#### **Shepherds**

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 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**

Phone	561-848-1111
Fax	561-848-1198
Website	www.pblcoc.org
E-mail	office@pblcoc.org



Vol. LVI

## February 12, 2017

No. 7

# Welcome New Members



Green, Rashana

Group 2

Baptized December 18



Loftis, John

Group 4

Identified January 1



Dolan, Tom

Group 1

Baptized January 17



Anderson, Andy & Letha

Group 4

Identified January 22



By Dan Jenkins

# **Three Abiding Things**

There is a striking contrast the apostle Paul makes in the thirteenth chapter of his first letter to Corinth. He speaks of three temporary things and three things which will abide. The church in Corinth was so enamored by the temporary gifts of tongues, knowledge and prophecy that they had lost

sight of three things far more important.

It appears that many in the modern charismatic, Pentecostal movement have elevated their view of these same gifts, and they have failed to understand the message Paul wrote to Corinth. While the modern "tongues" are presented as being the same as those in the first century, such is not the case. Acts chapter two clearly shows that Bible tongues were languages which were spoken by peo-

ple in various lands of that day. This is not what is being done in this movement.

The chapter opens with an affirmation that those early Christians who actually had the gift of tongues had not reached the highest level of spirituality. There was something far greater than tongues. It was love. Paul taught that if love was not present, the gift had the same impact as a clanging cymbal. The same was true of the gifts of prophecy (inspired preaching) and divine knowledge which was instantly impart-

ed. Without love, these gifts from heaven were useless. The external display of "spirituality" is far different from true spirituality.

Read his words carefully which show the contrast between that which was temporarily part of God's plan and that which is permanently part of God's plan. "Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease, as for knowledge it will pass away" (1 Cor. 13:8, ESV).

> These gifts were part of the church when it was in its infancy. Paul showed this when he stated, "When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways" (1 Cor. 13:11). God had something far greater than these gifts which were so necessary for the church as it began and part of His plan until the church reached maturity.

What was greater than these temporary things? Look at the last verse. "And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love." These three qualities of godliness are external and come from a deep spiritual relationship with the Lord.

Think how this principle impacts us all. We are not spiritual simply because we look like Christians on the outside. So study His word and build your faith, and your hope will deepen. "Above all these things put on love" (Col. 3:14).



# **Preaching Like First-Century Christians**

"Above all these

things put on

love which is the

bond of

perfection"

first-century

Christians

deserves our

As one reads through the pages of the New Testament, there is no doubt that the preaching of first-century Christians is something that deserves our careful inspection and emulation. Their preaching was (1) successful, as individuals from all walks of By David Sproule life and all backgrounds were being convert-

ed (Acts 2:5-40; 8:5-13; 9:1-18; 10:1-48; 16:11-40; Phil. 1:13; 4:22). Their preaching was (2) wide-spread, as they literally preached the gospel "in all the world...to The preaching of

every creature under heaven" (Col. 1:6, 23). Their preaching was (3) effective, as it was causing some hardened and staunch unbelievers to persecute faithful Christians (Acts 8:1-3; 9:1-2) and even put them to death (Rev. 6:9; 20:4; Acts 22:20). Their preaching was (4) pleasing to God, as He worked miraculous powers through their hands to confirm

their message (Mark 16:20; Heb. 2:3-4), encouraged them in their endeavors (Acts 23:11), stood by their side when no one else did (2 Tim. 4:16-18), and promised them a home in heaven with Him (Rev. 2:10; 14:1-5; 2 Tim. 4:6-8).

What was it about their preaching that made it so successful, wide-spread, effective and pleasing to God? There are many aspects of their efforts that would prove to be beneficial to us in a careful study, but let us consider just one facet: the content of their message. What did they preach?

When, because of intense persecution, Christians were fleeing Jerusalem and Judea, Acts 8 gives us a rather comprehensive description of the content of their preaching. We know that their task was to "preach the gospel," but what did that entail?

They preached "the word" (8:4). Preaching "the word" involved preaching "the words" given to them by the Lord (John 16:13-15; 17:8), without adding to "the words" or taking away from "the words" (Rev. 22:18-19).

