

**Shepherds**

- 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 March*

**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

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**Vol. LIV**

**March 15, 2015**

**No. 11**

# Welcome New Members



**Jamison, Tracy**

Group 2

*Identified March 8*

## Thank God for Our Elders!



*“We ask you, brethren, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work” (1 Thess. 5:12-13).*



By Dan Jenkins

## How Big Is Your Problem?

No one ever said that life would be easy. From infancy nothing seems to go right. We are seemingly placed in a crib where we must cry endlessly, awaiting someone to notice that we are hungry, lonely or need our diapers changed. Later, there is that horrible task of learning to walk with the incessant tumbling and falling that is part of the process. Add to that the great “injustice” brought into our lives by parents and siblings. Life is not easy. Little do we realize that this just the beginning of a life filled with problems.

As we reach maturity, those first problems become insignificant with the problems which surround us. Look around you right now and think of what is happening. Life is not easy. It is characterized by insurmountable problems.

However, there is something a Christian has which makes life vastly different from those in the world. It does not matter what is happening, for the eyes of our God are over us, His ears are open to our prayers and His face is against those who trouble us (1 Pet. 3:12). Our problems often seem far greater than our abilities to deal with them, but we must remember that our God is greater than our problems.

Paul described the limitless power of God in his letter to Ephesus. “He is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all

that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us” (Eph. 3:20). Read that passage slowly and notice the character of God. God is able. He is able to do what we ask. He is able to do what we ask or think. He is able to do more than we ask or think. He is able to do abundantly more than we ask or think. He is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think.

**The question is not, how big is your problem, but how big is your God?**

The emphasis this year at Palm Beach Lakes is, “With God We Can.” The emphasis this month is “With God We Can Anchor Our Hope in Christ.” That hope is the anchor of our soul (Heb. 6:19) in the midst of adversity. Paul said we are saved by this hope (Rom. 8:24). Hope is not a wish that we might overcome, it is an expectation. It is not an expectation because of our ability, but because of His!

When Paul was traveling to Rome, his ship was caught in a tempestuous storm. For two weeks, they were driven by the ferocious winds and no one knew where they were. Luke described the situation as, “All hope was lost.” Yet, read Acts 27:21-25 carefully and see the hope Paul had in this situation. God was greater than his problems! That same God is your God, and He is greater than your problems!

The next time you look at what is happening in your life just remember that the question is not, “How big is your problem?” The question is, “How big is your God?”



By David Sproule

## A “Stirring” Relationship

There are some people who see a bee hive and very carefully pass it on by. Then, there are others, who see a bee hive, walk over and shake it up, and then flee the scene without giving it another thought. Some folks just like to stir up trouble.

Unfortunately, stirring up trouble is not limited to an activity with a bee hive. Too often, a husband or a wife will tend to stir things up unnecessarily. Children can also be “natural talents” at stirring up matters. And, regrettably, some brethren in the church have a knack for creating a stir wherever they go. Take a few minutes and consider some “stirring” passages, especially from the wisdom of Proverbs.

“**A harsh word stirs up anger**” (Prov. 15:1). Our words, and the tone with which they are spoken, can have a very harmful impact on others. Perhaps that is why James says, “The tongue is a fire” (3:6). Have you ever said something that, intentionally or unintentionally, stirred up a fire of anger? May God help us to guard our mouths!

“**Hatred stirs up strife**” (Prov. 10:12). Hatred is such a strong emotion and can cause us to say and do things that, perhaps, we would not normally do. Perhaps that is why John says, “He who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness” (1 John 2:11). Have your emotions ever overtaken

your behavior and stirred up strife? May God help us to guard our emotions!

“**An arrogant man stirs up strife**” (Prov. 28:25, NASB). There is something particularly repulsive about pride. Perhaps that is why the first item that Solomon lists that God hates is “a proud look” (Prov. 6:16). May God help us to guard our attitudes!

“**A hot-tempered man stirs up strife**” (Prov. 15:18). Short fuses are known for blowing up quite easily and rapidly. Perhaps that is why Solomon said, “He who is quick-tempered exalts folly” (Prov. 14:29). May God help us to guard our tempers!

