

Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church

10050 Ferguson Avenue Savannah, Georgia 31406

Where Christ Is Exalted and the Fellowship Is Exciting

FABC Elders

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www.fabchurch.com



Scan this QR code and download our app to your favorite device.



Announcements

New Member Directory

This will be available after Morning Worship today!

57th Annual Homecoming!

Welcome to our Homecoming! Itinerary:

9:45 a.m. Coffee and Snack Fellowship

10:30 a.m. Worship

12:00 p.m. Lunch

Please join us for lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the Worship Service!

Choir Practice

Choir Practice is Monday, November 10, at 6:00 p.m. Come if you can!

Joy Class

The Joy Class will meet on Tuesday, November 11, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your projects to work on, or just sit and visit. This is their only meeting in November.

Deacons' Meeting

Tuesday, November 11, at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday Night

Dinner is Barbecue, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Sign up in the hall. Adventure Club is at 6:20 p.m., Youth is at 6:30 p.m., and Adult Bible Study is at 6:45 p.m.

Senior Saints' Lunch

The Senior Saints will travel to Metter together on Tuesday, November 18, to have lunch at Bevricks Char House Grille and to visit the Durden Pecan Company. Sign the list in the hall, and meet at the church at 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship Romans 11:33-36 Pew Bible p. 947

Greeting

(When singing begins, please make your way to your seats and sing along!)

When upon life's billows you are tempest-tossed,
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings—name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.
Count your blessings—name them one by one;
Count your blessings—see what God hath done;
Count you blessings—name them one by one;
Count your many blessings—see what God hath done.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn, bulletin p. 5 "I'll Fly Away"

Prayer of General Confession Tom Keller Titus 2:11-14 Pew Bible p. 998

Hymn, bulletin p. 6

"For All the Saints"

Scripture Reading Romans 8:12-25 Dean McCraw Pew Bible p. 944

Hymn #40, bulletin p. 7

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Message
Bob Dimmitt
What Is FABC?
Homecoming 2025
Various Bible passages

Hymn #496, bulletin pp. 8-9

"Victory in Jesus"

A.M. Notes

What Is FABC?

57th Homecoming 2025

Who are we? What is our purpose or reason for existing, for meeting? What do we do?

We Assemble to Worship God

John 4:23-24; Colossians 3:16-17; 1 Corinthians 16:2; Psalm 95:8; Hebrews 12:28-29

The church should offer worship to God, not offer worship experiences to those in attendance.

We Practice Regenerate Membership

We Preach and Teach the Word of God

1 Timothy 4:13; 1 Timothy 6:3-6; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Timothy 4:2-5

We Pray

Philippians 4:6 Romans 12:12 Acts 2:41-42

We Observe the Biblical Ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper

Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 6:1-4; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34.

We Engage in the Discipleship of our Members

Ephesians 4:1-16; Colossians 3:1-17; 2 Timothy 2:1-7 and 4:1-4

Discipleship itself is not a tool or a program. Rather, it is the intentional involvement of church members in one another's lives to spur one another on to grow in grace.

We Fellowship

Galatians 5:13-15 and Galatians 6:2

Fellowship in the biblical sense involves intentionality in relationships and requires that people know one another and engage in one another's lives enough to be spiritually useful to one another.

We Practice Accountability and Church Discipline

Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5: 1-13; 2 Corinthians 2:5-11.

We Engage in Biblical Giving

Psalm 96:8; Matthew 6:1-4; 1 Corinthians 9:6-12, 16:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8:1-9:15.

We Engage in Evangelism

Matthew 28:16-20; Luke 24:46-48; Acts 1:8, 5:42, 8:4; Philippians 1:12-18.



Women's Ministry Survey

The Women's Ministry leadership have developed a survey to assess the needs and wants of our church women. If you are a woman 16 years or older, please scan the QR code to the left and answer the questions, so they can try to better serve you. Thanks!

