

**Elders**

- \*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 December

**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
- Website..... [www.pblcoc.org](http://www.pblcoc.org)
- E-mail ..... [office@pblcoc.org](mailto:office@pblcoc.org)



*Palm Beach Lakes Church of Christ*

**Vol. LV**

**December 4, 2016**

**No. 49**

# New Bible Classes

**DECEMBER 4 THRU FEBRUARY 8**

**SUNDAY MORNINGS at 9:00 A.M.**

<i>Romans (Part 2)</i>	David Sproule (Auditorium)
<i>Inspiration &amp; Authority of the Scriptures</i>	Josh Blackmer (Adult 1)
<i>Young Adults: Proverbs</i>	Darin Summerlot (Adult 3)
<i>Sr. High: Old Testament: Pentateuch</i>	Dan Fuller
<i>Jr. High: Life of Christ</i>	Cam Crotts

**WEDNESDAY EVENINGS at 7:00 P.M.**

<i>2 Samuel</i>	Josh Blackmer (Auditorium)
<i>Understanding Figurative Language in the Bible</i>	David Sproule (Adult 1)
<i>Ladies: Here I Am</i>	Traci Sproule (Adult 2)
<i>Issues Facing the Church</i>	Dan Jenkins (Adult 3)
<i>Sr. High: Issues Young People Face</i>	Jeff Goodale
<i>Jr. High: Bible Characters</i>	Shea Brown



By Dan Jenkins

## 262,000,000 Americans Struggling with Addiction

The recent elections in this land focused on what politicians considered the worst problems in American. Their agenda was to say that they were the most qualified to deal with whatever problem they considered the most threatening. However, is it possible that all of them failed to see America's greatest problem might be the problem of addiction?

Think for a moment of the problem of alcohol addiction. It is estimated that there may be more than 16,000,000 Americans addicted to alcohol. It is not just a problem for the individual who is drinking, but his drinking affects those around him. Alcohol is a factor in 73% of all felonies, 73% of child beating cases, 41% of rapes, 81% of wife batterings, 72% of stabbings and 83% of homicides. One study showed that 50,000,000 Americans are impacted by the drinking of others.

Add to this that ever-increasing problem of drug addiction. The best estimates show that there are at least 7,000,000 drug addicts in our land and over 20,000,000 drug users. The World Health Organization report shows that Americans use more cocaine and marijuana than any nation on the earth. At least 16% of Americans will use cocaine in their lives as compared with the second leading nation, New Zealand, where 4% will use cocaine. This addiction to drugs is the un-

derlying reason for so many crimes like thefts and robberies.

Look at the title of this article. The combined number of drug and alcohol addicts in this land is only slightly over 10% of the number of people in our land. Yet, the title shows that almost ninety percent are struggling with the problem of addiction. How are there 262,000,000 of the 325,000,000 Americans struggling? How can this be? What can this addiction possibly be?

**America has an addiction greater than the addiction to alcohol and drugs**

Those who are mentally challenged and many young children are not part of this addiction. Remove them from the total population and that leaves 262 million who struggle with addiction. What is this addiction? It is the addiction to sin.

Read these verses carefully. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...for by what a man is overcome, by this he is enslaved" (Rom. 3:23; 2 Pet. 2:19—New American Standard Version). Consider the power of sin. It holds the world in its grasp and only by the knowledge of the Lord can we escape it (2 Pet. 2:20). Sin reigns over us and has become our master (Rom. 6:12, 14). The very parts of our bodies become the instruments in this bondage (Rom. 6:13).

Wake up, America! We have an addiction problem that is far greater than the addiction of drugs and alcohol—sin. There is freedom in Christ for you, for me and for every addict!



By David Sproule

## If Every Christian Imitated You

Paul told his fellow Christians in Corinth, "I urge you, imitate me...imitate me..." (1 Cor. 4:16; 11:1). He told his fellow Christians in Philippi, "Brethren, join in following my example...The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do" (Phil. 3:17; 4:9). What would

that early church have looked like if they all truly mimicked the life of the apostle Paul? How evangelistic would they have been? How encouraging? How devoted? How generous? How studious?

