

Pastors

Johnny Davis 307-4232
 Dan Fuller 478-3755
 Joe Holland 626-2809
 *Jerry Hopkins 434-4188
 Phil Porter 575-4782
 Richard Watson 694-0444

**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 719-1490
 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

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Vol. LVI

December 17, 2017

No. 51

Welcome New Members



Goodale, Katie

Group 4

Baptized June 11



Swayne, Jonathan

Group 4

Baptized June 27

Fortifying *Your* Faith



**A One-Year Study
of Foundational,
Biblical Truths**

*Increasing knowledge
Strengthening faith
Preparing to defend
Equipping to serve*

Final Class:

December 17 at 5:00 p.m.



By Dan Jenkins

Sheep Without a Shepherd

By and large, Americans know so little about sheep, yet the Bible is filled with references to shepherds and their flocks. My nearly ten years of living in New Zealand allowed me to be around them. When I went to New Zealand, there were three million people living in that beautiful land and there were eighty million sheep!

I remember driving to conduct a Bible study at a residence on one of the large sheep farms (in New Zealand they were called sheep stations), and found the road blocked by a vast flock of sheep. Some of the stations in New Zealand had flocks that had over 15,000 sheep on them. There were not this many on the one where we were headed to teach the gospel, but it did not take us long to discover how “dumb” sheep are. There was no leader among them as we attempted to drive through them, so they aimlessly meandered around but never moved off the road to give us a path. Sheep will follow a shepherd and his dogs, but they are hopeless without a leader.

In Mark chapter six, Jesus saw a similar disarray, but it was not with sheep. “And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So He

began to teach them many things” (Mark 6:34). Neither sheep nor people do well without a shepherd. They are hopelessly lost without someone to guide them.

There were shepherds in the Old Testament who needed to care for God’s flock (Israel). The problem was that they received the honor of being shepherds, but they never actually did the work of a shepherd. “You eat the fat and clothe yourselves with wool, you slaughter the fatlings, but you do not feed the flock. The weak you have not strengthened nor have you healed those who were sick, nor bound up the broken, nor brought back what was driven away, nor sought when was lost, but with force and cruelty you have ruled them, so they were scattered because there was no shepherd” (Ezek. 34:2-4). God looked down and saw exactly what Jesus saw in Mark six. His sheep, His people were scattered because there were no shepherds

What better illustration could there be about the importance of the work of elders in the church today? What a joy it is to see shepherds in our day who truly care for the sheep. They not only care for the ninety-nine sheep who are doing well, but they especially focus their attention on that one sheep who has wandered away. Without shepherds, Christians struggle, for we need godly men to lead us. Thank God for those men who have hearts of compassion for those of us who are part of His flock!

Without shepherds, Christians struggle, for we all need godly men to lead us



By David Sproule

“Dear Friend, I Found Truth”

Friend, I found something that has made my life so much better, and it has given me such reassurance as I try to navigate through the course of this life. I am excited to share with you that I have found truth.

I know that may sound strange. Everyone seems to look at the idea of “truth” differently. But the truth that I have discovered is found definitively in the Bible, and it is unlike anything else you have ever known. Let me share it with you.

First, I found absolute truth. Since the Bible is from God (2 Tim. 3:16), it stands on its own. God’s truth is “settled” or “firmly fixed” in heaven “forever” (Psa. 119:89). Without needing any human corroboration, God’s Word is truth (John 17:17).

Second, I found objective truth. Because of its divine origin, the truth of God’s Word has not been and is not now influenced by personal feelings, opinions prejudice or beliefs. The Bible is truth regardless of anyone’s “private” thoughts, wishes or convictions (2 Pet. 1:20-21).

Third, I found universal truth. It is not limited to a certain segment of society, but God’s truth has been directed toward and has application for every person ever living on earth (Mark 16:15), for it will be the universal, objective standard that will judge all mankind at the end of time (John 12:48).

This is not just “some truth” or “a truth” (among many other options)!

Fourth, I found enduring truth. God’s truth is not going anywhere. It is not only going to be in existence forever, but it is always going to be truth (1 Pet. 1:22-25; Matt. 24:35).

