

Pastors

Johnny Davis744-1636
Dan Fuller478-3755
*Joe Holland.....626-2809
Jerry Hopkins.....434-4188
Phil Porter575-4782
* Chairman for the Month of January

Evangelists

Dan Jenkins744-4559
David Sproule301-2230

Deacons

Mike Archer.....422-2995
David Brown.....775-9109
Novel Brown.....848-6988
Chuck Clark.....627-4132
Victor Colage.....798-6275
Lance Collier.....793-2718
Jim Davis747-2984
Mike Erickson.....310-9916
Tim Fry373-9121
Jeff Goodale261-1188
Rick Hall.....622-5131
Paul Hensel744-9060
Bob Higbee.....303-386-6405
Gary Jenkins422-2819
Dick Kelley.....968-1799
Jeff Leslie.....744-3444
Paul Metzkes.....736-9086
Buzz Nelson.....627-4890
Jerry Pittman.....793-2725
Kevin Weeks.....386-4108

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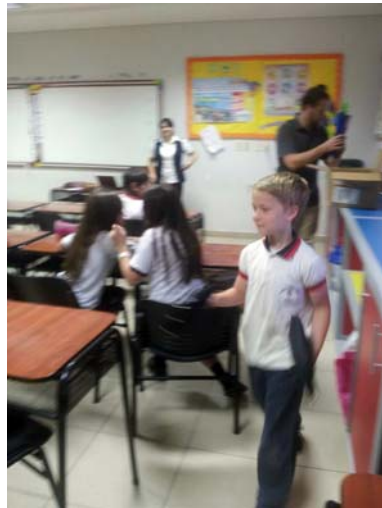
Vol. LIII

January 5, 2014

No. 1

School Supplies

From **Palm Beach Lakes**
to **Paraguay**



Special Thanks to
**The Jr. High
Youth Group**
and to
**All Members
Who Donated**



By Dan Jenkins

Looking at Two Years

The beginning of a year is a wonderful time to look at the blessings we have received from God in the past twelve months and to look at the blessings which will be ours in the coming years. This past year has given us so many reasons to rejoice. Consider the following blessings which we have.

Thank God for the challenges we faced in 2013. In our personal lives as well as in this church we faced many challenges. What a blessing it was for us to be challenged last year, and what a blessing we have in the way we responded.

Thank God for the challenges facing us in the new year. I immediately think of the challenge of this month's Mission Sunday contribution. The sacrificial spirit you have manifested has tripled the amount of mission work we were doing a decade ago, and you have given more than \$1,000,000 on these special Sundays. In addition to this, we will be presenting several new challenges for 2014.

Thank God for His presence in 2013. The victories which were ours were not ours but His! It is not by our might, but His that there were so many "mountain tops" in the last few months—the gospel meeting with Dan Winkler, the VBS, the seminar on Islam, the amazing Ladies' Day, the "Stepping Into the Bible" educational program and the lectureship.

How can any Christian be downtrodden or depressed with such promises!

Thank God for His presence in the new year. Perhaps Paul said it best, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Phil. 4:13). Thank God that He has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you" (Heb. 13:5). How can a Christian be downtrodden or depressed with these promises to uplift him? The new year will be great because He is great!

Thank God for the unity we shared in 2013. What made the Heart to Heart mail out such a success? What made Laborers Together with God, the new plan to involve every member, such a success? What made SEW and CFBC a force in changing lives? It was the unity of spirit we manifested in working together.

Thank God for the unity we have in the new year. We serve one Lord; we have one goal; we are one family; we are His one body. Because of this unity, think of the Lord's description of united hearts, "Indeed the people are one and they all have one language...now nothing they propose will be withheld from them" (Gen. 11:6). The unity we manifest will insure the triumph we experience.

Thank God for all that He has done and will do. Paul told the church in Corinth, "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things may have an abundance for every good work" (2 Cor. 9:8). Think about how these words apply to the past year and give us hope for the new year!



By David Sproule

Don't say it! Don't say it! "Life stinks!" Why do you say that?

It may make you uncomfortable to state or hear or consider or admit that life on this earth stinks, but you know this to be true. Consider the evidence.

Homosexuality is becoming commonplace. Polygamy is making its way into mainstream discussions. Marriage is being mocked and dismantled. Unwed births are becoming the norm. Thousands of unborn children are murdered every day. Alcohol is widely (and wildly) consumed. Other drugs are easily attainable. Christianity is being demeaned and criticized. Can we admit it? Life on earth stinks!

