

**Overseers**

- Johnny Davis .....744-1636
- Dan Fuller..... 478-3755
- \*Joe Holland ..... 626-2809
- Jerry Hopkins ..... 434-4188
- Phil Porter ..... 575-4782

\* Chairman for the Month of November

**Evangelists**

- Dan Jenkins .....744-4559
- David Sproule..... 301-2230
- Josh Blackmer ..... 319-1418

**Deacons**

- Mike Archer .....422-2995
- David Brown.....972-7608
- Novel Brown ..... 848-6988
- Chuck Clark ..... 627-4132
- Victor Colage.....798-6275
- Lance Collier.....793-2718
- Jim Davis ..... 747-2984
- Mike Erickson.....310-9916
- Tim Fry .....373-9121
- Jeff Goodale ..... 261-1188
- Rick Hall ..... 622-5131
- Bob Higbee.....303-386-6405
- Gary Jenkins .....889-3585
- Dick Kelley.....968-1799
- Jeff Leslie.....744-3444
- Paul Metzkes.....736-9086
- Buzz Nelson.....627-4890
- Jerry Pittman.....793-2725
- Kevin Weeks.....386-4108

**Church Office**

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*Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ*

**Vol. LIII**

**November 23, 2014**

**No. 47**

*Welcome New Members*



**Morando, Monica**

Group 1

*Identified July 27*



**Lewis, Jaqua`**

Group 4

*Identified November 9*

*Fifth Sunday Singing*  
*in the Lobby*  
*Sunday, November 30*



By Dan Jenkins

## Are You *Absolutely* Sure?

Our world is so strange in that it no longer believes there are truths which are unchangeable and absolutely true. Have you ever considered the paradox when many say that there is nothing which is absolutely true? Can you see the absurdity in a statement which affirms an absolute truth? How can one be absolutely sure that nothing is absolute!

**Failure to believe in absolute truth impacts our nation.** Our nation was founded on the principles that our forefathers described as truths that are self-evident. They affirmed that all men are created equally and are endowed by the Creator with unalienable rights like life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It was on this basis that God blessed America and exalted it above all nations. The foundation of our nation was a self-evident, absolute truth—we exist because the Creator created us equally. Now remove the absolute truth that God is and we have been created by Him, and the results are schools where it is forbidden to acknowledge Him in prayers, to teach the moral precepts from the Book given by the Creator and the abortion of nearly 57,000,000 citizens. God is! You can be *absolutely* sure of this!

**Failure to believe in absolute truth impacts our religious world.** Our religious world is filled with the concept that

what might be truth for one might not be truth to another. There are very few who view the Bible as the basis of absolute unchangeable truth. Look at the maze of denominationalism and you see the fruit of this view of truth. It makes no difference how you worship, what names you wear religiously, what you view about marriage and divorce, what you believe about homosexuality or how you determine what is moral. How strange this view would seem to the early church who steadfastly followed the apostles' teachings. How strange it looks to the Creator who gave us the Book of absolute truth.

**Failure to believe in absolute truth impacts our homes.** The homes of many Christians are being devastated because some have forgotten the absolute truth about God hating divorce, Biblical teaching about divorce and remarriage, the role of husbands and wives in the home and the parents' role in molding and shaping the lives of children. God has spoken. The failure to see His words as absolute and to apply them in our homes is killing us!

**God has spoken.** Jesus declared that the only way of life is to live by every word which comes from God's mouth. God has spoken. His words are eternal. His words are understandable. His words are sovereign. His words are unchangeable. His words are truth. His words are *absolute* truth!

**God has spoken words that are eternal, understandable and absolute truth**



By David Sproule

## Did You Choose to Be Straight? (Part 1 of 2)

Homosexuals and their advocates continue to push their lifestyle as an equivalent to heterosexuality, and some of their arguments are pointed right back at heterosexuals, in an effort to silence them. Unfortunately, too many have been swayed by these flawed arguments (because they can sound convincing), including many of our youth.

One such argument in recent years has asked heterosexuals, "When did you choose to be straight? If one lifestyle," they argue, "is a choice, then the other must also be a choice." Of course, they are trying to do two things: (1) make homosexuality as "normal" as heterosexuality, and (2) make heterosexuals feel uncomfortable and unable to answer the question, and thus yield their position and agree with the "being straight is a choice" allegation. But, not so fast! Let's consider this faulty line of reasoning.

