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 April

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	248-3310
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
F-mail	office@nblcoc.org



Vol. LVI

April 16, 2017

No. 16



Ladies Day Checklist

For Ladies:

- ☑ Plan to attend
- ☑ Encourage other ladies to attend
- ☑ Arrive at 5:45 p.m.
- ☑ Enjoy a great night together
- ☑ Pray for the event

For Men:

- ☑ Don't plan to attend
- Encourage your wife or lady friend to attend
- ☑ Contribute money for dinner
- ☑ Servers arrive at 5:30
- ☑ Pray for the event



By Dan Jenkins

Does It Really Make a Difference?

Have you ever considered what difference it makes to the driver who ignores the signs at the four-way stop? The fact the signs are there makes no difference in his life. The same is true of the laws about speed limits, wearing seat belts, and dimming headlights to oncoming traffic. The laws have no

impact on that person who chooses to ignore them.

Now think about this. The fact that Jesus came makes no difference in the life of that person who chooses to ignore His presence on the earth.

What difference does it make if Jesus was born of a virgin in Bethlehem? To those who are seeking to find God, the birth of Jesus announced the beginning of God's eternal plan for mankind. But to that person who makes no changes in his life, it makes no difference. Jesus might as well not have been born.

What difference does it make if Jesus ever taught any lessons at all? So what if He taught about morality, marriage, self-control, dealing with enemies, prayer, the abundant life and the resurrection? He might as well have never said a single word—if one chooses to ignore Him.

What difference does it make if Jesus showed His deity by undeniable miracles? Even if He had healed every sick person on this earth, fed all mankind with loaves and fish and emptied every tomb on planet earth, it would make no difference to that person who chooses to ignore such manifestations of heaven's power. As far as that person is concerned, Jesus wasted His time in every miracle.

What difference does it make if Jesus was raised from the dead? The empty tomb—the ultimate manifestation of His deity—has no meaning to those who ignore Him. His enemies arrested Him, mocked Him, beat Him without mercy,

> and took His life. So what? Let those accounts of His life close with a lifeless body hanging on a cross—so what? It makes no difference.

> What difference does it make-look at the real difference the events make. Ignore every event of His life, pretend they did not happen, consciously choose to ignore reality-yet, one truth remains-Jesus lives! He lived, He died, He was raised and He

lives eternally!

You can ignore

His birth, teach-

ings and mira-

cles—but only

temporarily

God.

God did not just raise Him, He highly exalted Him above all creation. God gave Him all authority in heaven and on this earth. God has appointed a day when He will judge the world by the one He raised from the dead. All mankind will be raised to give account for the decisions they have made on this earth. You can ignore His birth, His teaching, His miracles and His resurrection—temporarily. On that final day, these things are all that matter. Do not be so foolish as to ignore Him.



By David Sproule

"Does Your Church?" (Part 4)—The Organization of the Church

There is only one church (Eph. 4:4; 1:22-23; 2:16), and that one church finds its origin in God, not man (Isa. 2:2-4; Dan. 2:44; Matt. 16:18; Acts 20:28). Those points are inarguable. So, when it comes to how that church is organized, we should expect that there is only one organizational structure

that is acceptable and that it comes from God Himself.

The Lord established His church to exist in There is only one autonomous (i.e., independent) local congregations. Each of these congregations is to be structured in organizational exactly the same way, and the interesting thing is structure that is that God did not design any organizational structure acceptable to higher than the local congregation. There is one "head" over the whole church, and that is Christ (Eph. 5:23; Col. 1:18). As the single authority over every congregation, Christ alone has the authority to command (Matt. 28:18) how the church is to operate (1 Tim. 3:15).

The local congregation of the Lord's church is to be overseen by a group of elders. The divine design for the church involved having [1] a plurality of men (Acts 14:23; Phil. 1:1), [2] who met specific qualifications (1 Tim. 3:1-7; Tit. 1:5-9), [3] to be appointed "over" the local congregation (1 Thess. 5:12) [4] "among" whom they themselves had been a member (Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 5:2), [5] in order to "shepherd," "oversee,"

"steward," "take care of" and "lead" the church (Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 5:2; Tit. 1:7; 1 Tim. 3:5; Heb. 13:17), in order that [6] each member might remain faithful and enter into heaven (Heb. 13:17; Acts 20:28-30). Scripture never speaks of or approves one "pastor" leading a church, but it always draws attention to a group of "pastors" (elders) overseeing each congregation.

