2019 Report for the Trilacoochee church of Christ

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake)

I. AUTHORIZED BY GOD

- A. How the work of the Lord is to be supported
 - 1. The uses made of the contribution as instructed in The New Testament
 - 2. How Evangelism is to be supported
 - 3. How Edification and Limited Benevolence is to be supported
 - 4. The scriptures authorize a public report of the work of the local church
- B. How the work is supported here
 - 1. The work of the Lord is supported by the freewill offerings of Christians, as instructed in the Word 2Cor. 8:1-5
 - 2. The members of this congregation do so with purpose of heart, pleased to do the will of God without public acknowledgement Matt. 6:1-4
- C. The uses made of the contribution as instructed in the New Testament:
 - 1. Evangelism: teaching the gospel to the lost
 - 2. Edification: building up Christians through preaching and teaching (includes providing and maintaining a place for worship and Bible study)
 - 3. Limited Benevolence: ministering to the physical needs of poor saints
- D. How evangelism is supported
 - 1. Phil. 4:16-17: 2Tim. 2:2
 - 2. But how are we to fund the preaching of the gospel? What are the scripturally authorized means and methods of supporting the work of the church? 1Cor. 16:1-2; 2Cor. 8:1-12
- E. But who is to support this work and who is to do this work? Do the scriptures supply a plan?
 - 1. Every member of a local congregation has a Christ-ordained role and purpose Eph. 4:11-13, 16
- F. Do the scriptures authorize a public report of the work of the local church? Should we keep these matters hidden or speak openly of them?
 - 1. The Bible authorizes a public report Acts 14:21-23, 26-27

II. 2019 EVENTS AND WORK ACCOMPLISHED

- A. There were a few events of note
 - 1. We experienced a number of disciples who moved away for various reasons, in most cases due to familial needs; however, in spite of a decline at the beginning of the year, there was a gradual increase near the end of the year.
 - 2. We noted a modest increase in our offerings in the second half of the year and were able to begin operating a budget in the black.
 - 3.
 - 4. We witnessed the baptism of three persons.
 - 5. We witnessed a few persons restored by confession, and eight persons placed membership with us.
 - 6. We had two Gospel meetings with Nathan Peeler in the Spring and Basilio Munoz in the Fall.

- 7. Due to budget concerns, we had to discontinue the support of seven evangelists in April.
- 8. We have had challenging Bible studies in the adult Bible classes; including a study of church leadership.
- B. We engaged in spiritual work projects:
 - 1. We began the process of considering men to serve as elders and deacons.
 - 2. We began and maintained the following works: a men's leadership class, an indepth adult Bible class, singing at the Heritage Park Nursing Home; in addition, we have a Ladies' Bible class that has been meeting for quite some time.
 - 3. We updated our website, and generated a daily message program on our Facebook page.
- E. We engaged a few physical work projects:
 - 1. The front porch was re-carpeted, all doors got deadbolt locks, exterior lights were upgraded, etc.
 - 2. A number of miscellaneous repairs were completed by eager volunteers.
 - 3. We brought our records with the IRS up to date and developed a set of articles of incorporation, including an updated list of officers for legal purposes.
- III. 2019 ATTENDANCE IV. 2019 OFFERINGS
- V. SUPPORTING EVANGELISM IN 2019
- **VI. SUPPORTING LOCAL EDIFICATION IN 2019**

VII. 2019 EXPENDITURES

A. Policy of Financial Disclosure: Jay Wininger, who serves this congregation as treasurer, generates a monthly financial report distributed in the business meeting, and it details every use made of the offering to the Lord in this place. We wish for all to be informed of the fact that all uses of the offerings are limited to scripturally authorized activities for the church.

VIII. UPCOMING WORKS FOR 2020

- A. It is our hope that we will soon appoint elders and deacons in this place.
- B. Gospel meetings for this year are in the planning stage.
- C. Other works we can consider are a VBS, Bible class teacher training, et al.
- D. We encourage in home Bible study efforts to continue as well as to grow in the number of persons involved.
- E. We are planning to continue to handle our own minor repairs, which will require volunteers.
- F. As always, we strongly encourage you to be diligent in efforts to find persons with whom you can share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Conclusion: Psalm 133:1