> They preached "Christ" (8:5). Preaching "Christ" involved preaching Jesus' fulfillment of prophecy (Acts 3:13-18), His sacrificial death for the sins of mankind (1 Cor. 15:1-3), His resurrection (1 Cor. 15:4) and His expectations for all (Acts 8:35-36).

They preached "the kingdom of God" (8:12). emulation Preaching "the kingdom" involved preaching the establishment of the Lord's church (Matt. 16:18-19; Acts 2), the price that was paid for it (Acts 20:28), the means of entrance into it (Acts 2:37-47) and the essentiality of it (1 Cor. 15:24).

> They preached "the name of Jesus Christ" (8:12). Preaching His "name" involved preaching by His authority (Acts 4:7-10), that He has all authority (Matt. 28:18), that He is the only means of salvation (Acts 4:12), that He is "Lord of all" (Acts 10:36) and will be "the Judge" of all (Acts 10:42).

> > Do we preach like first-century Christians preached?



By Josh Blackmer

#### **How Is Your Chihuahua?**

She really wanted a Chihuahua puppy. As she crossed the border into Mexico, she thought, "Maybe I'll find one and rescue it while I'm here." She bought her normal goods and souvenirs and headed back towards the border. As she was nearing the checkpoint, she couldn't believe what she

Our

preconceived

ideas of reality

the truth.

saw—a Chihuahua abandoned on the side of the road! She pulled over and carefully put it into a box as it was clearly hurt and suspicious of the woman's actions. She was determined to rescue the dog no matter how ugly or badly it was hurt. She smuggled her new passenger across the border and went directly to a vet. She explained that she found the Chihuahua on the side of the road, and it was clearly malnourished and hurt. The vet opened the box and gasped, "Ma'am, you have rescued the biggest rat I have ever seen. We don't do rats."

She really wanted a Chihuahua, and that was what stuck in her mind. I am sure you've done this but maybe not with rats. There was something stuck in your mind, and you saw this thing everywhere. It doesn't have to be a physical item. It could be that you were treated a certain way, and your expectation was programmed for that same treatment, good or bad, from others. It is amazing what our minds can do to our perception of reality. Everyone passing the lady on the road was wondering why she was rescuing a rat, but she only saw the Chihuahua. It was what she wanted to see.

What happens if your perception of reality is askew when you approach the Bible? Let's say you've been taught and/or believe that the Bible is only a superstitious book for controlling the masses. No more real than Santa Claus or Bugs Bunny. You are not going to take it seriously. Any argument that begins with, "The Bible says..." is easily dismissed as fanta-

sy. You don't see the rat in front of you. Another perception is that the Bible is good and God is good, all the time. Yet, you believe that there are so many ways to get close to God. Everyone must find their own way to the Creator. You couldn't possibly dream can keep us from of telling anyone that their beliefs concerning the Bible are wrong. God doesn't care. As long as you believe in Jesus, you're good. Another rat.

> How do we know that we are not running with rats in our perception of reality? Do not be afraid to examine what you believe is true. Truth does not hide from examination. "Search the scriptures daily whether those things are so" (Acts 17:11). Our preconceived ideas of reality can keep us from the truth. Saul of Tarsus saw the same thing that everyone else saw and heard the same message from Stephen, yet he did not initially believe (Acts 9:1-2). When he was confronted with the truth he changed. Do you have rats or Chihuahuas?

# Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

#### Speaking + truth + love = growth

Equations are funny things. They work every time the same way without fail and without exception. One plus one equals two every time without fail and without exception. Bible students know that there are numerous divine "equations" in the Bible, which, as do all equations, work every time the same way without fail and without exception.

One such "equation" is in Ephesians 4:15. Christians are admonished to "no longer be children" but rather, "speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into" Christ. Every part of this equation is essential for the desired result. In order for each of us to "grow into Christ" (the intended result), this particular verse requires three constants: (1) Love. If I "have not love, it profits me nothing" (1 Cor. 13:3). (2) Truth. "The truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). (3) Speaking. "For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20).