Important Upcoming Events



November:

9	5/th FADC Homecoming:	10:30 a.m.
11	Joy Class	9:00 a.m.
18	Senior Saints' Lunch: Bevricks & Durden's Pecan in Metter	10:00 a.m.
25	Wednesday on Tuesday: Fried Chicken	5:30 p.m.
27, 28	Office Closed for Thanksgiving	
30	Cocoa, Coffee, Cookies, Cakes, Candy, & Carols	6:00 p.m.

30	Cocoa, Corree, Cookies, Cakes, Candy, & Caro	6:00 p.m.		
December:				
1-3	Trip to Myrtle Beach			
3	Youth & Adventure Club Christmas Parties	6:30 p.m.		
6	Old Savannah City Mission with Tom:			
	Travis & Ginna MacMillan, Dennis Brittingham	11:00 a.m.		
7	Carlos & Sandy Rios sharing in Sunday School	9:30 a.m.		
10	Church Christmas Banquet	6:30 p.m.		
12	Young Adult Christmas Party	TBA		
15, 17	Christmas Caroling			
18	Lifeline Screening			
21	Cantata: Light of Christ, Born for Us	6:00 p.m.		
24	Christmas Eve: Office Closed			
24	Christmas Eve Communion Service	5:00 p.m.		
25	Christmas Day: Office Closed			
31	New Year's Eve Game Night	7:00 to 9:00 p.m.		

January:

1	New Year's Day: Office Closed	
4	Kendra Stanford sharing in Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.

I'll Fly Away

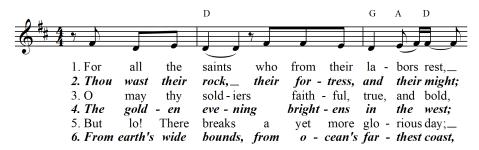
Words and Music by Albert E. Brumley



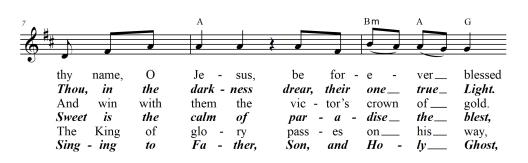
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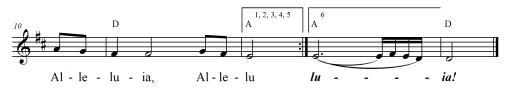
For All The Saints

Words by William H. How Music by Christopher Miner

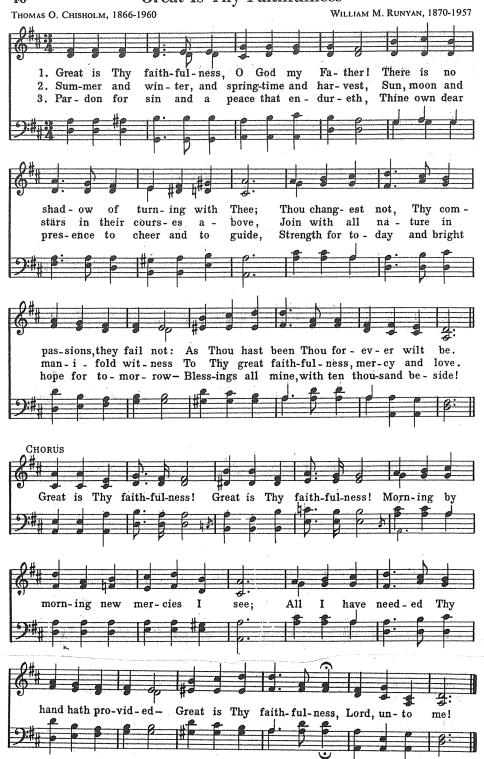








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Victory in Jesus

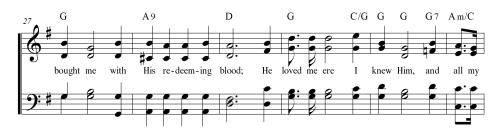
Eugene M. Bartlett, 1885-1941



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Articles

Thoroughly Converted: Enslaving the Inner Man for the Glory of Christ

By Joshua Budimlic

Walter Hooper, the literary advisor of C.S. Lewis's vast estate after his death and a close friend of his, once described Lewis as "the most thoroughly converted man [he] ever met." He expands upon this reflection by saying that Lewis's "whole vision of life was such that the natural and the supernatural seemed inseparably combined."