Now, let's turn the tables for a moment and make this glaringly personal. Imagine for a moment that you told your fellow Christians in your home congregation at the beginning of this year, "I urge you, imitate me...Brethren, join in following my example...The things which you hear and see in me, these do." What would your home congregation look like now, at the end of the year, if every member truly mimicked you?

**How evangelistic would your home congregation have been this year if every member mimicked you?** How many tracts would the church have handed out? How many deeply religious conversations would have taken place with family members and coworkers? How many friends would have been invited to worship? How many links to articles and

sermons would have been shared? How many Bible studies would have been offered and conducted? How many baptisms would have resulted if everyone mimicked you?

**How encouraging would your home congregation have been this year if every member mimicked you?** How many cards would have been mailed out? How many phone calls would have been made? How many friendly texts or emails would have been sent? How many home visits would have been made? How many warm handshakes and hugs would have been given? How many meals would have been shared together? How many church members would have been personally contacted and built up if everyone mimicked you?

You get the idea, right? How fervent would singing in worship have been this year if everyone mimicked you? How sacrificial would the total contribution have been if everyone mimicked you? How many chapters in the Bible would have been personally read and studied throughout the year if everyone mimicked you?

The Lord's church does need fancy programs to reach lost souls, to encourage fellow Christians, to improve our worship, to cause Christians to read their Bibles, etc., etc. No! It just needs Christians who are deeply committed to Jesus Christ! Paul could say, "Imitate me," because he was deeply committed every day to "imitating Christ." Are you?

**Imagine you told your fellow Christians, "I urge you, imitate me!"**



## Death Over Dinner

By Josh Blackmer

What do you talk about over dinner? There is an international initiative that started at the University of Washington called, "Let's Have Dinner and Talk About Death." The plan is to initiate conversation about end-of-life care and wishes from loved ones. According to this group, people are not having this conversation. When asked why have it at the dinner table, they said, "The dinner table is the most forgiving place for difficult conversation." They describe the event as taking place with family and friends. Everyone is privy to the subject before the dinner begins. It is encouraged to talk about those who have passed and to talk about your own wishes for your end-of-life care. They suggest that you answer some of the important questions about end-of-life care. As a result of this dinner, it is encouraged to have a living will drafted as well as a list of your wishes so that your loved ones will know.

While having one's earthly affairs in order is a good thing and helpful to those we leave behind, there is something far more important about this eminent event. "And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment" (Heb. 9:27). Paul spoke with fondness concerning his death, "having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for that is very much better" (Phil. 1:23). With that perspective,

death is a transition to the long awaited reward of faithful service. There may be a twinge of fear due to the unknown, but the confident faith drowns out that small voice of fear. We are left with the hope that faith will become sight. For those of us who have made the choice to follow Christ and to faithfully live that life, this confidence is assured in judgement.

**There is something far more important about this eminent event.**

There may be some around the dinner table who are not so assured. This is where death over dinner may be a great event for your friends and family. With the guise of talking about end-of-life plans is legitimate, it will also lend itself to "after this life" discussions. I am not suggesting that these conversations be confrontational or intervention style ambushes. However, they will allow us to talk about those things that do not come up in normal conversation. Children, for example, need to know about death and be able to talk about it in a way that allows them to explore the subject with family. Remembering loved ones and talking fondly about them is therapeutic for those still grieving the loss. Most importantly, it is a time to remember the frailty of life. "Lord, make me to know my end and what is the extent of my days; let me know how transient I am. Behold, You have made my days as handbreadths, and my lifetime as nothing in Your sight; surely every man at his best is a mere breath" (Psa. 39:4-5). Maybe you will talk about this over dinner one night. You may have friends and family that need to have this conversation.

## Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

### He knows just what I need

Did you know that God is in the restaurant business? Yes, He is! Jesus said that "your heavenly Father **feeds**" the birds (Matt. 6:26). Did you know that God is in the fashion business? Yes, He is! Jesus said that God "**clothes** the grass of the field" (Matt. 6:30). What was Jesus' point? Why talk about how God "feeds" birds or "clothes" grass?

