

17 March 2019

This Week @ Sarasota Community Church

Sunday, March 17

9:00 am – **Traditional Worship Service**

10:05 am – Bible Class en Español – Mod 18

(45mins) Faith Issues – Module 17

“*The Second Coming of Christ*” Book Study

Winter Friendship Class – Fellowship Hall

Practical Living – Green Room

United Community Group – Room 9

Young Adults – Mod 1

“*Remembering the Forgotten God*” Book Study

Middle School Group – Room 6

11:00 am – **Modern Worship Service**

Kids Church – Room 11, off Kid's Courtyard

Nursery – Room 8, off Kid's Courtyard

3:00 pm – GriefShare – Module 17 (2 hrs)

6:00 pm – Youth Group – Roger & Wendy's house (1.5 hrs)

Monday, March 18 – No events

Tuesday, March 19

6:30 pm – Open Prayer Time – Green Room (1 hr)

Wednesday, March 20

8:00 am – Men's Breakfast – Der Dutchman (1.5 hrs)

6:30 pm – The Faith Group - Green Room (1.5 hrs)

6:30 pm – Little Eden Kids Club – Courtyard (1 hr)

6:30 pm – The Gathering – NO Meeting this week.

Esther & Nate (503) 577-3705 (2 hrs)

Thursday, March 21

9:00 am – Dorcas Circle - Rooms 9 & 10 (5 hrs)

6:45 pm – Worship Team Practice – Auditorium

Friday, March 22 – No events

Saturday, March 23

8am – 12pm Community Clean-up in SCC Parking Lot

We are here for you... If you or your family are in need of pastoral care or visitation please be in touch with Shirley Good, Pastoral Care Minister at 361-739-2323.



From the Pastor's Desk...

God still frees and redeems people! The following testimony was written by one of our own. Have you called out to Jesus yet? Do you have a story to tell? We would love to share your testimony as a way to encourage others. Please email to roger@sarasotacommunitychurch.org and we respect your desire to remain anonymous.

~Pastor Roger

“The Road”

I felt the butterflies begin to flutter in my stomach. That familiar feeling was back again this morning. I knew it was only 7:30am, but there it was. I hear him call me from the kitchen over the kid's voices, I only had a few seconds and so I hurried. I opened my shirt drawer and grabbed my wine bottle that I had opened the night before, and drank deeply. I need this I told myself, it was the only way. Despite how I hated myself, I believed I was nicer and a better mom after drinking. The enemy had whispered this lie so long that I actually believed it. Drinking was no longer fun or social, it had become my dirty secret. I drank to numb the overwhelming feelings that I was not enough. I was not pretty enough or smart enough or lately worth anything.

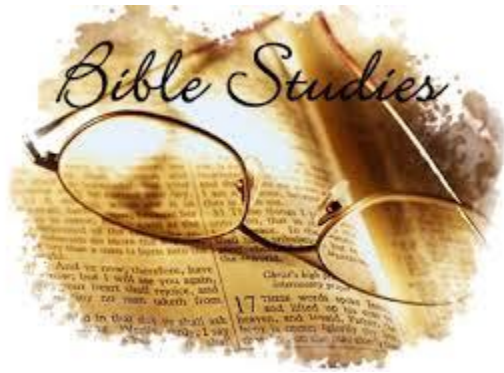
To me, drinking pushed back those feelings and allowed me to fumble through my day with a distance to the harsh reality of what I had become. I was alone in this and I knew it. When you find yourself drunk in the shower at the beginning of your day, there is a part of you that knows you are in trouble. When you can't drink away the pain and it only intensifies, one moment will come when you have to see it. I remember that day. My husband and I went to a concert with another couple. The bartender ran out of wine so I switched to vodka. I remember waking up knowing that I had made a fool out of myself and felt so ashamed. I laid in a bath crying talking to God about why He had even made me. At that time I believed in God the Father, but had not put my faith in Jesus.



“The Road” (cont.)

I put down the bottle for three weeks and retreated into myself. I started thinking about how I was held prisoner to the very vice I thought freed me. I remember hearing that familiar voice again, the one that said I was allowed to drink. I was an adult and I deserved a glass of wine with a meal. It said I had put the wine down for three weeks so obviously I was not an alcoholic, and it was no one’s business but mine. The voice then told me that I did a lot for my family and I was entitled to drink, after all, it made me nicer. I knew that I was going to drink again, stopping was more than I was capable of. So I cried out to Jesus with all that I had, as if I had arrived at the gates of hell. I told Him that I was sorry and that I needed Him to save me. I laid on the floor telling Him about all of the things that I did wrong and was sorry for. It was the moment of complete surrender that I needed, to acknowledge that He was my Savior and I could not help myself.

