

The South Louisville Christian

SOUTH LOUISVILLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
SUMMER, 2016 – EDITION EIGHT, ISSUE TWO
A Christian Church for South Louisville

E-NEWSLETTER

WORDS

By: Pastor Theodore Dues

Most people have a favorite book of the Bible. My favorite is the Book of James. I love James because every chapter in that book reminds me that my faith is not just an internal reality – it is an external reality. In other words, James reminds me over and over and over again that what I DO is just as important as what I BELIEVE.

In fact, James makes it very clear that belief alone is not enough. He says that it's not enough to talk the Christian faith – he says we must live it. **James 2:14 – What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him?** The argument James makes here is that the proof of our faith is a changed life.

One of the ways I've worked very hard to change my life is in the way I use my words. Words are very powerful things. And the power of words can be used to build up – or tear down. Before I came to know Jesus, I used my words to lie, gossip, coerce, and manipulate. My words were often used to criticize and

belittle others, and I carelessly hurt people with my words. But when I became a Christian, my words began to change. Instead of using my words to tear people down, I tried to use my words to build people up. I try not to be critical and I try not to be careless with my words.

Not surprisingly, James has some very specific instructions for us about the way we use our words. **James 1:26 – If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless.**

I want to challenge you to start paying very close attention to your words. Because what James says here, is that if you are careless with your words – if you use words to hurt people – if your words are critical or belittling – if your words are untrue – if you gossip – then your claims to being a Christian are **“worthless.”**

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This Summer's Events

- July 9 & 23, August 13 & 27, Sept. 10 & 24 – Food Distribution
- August 8, Sept. 12 -- Women's Ministry Mtg.
- September 11 – New Grow U Classes begin
- Vacation Bible School -- June 26 – July 1, 6:30-8:30 PM
- August 20 – Ministry Leadership, Elders, and Deacons Meeting
- Sept. 2 & 3 – Family Camp

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Ouch. I wish James hadn't said that. James, the brother of Jesus, says that I can measure how close, or how distant, I have been from God lately just by the way that I've been using my words. The closer I am to Him, the more I use my words for healing. But I know that I am distant from Him when my words start to harm. When I am close to Him, my words become blessings and bring Him glory. When I am distant from Him, my words become weapons and bring Him heartbreak.

I challenge you to look back at the week behind you, and examine your words. Because they will give you a pretty clear picture of how close, or how distant you have been from God.

Lord, I pray that you always remind me to use my words to bless others – to keep my mouth shut when I need to – and, in all things, to bring glory to your Name.

God's very best to you,
Pastor Theo

SLCC is "Virtually" Everywhere!

By: Joe Douthitt

Each and every Sunday morning at 10:30 we have a very unique and wonderful time of worship at South Louisville Christian Church! Our diversity blends together to create a beautiful praise and worship experience. It pleases God when His children come together as one people, "**Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its parts form one body, so it is with Christ**" 1 Cor. 12:12. The body at SLCC is made up of many diverse people who are united as one body. We are "**The church where you can't possibly not fit in!**" In fact, you may have found it difficult to explain to those you are inviting to church exactly what to expect!

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The Greatest Job

By: Brian Campbell

The greatest job on earth. That's what I have as your pastoral care minister/associate pastor, "The greatest job on earth!" It's difficult to say that this calling is a job because it is truly a labor of love. I know that God has called me here to serve you at South Louisville Christian Church. It is not hard to serve when you love those you serve. You have all received Nancy and me with open arms and we really feel at home. Even though it is a part time position, I find myself thinking of you all 24/7. I look forward to the days that I get to visit you and go to the church office to be around the church staff. For you see, I believe in what we are doing here at South Louisville.

I know that most of you have a mind to work for Jesus and want to exhibit your love for one another. I believe it is my mission from God, through the leadership of this church, to equip you to do this. We all need to be involved in ministering to one another but sometimes we just don't know how or when to do so. I believe a successful leader will be able, with God's help and leadership, to get you involved in caregiving according to the gifts that God has given you. Caregiving to the saints cannot rely on one or just a few. Pray for me that God will lead me in how to organize and put ministry opportunities in place that you all can know how important you are to the caregiving here at South Louisville.