Jesus asked, "Are you not of **more** value than they?...Will He not **much more** clothe you?" Then, He drew this conclusion, "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'...For your heavenly Father **knows** that you need all these things" (6:31-32). Read that last statement again: "Your heavenly Father **KNOWS!**"

What's going on in your life right now? Where are you hurting? What needs do you have? What concerns weigh heavy on your heart? Repeatedly in this text Jesus tells us, "Do not worry!" Because **YOUR** heavenly Father **KNOWS** what you need! He knows! – DS



### They're not always wrong!

There is a certain element within our culture that has created in many of us an automatic reflex that disagrees with and is offended by every action that someone in authority takes. It doesn't matter what the action is—we're not going to like it, we're going to automatically think it is wrong. This is the mindset many have toward the boss, toward parents, toward police officers, toward government representatives, toward referees and even toward elders in the church. It is as if these authority figures are presumed wrong until or unless they can prove themselves right.

While not all authority figures are "created equal," and while some have proven themselves to be untrustworthy, and while Christians should be mindful to "test all things," still Christians have a responsibility to be shaped by Christ and not by our culture. Christians are called to "treat others the same way you want them to treat you" (Luke 6:31). Agape love "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things" (1 Cor. 13:7). Just because we may not immediately like a decision does not mean that it is wrong. How would Jesus respond? – DS

# Keep in Your Prayers



## Pray for These PBL Members

<b>Novel Brown</b>	pain in his foot, knees and back
<b>Judie Jenkins</b>	recovering from foot surgery, improving
<b>Ruth Milton</b>	Lourdes-Noreen McKeen (room 208), slowly improving
<b>Tommy Pauldo</b>	Kindred Hospital (NO visitors), serious condition
<b>Connye Plouffe</b>	recovering at home from back surgery
<b>Dorothy Savage</b>	awaiting results from several medical tests

## Long-Term Health Issues

<b>Lillian Bankston</b>	dialysis treatments
<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	Annie Faison	Janet Hickerson	Daniel Johnson	Godfrey Pratt
Sandra Daniels	Helen Gardner	Loretta Holaday	Don & Betty Matter	Leigh Puckett
Cora Lee Dennis	Margie Hardin	Shelton Howell	Deidra Miley	Ricky Smedley

## Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

<b>Prescolita Clough</b>	Marcia Clough-Moss' mother, still in the hospital
<b>Clara Medina</b>	Carolina Medina's sister, remains in the hospital
<b>Ennis Mitchell</b>	Kay Richardson's brother, stage 4 cancer
<b>Michael Newman</b>	Lorena Pittman's brother, recovering from shoulder surg.
<b>Yvonne Palmer</b>	Teresa Williams' sister, problems with her left eye
<b>Delores Sims</b>	Jimmie Banks' mother, dealing with kidney issues
<b>Ricky Smith</b>	Willie Smith's brother, recovering from leg surgery

*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, December 4

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

## Monday, December 5

- ◆ **No Monday Night Bible Study.** Class will resume in January.

## Tuesday, December 6

- ◆ **No Tuesday Morning Bible Study.** Class will resume in January.

## Thursday, December 8

- ◆ **Ladies' Soup Supper** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Traci Sproule. Sign up on the bulletin board to bring soup, bread, dessert or a drink. Please bring an ornament to exchange. Carpool, if possible. See Traci for more details.

## Saturday, December 10

- ◆ **Ladies' Day hosted by the Arlington church of Christ in Jacksonville** at 10:00 a.m. Former member, Pearl El, will be one of the speakers. To RSVP, call 904-743-4833. See the bulletin board for more details.

## Sunday, December 11

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

## Friday, December 16

- ◆ **Family Group 4 Meeting** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Dirk & Elizabeth Summerlot. Please carpool; parking is limited.

## Tuesday, December 20

- ◆ **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m. at the home of Dan & Judie Jenkins. Bring finger foods to share.

## Saturday, December 31

- ◆ **New Year's Eve Gathering** at 9:00 p.m. Bring finger foods and drinks to enjoy.