That moment I was set free from addiction to alcohol, anti-depressants, anxiety medication, and He rushed in and has never left me. I am not special, but to Him I am enough. I finally saw Jesus as the only way. The bible verse that stood out to me was Jeremiah 29:13, “You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.” There comes a moment when you give up all your plans and control and give it to Him. We are all on a journey, we take different paths on our walk. I have been on that road to nowhere, but it was the road that led to salvation.



For Further Study

Summary

Whatever you struggle with — suicide, substance abuse, sexual misconduct, eating disorders, rage, violence, laziness, or whatever else — the battle begins and ends in the mind.

We all have bad thoughts. But there's wisdom for overcoming those bad thoughts. It's not easy, it's just possible. And very necessary. If you choose to, you can learn to overcome bad thoughts.

This is our promise and hope: We can take each thought captive!

Study and Application

- Read 2 Corinthians 10:3-5. Think about a “bad thought” or temptation that you face regularly. How consistently do you take that thought captive and make it obedient to Christ? Always? Mostly? Some? Never? When you don't, why don't you? And when you do, what's the difference in your thinking?
- Read Romans 7:7-25. Was Paul saying that he sins a lot or is tempted a lot? What does he attribute victory to?
- Read James 1:12-15. Consider this statement: “If I didn't give in, it wasn't a sin.” Do you carry any guilt for temptations you haven't acted upon? What does it do for you to make a distinction between temptation and sin?
- Read 1 Corinthians 15:55-58. Consider this statement: “If it wasn't a sin, it counts as a win.” How would it change your experience of temptation if every moment of not giving in was seen as winning the battle?
- Read Ephesians 6:10-13. Consider this statement: “If I haven't won, I'm not done.” Someone coined an acronym about this: H.A.L.T. You are susceptible to giving in to temptation when you are Hungry, Angry, Lonely, or Tired. Think about the last time you gave in. Were you any of those things? What should you do next time?
- Finally read James 4:7-10. Pray for that to be true in your life.



THANK
YOU
FOR
YOUR
GIFT!

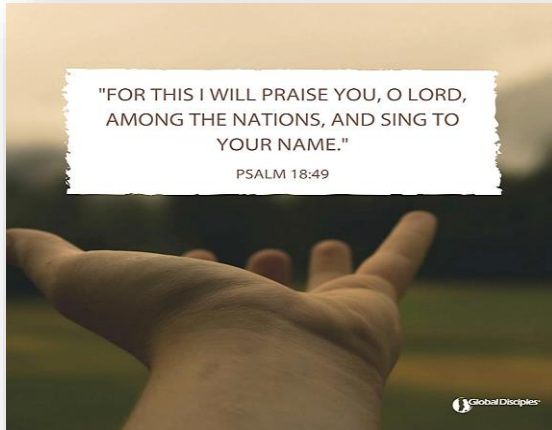
**There are three convenient & safe ways to give
at SCC**

| TEXT TO GIVE | GIVE ONLINE | IN SERVICE |
|---------------|--|--------------------|
| Any amount to | Click "Give" @ | Leave your gift in |
| 941.877.5090 | www.sarasotacommunitychurch.org | baskets |

➤ **Change for a Dollar** isn't where we help our own or support mission programs. This is where we bring a one-time tangible gift of help and hope to a person who is "one arm's length away" from us. And the cost? **Just one dollar!** Who has God brought to your attention?

➤ **Last Week**

Attendance.....623
Offerings & Contributions.....\$12,340
Change for a Dollar \$406/ \$3808 YTD / \$131,085 Since 12.14.2011



PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR: Paul Bobbette, Doug Carlson, Bernie Christner, Marge & Walt Christner, Roy Davidson, Jenna Detweiler, Ann Eichelberger, Bob Galloway, Billy Gentilman, Nelson Graber, Bryan Gray, Marilyn Guenther, Mark Hanna, Grace Kaufman, Dave Kniss, Lorraine Maust, Joanne Miller, Dan Miller, Dorothy J. Miller, Jeremy & Felicia Miller, Victoria Nussbaum, Shannon Osborn, Queena Phu, Emma Rauschenberger, Barbara Schlegel, John Schwartz, Chris Vandorn, Leona Yoder, Milton & Carol Yoder.

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS: They are part of our congregation but cannot worship with us on an ongoing basis because of health issues. This includes: Betty Beachy, Leo Cummings, Helen Cydrus, Dave Gerber, Ed Helmuth, Sandra Jamieson and Emma Mullet.

PRAISE REPORT: Eva Jobe has been seizure free for over a week on her new medication! Praise God and thank you to everyone that has prayed for her. ~ Belinda Jobe

THANK YOU! Thanks to my Sarasota Community Church Family for your Caring support during Harold's recent illness and death. Thanks for the beautiful plant with flowers. Thanks to all individuals who shared cards and words of comfort. ~ Irene Shearer



"For this I will praise you, O Lord, among the nations, and sing to your name." Psalm 18:49



Let us take intentional time this week to reflect on God's greatness and His mighty power. He is truly worthy of our praise!

