

NOVEMBER 2009

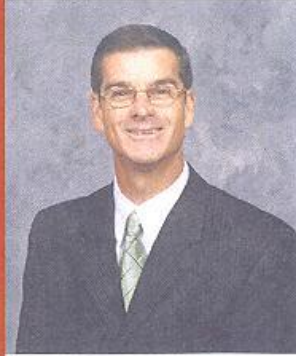
## OUR MISSION

“Anchor House is a Christian residence for boys, that seeks to provide reconciliation, social assimilation, and independence to promote a brighter future.”

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## 2009 Annual Banquet - Sat Nov 7



**Guest Speaker**  
Pastor Tim Williams

Dear Friends,

Please don't miss our annual banquet held this year at First Presbyterian Church in Haines City. It is not too late to call us for tickets. Please let us know by Wed Nov 4 how many tickets you will need!

We have reduced the cost to \$ 25 this year in consideration of the difficult times. This year, every dollar is going into the program for boys.

Dr. Tim Williams will be our guest speaker. Tim is regarded as an excellent communicator and is bringing a timely message to this ministry.

Carrie Widener performed for Disney for several years and brings a great talent but also a heart for the hurting. Carrie also servers on our Board of Directors.

We look forward to seeing you at at 6 p.m. for a wonderful time together. Why not spend it with us on Saturday than give your money to the local diner. You will be blessed.!



**Special Performer**  
Carrie Widener

## Anchor House adds Life Coach to staff!

Nathan has returned to the staff of Anchor House to help our boys develop their life skills, individual goals and to provide support and client care direction to these young men.

I am pleased to be able to return to Anchor House and be a part of the vital work that is happening here in the transformation of these young men's lives! God Bless.

Nathan



**Nathan Showalter works with our boys in developing their life skills!**



**“It is a well known reality that children that have been abandoned and suffered great loss such as ours, often reflect as symptoms a feeling that “life owes them something”. Yet the truth remains that Jesus purchased our lives and our freedom with His death.”**

**BIRTHDAYS**  
**JARED—12/ 11**  
**DEVONE—12/22**  
**GREG—12/29**

## Executive Director's Desk

Dear Friends and supporters,

The season of thanks is coming upon us as we as a nation prepare thanks for the many blessings God has bestowed upon us. I have travelled and ministered extensively since 1982 in many countries around the world. Yet it remains true today that our country, the US, in spite of present challenges remains a blessed nation. We are a nation that so many wish to come and live because of the price that was paid for freedom and the opportunity to better one's self and family. I thank God for the privilege of living in this nation and the opportunity He has given us to serve Him and also to impact the lives of young men.

As I observe some of our boys, at times they reflect an attitude of entitlement that is so prevalent around our country and yet with our boys it is somewhat different when you begin to peel away the layers. It is a well known reality that children that have been abandoned and suffered great loss such as ours, often reflect as symptoms a feeling that “life owes them something”. Yet the truth remains that Jesus purchased our lives and our freedom with His death.

Through Jesus, is the hope that though our pasts have been marred and scarred by the painful realities of this world our future destiny lies with Jesus. There is a hope that supersedes all experiences in life.

With Thanksgiving and Christmas upon us, may we all be mindful and appreciative of the greatest gift of all, the gift of our Lord and Savior. As you consider your own fears and insecurities coming through the difficult times of this past year, please remember our boys in your thoughts and prayers who for many of them, have no one.

Please help us through your donations, volunteering, prayers and visits to continue to provide a loving, nurturing home through Jesus.

### PR HELP NEEDED!

Do you have skills in public relations and would be willing to volunteer a few hours a month or on occasion for projects that could use your skilled eyes, talents and ideas to help us communicate our vision and ministry? We would be grateful for your help here. Please call Dr. Staples at 860.5200.

In His love and with thanks!