The local congregation of the Lord's church is to be served by a group of deacons. The divine design for the church involved having [1] a plurality of men (Phil. 1:1), [2] who met specific qualifications (1 Tim. 3:8-13), [3] to take on specific tasks assigned to them (Acts 6:1-6) and [4] to "serve well" in those capacities (1 Tim. 3:13), in order that the church might grow (Eph. 4:16) and that overseers might be able to "give themselves" to their responsibilities (cf. Acts 6:4).

The local congregation of the Lord's church needs to have an evangelist to preach the gospel. The divine design for the church involved having a [1] man (1 Tim. 2:1-14), who could [2] preach "the whole counsel of God" (Acts 20:27; 2 Tim. 4:2), [3] defend the faith (1 Tim. 1:3-4; 4:1-16), [4] build up the local church (1 Cor. 14:3) and [5] train men to serve in the church (2 Tim. 2:2; 1 Tim. 3:1-13).

How is your church organized? The church of Christ patterns its organizational structure according to the one specified in the New Testament. Does your church?



By Josh Blackmer

Behold, How Great a Love That Would Adopt Even Me

You are children

and heirs of the

About 135,000 children are adopted each year in the United States. Of those 135,000, 59 percent are from the foster care system, 26 percent are from other countries and 15 percent are voluntarily relinquished for adoption. According to the 2014 adoption statistics, 50,644 children were adopted from

the foster care system. There are over 100,000 still waiting to be adopted each year. The average age of those waiting for adoption, for a home, is 7 years. Say what you will about the system, but there is a great need for adoption. There would be an even greater need if mothers would choose adoption over abortion.

You are

Did you know that you have been adopted? most high God. God's message to us is that we are adopted and heirs. "For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, 'Abba! Father!' The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him" (Rom. 8:14-17). The New Testament refers to those who are obedient to God through Christ as children.

Did you ever stop to think how we are His children? We are not like the Christ who dwelt with Him from the beginning.

God does not refer to us as the firstborn. We are His through adoption because of the sacrifice of Jesus. We are not children by birth, as those that were born through Abraham, but rather children of promise (Rom. 9:8). As Hosea prophesied, "Yet the number of the sons of Israel Will be like the sand of the sea, Which cannot be measured or numbered; And in the place Where it is said to them, 'You are not My people,' It will be said to them, 'You are the sons of the living God'" (1:10).

Consider this when you read "children of God." It is referring to you as adopted. Not only adopted but adopted with an inheritance. God says that we are co-heirs with Christ, that we will be glorified with Him, and that we are siblings of the Jesus through faith and obedience to God. "See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are. For this

reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is...By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother" (1 John 3:1-2, 10).

You are children and heirs of God. There is a great need for this adoption. Tell the world they have a Father.

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

"...And for what we haven't done"

A man stood behind the podium and led the congregation in prayer during the morning worship assembly. There was nothing unusual about his prayer. It was truly worshipful in every way. But, there was something about the way he said a certain phrase that made it stick. Again, the phrase was not anything new. But, he gave it a little added emphasis with his inflection.

"Help us, Lord, to remember that one day we will all stand before Jesus and give an account for what we have done...and for what we haven't done."

When most people think about the day of judgment, they probably think about being judged for committing acts that were contrary to God's will. But, how often do we think about Jesus judging us for things that we haven't done? James tells us plainly, "To him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin" (Jas. 4:17). Jesus warned of judgment for not doing righteous deeds (Matt. 25:31-46). God help us to not omit acts of obedience in our lives! – DS

Striped parking lots

Do you think the stripes in a parking lot are important? Some folks who have trouble parking straight might suggest removing them to make parking easier. Do you know when a parking lot is most chaotic? It's when there are no stripes. Without stripes to designate where to park, drivers park anywhere and in any way they choose. Oftentimes, fewer cars are able to

park, as drivers take up more space with their cars. It's amazing how the lines make us more efficient.

