

**Overseers**

- Johnny Davis ..... 307-4232
- Dan Fuller..... 478-3755
- \*Joe Holland ..... 626-2809
- Jerry Hopkins ..... 434-4188
- Phil Porter ..... 575-4782

*\*Chairman for the Month of September*

**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**

- Phone..... 561-848-1111
- Fax..... 561-848-1198
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- E-mail ..... [office@pblcoc.org](mailto:office@pblcoc.org)



Vol. LV

September 4, 2016

No. 36

# Welcome New Members



Harrington, Patricia

Group 4

*Identified August 28*

**Strengthening Our  
Homes &  
Marriages**  
for the Good of the Church

**Friday, Sept. 23**  
7:00-8:30 p.m.

with  
**David Shannon**



## South Florida Men's Fellowship

**Strong Leaders for Strong Churches**

**Saturday, Sept. 24**

**8:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

with **David Shannon** (Mt. Juliet, TN)



By Dan Jenkins

## You Are Never Alone!

Life is often so frustrating that we can easily forget the truth that the child of God is *never* alone. The last two chapters of the book of Acts so vividly illustrate this. Imagine that you are Paul on his way to Rome to be tried before Nero Caesar. Look at the contrast of the faith he had and how so many would view all that was happening if they had been Paul.

**Paul was not alone on the ship.** I am not referring to those Christians who were traveling with him (even though they provided so much of the comfort God provides for His children), but about God's providential presence in these trying days of Paul's life.

It would have been so easy for Paul to question God in what was happening. The mockery of the trials he had endured kept him a prisoner in Judah. As far as Roman laws were concerned, the Roman governor, Festus, admitted there were no charges to be brought against Paul (Acts 25:25-26), and King Agrippa said, "This man is doing nothing deserving of death or chains" (Acts 26:31). Yet, here he was headed to appear before vile Nero.

Look at what was happening on board the ship. Paul could have been put in the charge of any Roman centurion, but he was assigned to the care of Julius. It should not surprise us

that Paul found favor in the eyes of the centurion. Paul was not alone on the ship! Though a prisoner, he was given "shore leave" to be with the brethren at Sidon. Luke said, "Julius treated Paul kindly and gave him liberty to go to his friends and receive care" (Acts 27:3).

**Paul was not alone during the storm.** On this voyage to Rome, a violent storm arose and "...all hope that we would be saved was finally given up" (Acts 27:20). Life is so distressing, but at such times, we must remember that Christians are never alone. In the darkness of night, an angel of the Lord appeared to Paul with the message of hope. What we may overlook is that the angel had been with Paul all the time he was on the ship (Heb. 1:13-14). We are never alone.

**Paul was not alone when shipwrecked.** It should not surprise us that "...the natives showed us unusual kindness...and made us all welcome" (Acts 28:2). It might be worth considering if the presence of God's children might have something to do with this special treatment. Christians are never alone!

Now, step back from looking at this brief period of Paul's life and think about God's presence in your life. God does not keep us from being wronged by others or from "shipwrecks" in our lives. His providence works in another way. His plan involves this eternal truth—*you are never alone!*

**God's providence works in an amazing way—you are never alone!**



By David Sproule

## When I Skip Worship, I Miss Out

*"I am so busy right now. I need a day off. I need a day for me. I can't do everything. There's just too much going on. I'll be there when I can, but I can't guarantee anything. Really, missing is not too big a deal."*

Some Christians will offer a variety of reasons as to why they do not attend the worship services of the church regularly. And, since many of us have become so accustomed in our daily lives to offering reasons why we cannot fulfill various responsibilities, it almost comes naturally to come up with reasons why we cannot assemble with the saints. But, the reality is that when I am not at worship with my brethren, I am missing out!

- I am missing out on worshipping my God!
- I am missing out on drawing closer to my God!
- I am missing out on communing with Jesus!
- I am missing out on showing my love to God by giving!
- I am missing out on being fed from God's Word!
- I am missing out on hearing my brethren say, "Amen!"
- I am missing out on hearing my brethren sing!
- I am missing out on seeing my brethren smile!
- I am missing out on enjoying some sweet fellowship!