**Do not be baited into a false premise!** If you step into their field of thought and try to answer a query that is based upon a flawed line of argumentation, you will either lose the argument or yield your position. They want you to think that being straight must have been a choice that you made (if being gay was a choice that they made), and they press to know when you made that choice. You are in a no-win posi-

tion if you try to answer based on their premise, so do not answer the question. (It would be the same as trying to answer the question, "Have you stopped beating your wife?") A false premise is no place for truth to linger and "try to explain."

**Back up and stand on the solid foundation of truth!** Change the basis of the discussion to God and His creation. We are not here by chance or evolutionary mythology, but we have been created by God! God created male and female (Gen. 1:27). God created man (Gen. 2:7). God created woman for the man (Gen. 2:18-23). God created heterosexuals and the heterosexual relationship (Gen. 2:24). "A man shall...be joined to his wife" (heterosexual). "A man shall leave his father and mother" (heterosexual). That's God's creation! Thousands of years later, Jesus Himself recognized and argued that the heterosexual relationship serves as God's approved model for human sexuality (Matt. 19:4-6).

"When did you choose to be straight?" Wrong premise! I did not choose to be straight! God made me to be a heterosexual being, just as He created Adam and Eve to be heterosexual beings! We must back up, stand on truth and see heterosexuality as God's "normal"! If I choose, then, to deviate from God's norm of creation, and if I choose to incline myself to homosexual desires and lifestyle, that is the choice. But, to be straight was and is not a choice but a Divine Design!

**God made me a heterosexual being, just as He did Adam and Eve!**



By Josh Blackmer

## What's So Great About the "Great Commission"?

We say it all the time, and we refer to it in sermons and in writings. The phrase "Great Commission" is nowhere written in the text of the Bible, but its impact is on every page. It is essentially Jesus saying, "You have been given My whole story. Now tell the world about Me."

The Great Commission is so great that God created man knowing they would need its message. In the creation account, we read "male and female He created them" (Gen. 1:27). Ephesians 1:4-5 tells us that, "before the foundation of the world" we were chosen for "adoption...by Jesus Christ." In that moment when Father, Son and Holy Spirit stood together and said, "Let Us make man in Our image," they knew the cost. They knew all that would have to happen in the Old Testament in preparation for the Messiah. The Son knew the crucifixion would happen. "And behold God saw everything that He had made and behold it was very good" (Gen. 1:31). That included you.

The Great Commission is so great that God spared not His own Son in making it happen. As we look past the old covenant and into the new, we know that a covenant must be sealed in blood. "For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins" (Matt. 26:28).

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). John would later write, "Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the children of God..." (1 John 3:1) The Great Commission was sealed with the most precious of blood and the most holy of sacrifices so that you could be His child.

**"Great Commission" is nowhere written in the text of the Bible, but its impact is on every page.**

The Great Commission is so great that God prepared a holy nation, a royal priesthood, to be its ambassadors. "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light" (1 Pet. 2:9). "Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God" (2 Cor. 5:20). The message that we have been given in the Great Commission is one of reconciliation. God cries out through us, "Come to Me!"

The Great Commission is so great that somebody shared it with you and me. We are commissioned to carry the "great salvation" (Heb. 2:3) to the lost world. We are so blessed that someone did that for us. Will you do it for another?

## Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

### Leaders who get their hands dirty

One of the greatest collective efforts of God's people in Biblical history was the rebuilding of the wall around Jerusalem in only fifty-two days under the direction of Nehemiah. The third chapter of Nehemiah is an exciting scene to envision, as each family and group was assigned a certain section of the wall to repair. It is heartening to read that it was not just the workers or the lowly folks involved in the building, but there were many leaders who got their hands dirty in working side-by-side in this monumental endeavor (Neh. 3:9, 12, 14; 15, 16, 17, 18, 19).

However, not all leaders were willing. The Tekoties were an industrious people, who made repairs to their first section and then went and "repaired another section" (3:5, 27). How much more could (or would) they have done if their leaders had stepped up? Nevertheless, "their nobles did not put their shoulders to the work of their Lord" (3:5). What an epitaph!

May leaders today (all leaders, great and small) put their shoulders to the work of the Lord! – DS



### Is the church like Washington politicians?

If you turn on the news anymore, every national story seems to include some element of how Washington politicians do not get along. It has caused me to wonder if we can sometimes translate those kinds of relationships into the church.