## Sunday, January 1

- ◆ **Every Member Present Sunday** for Bible Class and Worship. New plans for the new year will be presented, and every member is urged to be in attendance. Let's start the new year together!

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

## Thursday, December 8

- ◆ **Ladies' Soup Supper** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Traci Sproule. Sign up on the bulletin board to bring soup, bread, dessert or a drink. Please bring an ornament to exchange. Carpool, if possible.

## Saturday, December 10

- ◆ **Young Adult Devo & Holiday Party** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Nate & Cindy Nelson. Bring a \$15 present to exchange and toppings for baked potatoes or a dessert. Wear a tacky holiday scarf!

## Saturday, January 7

- ◆ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. Location TBD. See Shea Brown or Ivan Villard for details.

## Monday, January 9

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

## Saturday, January 14

- ◆ **Young Adult & Jr. High Service Project.** Meet at the building at 8:30 a.m.



*Palm Beach Lakes*  
**Youth**

## Sunday, December 11

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

## Saturday, December 17

- ◆ **Sr. High Holiday Party** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Bob & Jennifer Higbee. See Josh Blackmer for more details.

## Friday, December 30

- ◆ **Sr. High Lock-In.** Bring things to keep yourself awake. Do not bring anything for sleeping (pillows, blankets, etc.) See Josh Blackmer for details.

## Sunday, January 8

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

## Saturday, January 14

- ◆ **Young Adult & Jr. High Service Project.** Meet at the building at 8:30 a.m.

# January 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> ☆ <b>Every Member Present Sunday</b> ☆ <b>Renova/North Lake Nursing Home Visit</b> ☆ <b>5:00 p.m. Class Begins on Sundays</b> a Julio & Flo Aristy b Sarah Rodgers	<b>2</b> a Gary & Jacqui Jenkins b Michael Archer b Ellen Gager	<b>3</b> b Jacqueline Creary b Jessie Gower-Winter	<b>4</b> a Joseph & Anthioda Charles b Gabrielle Newby	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> a Shaun & Emily Tyson b Bobby Ingraham b Joe Maloney	<b>7</b> ☆ <b>Young Adult Devo</b> a Willie & Giselle Smith b Lucy Bond b Sandy Colage
<b>8</b> ☆ <b>Youth &amp; Family Singing</b>	<b>9</b> ☆ <b>Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night</b> a Matthew & Kasandra Jones b Brenda Collier	<b>10</b> b Marjorie Ruiz-Carmona	<b>11</b> a Harrison & Danielle Carter b Aisha Fernandez	<b>12</b> ☆ <b>Family Group 2 Meeting</b> b Barbara King	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> ☆ <b>Young Adult &amp; Jr. High Service Project</b> ☆ <b>Widows &amp; Widowers Luncheon</b> b Mary Coombs b Robin Davis b Cindy Nelson
<b>15</b> b Jacade Reynolds	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> b Cynthia Parker	<b>18</b> b Terry Denton	<b>19</b> a Cornelius & Andrea Henderson	<b>20</b> b Julie Charles b Godfrey Pratt b Norma Pratt b Kari Reeves	<b>21</b> b Doug Carrick b Edward Gager
<b>22</b> ☆ <b>Jr. High Family Devo</b> ☆ <b>Sr. High Devo</b> b Cora Lee Dennis b Andrea Leslie	<b>23</b> b Jaqua' Lewis b Luther Robinson	<b>24</b> b Keila McLeod	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> b Jimmie Banks b Winifred Patterson b Andrea Spradlin	<b>27</b> b Christene Bean b Ed Buonadonna	<b>28</b> b Joyce Parker b Lana Smith
<b>29</b> ☆ <b>Mission Sunday</b> ☆ <b>EDP Meeting</b> ☆ <b>Fifth Sunday Singing</b> ☆ <b>Fifth Sunday Night Cook Off</b> a Lawrence & Kay Richardson b Annie Faison	<b>30</b> a Lynn & Cynthia Parker b Joyce Barnhouse b Dick Haines b Carol Hardman	<b>31</b> b Charles Hayes b Mary A. Jackson				

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



Sunday  
November 27

**LOCAL VISITORS:** Ms. Gail Archer; Correy Alberty; Ms. Julia Brown; Mr. Jean Charles; Mrs. Susan Crosswhite; Mr. Christ Jean Jacques; John Loftis; Dennis & Sharon Mann; Mrs. Corinn Miller, Linley & Ellie; Mr. & Mrs. Brett Norman; Ms. Lizzie Rozier; and Jeremy Runge.

