Ugandan Thanksgiving."

Dear Friends,

Danielle and I are back from a quick trip to the US and our hearts are so full. We were thrilled to see so many of you and encouraged by your hospitality to us.

As we traveled back home, we couldn't help but marvel at God's goodness this year. So much has happened ranging from another year at *Legacy Uganda* to welcoming our very first class at *Shepherds Training Center*. All that was possible thanks to your kindness and generous support. You have been a tangible manifestation of God's goodness to us and we can't say thank you enough.

Yet, there is still so much work to be done and we are excited to get to work. Below are some updates on recent ministry and ways that you can continue to be involved in what is happening at SOS Ministries.

Happy Thanksgiving!

*For the King and His Kingdom,*

*Dr. Shannon Hurley*  
Founder and CEO

## Sunday School Classes & Descriptions

### Adult

“Job” - Fellowship Hall:  
 Bob Dimmitt/Chris Leverett  
 “Lessons from the Upper Room (John 13-17)” by Sinclair Ferguson - Youth House: Steve Posner.

### Students & Children

Babies - Room 3: Kay Stanford & Sandra Bridges  
 1s & 2s - Room 24: Michael & Ruth Kleinpeter/Kamee Roberson  
 3s & 4s - Room 25: Emily Wise, Susan Su, Savannah Martin, Haley Bull  
 Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grade - Room 200: John & Pam Humphrey  
 3rd-6th Grade Boys - Room 202: Richie Mills  
 3rd-6th Grade Girls - Room 204: Mary Ann Fowler, Amy Horton  
 Youth Guys - Room 206: Tim Wade, Bobby DeLoach, Shawn Champion  
 Youth Girls - Room 208: Sona Bailey, Jessica Dimmitt, Lauren Wade



## This Week at FABC

### Today

Coffee Fellowship	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Choir Practice	4:00 p.m.
Cantata Choir Practice	4:30 p.m.
Deacon Election	5:15 p.m.
Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.

### Wednesday

Supper: Shepherd's Pie	5:45 p.m.
Youth & Awana	6:30 p.m.
Prayer & Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

### Thursday

No Senior Saints Bible Study  
 No Young Adult Bible Study

## Bible Reading Schedule

December 2019

	1	1 Corinthians 9-11
	2	1 Corinthians 12-14
	3	1 Corinthians 15-16
	4	2 Corinthians 1-4
	5	2 Corinthians 5-9
	6	2 Corinthians 10-13
	7	Acts 20:1-3; Romans 1-3
	8	Romans 4-7
	9	Romans 8-10
	10	Romans 11-13
	11	Romans 14-16
	12	Acts 20:4-23:35
	13	Acts 24-26
	14	Acts 27-28
	15	Colossians; Philemon
	16	Ephesians
	17	Philippians
	18	1 Timothy
	19	Titus
	20	1 Peter
	21	Hebrews 1-6
	22	Hebrews 7-10
	23	Hebrews 11-13
	24	2 Timothy
	25	2 Peter; Jude
	26	1 John
	27	2 John; 3 John
	28	Revelation 1-5
	29	Revelation 6-11
	30	Revelation 12-18
	31	Revelation 19-22



## Joy to the World

Joy to the world! The Lord is  
come!

Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him

room,

And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n, and heav'n and  
nature sing.



If you have any questions concerning the message from today, or are interested in obtaining information about church membership, please see any of the pastors after the service, drop a note in the offering plate indicating your desire to talk with a pastor, or call the church office.



Video and audio recordings of the messages are available for listening or downloading from

[www.fabchurch.com/sermons](http://www.fabchurch.com/sermons)

## For Hearing Impaired

If you have difficulties hearing, we have listening aid devices available. Ask any of the ushers, or the technician in the sound booth, if you are in need of one of these devices.

Church Phone: 355-0949  
Church Email: [office@fabchurch.com](mailto:office@fabchurch.com)  
Church Website: [www.fabchurch.com](http://www.fabchurch.com)

## Nursery December 1

10:30 A.M.

### Babies:

Carolyn Blanton, Lauren Wade

### Toddlers - 4 year olds:

Ashley & Jordan Keller/  
Emily Wise, Lilly Horton

6:00 P.M.

Gena Russell, Haley Bull/  
Napoleon & Savannah Martin

## Nursery December 8

10:30 A.M.

### Babies:

Beth Lewis, Jeanie Groover

### Toddlers - 4 year olds:

Karrie & Lindsey Walker/  
Linnea Posner, Aaron Waite

6:00 P.M.

Sona Bailey, Shawn Champion

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## Ushers December 1

10:30 A.M.

Michael Morris, Danny Roberson,

Kelly Stanford, John Sumner

6:00 P.M.

Kelly Stanford, John Sumner

## Ushers December 8

10:30 A.M.

Michael Walker, Billy Waters,

Johnny Bridges, Dennis Brittingham

6:00 P.M.

Jimmy Donaldson, Ron Fowler

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## Sunday Greeters - December 1

Lisa Rowe, Mary Fowler

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## December Lock-Up Deacons

John Sumner, Michael Walker