

Elders

- 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 February*

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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Vol. LIV

February 8, 2015

No. 6

Welcome New Members



King, Linda

Group 4

Identified January 4



Fetting, Amanda

Group 4

Baptized January 4

Laborers
TOGETHER
with
God



Sunday,
February 8

Opportunities to Serve for All



By Dan Jenkins

God Can Use What You Have

Sometimes we fail to see the big picture of our place in the kingdom of God. We look at those who are so talented and think that whatever talent we have is so miniscule that we have nothing to give to Him. We look at others who are blessed materially and wonder if God could ever use what we have. The words of Jonathan seem so appropriate: "There is no restraint with God to save by many or by few." Consider what God has used to accomplish His victories. Few of these things had little worth.

Consider Moses' rod. There is no way to know how long Moses had used the rod in his hand at the burning bush, but there was no way he could have imagined how such a "worthless" thing could have such great value when God used it. That piece of wood became a serpent to convince both the Jews and the Egyptians that Moses' message was from God. It turned water to blood and opened the Red Sea. God used what Moses had!

Consider David's sling. A sling has its use, but no one other than David could imagine the worth of such a "worthless" thing. Saul's armor was useless (even to Saul), but a young shepherd boy with great faith in the living God gave what he had to God's cause, and we all know the results. God used what David had!

Is there any "worthless" thing you have which could be used by God?

Consider the lad's loaves and fish. None could have ever dreamed how enough food for a young lad could be enough food for such a great multitude. Andrew's question seems to be so realistic, "What are they among so many?" However, there is no restraint with God. His power is seen far more in Gideon's army of 300 than his army of 32,000. His power is seen far more in five loaves and two fish than a feast provided by ordinary means. God used what that lad had!

Consider the widow's mites. As the Lord and His disciples watched the gifts being made at the temple, He made sure the disciples understood what was happening. Some gave out of their abundance, but the widow gave out of her poverty. Yet, our Lord said, "This poor widow has put in more than all" (Luke 21:3). She was like the Macedonians who gave to the Jewish saints out of their deep poverty (2 Cor. 8:2). They were the ones God saw as those sowing bountifully! God used what they had!

Consider what you have. Is there anything you have which could be used by God? What about your car? Your stove? Your computer? Your smart phone? Your "dumb" phone? Your pen? Your words? Your smile? Your end-seat at worship? Your warm greetings? Don't ever think that you have nothing to offer to God! Remember Moses, David, the lad, the widow. God will use what you have—if you will let Him!



By David Sproule

Could You Go to a Church That Doesn't...?

Sometimes we grow so accustomed to things being the way we've always known them to be that we cannot think of doing them any other way. I remember pulling up to a gas station several years ago and a man asking me what kind of gas I wanted and if I wanted my windshield cleaned. Having spent most of my life in a "Self Service" world at gas stations, I wasn't sure why this guy was bothering me about my gas. What I had always known was "Self Service," and I didn't even realize that "Full Service" still existed anywhere, and I wasn't sure that I even wanted "Full Service." I was comfortable with what I had always known and always done.

This is definitely not an exact parallel, but sometimes when friends come and visit the church of Christ, they quickly realize that there are some things that are different than what they've always known, and sometimes they are not sure that they could "go to a church that doesn't have thus-and-such or do this-and-that." When religious folks visit a church of Christ—folks who have grown accustomed to (or only ever known) mechanical instruments (like pianos, organs, guitars, bands, orchestras, etc.) and choral groups being used for music and singing during a worship assembly—these folks will often wonder how a church could exist without those elements in its worship and wonder if they could even person-

Wonder how a church could exist without those elements in its worship

ally be part of such a church. It is like they have pulled into a gas station with an old-style service—how could anyone be satisfied or comfortable with this "plain worship style"?