Consider it from another angle. Cancer is killing. Chemo and radiation are seemingly as common as aspirin. Infections are everyday occurrences. Body pains control daily activities. Injuries alter life ambitions. Health problems are breaking hearts and breaking up homes. Babies, infants and youth are in hospital beds with tubes and needles in their bodies. Can we admit it? Life on earth stinks!

One more angle that touches close to home. *I lost my job. I lost my insurance. My car got totaled. My house was burglarized. Someone stole my wallet. A friend was gossiping about me. My child has disowned me. My hero just let me down...big time.* Can we admit it? Life on earth stinks!

Centered on what this earth has to offer? Then life is going to stink!

Thank God that the life that truly matters is not all about life on this earth! If our purpose was to be determined by life on this earth, how misguided a people would we be! If our happiness was to be determined by life on this earth, how miserable a people would we be! But, our purpose and our happiness is not regulated by what this earth has to offer!

A Christian's joy is of a far better place! Fleeting joy can be experienced on this earth, but true joy is found in Jesus, faith in Him and the hope of heaven (1 Pet. 1:3-9).

A Christian's citizenship is in a far better place! Earthly citizenship might stink, but we are citizens of heaven (Phil. 3:20-21)!

A Christian's target is on a far better place! Focusing on life here and now can be depressing, but we are pressing toward a greater prize (Phil. 3:14)!

A Christian's motivation is for a far better place! Every decision we make every day is driven by, not a momentary pleasure, but by an "eternal weight of glory" (2 Cor. 4:17), that keeps us moving and keeps us striving every day!

A Christian's life is about a far better place! What is your life about? How could it be summarized? If your life is centered on what this earth has to offer, then life is going to stink! But, if your life is "set on things above" (Col. 3:1-2), then there is an abundant life for you to enjoy right now (Jn. 10:10)!

Baptism

Stands between a sinner and ...

1. Becoming a Christian (Matt. 28:19; Acts 11:26).
2. Entering a new relationship with God (Matt. 28:19).
3. Being saved from sins (Mark 16:16).
4. Being born again (John 3:3-7; Titus 3:5).
5. Entering into the kingdom of God (John 3:3-5).
6. Obtaining the remission of sins (Acts 2:38).
7. Rejoicing (Acts 8:39; 16:34).
8. Having sins washed away (Acts 22:16).
9. Calling on the name of the Lord (Acts 22:16).
10. Being converted into a New Testament Christian (Book of Acts).
11. Getting into Christ (Rom. 6:3; Gal. 3:26-27).
12. Getting into the death of Christ (Rom. 6:3).
13. The power of the blood of Christ (Rom. 6:3; Rev. 1:5).
14. Having a new life in Christ, a new creature (Rom. 6:4; 2 Cor. 5:17).
15. Being free from sin (Rom. 6:3-4, 17).
16. Wearing the name of Christ (1 Cor. 1:12-17).
17. Being sanctified and justified (1 Cor. 6:11).
18. Being added to the one body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13; Acts 2:41, 47).
19. Becoming a child of God (Gal. 3:26-27).
20. Putting on Christ (Gal. 3:27).
21. Being sanctified and cleansed (Eph. 5:26).
22. Putting off the body of sins (Col. 2:11-13).
23. The working of God (Col. 2:12).
24. Being saved (1 Pet. 3:21; Titus 3:5).
25. Obtaining a good conscience (1 Pet. 3:21; Heb. 10:22).

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

James Allen	back in Good Sam. Hospital (room 387A), pneumonia
Bethany Bertram	diagnosed with CMT in her feet
Jesse Bertram	recovering from foot surgery
Hattie Daniels	recovering at home and getting better
Gary Friedly	recovering at home from surgery to remove appendix
Ellen Gager	recovering at home from blood clots
Janet Hickerson	recovering from another fall, in a lot of pain
Inell Ingram	recovering at home from surgery
Lennie Langley	back at Palms Edge, under Hospice Supervision
Ruth Milton	suffering with the shingles, doing better
Sabrina Pietro	recovering from thyroid surgery
Jerry Pittman	suffering with the shingles
Godfrey Pratt	recovering from gallbladder surgery
Allison Roman	recovering at home from double pneumonia
Angie Seames	recovering from foot surgery
Karen Watts	Gardens Court Rehab (room 218-W), slowly improving