Lines in a parking lot provide the standard. While some folks don't like rules, this one illustration helps us to see that they are actually to

our benefit. Now compare that with the Bible. God has painted "lines" in the parking lots of our lives, to indicate where to go and where not to go. As with anything, some folks would like to move or even remove those "lines" to make life "easier." However, it is where people have totally rejected God's "lines" that the most chaos exists.

Are you parking inside God's "lines"? Your life will be more productive and successful! – DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Casey Crews recovering from a broken hand

Maria Hackshaw recovering at home from hospitalization

Dan Johnson Gardens Court, recovering from knee replacement

Orlando Lolo recovering from a second seizure

Charles Norton recovering at home from pneumonia

Joyce Parker continues to slowly improve

Chuck Reeves, Jr. home from the hospital, underwent medical tests



Buzz Nelson and family upon the passing of Buzz's father, Ron Nelson, last Saturday.

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

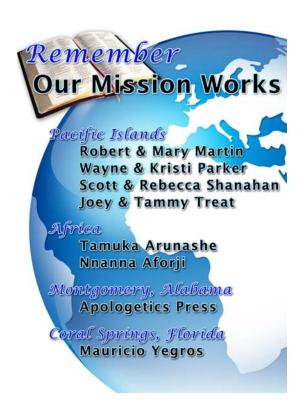
Julie Trujillo's sister, diagnosed with Graves' Disease Karen Brennan **Bonnye Cox** Connye Plouffe's sister, Lou Gehrig's disease **Shirley Franklin** Kay Richardson's sister, cancer and other health issues Clara Medina Carolina Medina's sister, remains in the hospital **Jacklyn Modery** Sharon Reitz's sister, recovering from back surgery Joel Owens Cindy Nelson's father, recovering from a heart attack Jerry Pittman's brother, under Hospice Care, broken hip Pat Pittman **Edward Sims** Jimmie Banks' stepfather, recovering knee replacement

Long-Term Health Issues

Lillian Bankstondialysis treatmentsSilas Mosesdialysis treatmentsCharles Nortondialysis treatmentsNorm Smedleybreathing problemsPatricia Ventressdialysis treatments

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames Shelton Howell Sandra Daniels **Daniel Johnson** Cora Lee Dennis Don & Betty Matter Annie Faison Deidra Miley Helen Gardner Ruth Milton Margie Hardin **Godfrey Pratt** Janet Hickerson Leigh Puckett Loretta Holaday Ricky Smedley



Church Family **Calendar of Events**

Sunday, April 16

- Mount Dora Children's Home Supply Deadline. A supply list can be found on the Welcome Desk. Please place donated items in the Lobby. Gift cards to Wal-Mart and Publix are also appreciated.
- "Fortifying Your Faith" Class at 5:00 p.m.

Monday, April 17

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

Tuesday, April 18

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

Thursday, April 20

Ladies' Day hosted by Palm Beach Lakes. Whitney
 Watson will be speaking on "Ambassadors for Christ."

5:45 p.m. Registration

6:00 p.m. Opening Comments

6:30 p.m. Dinner Served by PBL Men

7:30 p.m. Lesson: "Ambassadors for Christ"

Friday-Sunday, April 21-23

 Father/Son Retreat at CFBC. This year's theme is "Living Life On Par." Cost is \$40 per person. Josh Blackmer is the retreat coordinator. See the bulletin board for more details.

Friday, April 21

 Family Group 4 Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Andy & Letha Anderson.

Saturday, April 22

 13th Annual Benefit Golf Tournament at CFBC. See the bulletin board for more details.

Tuesday, April 25

 Family Group 2 Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Nate & Cindy Nelson

Saturday, April 29

- PBL Ladies' Prayer Meeting at 1:00 p.m. in the Family Room. All ladies are welcome. See Maria Hackshaw for details.
- EDP & Wives Cookout at 6:00 p.m.



Tuesday, April 18

 Meat Night for YA Men at 6:30 p.m. at the home of David Sproule.