Why doesn't the church of Christ have instruments of music and/or choirs in its worship like so many other churches do? This could be answered in a number of ways, but let me kindly offer these thoughts for you. The church of Christ does not have these things in its worship for the same reason that it does not have: Saturday night worship services as an alternative to Sunday worship; speaking in tongues; healings; burning incense; holy water; reciting the Nicene or Apostle's Creed; genuflecting and making the sign of the cross; changing of the bread and wine into the actual body and blood of Jesus; women preaching; altar calls using the sinner's prayer; etc.

Again, the church of Christ is not going out of its way to see how different it can be from everyone else. Here's the simple and only reason these things are absent from our worship: they are not found in the New Testament as authorized avenues or elements of worship. The New Testament is the sole source of Divine wisdom for worship. Jesus taught that our worship must be done "in truth" (John 4:24), according to God's Word (John 17:17). So, it may sound overly simplistic (and maybe even naïve), but if something is not authorized by God in the New Testament, how could any man add it (Rev. 22:18)? Don't drive off too quickly. Think it over.



By Josh Blackmer

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

I think everyone has said this at some point in their lives, “But they started it!” It usually involves a “tit for tat” or “an eye for an eye” situation that escalated into something much more. What we are saying is the evil that I have done is justified because they started it. In that moment, we have been overcome with evil.

Romans 12:9-20 gives us a list of things that we can put into practice in our lives in order to overcome or subdue evil with good. But, I will warn you. It is not easy. We will need to find real motivation for doing this.

“Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. Never pay back evil for evil

to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, ‘Vengeance is mine, I will repay,’ says the Lord. ‘But if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.’ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good” (Rom. 12:9-21).

The real motivation for doing this should be out of love for God and our enemies.

It is easy to focus on the “heaping of burning coals” aspect, because maybe we are still trying to get them back. That might be what you need for the first few times you put this into practice. In the end, the real motivation for doing this should be out of love for God and our enemies. The things that are mentioned in Romans chapter 12 are very mature actions or steps to be taken. The purpose is to keep us from being over taken or subdued by evil. If we start taking our own vengeance, we are pulled down a path that leads to our own destruction. God says that vengeance is His and we can trust the He is the righteous judge.

I would challenge you to do two things this week. First, put these things from Romans 12:9-21 into practice. See how it plays out in your life. Second, trust God with vengeance and judgment. It will free you from a lot of undue burden.

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

Hype, hype, hype, here it is, game over, done

Ah, the Super Bowl! It’s less about the actual 60 minutes of playing time and more about the hype leading up to the game! (Or, so it would seem.) In the days between the conference championship games and the actual Super Bowl, you would think that Jesus was coming again, as much hype as they throw at you. And, then, when the game itself finally gets here, it’s over before you know it and all of the build-up and excitement is gone. No more hype!

When Jesus does actually return, the opposite of the above will occur! Right now, there should be, among Christians, plenty of hype regarding the second coming of Christ! We should be more excited about that coming event than anything else! And, when He comes, and when we are taken to our eternal dwelling in heaven, and when we’ve been there ten thousand years, the “hype” (seems like such a pathetic word in this context) will not have diminished one iota!

Jesus’ coming and heaven will be more like: hype, hype, hype, HE’S HERE, IT IS JUST BEGINNING, IT’S NEVER OVER! No hype will ever compare! Are you ready for that? – DS



A little kindness can be a big deal

Living in a fast-paced, self-gratifying world, it is not always easy or automatic to be kindhearted and to show kindness toward others, but that is exactly what the Lord expects of us. The love that is to characterize, motivate and permeate the Christian life “is kind” (1 Cor. 13:4). We are to “put on... kindness” (Col. 3:12), being instructed to “be kind to one another” (Eph. 4:32).

What a big difference a little kindness can make! What would happen in the church if you and I took it upon ourselves to be kind? (Not worrying about “what everyone else does” or “how others treats us,” but just focusing on personally showing kindness!) What would happen in our homes and in our families if we determined to behave and speak with kindness? What would happen in our society if Christians put on kindness and let it pervade every deed and word?

