

Pastor's Corner

FEATURING DR. ALAN COTNEY



Dr. Alan Cotney, our lead pastor, is happy to be called Pastor Alan. His wife, Beth and their children Will, Emma, Drew, Kate and Bela are a blessing to College Road Baptist Church. In a recent interview he cited Jeremiah 20:9 that gave him the passion for teaching and preaching God's Word. At a college retreat in 1998 he finally surrendered to God's call on his life. He said that he had been running from God's call until that weekend. After surrendering to God's call, he had some opportunities to lead and preach and that's when God confirmed that He was calling him to a life of preaching and teaching.

He was licensed to preach on August 30, 1998. Earning a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Samford University in 2002, he obtained a Master of Divinity in Biblical Languages in 2005 and received a Doctor of Ministry in 2014, both from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, NC.

Since he became the Lead Pastor of CRBC on July 8, 2013, the church and our ministries have continued to grow. Pastor Alan cited the fact that the congregation as a whole has transitioned from "missionally-minded" to "missionally-active." The diversity of cultures that has evolved in our local area has given opportunities to minister as a church, with people inviting others to gather for worship and ministry.

Pastor Alan has placed passionate leaders to various ministries. These pastors and leaders will be spotlighted in future newsletters.

Outreach Team

The Outreach Team is looking for a Team Leader who has leadership skills and a heart for evangelism. Contact Pastor Kevin Bradford if you are intrigued.

Prayer Opportunity

Please pray for our church and our church council as they seek God's guidance on the expansion of our campus, including the possibility of obtaining the vacant land next to the church.

SUNDAY SERVICES

Ocala English:

8:00 am & 9:30 am (Traditional)

11:00 am (Modern)

Ocala Spanish: 11:00 am

Ocala Haitian Creole 1:00 pm

Dunnellon Spanish 11:30 am

OUR PASTORS

Dr. Alan Cotney

Jeff Rountree

Jason Kaminski

Kevin Bradford

Rogney Paz

Orlando Reyes

Andres Canola

Joel Petit Noel

IN THIS ISSUE

- Pastor's Corner
- Did You Know?
- Outreach Team
- Prayer Opportunity
- ESL? What is that?
- Giving Opportunity
- Volunteer Opportunity
- New Members/Baptisms
- Upcoming Studies & Events

ESL? What is that?

TEAM LEADER: DEBBIE SIMMONS



Matthew 25:38-40 “And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in...The King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.”

Overcoming the language barriers that exist for strangers in a foreign land is a great challenge. It can be overwhelming to develop communication skills when transitioning from one’s home country to a new country. The Florida Baptist Convention churches, of which College Road is a member, are given the privilege and responsibility to help our international neighbors develop these skills.

The number of people in Ocala who want to learn to speak English is increasing rapidly. This gives us the opportunity to demonstrate and share God’s love with our non-English speaking neighbors through ESL. The primary goal of ESL ministries is to intentionally share and demonstrate the Gospel of Jesus Christ as we help people learn to speak English.

At College Road we teach “conversational” English to any non-English speaking adult. Students are placed in one of three levels based on their proficiency. Last year we averaged 25 students weekly. Volunteer teachers are always welcome. You do not need to be bi-lingual to teach. In fact, only English is to be spoken in the classroom.

Our classes are Wednesday nights from 6:30 to 7:45 PM and will begin September 11. Anyone interested in volunteering can reach me, Deb Simmons, at 601-814-0423.

Giving Opportunity

September: The Maguire State Mission Offering provides support to new church plants across the state.

Volunteer Opportunities

Our annual Fall Festival on October 31 offers many volunteer options before, during & after the event. There’s something for everyone! Candy drop offs will start by mid-September. Contact Pastor Kevin Bradford or Beth Cotney for more information on how you can help.

Spanish Heritage Day is October 12. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Pastor Rogney Paz.