Monday, May 1

 Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night at 6:30 p.m. Location TBD. See Rachel Fuller for details.

Saturday, May 6

 Young Adult Devo at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Keila McLeod.

Friday, May 12

 Sr. High & Young Adult Guys' Movie Night at Downtown at the Gardens. See Shea Brown for more details.

Friday, May 19

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



Sunday, April 23

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

Friday-Saturday, May 5-6

 Evangelism Training for Youth with J.D. Schwartz beginning Friday at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday at 9:30 a.m. Please sign up on the bulletin board to help with housing or to bring cookies and drinks.

Friday, May 12

• Sr. High & Young Adult Guys' Movie Night at Downtown at the Gardens. See Shea Brown for more details.

Saturday, May 13

• **Jr. High Family Picnic** at 10:30 a.m. at Royal Palm Beach Commons. Bring food and games. See Ivan, Amber or Sarah for more details.

Sunday, May 14

Youth & Family Singing after evening worship.

Equipping & Edifying Families

6 "Small" Things That Erode Marital Trust

by Adam Faughn



Trust is the taproot of marriage. A marriage that is thriving is one that is built upon godly commitment. While every husband and every wife will make mistakes, when those mistakes cause distrust to build, the marriage is slowly eroding.

Sadly, there are some who think they can keep from doing the "big" stuff that would break marital trust (have an affair, for example), but they fail to see the "small" things that are slowly eroding the trust in their marriage. Many even do some of these things intentionally, just to have their "own life" on the side. (Which, by the way, goes against the very fabric of marriage.)

What are some of these things? Here are 6 things that some may think are small, but that can be eroding the very taproot of your marital trust.

- 1. Withholding Information. I wanted to lead with this because it may be the most common, and most difficult to break. Each person in a relationship is going to be privy to information that could (literally) be difficult for the spouse. Often, we withhold that information, but we let that temptation grow. It becomes easier and easier to withhold what we think are minor details. All along, though, we are eroding open and full communication, which a marriage simply must have to thrive.
- **2. Pornography.** An affair is trust breaking, but pornography is trust eroding. When (not if) a struggle with pornography is discovered, a spouse's ability to trust will be thwarted. And it will not just be a struggle in the bedroom. The hidden life and covered tracks will be enough to show that communication has been broken at a deep level in the marriage.
- **3. Separate Finances.** While I do think each spouse should have some money he or she can just spend and enjoy, there is no way a marriage can be healthy is he has "his accounts and bills" and she has "her accounts and bills." As Dave Ramsey often states, "When you get married, you change pronouns." It is now "our" money and "our" bills. While you both may be honest, having separate accounts leaves the door open to distrust and a lack of communication about shared values and goals.
- **4. Wandering Eyes.** You may think, "Wait a minute. Didn't he already talk about pornography?" I did, but what about when you are walking through the mall or downtown and your eyes take in the figure of every member of the opposite sex that walks by? Too many (and, let's be honest, it's usually us men) think there's no harm in just looking, but a spouse will be harmed by wondering if you are doing more than just taking some "harmless" glance. And, by the way, don't be surprised when your eyes wander toward magazines, computer screens, and maybe beyond.
- **5. Private Online Presence.** Does your spouse know your Facebook password? What about your Twitter handle (every Twitter account)? Does he or she have open access to the people you have been chatting with? If not, why not? We can get so caught up on our cyber-world that we close out our spouse. Even if we are doing nothing harmful, there is a lack of trust there that is not just perceived. It is real.
- **6. "White" Lies.** This is the most obvious, but still needs to be said. Often, to "protect" our spouse, we make up a little lie, a cover-up, a small fib. When the truth comes out, we just treat it almost as funny, and yank out the excuse that we were just trying to protect them. Instead, we harm them, because they begin to wonder what "bigger" truths we have hidden or just changed.

Honest. Trusting. Open.

Those words need to describe every aspect of the life of a husband and wife. It may force us to be a bit vulnerable before a fellow human being, but he or she is the person you made the choice to be vulnerable before, and to trust with your whole life.

Don't erode that...not even in a small way. Instead, build it up every day.

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



Vivian Blackmer was baptized Sunday, March 26.