God’s “merciful kindness is great toward us” (Psa. 117:2). Shouldn’t our merciful kindness be great toward others in our lives? – DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Jeannie Buonadonna recovering from major dental surgery
Sandy Colage begins chemo and radiation for cancer this week
Margaret Griffo under on-going Hospice Care
Sallie Moses recovering at home from surgery, in a lot of pain
Cathy Seay recovering at home from blood pressure issues



Kane Campbell upon the passing of his brother, **Jim Norton**, last Sunday evening in Michigan.

Long-Term Health Issues

Lillian Bankston dialysis treatments
Janet Hickerson suffering with back pain
Ruth Milton chronic health problems
Silas Moses dialysis treatments
Charles Norton dialysis treatments
Gene Puckett dialysis treatments
Norm Smedley breathing problems
Patricia Ventress dialysis treatments

Our Shut-Ins:	Cora Lee Dennis	Margaret Griffo	Shelton Howell	Don & 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

Gail Archer Mike Archer's daughter, shoulder & foot problems
Sharlene Davis Jaqua' Lewis' aunt, in the hospital with the flu
Brenda Lendsey Debora Lynch's sister, chemo for lymphoma
John Lewis Jaqua' Lewis' father, scheduled for eye surgery
Peggy McKeal Ruth Lipford's daughter, still battling cancer, chemo again
Hillary Nicholson Jackie Creary's sister, recovering from thyroid surgery
Roger Sanders Betty Sanders' brother, recovering at home
Amy Wombough Micky Affron's daughter, recovering from asthma 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, February 8

- ◆ **“Laborers Together with God” Sunday.** Every member is encouraged to be here.
- ◆ **College Care Package Items Due.** A list of items can be found in the Lobby. Please ONLY bring greeting cards for the military care box. See Skye Brown for details.
- ◆ **Youth & Family Singing** after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

Sunday-Wednesday, February 8-11

- ◆ **Gospel Meeting hosted by Belle Glade.** Arlin Chapman will be speaking each night at 7:00 p.m. (Monday-Wednesday). *We have designated Tuesday night as PBL night. Let's try to support this effort of this good congregation.*

Monday, February 9

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

Tuesday, February 10

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

Sunday, February 15

- ◆ **PBL “Family Groups” Sunday.** Be here Sunday morning to learn about these new groups for every PBL family.

Friday, February 20

- ◆ **PBL Ladies’ Prayer Night** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Joan Holloway. All ladies are welcome. See Maria Hackshaw for details.

Friday-Sunday, February 20-22

- ◆ **Gospel Meeting hosted by Sebastian.** Melvin Otey of Montgomery, Alabama will be speaking on *“Edifying the Church.”* See the bulletin board for more details.

Saturday, February 21

- ◆ **Sweetheart Banquet hosted by the Jr. High Youth.** Begins at 5:00 p.m. PBL Members 55+ years old or married 25+ years are invited. RSVP to David Sproule by February 13.
- ◆ **Ladies’ Day hosted by Sixth Street in Pompano** from 9:00 a.m. until noon. This year’s theme is *“You Are Not Alone.”* See the bulletin board for details.
- ◆ **Fish Fry & Singing hosted by Okeechobee** at noon. See the bulletin board for details.



Palm Beach Lakes

Young Adults

Friday-Monday, February 13-16

- ◆ **Young Adult Camping Trip.** Cost is \$32 per person. Money can be given to Rachel Fuller or Ivan & Amber Villard.

Saturday, March 7

- ◆ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m.

Monday, March 9

- ◆ **Young Adult Ladies’ Prayer Night** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Cara Blackmer.

Sunday, March 15

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

Saturday, March 21

- ◆ **Young Adult Cookout for Kids** from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. at TY Park in Miami. See Ivan Villard or Rachel Fuller for details.

Saturday, April 4

- ◆ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m.



Palm Beach Lakes

Youth

Sunday, February 8

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

Friday-Sunday, February 20-22

- ◆ **YES Weekend for Grades 8-12** at the Forrest Park congregation in Valdosta, GA. Cost is \$50. See Josh Blackmer for details.