Through and Through

Now, what might Hooper have meant by the phrase *thoroughly converted*? Surely he *did not* mean by the word 'converted' that Lewis was—in contrast to other religious folks—completely united to Christ whereas others were only partly united to Him; as though salvation were a matter of degrees, operating upon a spectrum of thoroughly converted on one side, partly converted in the middle, and utterly lost on the far side. God forbid! For, "by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast" (Eph 2:8-9). You are either united to Christ through faith, having had all your sins atoned for and forgiven, or you are outside of Christ, still under the wrath of God and in need of salvation.

What Hooper means here by thoroughly converted has nothing to do with justification (our being declared just and holy by God because of our union with Christ) and everything to do with sanctification (the process by which we are made more and more like Christ). After being reconciled to God through the work of His Son, it is then the work of every believer to, just like Lewis, begin the lifelong process of binding together the seen with the unseen. To live in such a way that there no longer exists a contradiction between your view of the world and the Bible's. Indeed, to have such a living, breathing faith in God's word that "the natural and the supernatural seemed inseparably combined."

Sanctification begins in the mind of the believer only after they have been given new spiritual life by God the Holy Spirit. In Romans 12, Paul describes our work in sanctification, ever in step with the Spirit, in this way: "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind" (verse 2). When an individual comes to saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, they undergo an initial change of mind (repentance) that is characterized by a turning away from sin and a turning to the Lord. Sanctification as a lifelong process, then, should be seen as the Christian's daily habit of continual repentance until they see the Lord face to face in glory.

This initial change of mind and turning from sin must define the believer's walk with Christ going forward as they put in the hard work of untangling their formerly ungodly affections from their new God-given affections. This is not unlike digging

up of rotten roots and weeds in a garden in order to cultivate healthy growth; indeed, digging up the rottenness of sin and unbelief that have so infiltrated the unbeliever's inner life up until their appointment with God Himself.

In this way, I think Hooper's estimation of what it means to be "thoroughly converted" is helpful, but let us go deeper. Let us consider, alongside the Apostle Paul, what it means to "be transformed by the renewal of your mind."

Just Like Jesus

As followers of Christ, a deep and abiding desire to be like Him should characterize our every waking moment. That is, however imperfectly, we should strive to love those things that He loves, hate those things that He hates, and do those things that He delights in. That in everything, in word and deed and thought, we would be as mini-Christs in the world. In this way, we demonstrate that we love Him—no matter how weak and paltry our attempts may be. Christian living then is nothing short of aiming to imitate our Creator as He gives us ability to do so: "Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator" (Col 3:9-10). At its most basic, to be thoroughly converted is to be thoroughly Christ-like.

And so, if we are to love the Lord Jesus Christ by being like Him and obeying Him, we should probably have a sense for what that love ought to look like. In John 14:15, the Lord said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." While this command extends to the entirety of God's word, perhaps we can summarize what Jesus meant when He said "my commandments" by considering what He declared to be the sum and substance of the Law and the Prophets, the Greatest Commandment: "The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these" (Mark 12:29-31). What the Lord Jesus Christ is calling for in this passage is the total and absolute submission of one's will and affections. The entire person is in view here: heart, soul, mind, strength, including the submission of every resource and every relationship. Love God absolutely, love others sincerely—do both, and do both thoroughly.

In this passage and others, Christ makes it abundantly clear that our love for God and others must first flow from a burning affection for God Himself. Not a love for that which God will give us, but a love for the very Person of God Himself. The height and depth and sheer breadth of the Lord's command that we love Him above all is found in no place better or more clearly than in Matthew 10:37 when Jesus says these words: "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." Christ's sovereign claim upon our hearts is absolute, unwavering, unapologetic, and utterly thorough.