**We miss a whole lot more than just "a service" when we choose to not assemble.**

- I am missing out on growing in my faith and devotion!
- I am missing out on encouraging my brethren!
- I am missing out on being uplifted by my brethren!
- I am missing out on the best handshakes and hugs!
- I am missing out on being around the greatest people!
- I am missing out on experiencing a foretaste of heaven!
  - I am missing out on starting my week off right!
  - I am missing out on what really matters!
  - I am missing out on being in God's presence!

There is no way to fully capture or itemize every blessing that a Christian enjoys and shares when he assembles with his Christian family. But, we must come to understand and appreciate that we miss a whole lot more than just "a service" when we choose to not assemble with the church. We miss out on the only thing that matters in this life! How successful could I be in convincing someone else (let alone God Himself) that Christ and His church are FIRST in my life if I allow other things (which are NOT first) to take precedence over my so-called "First"?

But here's something encouraging to consider. When I do attend worship services every week, I get to experience everything listed above (reverse each one) that others are missing. Go back. Read each item above. And rejoice!



By Josh Blackmer

## The Dark Night of the Soul

“Jesus has a very special love for you. As for me, the silence and the emptiness is so great that I look and do not see, listen and do not hear” (Mother Teresa, 1979). Born Agnes Bojaxhiu, most know her as Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Dubbed “The Saint of the Gutters,” the Catholic church seeks to name her a saint in their church. With that attention, excerpts from her diaries and personal letters that were published in a Time Magazine article, *Mother Teresa’s Crisis of Faith* (David Van Biema, 8/23/07), are coming to light again.

“When I try to raise my thoughts to Heaven, there is such convicting emptiness that those very thoughts return like sharp knives & hurt my very soul. I am told God loves me and yet the reality of darkness & coldness & emptiness is so great that nothing touches my soul” (Agnes Bojaxhiu). Her personal correspondence suggests that this was a struggle that she had for more than 50 years before her death, and it never left her. A 16th century Catholic author named this malady of faith the “dark night” of the soul. We don’t know the source of darkness that was in her. There could be several reasons: her devotion to a man-made institution (Matt. 7:21-23), emotional disability or depression. All of these could have played a factor in her deep despondency toward God. What we do know is that she was

someone the world thought was so close to God, yet she felt so far from Him. Are you ever in danger of feeling the same?

Consider these words of David. “As for me, I said in my alarm, ‘I am cut off from before Your eyes’; Nevertheless You heard the voice of my supplications When I cried to You. O love the LORD, all you His godly ones! The LORD preserves the faithful And fully recompenses the proud doer. Be strong and let your heart take courage, All you who hope in the LORD.

How blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity, And in whose spirit there is no deceit! I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I did not hide; I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the LORD’; And You forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah” (Psa. 31:22-24; 32:2,5). Whether it is from guilt or lack of faith that we find ourselves separated from God, He is the one we need to turn to. “God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble” (Psa. 46:1).

If you are struggling with clinical depression, I would advise you to seek professional help. However, if you are dealing with matters of faith, you must draw near to God (Heb. 7:25; 10:22; Jas. 4:8). The words of God are a breath of fresh air to those who are weary in faith and long to be closer to Him in the comfort of trust. “This is my comfort in my affliction, that Your word has revived me” (Psa. 119:50, 25, 28, 82).

**God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble.**

## Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

### 97% of conversations that start negatively...

It was recently noted by some researchers, who study the ins and outs of twenty-first century relationships, “If partners start a conversation in a negative manner, 97% of the time that conversation will end negatively.” Haven’t you known that to be true in your own experience?

Of course, God told us that about 3,000 years ago. Consider some of the heavenly wisdom on this subject. “A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger...A fool vents all his feelings, but a wise man holds them back...A wrathful man stirs up strife, but he who is slow to anger allays contention...As charcoal is to burning coals, and wood to fire, so is a contentious man to kindle strife...It is honorable for a man to stop striving, since any fool can start a quarrel” (Prov. 15:1; 29:11; 15:18; 26:21; 20:3).

How should I start a conversation that I know could go negative? The key ingredients are agape love, humility, prayer and a good dose of James 1:19-20. Give these a try! – DS



### If you’re not homeschooling, you’re failing!

Over the last couple decades, homeschooling children has become more and more common, growing over 60 percent just in the last decade. The surge has been especially noticeable just in the last couple years. Each parent needs to make the decision that fits their children and family the best, as homeschooling is not for everyone.