Saturday, February 21

- ◆ **Sweetheart Banquet hosted by the Jr. High Youth.** Begins at 5:00 p.m. Jr. High Youth need to be at the building by 3:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 22

- ◆ **Jr. High Family Devo** after evening worship.

Sunday, March 8

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

Equipping & Edifying Families



10 Hardships in Marriage and How to Overcome Them

Every marriage faces hardship. It's a given. This list covers common troubles, but your situation is unique. The key point here is to face the difficulty – whatever kind of struggle it is – together with your spouse. Do you remember your marriage vows? *"For better, for worse..." "In sickness and in health..." "For richer, for poorer..."* These promises presuppose tough times. We went into our marriage with our eyes open, so there's really no excuse for not bringing everything we have to the table when things – once in a while – get dicey.

Here are 10 marital hardships and how to overcome them:

- 1. Financial Struggle.** The stress associated with money problems can be overwhelming. But in the end, it's only money. And money has no power over your commitment to your relationship. Commit to a plan. Live simply. Never keep financial secrets from your spouse.
- 2. Challenging Children.** Even the best behaved children in the world present challenges, and the number one casualty is always the relationship between mom and dad. So remember this: The marriage comes first. Not the kids, but the marriage. Nurture your relationship with your spouse and you will be better equipped to deal with whatever the kids dish out. Single parents, it's increasingly important to stay connected with your child's other parent as hard as that might be.
- 3. Immaturity.** Great relationships are supposed to mature over time. If you still relate to one another the same way you did when you first married, then it's past time for the marriage to grow up. Get involved with other couples at your church. Love one another "out loud." Invest in the marriage as if your life depends on it – because it does.
- 4. Unfaithfulness.** Marriages run into this hardship often. We may not sleep with other people, but we're all guilty of being unfaithful when it comes to time, attention, priorities, the way we use our resources, and so much more. One way to deal with this is to recommit yourself to your spouse. Make it clear where your priorities steer your time and attention.
- 5. Moving.** It's a fact. Most Americans change careers several times. That often means moving across the state or across the world. Moving is a huge stress. Regardless if it's because of your job or if it's your spouse's job, make the decision to be 100% supportive and flat out refuse to whine. Do what it takes to get invested in the new community quickly. Find a church. Get involved. Live forward.
- 6. Sickness.** We forget how much we rely on one another until someone breaks down physically. If you're the one still standing, do everything in your power to be a servant to your spouse. Sure it's tough to do everything, but your attempt with an obvious willing spirit is going to make all the difference.
- 7. Depression.** Everyone goes through "the blues" at times in their lives. Here again, it's about having the heart of a servant, about going the extra mile, and about putting the needs of your spouse ahead of your own. Look to God for your source of happiness. Be a conduit of that joy to your spouse. And seek medical attention if necessary.
- 8. Disinterest.** Sometimes it happens the first year. Sometimes it takes a decade or so. Regardless of where we are on the time spectrum, disinterest or boredom can easily set in. Not feeling special about the relationship is a hardship for everyone, but it doesn't have to be. Our job is to be intentional about the relationship. When was the last time you went out on a date? What about a day off devoted to each other?
- 9. Career.** We have already talked about moving, but career issues can cause hardship without a change of location. Keep each other in the loop. Ask for each other's opinion about what you're up to. Do everything in your power to protect family time and to promote a work culture that respects family values.
- 10. Empty Nest.** We invest a lot in the kids. If we're not careful, our relationship with our spouse gets neglected. Guard against that day by investing in your spouse now. Rather than mourn the children after they leave, try celebrating the freedom you now have to invest more time and interest in your marriage. Again, it's all about being intentional.

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



Sunday,
February 1

Thank you so much for your love, prayers, flowers and the comfort of so much delicious food. The family appreciates all the kind expressions of sympathy and pray you will continue to reach out to Robin & the girls in the days that lie ahead. God bless you all. — The Stone Family

LOCAL VISITORS: David, Yurose, Joshah & Yves Baudin; Mr. Jean Charles; Ms. Santana Gunsby; Terry & Regina Crews; Pierre Irby; Scott Lewis; Mark & J. Lombardi & Nickolas; Andres E. Lopez; Morris McDaniel; Rimma Nikoluva; Mrs. Minerva Queen; Miss Kimberly Traxler; and David Turlington.