We must love the Lord above all because He *is above all*. He is the loveliest of all, the kindest of all, the most beautiful of all, and to love Him above all is our highest good. As the Puritan Thomas Doolittle so succinctly put it, "If Jesus is not loved above all, He is not sincerely loved at all."

Letting Loose the Lion

It is upon this point that our witness to the world hinges, overflowing from our hearts upwards and outwards to those around us. In 1 Peter 3:13-17, the Apostle lays out one of the NT's most powerful recipes for evangelism. However, before Peter ever makes mention of our sharing Christ with those around us, he first commands his readers to separate Christ as holy in their hearts: "but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy" (verse 15). In other translations, the word honor is translated as revere, worship, and sanctify. The primary thrust of Peter's command is the weighty summons that the Lord be set apart in our affections. It is as though Peter is telling his readers to once and for all settle in their hearts the matter of Christ's lordship and then, upon being settled, to go and impress the lordship of Christ upon the watching world around them through the preaching of the Gospel.

But once again, this zeal for the honor of Christ must first characterize every iota of our inner man before we can effectively preach Christ as all-surpassingly glorious to the world around us. A powerful companion passage to Peter's summons in 1 Peter 3:15 is found in 2 Corinthians 10. Writing on the nature of the demonic cosmic battle roaring around us and the importance of faith in our sovereign Lord, Paul says:

"For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ" (2 Cor 10:3-5).

To be a slave to Christ means we must also make a slave of every thought that would oppose Him—to hold these thoughts captive, and then swiftly slay them. If we are to be thoroughly converted, every thought, doubt, and ideology contrary to Christ and His word *must* be slain right in its very infancy before it has opportunity to spread further and fester. Even as the shadow of the thought creases your mind, turn from it, slay it, and replace the void left by it with some truth from God's word

If we are to love the Lord above all, then every fabric of our thinking and believing and doing must be brought into closest possible alignment with God's revealed will in the Bible. Let every other worldly notion and philosophy fall by the wayside: "See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ" (Col 2:8). Alongside J.C. Ryle, let us endeavor to "receive nothing, believe nothing, follow nothing which is not in the Bible, nor can be proved by the Bible."

Charles Spurgeon once famously said, "The Word of God is like a lion. You don't have to defend a lion. All you have to do is let the lion loose, and the lion will defend itself." Indeed, for so it is. However, let us not have our eyes so bent outwards that we fail to allow the Lion to do His work inside each one of us. •

Missionary of the Week

Carlos & Sandy Rios TEAM - Guadalajara, Mexico

Carlos and Sandy have worked together in Mexico for decades and are leaving the church they started in Guadalajara in capable hands of local believers. Pray for their retirement from TEAM plans. **They should be with us during a joint Sunday School hour on Sunday, December 7!**

Age 13: As a new believer in Jesus, I, Sandy, sang and played on my clarinet "Amazing Grace" for my 8th grade graduation at Clinton Public School in Clinton, New Jersey.

Age 67: As a retiring TEAM church planting missionary after 41 years, I sang "Amazing Grace" accompanied by Mariachis at our farewell service at Rivers of Living Water Community Bible Church in Guadalajara, Mexico. Singing the song and experiencing God's "Amazing Grace" has come FULL CIRCLE in Sandy's life.

Age 13: As a new believer in Jesus, a couple from Clinton Baptist Church sent me to Word of Life Bible Camp in Schroon Lake, NY where I learned the song "Be a Missionary Every Day". That song has directed my life and was one of the pieces



God used to call me to become a missionary.

Age 68: As a retiring TEAM church planting missionary after 41 years I am singing, "Be a Missionary Every Day" at our children's presentations, encouraging them to be missionaries, too! When we stayed with our new Pastor Humberto and wife for our last days in Mexico, I sang that song to him and he surprised me by turning around and singing it to me in Spanish! That song and the call to "Be a Missionary Every Day" have COME FULL CIRCLE in Sandy's life.

It is interesting that in our journey towards retiring from the organization of TEAM (but not from serving the Lord – we will always be in ministry!) on December 31, 2025, we are back in Sandy's hometown now – the place where it all started for her – Clinton, NJ.