Our government leaders seem to never have anything nice to say about each other. Do we have nice things to say about each other in the church? Our government leaders seem to look for ways to make folks who disagree with them look bad. Do we try to make others look bad? Our government leaders seem to have a hard time just listening. Do we listen to each other? Our government leaders seem to just do their own thing, regardless of its impact on others. Do we focus so much on what we want that we don't care about its negative impact on others?

In the church, we all have our flaws and make mistakes. Still, we share one common goal – to grow closer to God and to make it to heaven! I thank God that His church is a family! – DS

# Keep in Your Prayers



## Pray for These PBL Members

<b>Judy Carmack</b>	recovering from eye surgery, suffering with back pain
<b>Trudie Holland</b>	suffering with pain in her leg
<b>Lynne Jorgensen</b>	undergoing procedures on her knees
<b>Silas Moses</b>	having problems with dialysis port
<b>Jermaine Smith</b>	undergoing rehab after leg surgery
<b>Linda Studer</b>	cancer free, finishes chemo treatments in a few months



**Bonnie Arthur & the entire family**, upon the passing of **Walter Arthur**, on Monday night. A Memorial Service was held on Friday.

**Sue Hoelzer**, upon the passing of **her father, Tim Sargent**, last week.

## Long-Term Health Issues

<b>Lillian Bankston</b>	dialysis treatments
<b>Janet Hickerson</b>	suffering with back pain
<b>Ruth Milton</b>	chronic health problems
<b>Silas Moses</b>	dialysis treatments
<b>Charles Norton</b>	dialysis treatments
<b>Gene Puckett</b>	dialysis treatments
<b>Norm Smedley</b>	breathing problems
<b>Patricia Ventress</b>	both kidneys removed

<b>Our Shut-Ins:</b>	Cora Lee Dennis	Margaret Griffo	Shelton Howell	Betty Matter	Leigh Puckett
Millie Ames	Kay Fish	Margie Hardin	Daniel Johnson	Deidra Miley	Ricky Smedley
Vera Day	Helen Gardner	Loretta Holaday	Jean McMasters	Rosa Nash	Margaret Wade

## Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

<b>Willie Allen</b>	Jennifer Goodale's uncle, diagnosed with cancer
<b>Kristal Davis</b>	Jim Davis' sister, recovering from major surgery
<b>Carl Hoeweler</b>	Jenny Jordan's uncle, recovering from major cancer surgery
<b>Perry King</b>	Bettye King's father, under Hospice Care, liver cancer
<b>Colbie Kinsey</b>	Connie Plouffe's 4-mo-old great-granddaughter, neck surg.
<b>Dorothy Macon</b>	Cherylann Wineinger's grandmother, recovering from fall
<b>Peggy McKeal</b>	Ruth Lipford's daughter, still battling cancer
<b>Roslyn Phillip</b>	Maria Hackshaw's aunt, recovering from knee replacement
<b>Mary Sanders</b>	Betty Sanders' daughter, recovering from brain surgery
<b>Eddie James Smith</b>	Mary A. Jackson's cousin, pancreatic cancer
<b>A'Gatha Spradlin</b>	Troy Spradlin's mother, recovering from stroke, not well
<b>Roger Wineinger</b>	Cheryl Ann Wineinger's uncle, recovering from heart attack

*Remember*  
**Our Mission Works**

*Paraguay*  
**Troy & Andrea Spradlin**

*Pacific Islands*  
**Robert & Mary Martin**  
**Scott & Rebecca Shanahan**  
**Joey & Tammy Treat**

*Africa*  
**Tamuka Arunashe**  
**Nnanna Aforji**

*Montgomery, Alabama*  
**Apologetics Press**

*Coral Springs, Florida*  
**Mauricio Yegros**



# Church Family Calendar of Events

## Sunday, November 23

- ◆ **Single Ladies' Luncheon** after morning worship at Duffy's on Northlake Blvd. RSVP to Joan Holloway.

## Monday, November 24

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

## Tuesday, November 25

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

## Wednesday, November 26

- ◆ **Congregational Singing** at 7:00 p.m. All classes will meet in the Auditorium.

## Sunday, November 30

- ◆ **5th Sunday Singing in the Lobby** during evening worship.

## Thursday, December 4

- ◆ **Ladies' Soup Supper** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Traci Sproule. Sign up on the bulletin board to bring a dish, and bring an ornament for the exchange.