To help us guard our mouths, God tells us that “a soft answer turns away wrath” (15:1). To help us guard our emotions, God tells us that “love covers all sins” (10:12). To help us guard our attitudes, God tells us that “he who trusts in the Lord” (rather than himself) “will prosper” (28:25). To help us guard our tempers, God tells us that “he who is slow to anger allays contentions” (15:18).

God’s Word is so complete! When He tells us not to stir something up, He tells us how! In your home, in your church family, in your relationships, if you’re looking for something to stir up in others, then “let us consider one another in order to **stir up love and good works**” (Heb. 10:24)! We will be enriched as a result! The church will be enriched as a result!

**...if you’re looking for something to stir up in others...**



By Josh Blackmer

## “It’s so pretty and shiny, I want one!”

We have all done this at some point. We see that item that we need, want or must have. It has the latest “this” and the best “that.” It is faster, stronger and better than the old one you currently own. So, how do we respond to that? Do we take the bait? Is this item that much better? Does it deserve my focus and desire? What do I do when covetousness attacks?

I am not speaking against working and providing for families and loved ones but rather against covetousness. We know covetousness is wrong. Both Ephesians and Colossians call covetousness idolatry (Eph. 5:5; Col. 3:5). Idolatry is the worship or love of anything other than God. John wrote, “Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever” (1 John 2:15-17). Understanding what covetousness is helps us identify the solution. Covetousness is an idolatrous love of the world and things. Loving God and doing His will is our way of escape.

**We are not simply trying not to covet but rather we are working on contentment. Don’t focus on not coveting. Focus on being content.**

Christ warns us against greed. “Then He said to them, ‘Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions’” (Luke 12:15). He goes on to tell the parable of the man that had so much that he said to himself, “Take your ease, eat drink and be merry.” God’s response was, “You fool” (Luke 12:16-21)! Paul wrote to Timothy, “For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs” (1 Tim 6:10). Greed is something that we sabotage ourselves with.

Our best antidote to covetousness is contentment. “Godliness with contentment is great gain” (1 Tim. 6:6-9). Hebrews also states, “Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, ‘I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you’” (Heb. 13:5). God says, “Be content with what you have, and I will be there with you.” We are not simply trying not to covet but rather we are working on contentment. Don’t focus on not coveting. Focus on being content. One Christian brother wrote, “I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am” (Phil. 4:11). Anyone can covet. Contentment is something we learn.

## Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

### On the list

Every so often a new list of names will appear. These lists vary – The List of the Wealthiest People in the World, The List of the Most Influential People in the World, The List of America’s Most-Wanted, etc., etc. Then, on a smaller scale and more personal level, there are other lists – Christmas Card List, Student Enrollment List, Church Membership List, Customer List, etc.

There are some lists that you want (or don’t mind) to be on, and some other lists from which you’d prefer to be removed (like Jury Duty). If you could choose any list, anywhere on which you would like your name to appear, what list would that be? What is the ultimate list for you?

To seventy of His disciples, Jesus advised, “...Rejoice because your names are written in heaven” (Luke 10:20). That is the ultimate list! That is the list, above all others, for which we must pursue. The ones who will enter the glory of the Lord are “only those who are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life” (Rev. 21:27). Are you on that list? Do you check it every day? – DS



### Only 7 votes away

As of March 10, 2015, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), which is the largest Presbyterian denomination, is only seven votes away from changing its definition of marriage to include same-sex unions. Amazing that some think man’s vote is the deciding factor in various matters.

This got me to thinking. Some congregations of the church of Christ are only seven votes away from using instrumental music in worship or letting a woman preach in their worship assemblies. Some churches are only seven votes away from deciding that Jesus is not the Son of God or the Bible is not inspired of God. Some churches are only seven votes away from recognizing marriage between a man and his bird or a woman and her coffee maker.