Do you have all three constants at work? They will work every time without fail! - DS

### Remember your Creator now, and please don't forget!

The wise man Solomon warned about "difficult days" (NKJV), "evil days" (NASB) and "days of trouble" (NIV) in the closing verses of Ecclesiastes. Life has a way of flipping everything upside down, shaking everything really hard and then doing the Hulk-to-Loki smash until our world is completely spinning.

> The Bible doesn't say that those days "could" come but that they are going to "come," and not just come but "draw near" to you. So, how can you be ready?

> Solomon makes it very clear – "Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth" (Ecc.

12:1). I like how the NKJV has the word "now." Looking to your Creator, putting your trust firmly in your Creator, building an unshakeable bond with your Creator, entering an intimate relationship with your Creator by obeying your Creator is something that you need to do NOW! It cannot wait! It requires our full attention and our full effort...NOW!

How old are you? Better yet, how young are you? The only way to be ready for those evil days coming is establish and fortify your relationship with God NOW! He will help you through! - DS

# Keep in Your Prayers



# **Pray for These PBL Members**

**Jimmy Burney** recovering at home and doing better Carolyn Cullom recovering from a fall, very bruised and sore

Jennifer Goodale scheduled for back surgery on February 15

**Carol Hardman** recovering from neck surgery (No Visitors) Dan McLeod radiation treatments for prostate cancer

**Ruth Milton** now at home, improving but still very weak

**Lucas Villard** Ivan & Amber's newborn, now at home & improving



Kay Richardson upon the passing of her brother, Ennis Mitchell, on Wednesday

# **Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members**

Josh Blackmer's mother, testing for vision complications Angela Blackmer

**Bonnye Cox** Connye Plouffe's sister, Lou Gehrig's disease

Clara Medina Carolina Medina's sister, remains in the hospital

**Katherine Meess** Micky Affron's stepmother, brain tumor & spots on lungs

**Rocky Meess** Micky Affron's father, mass between kidney & bladder

**Eula Richardson** Lawrence Richardson's mother, trach. issues & very weak

#### **Long-Term Health Issues**

**Lillian Bankston** dialysis treatments

**Ruth Milton** chronic health problems

**Silas Moses** dialysis treatments

**Charles Norton** dialysis treatments

**Norm Smedley** breathing problems

**Patricia Ventress** dialysis treatments

# **Pray for Our Shut-Ins**

Shelton Howell Millie Ames Sandra Daniels Daniel Johnson Cora Lee Dennis Don & Betty Matter

Annie Faison Deidra Miley Tommy Pauldo Helen Gardner Margie Hardin **Godfrey Pratt** Janet Hickerson Leigh Puckett

Ricky Smedley Loretta Holaday



# Church Family **Calendar of Events**

#### Sunday, February 12

- "Fortifying Your Faith" Class at 5:00 p.m.
- 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 12-15

 Gospel Meeting hosted by Belle Glade each night at 7:00 p.m. (Monday-Wednesday). Alfred Woodard from Sebastian with be speaking on "Looking Toward Heaven." See the bulletin board for more details.

#### Monday, February 13

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

#### Tuesday, February 14

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

#### Thursday, February 16

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

#### Friday, February 17

• Family Group 4 Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Richard & Judy Lerro.

#### Friday-Sunday, February 17-19

Gospel Meeting hosted by Sebastian each night at 7:00 p.m. (Friday & Saturday). Daniel Stearsman from Okeechobee will be speaking on "Seizing Every Spiritual Blessing".

#### Saturday, February 18

 Ladies' Day hosted by Sixth Street. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. This year's theme is "Mirror, Mirror".
 Speakers include Cara Blackmer, Shantelle Harris & Paola Noboa. RSVP by February 10.

#### Tuesday, February 21

• Family Group 3 Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Victor & Sandy Colage.

#### Friday-Sunday, February 24-26

Parenting Seminar hosted by West Broward with Dr.
 Sam Heastie. Begins Friday at 6:30 p.m. and Saturday at 9:00 a.m. See the bulletin board for more details.