## Saturday, December 6

- ◆ **Jr. High Holiday Party hosted by 55+ Members** at 10:30 a.m. under the PBL drive-thru. Donations can be given to Ivan Villard, Elizabeth Summerlot or Marcia Kelley. RSVP to David Sproule.

## Sunday, December 7

- ◆ **Renova/North Lake Nursing Home Visit** at 2:30 p.m.
- ◆ **Baby Shower for Mauricio & Kayla Yegros** at 4:30 p.m. in the Family Room. They are registered at Wal-Mart. It's a boy!

## Friday, December 12

- ◆ **PBL Ladies' Prayer Night** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Grace Hackshaw. Bring a \$10 gift for the exchange. All ladies are welcome. See Maria Hackshaw for more details.

## Sunday, December 14

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



## Palm Beach Lakes

# Young Adults

## Thursday, December 4

- ◆ **Ladies' Soup Supper** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Traci Sproule. Sign up on the bulletin board to bring a dish, and bring an ornament for the exchange.

## Saturday, December 13

- ◆ **Young Adult Holiday Party** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Sarah Collier. See Sarah Collier or Ivan Villard for details.

## Sunday, December 21

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

## Saturday, January 3

- ◆ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. Location TBD.

## Monday, January 5

- ◆ **Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Rachel Fuller.

## Sunday, January 18

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



## Palm Beach Lakes

# Youth

## Sunday, November 30

- ◆ **Sr. High Meeting** after morning worship to discuss December Luncheon. See Paul Metzkes for details.

## Saturday, December 6

- ◆ **Jr. High Holiday Party hosted by 55+ Members** at 10:30 a.m. under the PBL drive-thru. Donations can be given to Ivan Villard, Elizabeth Summerlot or Marcia Kelley. RSVP to David Sproule.

## Sunday, December 14

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

## Saturday, December 20

- ◆ **Sr. High Holiday Party** at 5:30 p.m. at the home of Paul & Lisa Metzkes. Bring a \$15 gift for the exchange.
- ◆ **Young Families' Holiday Party** at 5:00 p.m. at the home of Cam & Hollie Crofts. See Melinda Price for details.

# December 2014



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 b Pat Brown b Steward Lynch	3	4 <b>Ladies' Soup Supper</b> b Sandra Daniels b Guadalupe Tipton	5	6 ☆ <b>Jr. High Holiday Party</b> b Cara Blackmer b Clayton Trujillo
7 ☆ <b>Renova/ Nursing Home Visit</b> ☆ <b>Baby Shower for Mauricio &amp; Kayla Yegros</b> b Jeannie Buonadonna b Clayton Parnell	8 b Harriet Morris	9 a Michael & Jean Archer b Lawrence D. Richardson	10	11 b Tasha Ellis	12 ☆ <b>PBL Ladies' Prayer Night</b> a DeAndre & Lovetta Harmon b Charlene Knowles b Jo Ann Rogers b Tyrone Toson	13 ☆ <b>Young Adult Holiday Party</b> a Kevin & Stephanie Weeks
14 ☆ <b>Youth &amp; Family Singing</b> a Ben & Joycelyn Harriott b Tim Fry b Patricia Hackshaw b Kelly Hall b Daisy Lord b Juliette Mauvais	15	16	17 a Dave & Keila Mcleod	18 a Ted & Karen Friesner a Rick & Melinda Price	19 a Victor & Sandy Colage b Mary Quinn b Angie Seames b Brittany Thompson	20 ☆ <b>Young Families' Holiday Party</b> ☆ <b>Sr. High Holiday Party</b> b Eugene Williams
21 ☆ <b>Young Adult Meeting</b> b Casey Byerly b Chris Thomas	22	23 ☆ <b>Midweek Bible Study</b> a Sam & Peggy Simpkins b David Lord b Troy Spradlin	24 ☆ <b>NO Midweek Bible Study</b>	25	26 b Kim Hensel	27 a Benny & Sarah Rodgers
28 ☆ <b>Sr. High Luncheon</b> b Dick Kelley b Ken Tipton b Marie Watson	29 a Vince & Lovella Rogers a Ricky & Sarah Smedley b Linda Coe b Teresa Williams	30	31 ☆ <b>New Year's Eve Talent Show &amp; Devotional</b>	1	2	3

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



Sunday,  
November 16

"Thank you to all of those that volunteered to bring drinks, desserts, set up, serve, and cleanup for the Lectureship Corn Roast. You all helped to make this event a complete success. It is so good to know that we are part of the family that works so well together." ~ Lance Collier