But, on another subject, every parent that is not homeschooling their children is failing their children. What? Didn’t the first paragraph say it’s not for everyone? Yes, but that was talking about school for math, science, reading, history, etc. God has a “higher-learning” school that He expects ALL parents to conduct in their home, bringing up their children in “the training and instruction of the Lord” (Eph. 6:4). Home is supposed to be the “School of Spiritual Development,” where children are “diligently” taught the commands and the love of the Lord (Deut. 6:1-9). Too many homes today are getting an “F” in schooling their children at home! One day our children will be tested. Are we training them to pass the test? – DS

# Keep in Your Prayers



## Pray for These PBL Members

<b>Linda Coe</b>	awaiting results from medical tests
<b>Mattie Cox</b>	having tests run on her lungs and thyroid
<b>Sharon Feeney</b>	scheduled for lumbar spine surgery
<b>Charles Hayes</b>	recovering at home from hospitalization
<b>Robyn Landen</b>	Wellington Regional (room 310) undergoing testing
<b>Silas Moses</b>	recovering at home, not doing well
<b>Mary Reeves</b>	chronic back pain, having epidural injection on 9/2



**Ellen Gager** upon the passing of her mother, **Dianne Judd**, on Wednesday evening.

## Long-Term Health Issues

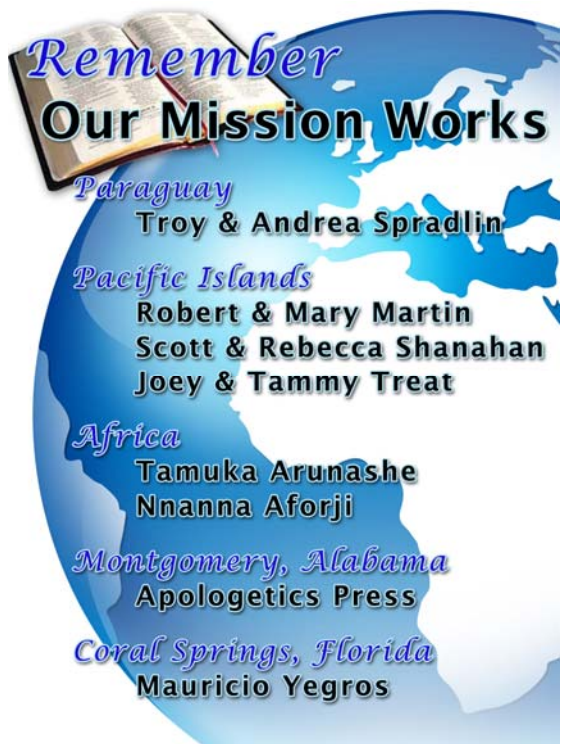
<b>Lillian Bankston</b>	dialysis treatments
<b>Annie Faison</b>	suffering with chronic pain
<b>Janet Hickerson</b>	chronic health problems
<b>Ruth Milton</b>	chronic health problems
<b>Silas Moses</b>	dialysis treatments
<b>Charles Norton</b>	dialysis treatments
<b>Norm Smedley</b>	breathing problems
<b>Patricia Ventress</b>	dialysis treatments

## Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames	Daniel Johnson
Cora Lee Dennis	Don & Betty Matter
Helen Gardner	Deidra Miley
Margie Hardin	Godfrey Pratt
Loretta Holaday	Leigh Puckett
Shelton Howell	Ricky Smedley

## Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

<b>Bernice Griffin</b>	Jennifer Goodale's grandmother, hospital w/ pancreatitis
<b>Roy Hamalainen</b>	Leslie Williams' father, recovering from heart surgery
<b>Chaz Kelly</b>	Brett Lau's uncle, treatments for thyroid cancer
<b>Babs Lee</b>	Bonnie Quigley's sister, recovering from hip replacement
<b>Gail Livergood</b>	Steven Livergood's mother, has a very aggressive cancer
<b>James Mahlbacher</b>	Tim Mahlbacher's father, having tests run on his heart
<b>Clara Medina</b>	Carolina Medina's sister, remains in the hospital
<b>Rocky Meess</b>	Micky Affron's father, recovering from a stroke
<b>David Porter</b>	Phil Porter's father, remains in the hospital, improving
<b>Delores Sims</b>	Jimmie Banks' mother, breast cancer surgery (9/27)
<b>Betty Story</b>	Glen Dawson's sister, hospitalized, blood clots in lungs
<b>Mariam Wagenknecht</b>	Dick Kelley's sister, under Hospice Care





# Church Family Calendar of Events

## Sunday, September 4

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

## Monday, September 5

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

## Tuesday, September 6

- ◆ **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m.