Long-Term Health Issues

James Allen	dialysis treatments
Donna Armstrong	monthly chemo treatments
Deidra Miley	dialysis treatments
Silas Moses	dialysis treatments
Charles Norton	dialysis treatments
Gene Puckett	dialysis treatments
Les Sawyer	radiation treatments
Norman Smedley	at home and very weak
Patricia Ventress	both kidneys removed

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Vera Day	Gladys Jackson
Cora Lee Dennis	Jean McMasters
Margie Fortenberry	Betty Matter
Helen Gardner	Leigh Puckett
Margaret Griffio	Ray Seay
Margie Hardin	Ricky Smedley
Loretta Holaday	Margaret Wade
Shelton Howell	Karen Watts

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Chip Carmack	Judy Carmack's son, growth on his thyroid
Billie Earhart	Cindy Nelson's grandmother, diagnosed with lung cancer
Melanie Fry	Tim Fry's mother, Stage 4 Hodgkins Lymphoma
James Green	Johnnie Green's grandson, recovering from surgery
Bobby Jackson	Gladys Jackson's son, on dialysis, doing better
Mason Lerro	Richard & Judy Lerro's great-grandson, NICU on ventilator
Vera Mitchell	Kay Richardson's mother, suffering with kidney failure
Cynthia Noel	W. & B. Arthur's granddaughter, heart & kidney issues

Pray for Our Missionaries

Josh & Cara Blackmer	Paraguay
Troy & Andrea Spradlin	Paraguay
Robert & Mary Martin	Pacific Islands
Scott & Rebecca Shanahan	Pacific Islands
Joey & Tammy Treat	Pacific Islands
Tamuka Arunashe	Zimbabwe
Nnanna Aforgi	Nigeria
Apologetics Press	Montgomery, AL
Mauricio Yegros	Pompano Beach, FL



Church Family Calendar of Events

Sunday, January 5

- ◆ **Josh Blackmer Mission Report** at 9:00 a.m. Jr. High, Sr. High & all adult classes will meet in the Auditorium.
- ◆ **Renova Nursing Home Visit** at 2:30 p.m.

Monday, January 6

- ◆ **Monday Night Bible Study** at 7:00 p.m. in the Family Room.

Tuesday, January 7

- ◆ **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m. in the Family Room.

Saturday, January 11

- ◆ **Widows & Widowers Luncheon** from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the home of Kane & Fran Campbell. Bring a \$10 gift to exchange for the "Greedy Gift Grab." RSVP to Kane & Fran or Joan Holloway.

Sunday, January 12

- ◆ **PBL Family Photos Updated.** If you've never had your photo taken or if it needs to be updated, please have your photo taken after morning services or before evening services by Mike Erickson in the Family Room.

Tuesday, January 14

- ◆ **Freed-Hardeman University "Meet & Greet"** hosted by the West Broward congregation from 5:30-8:30 p.m. to help you learn more about FHU. *Housing is needed for the FHU Representatives that evening. If you can keep any of these college students for ONE night, please let David Sproule know as soon as possible.*

Sunday, January 26

- ◆ **Mission Sunday.** Every dollar given will be used for mission work.

Saturday, February 1

- ◆ **Ladies' Day hosted by Sebring Parkway.** Alisa Leonard will be speaking on "Pearls & Lace: A Woman of Worth." RSVP by January 29. See the bulletin board for more details.

Sunday, February 2

- ◆ **Renova Nursing Home Visit** at 2:30 p.m.

Friday-Sunday, February 7-9

- ◆ **Mother/Daughter Retreat at CFBC.** Go to www.cfbiblecamp.org for more details.



Palm Beach Lakes

Young Adults

Saturday, January 18

- ◆ **Young Adult Service Project.** Meet at the building at 8:30 a.m. Bring any cleaning supplies or tools that could be useful for our work. See Ivan for more details.

Sunday, January 19

- ◆ **Young Adult Meeting** after evening worship in Adult 1.

Saturday, January 25

- ◆ **Young Adult Ladies' Visiting Day** at 8:30 a.m. Meet at Panera Bread on PGA Blvd. Bring items to Amber Pittman or Cindy Nelson by January 19.