Please don't ever think that because you belong to a church that is big enough to have a paid staff that God does not want to use you. I want God to use me in such a way that we just naturally take care of one another. I have already had some come forward who have a burden to visit the sick and shut-ins, and we have been visiting the hospitals and homes of those in need. We have also begun to support evangelism work in one local neighborhood. If God has put a desire in you to give care and love to the sick and hurting in our church, please let me know. At this time, we do have some elderly folks who could use some help around the house and yard, as well as some chronically ill folks who could also use help around the house. If this is something that God has put on your heart to do, please let me know. If you have any desire at all to be involved in the caregiving ministry, just let me know.

In closing, I just want you to feel free to contact me with any care needs you have or that you may know about.

Yours in Christ Jesus,
Pastor Brian

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Have you ever gone through the food court of a mall and had someone offer you a free sample of their food, and when you taste it you think, "I really like that!" That little sample lets you know what you are in for and you can decide if you want more of it!

We now have the means to give a *spiritual* "sample" of SLCC! Using technology, the internet and our church website we are able to offer people a way to experience SLCC and help them decide that they want to experience even more of what they see and hear! The SLCC website now has a link to allow people to "live stream" our entire Sunday service!

Please encourage people to go to the SLCC website: www.southlouisvillechristianchurch.com where they will be immediately connected to a link to view the SLCC Sunday Morning Worship Service - LIVE as it is happening (10:40 a.m. - Noon). They can experience SLCC in 2-D before coming to experience it in 3-D and see what we are all about! Also, if you are a member away on vacation or just feeling under the weather, you can still worship together with your church family; or re-watch one of the past month's services!

We would like to encourage all of our members to pick up and carry some SLCC "invitation" cards from the CONNECT Table to hand out to people you invite to church, the card contains the website address, street address and other info to encourage people to check us out!



South Louisville Christian Church
The Christian Church FOR South Louisville
southlouisvillechristianchurch.com

Join us Sundays at 10:30 AM
Youth Groups, Family Dinner,
Adult Bible Study -- Wednesdays 6:00 PM

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Summertime!

By: Ron Matthews

Wow, summer has arrived and just in time -- we have a lot of things to get done and very little time to make them happen.

Let's kick off summer right by talking about the Christ In Youth Conference. We took three young men, Mason Dues, Raef Davidson and Migs Jocson. We praised God from sun-up to sun-down all week long. On top of praising God during two services a day, we were spiritually uplifted by great speakers. We made new friends and had a great week at Johnson University. I personally can hardly wait for more of our youth to experience this great spirit- lifting moment next year. Thank you to our church family for praying and supporting us this year.

Following C.I.Y., we have Vacation Bible School June 26th -July 1st from 6:30 – 8:30pm. There will be a surprise on Friday the 1st. Erick Clemens is leading our youth and volunteers on a journey through the life of Daniel and his three friends. Our theme this year is "GOD IS EVERYWHERE." We will be teaching that no matter where you go, no matter what your troubles are God is there to help you. If you have kids, grandkids or kids in your neighborhood, encourage them to come. They will not see this Vacation Bible School done anywhere else, because, as always, this is a creation of our own. Sliding into Friday will be super exciting for our VBS youth. So encourage, bribe, or do whatever it takes to get your kids here -- I promise they will love it.

July is priming up to be our busiest month with Junior 3 camp happening July 17 -22. We are sending eight youth to that camp and could use some more willing bodies to be volunteer faculty that week. That week is expected to have over 110 campers, and it just so happens to be the week I am Dean! If you cannot help physically during that week, you can help in another way. In the back of the Sanctuary at the Connect table you will find a half sheet of requests I need for camp this year. Please help!

But we are not done yet -- we have events for our BOLD youth in July. On July 15th we will be hosting another fun night of fellowship. We will be playing 9 square in the air, Ga Ga Ball, and other games, plus have a time of spiritual building and growth. Watch our website for more details. Some future events to prepare for will be on August 5, when we will be hosting a Fall Camp-In for our JAM ages, a Bold Event on August 19, and Family Camp on Labor Day weekend -- more details will be made available in August.

Whew! Summer -- who knew we would be so busy? But thank God for the opportunity to work with these youth here and throughout our area.