# Young Adults

#### Friday-Sunday, February 17-19

 Young Adult Camping Trip at Peace River Campground in Arcadia, FL. Cost is \$50 per person (includes campsite and food for the weekend). Please give your payment Shea Brown by Sunday, February 12.

#### Saturday, March 4

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

#### Friday, March 10

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

#### Monday, March 13

 Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Cara Blackmer. See Rachel Fuller for details.

#### Tuesday, March 21

 Sr. High & Young Adult Guys' Devo at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Mike & Julie Trujillo.



#### Sunday, February 12

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

#### Sunday, February 19

 Sr. High Bowling after evening worship at Jupiter Lanes. Cost is \$10 per person (includes bowling, shoes, pizza and a drink). Parents will need to pick up their teen from the bowling alley. RSVP by February 15 to Josh Blackmer or Cam Crotts.

#### Friday-Sunday, February 24-26

 Y.E.S. Weekend for Grades 8-12 at the Forrest Park congregation in Valdosta, GA. Cost is \$50 per person. Meet at the church building at 11:00 a.m. Sign up on the bulletin board.

#### Sunday, February 26

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

# New Bible Class Semester (for All Ages) Begins Feb. 26

# Adults, Sr. High & Jr. High (1st 10 Weeks)

SUNDAY MORNINGS at 9:00 A.M. (Feb. 26-Apr. 30)

Auditorium	The "I Am" Statements of Jesus	David Sproule
Adult 1	The Sermon on the Mount	Phil Porter
Adult 3	Young Adults: A Glimpse into God's Heart	Kirk Crews
Sr. High	Sr. High: <b>Revelation</b>	Josh Blackmer
Jr. High	Jr. High: Acts 1-12: The Church Begins	David Lord

# WEDNESDAY EVENINGS at 7:00 P.M. (Mar. 15-May 3)

Auditorium	1 Kings	Josh Blackmer
Adult 1	The Restoration Plea: Does It Work?	Dan Jenkins
Adult 3	At the Master's Feet	Shea Brown & Nate Nelson
Adult 2	Ladies: <b>Conquering Your Giants</b>	Rachel Fuller, Kathy Nelson & Julie Trujillo
Sr. High	Sr. High: <b>Old Testament: History</b>	TBD
Jr. High	Jr. High: The Christian's Responsibility	TBD



"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen" (2 Peter 3:18).

# Ages 0-2 (Beginning in March)

#### Cradle Roll

# God Made Families

Gwen Lyons

# Toddlers & Age 2

#### Moses

Sandy Colage

# **Stepping into the Bible** for Age 3 thru Grade 5 (Feb. 26-July 12)

STEPP NG	Jesus & Miracles	Jesus' Nature Miracles	Jesus' Healing Miracles	Jesus' Faith Miracles	Jesus Raises the Dead
Session 1 Feb. 26-Mar. 22	<b>Grades 4-5</b> <i>Chris T. &amp; Bobbo</i>	<b>Ages 3-4</b> <i>Robin Davis</i>		K & Grade 1 A. Puckett	Grades 2 & 3 Sue S. & Brenda
Session 2 Mar. 26-Apr. 19	Grades 2 & 3 Sue S. & Brenda	<b>Grades 4-5</b> <i>Chris &amp; Bobbo</i>	<b>Ages 3-4</b> <i>Robin Davis</i>		K & Grade 1 A. Puckett
Session 3 Apr. 23-May 17	K & Grade 1 Tasha Ellis	Grades 2 & 3 Jaqua' Lewis	<b>Grades 4-5</b> Jeff Goodale	Ages 3-4 B. Thompson	
Session 4 May 21-June 14		K & Grade 1 Tasha Ellis	Grades 2 & 3 Jaqua' Lewis	<b>Grades 4-5</b> <i>Jeff Goodale</i>	Ages 3-4 B. Thompson
<b>Session 5</b> <i>June 18-July 12</i>	Ages 3-4 B. Thompson		K & Grade 1 Tasha Ellis	Grades 2 & 3 Jaqua' Lewis	<b>Grades 4-5</b> Jeff Goodale

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



Carol Graff was identified on Sunday, February 5.