Do you realize how ridiculous all of that sounds? There is ONLY ONE VOTE that matters and there is ONLY ONE VOTE that actually counts, and it is THE VOTE of the man who was brutally nailed to that cross and rose from the dead three days later! All other votes are void! Whatever He says, goes! Period! May we willingly and fully yield to His authority (Col. 3:17)! – DS

# Keep in Your Prayers



## Pray for These PBL Members

<b>Dee Catanzaro</b>	recovering from eye surgery
<b>Sandy Colage</b>	undergoing radiation treatments for cancer
<b>Margaret Griffo</b>	under on-going Hospice Care
<b>Richard Haines</b>	knee replacement surgery on Tuesday (3/17)
<b>Margie Hardin</b>	upcoming gallbladder surgery
<b>Joycelyn Harriott</b>	recovering at home from hospitalization
<b>Jean McMasters</b>	VA Hospital, recovering fall & fractured vertebrae
<b>Sallie Moses</b>	continues to improve
<b>Cathy Seay</b>	dealing with blood pressure issues
<b>Patricia Ventress</b>	hospitalized last week with stomach flu, doing better

## 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>	dialysis treatments



**The Family of Vera Day**, upon her passing on Friday, March 6. The funeral was held on Monday morning.

## Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames	Daniel Johnson
Cora Lee Dennis	Jean McMasters
Kay Fish	Don & Betty Matter
Helen Gardner	Deidra Miley
Margaret Griffo	Rosa Nash
Margie Hardin	Leigh Puckett
Loretta Holaday	Ricky Smedley
Shelton Howell	Margaret Wade

## Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

<b>Lyle Fjelsted</b>	Micky Affron's uncle, diagnosed with bone cancer
<b>Joung Hutson</b>	Daniel Swayne's sister-in-law, stage 4 stomach cancer
<b>Brenda Lendsey</b>	Debora Lynch's sister, chemo for lymphoma
<b>Peggy McKeal</b>	Ruth Lipford's daughter, still battling cancer, chemo again
<b>A'Gatha Spradlin</b>	Troy Spradlin's mother, under Hospice Care

## Pray for Our Missionaries

Troy & Andrea Spradlin	Paraguay
Robert & Mary Martin	Pacific Islands
Scott & Rebecca Shanahan	Pacific Islands
Joey & Tammy Treat	Pacific Islands
Tamuka Arunashe	Zimbabwe
Nnanna Aforji	Nigeria
Apologetics Press	Montgomery, AL
Mauricio Yegros	Coral Springs, FL



# Church Family Calendar of Events

## Sunday, March 15

- ♦ **PBL Family Photos Updated.** Please have your photo taken *after morning services or before evening services* by Mike Erickson in the Family Room.
- ♦ **EDP Meeting** at 3:00 p.m. in the Family Room.

## Monday, March 16

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

## Tuesday, March 17

- ♦ **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m. in the Family Room.
- ♦ **Family Group 2 Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Buzz & Kathy Nelson. Bring drinks or chips.

## Friday, March 20

- ♦ **PBL Ladies' Prayer Night** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Jean Archer. All ladies are welcome. See Maria Hackshaw for details.

## Monday, March 23

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

## Tuesday, March 24

- ♦ **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m. in the Family Room.
- ♦ **Family Group 3 Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Dan & Loni Fuller. Bring drinks or chips.

## Friday-Sunday, March 27-29

- ♦ **Singles' Retreat at CFBC.** Cost is \$40 per person. See the bulletin board for more details.

## Sunday, March 29

- ♦ **Adult Mission Trip to Paraguay Meeting** after morning worship in Adult 1 for those interested in going and to receive more details about the trip. See Josh Blackmer for details.
- ♦ **5th Sunday Singing in the Lobby** during evening assembly.

## Sunday-Wednesday, March 29-April 1

- ♦ **Revival Meeting hosted by Third Street.** Various men will be speaking on "The Unity of the Spirit" each night (Monday-Wednesday) at 7:30 p.m. See the bulletin board for more details.



## Palm Beach Lakes

# Young Adults

## 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.

## Friday, March 27

- ♦ **Young Adult Movie Night & Food Truck Invasion** at 6:30 p.m. at Royal Palm Beach Commons Park. The movie (Guardians of the Galaxy) will begin at 8:00 p.m. See Ivan Villard for more details.

## Saturday, April 4

- ♦ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m.

## Monday, April 6

- ♦ **Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Traci Sproule. Traci will provide the main dish. Bring sides, salad, bread or a dessert to share.



