



A Note from Pastor Buddy

Hello Sweetwater Family!

From time to time people outside our Sweetwater Family will ask “How are things at the church?” or “Is your church growing?”. Good questions, but the real question is, “How do you measure success in God’s economy?”.

Too often we automatically apply the world’s definitions of success to God’s Kingdom. I mentioned in a sermon recently that the Church had largely lost the original intent to Jesus’ command to “go and make disciples”, instead choosing to “go and make church members”. We falsely believe that being a church member and being a disciple are one and the same. They are not, nor have they ever been. In 1 John 2:19, the beloved disciple refers to church members “who went out from us, but they were not really of us.” It was probably 40 years ago when Billy Graham said that he believed only about 20% of people in churches were saved.

No, in God’s economy it’s all about making disciples, not putting people in seats. Here, a small church with 50 real disciples is more successful than a larger church, with bigger buildings and a larger budget, that only has about 10 real disciples. And while its true that such a judgement is solely left to the Lord, the Lord did say that “by their fruits you will know them”.

A Note from Pastor Buddy (continued)

Still, one could argue that we have to get them in the seats first before they can be discipled. And there is truth to that. So, here at Sweetwater, ever since my first day, there has been great concern to rebuild the young adult and children's ministries. There was a time when we only had 1 child in the toddler room and the young adults could have met in a phone booth. Neither of those things are true anymore. The last two weeks we have had 14 in the toddler's room, and we have 3 different young adult groups that are generally divided by age. The last two years we have been ordaining young adult men to serve as deacons. Our young adults are growing in faith and the children's building is getting louder!

Want to see how successful we're being? Volunteer in the toddler room! And I'm serious! We have more little ones than we are set up to handle. We need help there! Even if you could give one Sunday every six weeks, that would be a big help.

And be praying for Dan White and our young adult ministry and for our precious volunteers who are currently leading our children's ministry. And always be in prayer for your church.

Blessings!

Buddy

SWEETWATER HAPPENINGS

REPORT FOR SUNDAY January 28 , 2024

YTD Budget	\$309,384
YTD Receipts	\$304,954
Given Jan 21	\$ 9,496
Given Jan 28	\$ 13,961

**Weekly Attendance
Worship/Sweetwater Kids**

January 28 - 195



We are growing! Due to our growth we could use some pack and plays and a mini fridge.

Please call 407-862-7590 if you are able to help with either of these items.

Wekiva Food Pantry Needs

Items can be brought in on Sundays and placed in the foyer or during the week to the church office.



Canned Corn

Mashed Potatoes

Jelly

Canned Chicken

Spaghetti

Peanut Butter

Canned Salmon or Tuna

Spaghetti Sauce

Laundry Detergent

Canned Fruit / applesauce

Spaghetto's

(small bottles)

White Rice

Beef Ravioli

Pick up Dates: Feb 4 & 18 from 12PM - 1:30PM



RAMSEY

FinancialPeace
UNIVERSITY

SUNDAYS @ 12:30pm

FEBRUARY 4 - APRIL 7

LAST DAY TO SIGN UP IS FRIDAY, FEB 2

Click on the link below to register and pay.

<https://fbsweetwater.shelbynextchms.com/external/form/0843f12b-2c02-4e4e-954d-45dc1f922e66>



February 6
9:30am

**Join us Tuesday morning as Barbara Ratti
teaches us the feasts of the Lord
out of Leviticus.**

Women On Mission

All ladies of the church are invited to join us
on February 13 at 9:30 to hear from
our own Jane Thomas. She will be sharing
about her medical mission trip to Uganda.

Then, we will have an Italian Potluck luncheon.



NOW ENROLLING FOR THE FALL!

- ✓ Infant and Toddler Care
- ✓ Preschool, Prekindergarten Programs
- ✓ Full time and Part time available
- ✓ FunShine Curriculum

CALL NOW TO SCHEDULE A TOUR

(407) 862-7590

**First Baptist Sweetwater
3800 Wekiva Springs Rd, BLDG C
Longwood, FL 32779**

Monday to Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Wednesday, 1/31

11:00am Volunteer in the Wekiva Foster Closet

6:00pm AWANA/Student Ministry

6:30pm Bible Study/prayer

Thursday, 2/1

9:30am Ladies Bible Study / L.I.F.T. room / The End Times

6:30pm Facilities Team Meeting

Friday, 2/2

Young Adults in the Fellowship Hall

Saturday, 2/3

Sunday, 2/4 Lord's Supper

9:00am Bible Study

10:30am Worship Service

1:00pm Spanish Church Service

5:00pm First Baptist Asian Languages

Monday, 2/5

10:00am Precepts / A135

Tuesday, 2/6

9:30am Staff Meeting

9:30am Women On Mission

Wednesday, 2/7

11:00am Volunteer in the Wekiva Foster Closet

6:00pm AWANA/Student Ministry

6:30pm Bible Study/prayer



February Birthdays

Feb 4 Andrea Tobin

Feb 5 Rose Ravagnan

Feb 10 Jill Rodriguez

Feb 11 Pierce Long

Feb 12 Lynn Fine & Jorge Paredes

***Feb 14 Debbie Kirby, Laurie Isbell,
Sharon Blue***

Feb 15 Audrey Larkins, Aiden Malik

Feb 17 Kate Mafla, Eleanor Zang

Feb 18 Chancey Townsend

Feb 19 Breanna Goetz

Feb 20 Weldon Harris

Feb 21 Kelly Malik & Jerry Sutcliffe

Feb 22 Bob Peacock

Feb 27 Stacey Boeshko & Kathy Jensen

Feb 28 Jennifer Dunaye