Here she came to know Jesus, here the church family of Clinton Baptist helped her to grow in Christ, provided opportunities for her to learn to serve Christ and sent her out to Japan as a single missionary in 1982. In 1996 she changed ministry areas as we married and went to Mexico together where we have been serving for 28 years!

Fast forward to 2025, and here we are together in Clinton for our last Home Assignment of visiting all the churches and individuals who have faithfully supported us all these years. We want to thank each person who had a role in Sandy coming to know Christ and helping her make Christ known. (Don't worry, Carlos will get equal time when we arrive in Stone Mountain, Georgia in November!) Only the Lord could have orchestrated all these details! She has COME FULL CIRCLE!

Our CIRCLE came to a CLOSE in Mexico on August 12th. The Lord helped us to get the shipment of personal items sent, sell our furniture and appliances, pack and say farewell to our loving church family and

TEAM missionary family. Our last Sunday the church gave us an unforgettable farewell barbeque (carne asada) AND surprised us with Christian Mariachis! It was a bitter-sweet moment as we will miss our church family so much, but we feel satisfied that we have completed what the Lord called us to do. We are glad that we are leaving a healthy, united church and that Pastor Humberto and the 4 other elders are doing such a wonderful job continuing to lead them. As Humberto dropped us off at the airport I started to cry. The reality that had been hidden by all the busyness of leaving, caught up with us. At that very moment, Matias and Thomas, the sons of Fernando and Gina (from Colombia) came running toward us calling out our names. This was the ultimate love gift...they came to spend our last hour at the airport with us! How that touched our hearts! The CIRCLE CLOSED with such meaningful demonstrations of God's love to us.

Arriving in Texas, we spent the first week with our daughter, Ana, Mark and the kids. While there, the

Lord led us to a reliable car to buy for our journey. Then it was off to our first church visit in Tahlequah, OK, August 24th. It was a great joy to share in the service our final report of the great things the Lord has done in the church in Guadalajara and later meet with the missions committee.

We then travelled on to Alta, lowa and shared both in the English and Hispanic congregations.

Finally, after visiting many individual supporters, missionaries and friends along the way, we arrived in Flemington, NJ. Every Home Assignment of our married life we have spent in this missionary cottage graciously



offered to us by Calvary Baptist Church, one of the churches that has supported Sandy since going to Japan in 1982.

We have visited 5 churches so far. We have 5 more to visit while up in NJ. Then in November we will head south and visit our 6 churches there. It is a unique delight to share in each church and show them just how far their impact has reached through their prayers and giving.

"To know Christ and to make Him known" is our passion and challenge for everyone. We want to continuing doing this to our last breath, bearing fruit in God's Kingdom. PRAY for our remaining travels and church and supporter visits. PRAY that we may inspire people to experience FULLY God's grace and grow in knowing the Lord deeper and deeper every day AND to boldly and joyfully make Christ known to everyone around them so that the Gospel may come FULL CIRCLE and be passed on to others.

Mid-December we head to Euless, TX from Columbia, SC coming FULL CIRCLE to where we began our church visitations. We will be living near to our daughter, Ana, and Mark and the 4 grandkids. We want to enjoy them and invest our lives in them now. Thanks for partnering with us in "Knowing Christ and Making Him Known!"

Pre-retirement Home Assignment – Church and Supporter Visitation until December 31, 2025

- ♥ We are thankful for each one of you who has prayed so faithfully and given so generously to support us while serving as church planting missionaries with TEAM 35 years for Carlos and 41 for Sandy and especially for our ministry of church planting in Mexico over these last 28 years together.
- ▼ Your prayers were answered: The move was completed, the packing was finished and the shipment was ready in time to send to Texas, we were able to sell our furniture and appliances to the church family and we can picture them enjoying those items in their homes, and we had unforgettable farewells with our church family. Our shipment arrived safely in Texas on September 24th.
- ▼ We are thankful that we are leaving a healthy church leadership 4 elders: Dani, Alex, Jahan and Fernando under the leadership of Pastor Humberto. PRAY for them and their families: their wives and children, for God's provision and protection and that they may always keep their eyes on Jesus and grow in their love for Him. Ditto for the church family. The two churches we started have invited us back once a year to speak at their anniversary celebrations. The GDL church will even move the date of their anniversary to match the

Cabo Church so that we only have to make one trip! We are delighted to be welcomed to return annually!