Jeannie Hamilton was identified on Sunday, February 5.



Sunday February 5

LOCL VISITORS: Gail Archer; Ms. Lori Armstrong; Jim & Cindy Beard; Mr. Jean Charles; Terry & Regina Crews; Ms. Susan Crosswhite; Tom Garrison; Ms. Sylvia Goldie; Dennis & Sharon Mann; David & Jacqueline Parker; Ms. Lizzie Rozier; Steve & Cindy Shafor; and Herman Williams.

OUT OF TOWN VISITORS: Mr. & Mrs. Bob Grassman, Sebring, FL; Ms. Tina Hennig, Davison, MI; Ms. Marcia Farrar, Palm City, FL; Scott Kelley, West Broward, FL; Mrs. Monique LeBlanc, Quebec, Canada; Gene & Betty Mies, Ypsilanti, MI; Chad & Gorgeous Morgan, Port St. Lucie, FL; Mrs. Jacqueline Parker, Ringgold, GA; Daniel & Allison Simons, Greenwood, IN; Darlene Smith, Valdosta, GA; and Bill & Lee Tellmann, Pacific, MO.



Family Group 1 Chef Boyardee Meals

Family Group 2 Canned Fruits
Family Group 3 Canned Soups

Family Group 4 Canned Tuna/Meats



Sunday (Feb. 12th)
Dave Holaday

Monday (Feb. 13th)

Eugene & Penny Williams (Ann.)

Tuesday (Feb. 14th)
Marty & Leslie Williams (Ann.)

Thursday (Feb. 16th) Laura Schuemann Pat Parnell

Friday (Feb. 17th)
Julie Williams



#### Those to Serve

If you cannot serve, please call Mike Ellis at 775-3533.

If you are scheduled to serve on <u>Sunday morning</u>, please meet in the Grades 6-8 classroom at <u>9:50 a.m.</u>
If you are scheduled to serve on <u>Sunday evening</u>, please meet at the front of the auditorium at <u>5:50 p.m.</u>

#### Sunday Morning, February 12

aaa,g, . c	~. uu. ,
Lead Singing	Gary Friedly
Opening Prayer	Taylor Reeves
Scripture Reading	Bobby Ingraham
Presiding at Table	Bob Higbee
Serve at Table:	
Andy Anderson	Brett Lau
Josue Charles	Daniel Swayne
Edward Gager	Kevin Weeks
Wallace Jones	Lawrence Williams
Alternates	
Tim Cox	Shaun Tyson
Closing Prayer	Jim Davis

#### Sunday Evening, February 12

Lead Singing	Bobbo Lupo		
Opening Prayer	Paul Metzkes		
Scripture ReadingA	ndres Fernandez		
Presiding at Table	David Brown		
Gary Jenkins			
Jeremy Maloney			
Nick Pietro			
Closing Prayer	Shea Brown		
Wednesday Evening, February 15			
Lead Singing	Shea Brown		
Invitation	Jim Davis		

Family Prayer ......Taylor Reeves

#### **Our Record**

Attendance	<u>Feb. 5</u>	Jan. Avg.
Sun. Bible Study	266	273
Sun. A.M. Worsh	ip 371	369
Sun. P.M. Worsh	ip 157	182
Wed. Bible Study	/ 184	201
Contribution	\$14,095	\$14,733

2017 Weekly Budget: \$15,065

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: -2,300

Ushers for the week of Feb. 12: Head Usher: L.H. Richardson, Ushers: TBD



#### 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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#### **Service Schedule**

Sunday:

Bible Classes............9:00 a.m.
Worship .................6:00 p.m.
Wednesday:
Bible classes ........7:00 p.m.

Front Cover: Isabella Reitz & Melanie Weeks



# March 5-8 Gospel Meeting with Dan Winkler March 12 Troy Spradlin Mission Report April 20 Ladies' Day with Rose Crayton April 29 Elders, Deacons, Preachers & Wives Cookout April 30 Fifth Sunday Night Cook Off May 5-6 ET for Youth with Jon David Schwartz June 7-11 Leadership Training Camp for Young Men & Women