Saturday, February 1

- ◆ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Gary & Angie Seames.

Friday-Sunday, February 14-16

- ◆ **Young Adult Camping Trip.** See Ivan Villard for details.

Sunday, February 16

- ◆ **Young Adult Meeting** after evening worship in Adult 1.



Palm Beach Lakes

Youth

Sunday, January 12

- ◆ **Youth & Family Singing** after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

Tuesday, January 14

- ◆ **Freed-Hardeman University "Meet & Greet"** hosted by the West Broward congregation from 5:30-8:30 p.m. to help you learn more about the FHU experience. There will be activities, food and a devotional. See the bulletin board for more details.

Sunday, January 19

- ◆ **YES Weekend Sign-up Deadline.** For Grades 8-12. See the bulletin board for more details and to sign up.

Sunday, January 26

- ◆ **Sr. High Devo** after evening worship at the home of Dan & Loni Fuller. Bring drinks and desserts to share.
- ◆ **Jr. High Family Devo** after evening worship.

Equipping & Edifying Families

10 Ways to Live Above Your Life's Circumstances



When the economy is difficult or work is impossible, when our marriage is a strain, or the children are especially challenging—or maybe all four at once—it's easy to feel weighed down by circumstances. “If only things were different,” we say, “then my life would be OK.” Circumstances don't have to define life. We can be solid, content and fulfilled regardless of the difficulties and the challenges that we face. Fact is: the way that we respond in the face of struggle says a lot about our character.

Here are 10 Ways we can live above life's circumstances:

- 1. Be clear about what defines you.** Make sure know who you are, understand that you were created with a purpose, be crystal clear about what makes you tick.
- 2. Live according to values that stand independent of circumstance.** Stand on the solid ground of faith. Own the fact that you are a part of something greater. Build a life around values such as service and love and compassion.
- 3. Practice living above circumstances before things get difficult.** The time to learn how to step outside of circumstance is when things are still going well. Make sure that you're not being sucked in to a reliance on the wrong values. Don't put your eggs in the wrong baskets. Learn the difference between values that last and things that will ultimately let you down.
- 4. Understand that relationships count.** Make the choices that value relationships ahead of the bottom line. Spend time with your children. Engage your marriage as a priority not an afterthought. Honor your parents and friends. Remember: At the end, its relationships that matter most!
- 5. Be the best spouse in the world!** It's a lot easier to deal with a lost job, or a financial challenge, or a difficult child when you are confident in your relationship with your spouse.
- 6. Invest in things that are timeless.** In your monthly budget, how important is charitable giving? Do you give your leftovers or is self-sacrifice involved? Be generous with what you have and you won't miss it so much when it's gone.
- 7. Do not look to other people for validation.** Learn to rely on what you know is wise rather than the opinions of those around you. If you need to purchase trendy items, or drive the right car, or wear the correct clothes in order to feel validated, then your sense of self-worth is going to depend on things that could (and will) easily disappear overnight.
- 8. Develop a clear vision as to where you are going.** Understand your purpose in life, and develop clear goals that come directly from your heart. Your vision is more enduring than the temporary ups and downs of circumstance.
- 9. Learn to distinguish between the temporary and the eternal.** When we understand what parts of our life line up under “temporary” and what parts can be listed as “eternal,” then it's not so hard to be philosophical when the temporary stuff threatens to overwhelm.
- 10. Be reasonable.** Keep a sense of balance. Ask for help from those around you. Don't think you have to be the strong and silent one. Remember to live in community. Let yourself be loved and cared for.

"...always abounding in the work of the Lord..." (1 Cor. 15:58)



Sunday,
December 29

Dear PBL,

Thank you for the flowers and cards you sent me after the recent passing of my brother, **Homer**, in Ohio.

In Christian love,
Carolyn Kemp

Thank you to everyone for all of your thoughts and prayers while I was sick. I appreciate each of them!

Allison Roman



Congratulations to **Stephen & Carolina Beliech** upon the birth of their son, **Caleb**, Wednesday, January 1, weighing 8 lbs, 3 oz.

LOCAL VISITORS: Paul & Nellie Batitsky; Jacqueline Haber; Richard & Judy Lerro; Cody Penzek; Lana Smith, Alexis & Sasha; Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Stewart; and Ms. Machel Williams.