## Thursday, September 8

- ◆ **Family Group 1 Meeting** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Johnny & Betty Davis.

## Friday-Sunday, September 9-11

- ◆ **Scrap the Weekend at CFBC.** See the bulletin board for more details.

## Sunday, September 11

- ◆ **Joey Treat Mission Report** at 9:00 a.m. Jr. High, Sr. High & all adult classes will meet in the Auditorium.
- ◆ **Youth & Family Singing** after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

## Thursday, September 15

- ◆ **Family Group 4 Meeting** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Jim & Jo Ann Rogers.

## Saturday, September 17

- ◆ **Widows & Widowers Luncheon** from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the home of Kane & Fran Campbell. RSVP to Kane & Fran Campbell or Joan Holloway.

## Sunday, September 18

- ◆ **EDP Meeting** at 4:30 p.m.

## Tuesday, September 20

- ◆ **Family Group 3 Meeting** at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Lance & Brenda Collier. Bring drinks or something that goes with ice cream. Please do not bring ice cream.

## Friday, September 23

- ◆ **Strengthening Our Homes & Marriages Seminar with David Shannon.**
  - 7:00 p.m. *What Families Believe Shape Who They Are and What They Do*
  - 7:45 p.m. *They Don't Think Like Me: Understanding Your Spouse*

*Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ*  
**Young Adults**

## Saturday, September 10

- ◆ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Lynn & Cynthia Parker. See Shea Brown for details.

## Monday, September 12

- ◆ **Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Julie Trujillo. Brings toppings for taco salad, desserts and drinks. See Rachel Fuller for details.

## Sunday, September 18

- ◆ **Young Adult Meeting** after evening worship in Adult 3.

## Friday, September 30

- ◆ **Sr. High & YA Ladies' Hangout** at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Rachel Fuller. Bring snacks, drinks and your Bible.

## Saturday, October 1

- ◆ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Dan & Luann McLeod. See Shea Brown for details.

## Monday, September 12

- ◆ **Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night** at 6:30 p.m.



**Palm Beach Lakes**  
**Youth**

## Sunday, September 11

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

## Thursday-Sunday, September 15-18

- ◆ **RUSH Weekend at FHU** for Sr. High Youth. Cost is \$45. See Josh Blackmer for details.

## Saturday, September 17

- ◆ **Jr. High Mini-Golf.** See Sarah Collier or Ivan & Amber Villard for details.

## Friday-Sunday, September 23-25

- ◆ **Live Saved Weekend at CFBC.** This year's theme is *"I'm a Christian...Now What?"* Cost is \$45 per person. Register online at [www.cfbiblecamp.org](http://www.cfbiblecamp.org).

## Sunday, September 25

- ◆ **Jr. High Family Devo** after evening worship. Please bring a drink, dessert or chips.

# SEPTEMBER:



## *To Belong to His Church*

*“Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd **the church** of God which He purchased with His own blood” (Acts 20:28).*

*“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in **the church** by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen” (Eph. 3:20-21).*

Sept. 11

**Joey Treat Mission Report**  
“Mission Work in the Pacific”

*Serving His Church*

Sept. 24

**South Florida Men’s Day**  
“Strong Leaders for Strong Churches”

*Leading His Church*

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



## Directory Changes

**Ruth Lipford** is moving to Georgia with her daughter, Rebecca.

### Thank You Notes

Thank you everyone for your prayers. It truly is a blessing, and may God continue to bless you all.

David & Marie Thorpe

\*\*\*\*\*

Goodbye, good and sweet dear friends, sisters and brothers in Christ. We love you all and will seriously miss you. God bless.