OUT OF TOWN VISITORS: David Barr, Greenwood, IN; Manon Benoit, Quebec, Canada; Squadeina Davis & Aaron, Pembroke Pines, FL; Ms. Marcia Farrar, Palm City, FL; Gerry & Joyce Giffin, Madison, AL; Miss Kenva Higgs, Freeport, Bahamas; Todd Hunt, Orlando, FL; Ms. Monique Leblanc, Canada; Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Lee, Hopkinsville, KY; Ms. Linda McNeese, Woodbury, TN; Gene & Betty Mies, Ypsilanti, MI; Corinn Miller & Linley; Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Pedigo, Woodbury, TN; Mr. & Mrs. Bill Tellmann, Pacific, MO; and Mr. & Mrs. Guy Wood, Prattville, AL.



Sunday (February 8th)
Sallie Moses

Wednesday (February 11th)
David Brown

Monday (February 9th)
Joe & Janice Maloney (Ann.)
Rudolph & Verdell March (Ann.)

Thursday (February 12th)
Dave Holaday

Tuesday (February 10th)
Pete & Pat Brown (Ann.)
Shea Brown

Friday (February 13th)
Eugene & Penny Williams (Ann.)

Saturday (February 14th)
Marty & Leslie Williams (Ann.)

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, February 8

Lead SingingJerry Hopkins
Opening PrayerRick Hall
Scripture Reading..... Chris Thompson
Presiding at TableBill Ingram, Jr.
Serve at Table:
Shea Brown Paul Metzkes
Gorman Ericksen L.H. Richardson
Tim Fry Brad Shelt
Bobby Ingraham Chris Thomas
Alternates:
Cam Crotts Jim Rogers
Closing PrayerOrlando Lolo

Sunday Evening, February 8

Lead Singing Stephen Beliech
Opening Prayer Eugene Williams
Scripture Reading..... Austin Williams
Presiding at Table..... Richard Lerro
Serve at Table
Jeff Goodale
John Kemp
Nick Pietro
Prayer.....Dick Kelley

Wednesday Evening, February 11

Lead SingingShea Brown
Invitation.....Dirk Summerlot
Family Prayer Johnny Davis

Our Record

Attendance	Jan. 25	Jan. Avg.
Sun. Bible study	202	256
Sun. A.M. Worship	351	400
Sun. P.M. Worship	182	193
Wed. Bible study	210	205
Contribution	\$13,596	\$14,430
2015 Weekly Budget: \$14,500		
Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: -1,115		

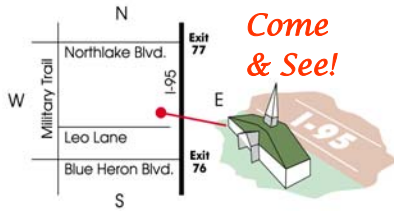
Ushers for the week of **Feb. 8:** Head Usher: Glen Dawson; Justin Maloney & Les McQuinn



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.



Come & See!

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: Carmen Ruckman, Nelson Watts & Clayton Trujillo

FOR YOU
WERE CALLED
TO BE FREE,
BROTHERS; ONLY DON'T USE
THIS FREEDOM AS AN
OPPORTUNITY FOR THE FLESH, BUT
SERVE ONE ANOTHER
THROUGH LOVE.
GALATIANS
5:13

Upcoming Events

February 8

"Laborers Together with God" Sunday

February 15

PBL "Family Groups" Sunday

February 21

Sweetheart Banquet

March 1-4

Gospel Meeting with Phil Sanders

April 16

Ladies' Day with Celine Sparks

April 19

Troy Spradlin Mission Report

May 1-2

Evangelism Training for Youth with Lonnie Jones