- ♥ We praise the Lord for a reliable car to take this long journey. We have already driven 3,000 miles. Our visits have brought such great joy reconnecting with people we haven't seen in years, making new friends, learning new things and always sharing how God is working. PRAY that we may be a blessing to all and that our conversations will point to Jesus. May each person we share with remember the challenge "To Know Christ and to Make Him Known" and may it become a reality in their lives. See the itinerary below so we can get together when we are in your area!
- ▼ PRAY for the remaining 5 church visits here while in NJ. PRAY for our travels down south starting on November 3rd.
- ▼ We are so thankful for the people here in the NJ area who impacted Sandy as a young girl and teen, who helped her to "Know Christ and to Make Christ Known". It is a privilege to connect with them once more, to thank them and look forward to the day will all be together for eternity worshipping Jesus in heaven!
- ♥ We are thankful for our family. We will spend time with Raquel and Nathanael in November and December while in SC and be with her in person for her birthday for the first time in years! Then we will be moving into our furnished rental home just 13 minutes from Ana's home just before Christmas!
- ♥ On January 1, 2026 we will wake up as "retired" people that is retired from the organization TEAM but not retired from serving the Lord! PRAY as we take some time to settle in to life back in the US. TEAM suggests taking 6-12 months before making any full-time commitments to ministry or work. We like to think of it as a sabbatical. Of course, we will be involved in the lives of our grandchildren and attend the church they go to, in the meantime. Cross City Euless has a Hispanic, an international, a traditional service with choir and orchestra and a contemporary service. There are always many, many ministry opportunities, so we want to be in tune with what the Lord wants us to do for this next season of life.

Carlos and Sandy Ríos

Nursery November 9 Babies:

Lynn Ernst, Jeanie Groover, Beth Lewis Toddlers:

Michael & Karrie Walker **Preschoolers:**

Avalon DeLoach, Stacey Kelly

Nursery November 16 Babies:

Eleanor Bowden, Mary Fowler, Kay Stanford, Linnea Posner **Toddlers:**

Deborah Focht, Tricia Morris
Preschoolers:
Taylor & Courtney Pelton

Right Now Media

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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



Tod	ay
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Coffee Fellowship	9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Lunch Together	12:00 p.m.

Monday

Choir Practice 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday

Joy Class9:00 a.m.Women's Bible Study: Crown Him King6:30 p.m.Deacons' Meeting7:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Supper: Barbecue5:30 p.m.Adventure Club6:20 p.m.Youth6:30 p.m.Adult Bible Study: Practical Sanctification6:45 p.m.

Thursday

Senior Adult Bible Study: *Isaiah* 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:15 p.m.

Hearing assistance devices for services in the sanctuary are available on request at the sound booth.

Lockup Deacons for November: Joe Morris, Bill Bailey

Sunday School Classes and Descriptions

Adult

16

The Law of Moses:

Survey of 613 Laws Fellowship Hall: Bob Dimmitt

Romans video series:

W. Robert Godfrey, Ligonier Youth House: Steve Posner Union with Christ Gym Overhang: Tom Keller

Children and Students

Babies Room 3: Kay Stanford, Saundra Bridges Toddlers Room 24: Donna Martin, Deborah Focht Pre-K Room 25: Dustin & Emily Herb K. 1st and 2nd Grade Room 28: John & Pam Humphrey Room 202: Ric Zittrouer, Richie Mills 3rd-6th Grade Boys 3rd-6th Grade Girls Room 204: Mary Ann Fowler, Amy Horton Youth Guys & Girls Room 206: Bobby DeLoach, Shawn Champion,

Avalon DeLoach