March Prayer Calendar

17th – “Recently the Lord has blessed several of our staff team with children, after a difficult time conceiving or carrying to term. Ask God to open the wombs of those desiring children and give hope and faith to the parents”. Exodus 15:26

18th – “Pray protection for all who are traveling to the next round of Annual Equipping Events (AEEs). Ask God to send His angels to guard them in all their ways”. Psalm 91:11

19th – “The next AEEs begin today in Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Bolivia, and South and West India. Pray that each person attending will be encouraged in their life and ministry”. Romans 8:6

20th – “This evening at the AEEs, the Program Directors will receive a teaching on the synergy of the Global Approach. Pray for understanding and clarity as each director listens. Ask God to help the presenters communicate clearly and effectively”. Psalm 119:130

21st – “The AEEs include a time of fasting and prayer from lunch on Day 3 until lunch on Day 4, and participants take turns praying through the night. Ask the Lord to speak to them as they seek Him for least-reached people in their region”. John 10:27

22nd – “As this round of AEEs concludes, ask God to help each person readjust well to daily schedules and responsibilities while carrying in their hearts and spirits all He spoke during the meetings. 2 Timothy 3:14

23rd - Pray for those leading National Foundations in Indonesia, Kenya, Ethiopia, India, Canada, and United States. Ask the Lord to equip them with guidance and wisdom and connect them to business leaders in their nations who would share the vision of Global Disciples. Psalm 48:14



CHURCH NEWS



NEXT STEPS! Wednesday, March 27th to May 8th 6:30 to 8:00pm in the Community Hall.

Pastor Roger is teaching a six-week class for people who have a new or recently renewed faith and are ready to take the next step in building a new life around faith in Jesus Christ. You will learn practical ways to prioritize your faith and grow your love as we discuss six topics: *Who is God, How to Pray, How to read the Bible, How to Worship, How to Be Filled with the Holy Spirit, and How to Honor Jesus as Lord.* Please RSVP at the church Info Center or call the office at 941-377-4041.



SCC BUILDING COMMITTEE

We are in the process of prayerfully discerning God's will for our building program in terms of timing and next steps. We feel like the time is right to form a building committee to help bridge the next phase of the journey. If you are interested to serve on the building committee, please notify our Executive Minister, James Read, at james@sarasotacommunitychurch.org.

SCC COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP Saturday, March 23rd 8am – 12:00pm.

It's time to clean out the garage and gather discardable household items, appliances, junk, tree trimmings and other garbage as Sarasota County will hold a free community cleanup in the Pinecraft and Sarasota Springs areas. Dumpsters will be located at SCC parking lot and Southside Christian Church, 4111 Webber Street. Hazardous waste, electronics, etc... will not be accepted at these sites. They must be taken to the Sarasota County Chemical Collection Center 8am -4pm Wed – Sat. Centers are located at 8750 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota; and 250 S. Jackson Road, Venice. For more info call the Sarasota County Contact Center at 941-861-5000 or www.scgov.net

A NEW STUDY IN THE FAITH ISSUES CLASS! “The Second Coming of Christ” is the name of the new study starting next Sunday March 17 in Faith Issues class led by Ken Jones.

COMMUNITY NEWS

PRIDE & PREJUDICE AT SCS!

Friday, March 29th – 31st. The Drama Department at Sarasota Christian School invites you to the upcoming production of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. Show times are Friday, March 29 at 7pm, Saturday, March 30 at 7pm, and Sunday, March 31 at 3pm. All performances will be held in the Auditorium on the Sarasota Christian School campus, located at 5415 Bahia Vista St. in Sarasota. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children under 18.

STAFF

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Worship Coordinator

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Prayer Team Leaders

Gilberto & Elizabeth Perez
prayer@sarasotacommunitychurch.org

SAVE THE DATE!

March 2019

24 Blood Pressure Check
25 Overseers Mtg
28 Living Joyfully

April 2019

5-7 Southeast Mennonite Women Retreat
11 Living Joyfully
15 Coffee with the Leaders
20 Community Easter Egg Hunt
22 Overseers Mtg
25 Living Joyfully
28 Blood Pressure Check

May 2019

9 Living Joyfully
23 Living Joyfully
26 Blood Pressure Check
28 Overseers Meeting

June 2019

6 Living Joyfully
20 Living Joyfully
23 Blood Pressure
24 Overseers Meeting

July 2019

4 Living Joyfully
15 Coffee with the Leaders
18 Living Joyfully
22 Overseers Meeting
28 Blood Pressure

Bulletin Submission deadline is every Wednesday @ 10am. Send your requests to the church office for consideration: marketing@sarasotacommunitychurch.org

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Church Office Hours

Tue, Wed & Thu | 9am-3pm or by appointment