Adrienna Gadson was baptized Sunday, April 2.

Karen MacDonald was baptized Monday, April 10.



Congratulations to **Taylor & Natalie Reeves** upon the birth of **Merritt Landon**, Friday, April 7, weighing 7 lb. 5 oz. Mom and big brother, **Maddon**, are doing well. Congratulations also to the proud grandparents, **Bill & Gai Ingram**, and great-grandparents, **Bill & Inell Ingram**.



Sunday April 9

LOCAL VISITORS: Jim & Cindy Beard; Larry & Judy Beard; Mr. Jean Charles; Terry & Regina Crews; Mrs. Susan Crosswhite; Ms. Antwan Gamble; Ms. Vera Gamble Grimsley; Sylvia Goldie; Ms. Evangela Harper; Averie Jones; Ms. Tiffany McIntosh; Ms. Karen MacDonald; Dennis & Sharon Mann; Janise Paul; Mr. Henry Smith, III; Ms. Marie Strait; Ms. Machelle Williams & Macquas; and Mr. Elliott Zelenko.

OUT OF TOWN VISITORS: Walt Arthur, Nashville, TN; Mrs. Janna (Hopkins) Allen, Riverview, FL; Terry & Sherri Cheshier, Duncanville, TX; Richard & Jan Hamlen, Valdosta, GA; Mr. & Mrs. Robert & Leslie Higbee, Concord, NC; Mrs. Julie Jenkins, Katy, TX; Mr. Heath Johnson, Deerfield Beach, FL; Mrs. Sandy McElhaney, Macomb, MI; Chad & Gorgeous Morgan, Port St. Lucie, FL; James Morgan, Greenville, SC; Cami Norsworthy, Crofton, MD; Raymond Pedigo, Woodbury, TN; Ms. Darlene Smith, Valdosta, GA; and Matthew, Julie & Jonah Watson, Bartlesville, OK.



Monday (Apr. 17th)
Joseph Charles

<u>Tuesday (Apr. 18th)</u> Jerry & Shirley Hopkins (Ann.) Loni Fuller

Wednesday (Apr. 19th) Katie Wagner Friday (Apr. 21st) Kay Richardson

Saturday (Apr. 22nd)
Steward & Rowena Lynch (Ann.)
Jeremy Maloney
Amber Villard

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, April 16

Lead Singing	Jerry Hopkins
Opening Prayer	Jeff Goodale
Scripture Reading	Morris McDaniel
Presiding at Table	Rick Hall
Serve at Table:	
Henry Bass	Chuck Reeves, Sr.
Kane Campbell	Jim Rogers
Lance Collier	Micah Trujillo
Namdidie Ikon	Lawrence Williams
Alternates	
Jim Davis	Dirk Summerlot
Closing Prayer	Brent Leslie

Sunday Evening, April 16

Lead Singing Stephen Beliech			
Opening Prayer David Brown			
Scripture ReadingDavid Lord			
Presiding at TableGlen Dawson			
Tom Dolan			
Gary Seames			
Leonard Williams			
Closing Prayer Chuck Clark			
Wednesday Evening, April 19			
Lead SingingJohn Loftis			
Invitation Richard Lerro			
Family PrayerVictor Colage			

Our Record

Attendance	<u>Apr. 9</u>	Mar. Avg.
Sun. Bible Study	225	248
Sun. A.M. Worshi	р 365	373
Sun. P.M. Worshi	p 158	198
Wed. Bible Study	176	204
Contribution \$	15,119	\$16,290

2017 Weekly Budget: \$15,065

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: +4,359

Ushers for the week of April 16: Head Usher: Novel Brown; Tim Fry & Simon Tyson



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 Class

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: Labeling House to House/Heart to Heart (tons of fun!)

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

The Bible says...

1. Believe that Jesus is the Son of God

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).

2. Repent of your sinful ways

"Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19).

3. Confess your faith in Jesus

"If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus...you will be saved" (Rom. 10:9).

4. Be immersed in water

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved" (Mark 16:16).

5. Commit to a lifetime of faithful service

"Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Rev. 2:10).



Phil Sanders, who has spoken numer ous 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.