New Traffic Pattern

You may have noticed some changing traffic patterns when entering and leaving our church services. Please be patient as we work to make traffic flow easier and safer.

“Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”

1 CORINTHIANS 15:58

NEW MEMBERS/BAPTISMS

Tony & Becky Anderson
Joseph & Linda Aurora
Josiah & Jennifer Bernard
Terry & Sharon Garfield
Scott & Deborah Irwin

HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT?

Contact the Newsletter Team via Sharon Hall at skhall.sharon@gmail.com. Please provide your name and contact info with the request.

Newsletter Team:

Marcia McIntosh, Betty Pipkins & Sharon Hall

DID YOU KNOW?

College Road Baptist Church began its journey meeting in homes and a school in the early 1980's and after buying property, met in a double-wide modular.

2024 CHURCH THEME

Life in the Spirit

Upcoming Studies & Events

Interfaith Food Drive

The third Sunday of each month bring your can goods and nonperishable foods to be donated to Interfaith. These can be dropped off at the desk or in the conference room.

Discover College Road

Join the Pastors of CRBC for lunch and learn more about College Road. This event happens monthly.

Spanish as a Second Language

Wanting to learn Spanish? Join our first class at CRBC, starting on Wednesday, September 4, at 6:30 PM in Building B. Don't miss this opportunity to begin your journey in learning a new language.

Fellowship Opportunities

Looking to fellowship with your church brothers & sisters in Christ, be sure to mark your calendar for the Girls Gathering, the Men's Breakfast and Men's Steak Dinner!

Gifted to Serve

Learn what your spiritual gifts are with Jim Woodward on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM starting September 4 in Building B.

Evangelistic Sunday

Show Love Sunday is September 29. Pray for neighbors and friends and for God's guidance on who you should invite.

Stealing from God: Apologetics Class

Join Marty Tierney for this 10-week study starting Wednesday, September 4 at 6:30 PM in Building B. (Registration closes September 18 at 7:30 pm)

What if the core arguments for atheism reveal that God actually exists?

With a rising dependence on science and rational thought in today's culture, religion is often dismissed as "outdated" or "illogical" and atheism is gaining a wider audience. But award-winning author Dr. Frank Turek provides a strong case for how atheists steal logic, reasoning, evidence and science from God in order to support their claims.

Apologetics deals with answering critics who oppose or question the revelation of God in Christ and the Bible. The purpose of this class is helping the Christian to "always be ready to make a defense to everyone who asks them to give an account for the hope they have.

New Life Group

Join Shirley Beattie beginning Wednesday, September 4 in Building B at 6:30 PM for a new adult life group.

The group will begin with the study "Experiencing God" by Henry T. Blackaby.

Rooted Fall 2024

The Rooted experience will help you practice the 7 Rooted Rhythms modeled by the early church in Acts 2. Register for our upcoming fall class on Wednesdays.

SNAPSHOT OF UPCOMING STUDIES & OPEN LIFE GROUPS

- 9/4 - Spanish as a Second Language
- 9/4 - Stealing from God: Apologetics Class
- 9/4 - Gifted to Serve
- 9/4 - Rooted
- 9/4 - Experiencing God (Life Group)

SNAPSHOT OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- 3rd Sunday of each Month - Interfaith Food Drive
- Month of September - Maguire State Offering
- 9/15 - Discover College Road
- 9/21 - Men's Breakfast
- 9/29 - Show Love Sunday
- 9/30 - Girls Gathering
- 10/12 - Spanish Heritage Day
- 10/15 - Men's Steak Dinner
- 10/27 - Pastor Appreciation Day
- 10/31 - Fall Festival
- 11/9 - Women's Conference

For more information on current opportunities, check out the "Events" tab on our website and the separate articles in this newsletter.

Register for any event online or by calling the church office at 352-237-5741.

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Save the Date, November 9 for an our all day Women's Conference. More info will be provided in the near future.