Ruth Lipford



Sunday,  
August 28

**LOCAL VISITORS:** Mrs. Marie Yolette Achille; Ms. Gail Archer; Ms. Lori Armstrong; Miss Rose Sterline Jean Baptiste; Mr. Jean Charles; Ms. Aisha Fernandez; Tom Garrison; Miss Jamie Granno; Ms. Rashana Green; Mrs. Maxine Griggs; Ms. Rebecca Huffman; Ms. Marie Jean; Lavon Kinsey, Sr.; John Loftis; Ms. Janie Murphy; Miss Kelly Rabbitt; Mr. Angel Santiago; Ms. Margaret Sue Simmons; Miss Emma Teed; Ms. Marcia Walker; Ms. Machel Williams & Macquas; and Morris Williams.

**OUT OF TOWN VISITORS:** Mrs. Karen Jones, Aylett, VA; Miss Sabrina Lolo; and Mr. & Mrs. Dale & Jacqueline Willis, Bartlett, TN.



Sunday (Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>)  
Gary & Doris Friedly (Ann.)  
Nate Nelson  
Marty Williams

Wednesday (Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>) cont.  
Scott Lewis  
Bill Ingram, Jr.  
Daniel Wagner

Monday (Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>)  
Chuck & Trish Clark (Ann.)

Thursday (Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>)  
Verdell March  
Katie Sproule

Tuesday (Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>)  
Brett & Hayden Lau (Ann.)  
Derrick Banks  
Amanda Fetting

Friday (Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>)  
Jennifer Carter

Wednesday (Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>)  
Ariana Aristy

Saturday (Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>)  
Debi Watson

## 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 9:45 a.m.*

*If you are scheduled to serve on Sunday evening, please meet at the front of the auditorium at 5:45 p.m.*

### Sunday Morning, September 4

Lead Singing ..... Bobbo Lupo  
Opening Prayer ..... Freddie Gadson  
Scripture Reading.... Deltom Lequernaqué  
Presiding at Table ..... Scott Studer  
Serve at Table:  
    Josue Charles      Carmen Ruckman  
    Kirk Crews         Brad Shelt  
    Gorman Ericksen   Chris Thompson  
    Richard Lerro      Austin Williams  
Alternates:  
    Lance Collier      Darin Summerlot  
Closing Prayer ..... Jeff Leslie

### Sunday Evening, September 4

Lead Singing ..... Stephen Beliech  
Opening Prayer ..... Jimmie Banks  
Scripture Reading..... Gary Friedly  
Presiding at Table..... Jerry Pittman  
    Mike Ellis  
    Edward Gager  
    Tommy Pauldo  
Closing Prayer ..... Mike Erickson  
**Wednesday Evening, September 7**  
Lead Singing ..... Shea Brown  
Invitation ..... Phil Porter  
Family Prayer ..... Brad Shelt

## Our Record

Attendance	Aug. 28	July Avg.
Sun. Bible Study	263	245
Sun. A.M. Worship	350	385
Sun. P.M. Worship	189	168
Wed. Bible Study	186	197
Contribution	\$12,990	\$14,302
2016 Weekly Budget: \$14,660		
Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: +23,252		

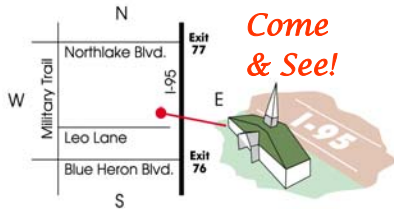
Ushers for week of **Sept. 4** Head Usher: TBD; Jonathan Jordan & Paul Metzkes



# 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)

Published weekly, except the weeks of December 25 and January 1, by the Palm Beach Lakes Church of Christ at 4067 Leo Lane, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33410

**Postmaster:** Send address changes to:  
Palm Beach Lakes Church of Christ  
4067 Leo Lane  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410-6401

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at West Palm Beach, FL

### 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: Sofia McLeod & Amber Villard

## 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



**Phil Sanders**, who has spoken numerous times at Palm Beach Lakes, is the host of the nationally televised program, *"In Search of the Lord's Way."*



This great, faith-building program is broadcast on **WGN** (out of Chicago) **every Sunday morning at 7:00 a.m.**

- Locally, those channels are:
- AT&T U-Verse (channel 180)
  - Comcast (channel 7)
  - DIRECTV (channel 307)
  - DISH (channel 239)



*Be sure to check it out every week, record it, and tell others about it.*