## Palm Beach Lakes

# Youth

## Sunday, March 22

- ♦ **Jr. High Family Devo** after evening worship in the Family Room.
- ♦ **Sr. High Devo** after evening worship.

## Saturday, March 28

- ♦ **Jr. High & Sr. High Fun & Games** from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the building. Come and enjoy carnival games together. Food and prizes included. See Mike or Julie Trujillo for more details.

## Saturday, April 4

- ♦ **Egg Hunt for Grades 5 & Under** hosted by the Jr. High youth at 10:30 a.m. Jr. High arrive at the building at 9:45 a.m. Bring 3 dozen filled plastic eggs (no chocolate; it will melt).

## Friday-Sunday, April 9-13

- ♦ **Sr. High Trip to Makin' Music.** Sign up on the bulletin board. See Skye Brown for more details.

# Equipping & Edifying Families

## 13 Things Loving Fathers Do for Their Children



“He saved me,” said thirteen-year-old Gracie Johnson, after her parents, sister, and two cousins were tragically killed in a rock slide. She was speaking about her dad, Dwayne Johnson. The family had gone for a hike along the Agnes Vaille Falls trail in Buena Vista, Colorado. Recent rainfall had made areas of the mountains unstable. As they were walking, one witness described what sounded like loud thunder cracking and boulders the size of cars coming down the mountain as the Johnson family stood helplessly in their devastating path. In an act of heroism, Dwayne dove on top of Gracie as a shield, saving her life and surrendering his own.

In situations like that you have no time to think, instinct takes over. Dwayne Johnson’s natural instinct was that of a loving father. Loving fathers are self-sacrificing and protect their children. Here are 10 more things loving fathers do for their children:

- 1. Loving fathers...love their children’s mother.** Love your wife without reservation — you can’t do much more for your kids than that. If you are divorced, treat your children’s mother with respect, even if it is not reciprocated. Never return disgrace with disgrace.
- 2. Loving fathers...love them unconditionally.** Make sure that your children know you love them no matter what. Don’t confuse this with permissiveness. Unconditional love does nothing to encourage the wrong kind of behavior. In fact, kids who are secure in their father’s love tend to act out less, not more.
- 3. Loving fathers...grow up.** We’re talking about the us here, not the kids. Children don’t want another buddy; they want a dad. They want someone who thinks things through, makes tough decisions, and engages life with responsibility. Someone they can count on.
- 4. Loving fathers...are there.** “Quality time” is all well and good, but it has nothing on quantity time. Make the time. Everyone has the same 24 hours available. Make yours count.
- 5. Loving fathers...provide.** As best you can. Material provision can be tough when jobs are lost and tough times hit. However, you can always provide a stable home with love and affection.
- 6. Loving fathers...discipline.** Children appreciate an even hand, balance, accountability, and love-drenched discipline. It’s called consistency and, without clearly defined boundaries, it is very difficult to grow up.
- 7. Loving fathers...value education.** Don’t just read to them; read with them. Don’t just fuss about grades; get involved with their homework. Don’t just talk about learning; be a hands-on advocate.
- 8. Loving fathers...raise them to leave.** The simple goal of being a family and parenting our children doesn’t look any more complicated than this: Raise them well equipped to leave home and to establish faithful lives.
- 9. Loving fathers...teach them to take responsibility.** Kids who learn how to duck responsibility and avoid cost will — sooner or later — fall flat on their faces. Loving fathers make sure their children know how to own up, clean up, and move forward.
- 10. Loving fathers...teach them to love this life.** The best predictor of happiness in children is happiness in their parents. If we learn how to love this life and then give that blessing to our kids, they will be well prepared for satisfaction.
- 11. Loving fathers...exemplify Christ.** Children need to see Jesus every day. Most of all, they need to see Jesus in the life of their father. As they follow you and your example, they need to be following Jesus.
- 12. Loving fathers...take to church.** Fathers take their children all sorts of places: school, the mall, the movies, the doctor, friend’s homes, etc. But there needs to be a priority in the home — we go to church. Nothing can or must interfere with this decision. Help them to love the church and they won’t stray from it later in life.
- 13. Loving fathers...take to heaven.** Everything the father does with and for his children must be focused on one ultimate goal: heaven! Nothing else matters! No other achievement and no other reward matters when compared to heaven! True success is not measured by earthly attainments! True success is measured by heavenly attainments!