**OUT OF TOWN VISITORS:** Mr. James Budde Egner, Louisville, KY; Mrs. Stacy Farrington, Plano, TX; Mr. & Mrs. Harold Gilmore, Decatur, AL; Mr. & Mrs. Robert Higbee, Concord, NC; Mrs. Monique LeBlanc, Quebec, Canada; Chad & Gorgeous Morgan, Port St. Lucie, FL; Mr. & Mrs. Travis & Jennifer O'Hannon, New Albany, OH; and Ms. Christine Symonette, North Miami Beach, FL.

**Birthdays & Anniversaries This Week**

Sunday (Dec. 4th)  
Sandra Reynolds  
Guadalupe Tipton

Wednesday (Dec. 7th) cont.  
Deltom Lequernaqué  
Clayton Parnell

Monday (Dec. 5th)  
Janice Osborne

Thursday (Dec. 8th)  
Harriett Morris

Tuesday (Dec. 6th)  
Cara Blackmer  
Clayton Trujillo

Friday (Dec. 9th)  
Mike & Jean Archer (Ann.)  
Lawrence D. Richardson

Wednesday (Dec. 7th)  
Jeannie Buonadonna

Saturday (Dec. 10th)  
Carolina Medina

**Ladies' Soup Supper**



**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, December 4**

Lead Singing ..... Gary Friedly  
Opening Prayer ..... Charles Hayes  
Scripture Reading ..... Carmen Ruckman  
Presiding at Table ..... Gary Jenkins  
Serve at Table:  
Kane Campbell      Kenneth Long  
Josue Charles      Vincent Rogers  
Paul Hensel      Brad Shelt  
Bobby Ingraham      Marty Williams  
Alternates:  
Kirk Crews      Jacade Reynolds  
Closing Prayer ..... Paul Metzkes

**Sunday Evening, December 4**

Lead Singing ..... Stephen Beliech  
Opening Prayer ..... Dick Kelley  
Scripture Reading ..... Ivan Villard, Jr.  
Presiding at Table ..... Tim Fry  
Eddie Gooden  
Richard Lerro  
Simon Tyson  
Closing Prayer ..... Mike Archer  
**Wednesday Evening, December 7**  
Lead Singing ..... Ivan Villard  
Invitation ..... Michael Trujillo  
Family Prayer ..... Tim Fry

**Our Record**

Attendance	Nov.27	Oct. Avg.
Sun. Bible Study	213	244
Sun. A.M. Worship	301	348
Sun. P.M. Worship	164	170
Wed. Bible Study	156	182
Contribution	\$10,399	\$14,581

2016 Weekly Budget: \$14,660

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: +24,067

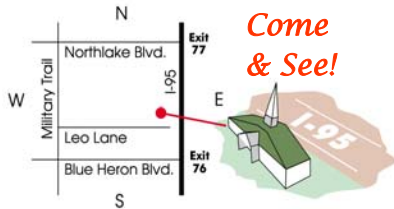
Ushers for week of **Dec. 4:** Head Usher: Chris Thompson; Jim Davis & Chuck Reeves, Sr.



# 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)

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

**PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID**  
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: **Mary Quinn, Samantha & Lydia**



*"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).*

## Upcoming Events

### December 8

Ladies' Soup Supper

### December 31

New Year's Eve Gathering

### January 1

Every Member Present Sunday

### January 1

5:00 p.m. Sunday Class Begins for 2017

### January 29

Mission Sunday

### January 29

Fifth Sunday Singing & Cook-off

### February 11

Sweetheart Banquet