OUT OF TOWN VISITORS: Mr. & Mrs. Mike Baker, Sean & Ryan, Centreville, VA; Mrs. Doyle Blake, Stone Mountain, GA; Mr. & Mrs. John Branard, Merritt Island, FL; the Costellos, Manchester, TN; Mrs. Barbara Davis, Murfreesboro, TN; Dr. & Mrs. Bill Davis, Jacksonville, FL; Ms. Marcia E, Farrar, Palm City, FL; Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Hogan, St. Johns, FL; Leander Jackson, Oxnard, CA; Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Jenkins, Henderson, TN; Jon & Ethan Norris, Cookeville, TN; Mr. & Mrs. Michael Rosenblum, Huntsville, AL; and Daniel, Jonathan, & Sabrina Swayne, Stuart, FL.



Andy Griffiths was baptized on Sunday morning, December 22.



Monday (Jan 6th)
Bobby Ingraham
Joe Maloney

Tuesday (Jan 7th) cont.
Sandy Colage

Tuesday (Jan 7th)
Willie & Giselle Smith (Ann.)
Kipp Affron

Thursday (Jan 9th)
Matthew & Kasandra Jones (Ann.)
Brenda Collier
Lennie Langley

Those to Serve

If you cannot serve, please call Mike Ellis at 775-3533.

If you are scheduled to serve on Sunday morning, please meet in the Grades 6-8 classroom at 9:50 a.m.

If you are scheduled to serve on Sunday evening, please meet at the front of the auditorium at 5:50 p.m.

Sunday Morning, Jan. 5

Lead Singing Gary Friedly
Opening Prayer Victor Colage
Scripture Reading..... Lawrence Williams
Presiding at Table Ted Friesner
Serve at Table:
Derrick Banks David Payne
Brayden Gilles Rick Price
Bob Higbee Brandon Thomas
Jeremy Maloney Rick Tibbetts
Alternates:
David Brown Chris Thomas
Sermon..... Dan Jenkins
Closing Prayer Phil Porter

Sunday Evening, Jan. 5

Lead SingingBobbo Lupo
Opening Prayer Scott Studer
Scripture Reading.....Jack Jagers
Presiding at Table..... Chad Brown
Serve at Table:
Lance Collier, Vincent Rogers & Mike Trujillo
Sermon..... Dan Jenkins
Closing Prayer Ivan Villard, Jr.
Wednesday Evening, Jan. 8
Lead Singing Ivan Villard
Extend Invitation.....Dan McLeod
Family Prayer Bill Ingram, Jr.

Our Record

Attendance	<u>Dec. 29</u>	<u>Dec. Avg.</u>
Sun. Bible study	207	208
Sun. A.M. Worship	348	353
Sun. P.M. Worship	180	167
Wed. Bible study	141	167
Contribution	\$15,259	\$13,26
2013 Weekly Budget: \$13,203		
Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: +14,536		

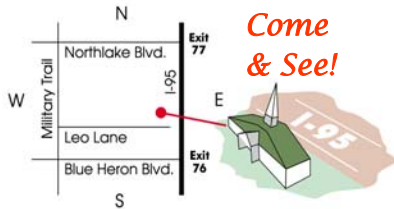
Ushers for the week of **Jan. 5**: Head Usher: Novel Brown, Jim Davis & Paul Metzkes.



PALM BEACH LAKES CHURCH OF CHRIST

4067 Leo Lane
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
www.pblcoc.org

Speaking where the Bible speaks, silent where the Bible is silent.



Palm Beach Lakes Church of Christ Bulletin (USPS 097-200)

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Service Schedule

Sunday:

- Bible Classes..... 9:00 a.m.
- Worship 10:00 a.m.
- Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

- Bible classes 7:00 p.m.

Front Cover: Lydia Quinn, Destiny Hardwick, Katie Sproule, Annides Mills & Kayleigh Higbee

First-Century Christianity in the Twenty-First Century

Speaking where the Bible speaks

Silent where the Bible is silent

Calling Bible things by Bible names

Doing Bible things in Bible ways

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Upcoming Events

January 26

Mission Sunday

March 9-12

Gospel Meeting with David Lipe

April 17

Ladies' Day

May 2-4

ET for Youth with Kyle Butt

May 18

"Coming Home" Sunday

June 15-18

Vacation Bible School

July 20-26

Jenkins' Week at Central Florida Bible Camp