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



## Directory Changes



Sunday,  
March 8

**Carolyn Preston** moved back to Georgia. She writes that she has enjoyed her stay with this congregation and gives everyone her love.

## News & Notes

**PBL Family Photos were rescheduled for this Sunday, March 15.** Please have your picture taken after morning services or before evening services by Mike Erickson in the Family Room.

**LOCAL VISITORS:** Mr. Jean Charles; Ms. Hazel Carson; Terry & Regina Crews; Peggy Delaney; Bevon Findley; Robert & Michelle Hackshaw; J. & Mark Lombardi, Nickolas & Molly; Morris McDaniel; Kevin Schenk; Roselyn Spence; and Evan & Lauren Wyant.

**OUT OF TOWN VISITORS:** Mrs. Lorraine Allen, Vero Beach; Terry & Sherri Cheshier, Duncanville, TX; Squadenia Davis & Aaron Ross, Pembroke Pines, FL; Nick & Kimberly Dodd, Corinth, MS; Ms. Marcia Farrar, Palm City, FL; Gerry & Joyce Giffin, Madison, AL; Ms. Monique Leblanc, Canada; Deltom Lequernaque, Stuart, FL; Brad Lewis, Columbia, TN; Mr. & Mrs. John Lord, Delray Beach, FL; Ron Norris, Cookeville, TN; Laddie & Joan Owens, Dyersburg, TN; Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Pedigo, Woodbury, TN; and David Scorzelli, Cicero, NY.

## Birthdays & Anniversaries This Week

<u>Sunday (March 15<sup>th</sup>)</u> Henry & Josephine Bass (Ann.)	<u>Tuesday (March 17<sup>th</sup>)</u> Paul & Nellie Batitsky (Ann.)
<u>Monday (March 16<sup>th</sup>)</u> Tim Cox Lynne Jorgensen Cassie Lavender Sue Shelt	<u>Wednesday March 18<sup>th</sup></u> Jackie Price
	<u>Friday (March 20<sup>th</sup>)</u> Silas Moses

## 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, March 15

Lead Singing ..... Gary Friedly  
 Opening Prayer ..... Taylor Reeves  
 Scripture Reading..... L.H. Richardson  
 Presiding at Table ..... Dan McLeod  
 Serve at Table:  
     Jimmie Banks      Jeff Leslie  
     Chuck Clark      Jeremy Maloney  
     Paul Hensel      Chuck Reeves, Sr.  
     Bobby Ingraham    Lawrence Williams  
 Alternates:  
     Orlando Lolo      Nate Nelson  
 Closing Prayer ..... Daniel Swayne

### Sunday Evening, March 15

Lead Singing ..... Jerry Pittman  
 Opening Prayer ..... Bill Ingram, Sr.  
 Scripture Reading..... Victor Colage  
 Presiding at Table..... Dan Fuller  
 Serve at Table  
     Paul Batitsky  
     Ted Friesner  
     Leonard Williams  
 Prayer..... Darin Summerlot

### Wednesday Evening, March 18

Lead Singing ..... Shea Brown  
 Invitation..... Bobbo Lupo  
 Family Prayer ..... Ivan Villard

## Our Record

Attendance	Mar. 8	Feb. Avg.
Sun. Bible study	198	215
Sun. A.M. Worship	366	360
Sun. P.M. Worship	193	186
Wed. Bible study	205	212
Contribution	\$13,296	\$14,572
2015 Weekly Budget: \$14,500		
Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: -3,209		

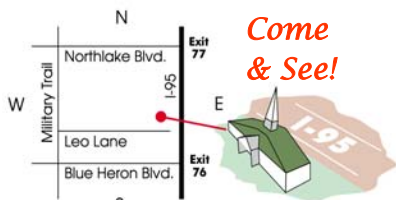
Ushers for the week of **Mar 15**: Head Usher: Freddie Gadson; Doug Carrick & Brad Shelt