"Thank you to all those who helped with the set up, smoking of the pork and roasting the corn, and breaking it all down. Thanks for the great job." ~ Dirk Summerlot

"Thanks to everyone for their prayers, visits and calls following my recent surgery." ~ Teresa Williams

**LOCAL VISITORS:** Mrs. Bonnie Beatty; Miss Chiane Carilos; Miss Rosa Dickson; Dorcas Francois; Ms. Bradlie Glassman; Ionel Ionescue; Mrs. Chris Jones; Ms. Pamela G. Meglio; Mr. Mario Moss; Derrika Parker; Lynn Parker; Adam Pranaitis; Kevin Schenk; and Xavier Vickers.

**OUT OF TOWN VISITORS:** Mr. & Mrs. Walt Arthur; Mr. & Mrs. Cody Brown; Mr. & Mrs. Cory Brown; Ms. Sherry Bulyca & Kailey; Mr. Jim Davis; Mrs. Kathy Dean; Mr. & Mrs. Karl Donovan; Ms. Marcia Farrar; Mr. & Mrs. Gerry Griffin; Mr. Pervis Henderson; Mr. & Mrs. Jim & Judy Howell; Mr. Scott Kelley, Jacob & Colton; Ms. Melody A. Lewis; Mr. Doug Ludolph; Mr. Ted Okolichany; Mrs. Kristin Reames & family; Ms. Darlene Smith; Mr. & Mrs. Warren Smith; Miss Marguerite Sovine; Mr. Nahum Villard; and Miss Helena Yegros.



Sunday (November 23<sup>rd</sup>)  
Dick & Marcia Kelley (Ann.)

Wednesday (Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>) cont.  
Ekemini Ikon  
Orlando Lolo

Monday (November 24<sup>th</sup>)  
Ruth Lipford

Thursday (November 27<sup>th</sup>)  
Brent & Andrea Leslie (Ann.)  
Gary Friedly

Tuesday (November 25<sup>th</sup>)  
Kevin & Leesa Schenk (Ann.)  
Sue Hoelzer  
Rowena Lynch  
Kayanna Richardson

Friday (November 28<sup>th</sup>)  
Mike Damron

Wednesday (November 26<sup>th</sup>)  
Julio Aristy, III

Saturday (November 29<sup>th</sup>)  
Jonathan Jordan  
Regina Paul

### 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, November 23

Lead Singing ..... Gary Friedly  
Opening Prayer ..... Taylor Reeves  
Scripture Reading..... Eugene Williams  
Presiding at Table ..... Jerry Hopkins  
Serve at Table:  
Stephen Beliech      Warren Porter  
Cam Crotts            Carmen Ruckman  
Jeff Goodale         Ross Stone  
Justin Maloney       Chris Thompson  
Alternates:  
Johnny Davis         Ted Friesner  
Closing Prayer ..... Dick Kelley

#### Sunday Evening, November 23

Lead Singing ..... Bobbo Lupo  
Opening Prayer ..... Jonathan Jordan  
Scripture Reading..... Glen Dawson  
Presiding at Table..... Josh Blackmer  
Serve at Table:  
Chuck Clark  
Nick Pietro  
Leonard Williams  
Prayer..... Dave Holaday

#### Wednesday Evening, November 25

Lead Singing ..... NA  
Invitation..... NA  
Family Prayer ..... NA

### Our Record

Attendance	Nov. 16	Oct. Avg.
Sun. Bible study	258	227
Sun. A.M. Worship	404	342
Sun. P.M. Worship	205	190
Wed. Bible study	193	215
Contribution	\$14,258	\$14,456
2014 Weekly Budget: \$13,670		
Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: +22,100		

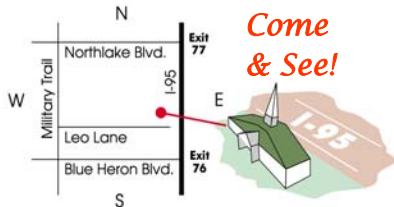
Ushers for the week of **Nov. 23** Head Usher: Victor Colage; Gary Jenkins & L.H. Richardson



# 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: **Mike Erickson**, on the zipline at CFBC



*"All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence...And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him" (Col. 1:16-18; 3:17).*

For **God**  
has not given us a spirit  
of fear *and* timidity, but of  
power,  
,  
*and* self-discipline.  
2 Timothy 1:7