*Michael Staples*

**Andrew, a former resident wrote me this week to say, “since leaving Anchor House, I have joined the army, got married and have 1 daughter. I feel I owe most of this to Anchor House.” Andrew further states that he wants our boys “to know that Anchor is not just a place ‘bad kids’ go because their parents can’t handle them.**

**Last month I requested your help to meet the need of Jamaal. His mother is not yet ready to receive him back. Thank you for \$ 200 that came in. We want Jamaal to write back one day like Andrew to speak of his success. We need \$ 500 a month until Jan 1 to help with this need.**

## Pastor Don Reports



Thanks for the overwhelming response to my plea last month for luggage for the young men at Anchor House. We have received many duffle style bags and soft sided luggage. We will use the smaller bags when they leave An-

chor House. Whether a young man leaves Anchor House on a high note or a low note, we want to show them dignity by giving them a suitcase. Thanks!

We are quickly approaching the holiday season. Thanksgiving and Christmas without family is very difficult. Thanks to our many friends and donors, the young men at Anchor House are always blessed by those who show the love of Christ by donating Christmas gifts or gift cards. Our boys appreciate so much of your generosity towards them. This year only a very small percentage of our youth have the opportunity to have unsupervised visits with their family. That makes the joy of the holidays a difficult time for many.

During the Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks from school, we try to keep the young men busy with activities. This helps

to lighten their loss of being without family during the holidays. Some of the coming activities planned are a trip to Disney World (thanks to one of our donors), ice skating, roller skating, bowling, movie, and fishing. Perhaps you or a group from your church would consider sponsoring our youth for an activity.

Here are some suggestions:

Purchase meal tickets for our Thanksgiving trip to Disney World

Take or sponsor our youth bowling

Take or sponsor our youth to miniature golf

Take or sponsor our youth to a concert

Take or sponsor our youth to an airboat ride

Take or sponsor our youth out to dinner

Take our youth to an event that your church is sponsoring

Take our youth to \_\_\_\_\_?? You may have a great activity in mind!

Thank you for being the hands of Christ reaching out to the young men at Anchor House.

**Pastor Don Cox**  
Program Director/Chaplain

## Special Needs

Anchor House is always in need of items to keep the residence running. To learn more about how you can help, contact **Ginger Talley** at **863.665.1916** or at [ginger.talley@anchor-house.org](mailto:ginger.talley@anchor-house.org).

### Food Items

- ◆ Deli luncheon meat
- ◆ Tomato Sauce
- ◆ Tomato Paste
- ◆ Cheese Slices
- ◆ Cream Cheese
- ◆ Crushed Tomatoes
- ◆ Apple Juice
- ◆ Orange Juice
- ◆ Maple Syrup
- ◆ Green Beans
- ◆ Canned Corn
- ◆ Canned Soup
- ◆ Cooking Oil

### SPECIAL

- ◆ Meat (beef, chicken or pork)
- ◆ Pork Sausage (breakfast)
- ◆ Dishwashing Soap
- ◆ Laundry Soap (powder only)

### Other

- ◆ Garden Hoses (50 ft. or 100 ft.)
- ◆ Bath Towels
- ◆ Book Bags
- ◆ Paper Plates
- ◆ Trash Bags (30 gallon)
- ◆ Paper Towels
- ◆ Twin Sheets



**NEEDED: DESKTOP  
COMPUTER HARDWARE  
FOR OUR NEW  
COMPUTER LAB**

## Up coming Events



**November 14—15 Kennedy Space Center Tour & weekend trip to St. John's Episcopal Melbourne**

**November 26—Thanksgiving Day Lunch at VFW—in Auburndale FL**

**December 10—Christmas Dinner with Boys and Staff.**

**Need sponsors to help with meals and such!**



**December 12—Work Team from Trinity Presbyterian Church**

## SPECIAL THANKS

North Lakeland Presbyterian Church for its golf tournament held for Anchor House.

Trinity Presbyterian Church of Lakeland and St. Sebastian's by the Sea of Melbourne for \$5000 to replace air conditioning equipment in the boys residence.

Community Foundation of Greater Lakeland for grant for our Independent Living Program.



Publix for recurrent food donations.

**Thanks to Orlando Magic for free tickets for our boys**

**Special Thanks to volunteers from *First Presbyterian church of Lakeland* for their assistance in grounds and building maintenance on October 10**