# 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.

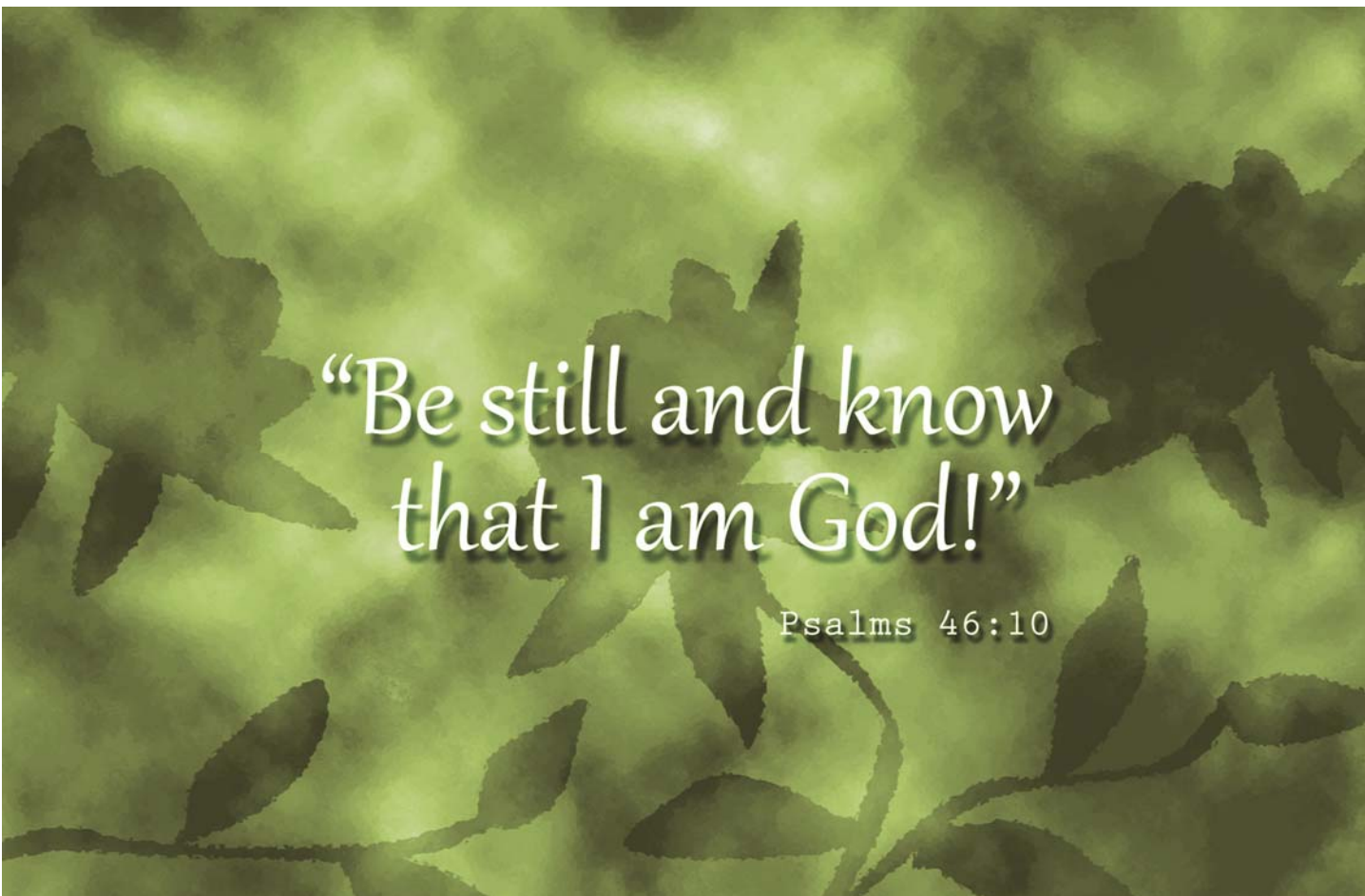
Worship ..... 10:00 a.m.

Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.

#### Wednesday:

Bible classes ..... 7:00 p.m.

Front Cover: **Norman Smedley & Austin Metzkes**



*“Be still and know  
that I am God!”*

Psalm 46:10