Fifth, I found unchanging truth. God has “once for all delivered” His truth (Jude 3), meaning it cannot and will not be added to, taken from or modified by anyone (Rev. 22:18-19).

Sixth, I found comprehensive truth. In His Word, God has “given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness” (2 Pet. 1:3). The Bible has all of the answers all in one place (2 Tim. 3:17).

Sixth, I found understandable truth. It is not hidden or mysterious, but God has given man the ability to “know” and to “understand” His truth as revealed in His word (John 8:32; Eph. 3:4; 5:17).

Seventh, I found powerful truth. God’s truth changes lives! This is not some meaningless or inconsequential matter! God’s Word has the power to transform the way one lives on this earth and prepare him for an eternal dwelling with God in heaven (2 Cor. 3:18; 4:16-18; Rom. 1:16).

You are important to me, and I wanted to share what I have found with you. This is not just “some truth” or “a truth” (among many other options), but it is “the truth” of God revealed in His Word! Truly, I can tell you, living with and by God’s truth makes life so much better and so much simpler!

(continued next week)



By Josh Blackmer

You Shouldn't Have Said That

There are some things you've said that you wish you could take back. What if you said them and they were recorded in the Bible? For thousands of years, you would be remembered as the person who said that. Let's look at some things that shouldn't have been said and the implications.

Adam was the first man. Like all other men, he was the first to say something he shouldn't. Adam and Eve had a great gig. The only "Thou shalt not" was to not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. So, they did just that. When God began to question them, Adam said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate" (Gen. 3:12). The first person ever thrown under the bus was Eve. They both were given punishment for the transgression (Gen. 3:16-19). However, it was Adam that was called out as the transgressor (Rom. 5:12-15). He could have made a difference, but he blamed others.

Shechem was a prince among the Hivites in Canaan. While Jacob and his family were camped among the Hivites, Shechem sexually assaulted Dinah, the daughter of Jacob (Gen. 34:1-2). Dinah's brothers heard about it when Shechem's father offered a dowry for Dinah. The brothers agreed only if all the men of the city were circumcised. To which Shechem said,

Some men will make mistakes and grievous errors.

"Only let us consent to them" (Gen. 34:23). However, on the third day, the Bible says that while the men of the city were in pain two brothers came into town and killed all the adult males and took the rest of the people and all their goods. Never enter into an agreement with angry brothers and never try to buy your way out.

A few years later, Aaron was at the base of Mt. Sinai. It had been a while, and Moses had not come back down. So, the people came to Aaron and asked him to make them a god (Ex. 32:1). Aaron asked for their golden earring and fashioned a golden calf for them. Moses came down the mountain and asked what was happening, and Aaron said, "I said to them, 'Whoever has any gold, let them tear it off.' So they gave it to me, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf" (Ex. 32:24). "It was an accident" or "It just happened" are not good choices. "Forgive me for I have sinned," would be a better approach.

What is the lesson here today? All of these men were leaders. They had the opportunity to do the right thing, but in the moment, they chose to do evil. When they were found out, they blamed others, tried to buy their way out or made excuses. Some men in leadership positions will make mistakes and grievous errors. Even leaders need people to say, "Thou art the man!" and bring sin to light for reconciliation.

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

Where does Oscar live on Sesame Street?

Oh wait! I didn't give you his full name yet! His full name has everything to do with where he lives. You know his name, right? He's Oscar the Grouch. And you know where he lives—in a trash can! How apropos for a Grouch to live in a trash can! Why is he named "the Grouch"? According to muppet.wikia.com (yes, that's real), "Like all Grouches, Oscar's mission in life is to be as miserable and grouchy as possible, and pass that feeling on to everyone else."

Where do you "live"? I don't mean a house or an apartment, and I don't mean your address. Oscar the Grouch lives in a trash can because that fits his disposition. So, where do you live? Are there people around you who would say that you, too, live in a trash can? Could someone deduce from your attitude and behavior that your "mission in life is to be as miserable and grouchy as possible, and pass that feeling on to everyone else"?

Where would Jesus have you live? Friend, let's get out of the grouch can (Phil. 2:5+14)! – DS



Sent out

People in the first century were no different than people are in the twenty-first century. Everyone needs the Lord! When Jesus saw the multitudes of people "weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd," He was "moved with compassion for them" (Matt. 9:36). He told His disciples that people everywhere needed the Great Shepherd, and then He told them to pray. Pay attention to this.

"Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to **send out** laborers into His harvest" (9:38). Now, notice what happened five verses later—"These twelve Jesus **sent out**..." (10:5). They were to pray for God to **send out** His workers to those who were lost, and then Jesus turned around and **sent out** His workers "to the lost" (10:5-6). This was an answer to their prayer!

And so it is today. We need to pray that God will **send out** laborers, and then we need to be the answer that prayer ourselves, realizing that we ourselves have been **sent out!** – DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Mike Archer	back in Palms West Hospital
Adrienne Banks	having heart complications, undergoing testing
Mary Brown	recovering at home, slowly improving
Jimmy Burney	diagnosed with lung cancer
Linda Coe	infection in her leg
Terry Denton	heart catheterization on Dec. 15
Gary Friedly	recovering from an outpatient procedure
Zula Garrett	at home and doing some better
Joe Holland	Gardens Medical Center, very weak (no visitors)
Lynne Jorgensen	dealing with severe knee pain
Tom Martens	undergoing therapy at home
Don Matter	now at home
Silas Moses	Rehab Center of the Palm Beaches (room 304)
Connye Plouffe	having a back procedure on Dec. 18
Angie Seames	recovering from neck surgery
Giselle Smith	recovering from eye surgery
Julie Trujillo	diagnosed with Bell's Palsy, in a lot of pain
Nelson Watts	not doing well

Long-Term Health Issues

Lillian Bankston	dialysis treatments
Silas Moses	dialysis treatments
Charles Norton	dialysis treatments
Norm Smedley	breathing problems
Patricia Ventress	dialysis 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	Harriet Morris
Margie Hardin	Godfrey Pratt
Janet Hickerson	Leigh Puckett
Loretta Holaday	Ricky Smedley

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Loretta Daniels	Melinda Price's mother, congestive heart failure
Ke'niya Ealey	Adrienne Banks' granddaughter, NICU in Holtz Hosp.
Evelyn Ellis	Mike Ellis' mother, La Posada, recovering from surgery
Carolyn Miller	Marcia Clough-Moss' mother-in-law, breast cancer
Yvonne Palmer	Teresa Williams' sister, having eye surgery again
Twyla Wright	Trina Wright's mother, now at home, still very weak





Church Family Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 17

- ♦ **2-Week Mini-Session Classes Begin.** Age 3-Grade 5 meet in the Sr. High Room. Jr. High, Sr. High and all adults meet in the Auditorium.
- ♦ **"Fortifying Your Faith" Class** at 5:00 p.m. This is the final class.
- ♦ **Youth & Family Singing** after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

Monday, December 18

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

Tuesday, December 19

- ♦ **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Dan & Judie Jenkins. Bring finger foods to share.

Sunday, December 24

- ♦ **"Evening" Worship** will be at 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 31

- ♦ **New Bible Classes Begin** at 9:00 a.m. for children in "Stepping into the Bible."
- ♦ **Plans for 2018 Presented** during morning worship.
- ♦ **Evening Worship** will be at 7:30 p.m.
- ♦ **New Year's Eve Gathering** after evening worship.

Sunday, January 7

- ♦ **New Bible Classes Begin** at 9:00 a.m. for Jr. High, Sr. High and adults.
- ♦ **Renova/North Lake Nursing Home Visit** at 2:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 9

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

Sunday, January 14

- ♦ **PBL Family Photos Updated.** If you've never had your photo taken in the Family Room, if your photo needs to be updated, or if you have been personally contacted, please have your photo taken **after morning services or before evening services** by Mike Erickson in the Family Room.

Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ Young Adults

Saturday, January 6

- ♦ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. Location TBD.

Tuesday, January 9

- ♦ **Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night** at 6:30 p.m. See Rachel Fuller for details.

Friday, January 12

- ♦ **Sr. High & Young Adult Ladies' Hangout** at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Rachel Fuller. Bring snacks, drinks and your Bible. See Rachel, Julie or Brittany for details.

Friday, January 19

- ♦ **Young Adult Hangout** at 7:00 p.m. Location TBD. See Ivan Villard for details.

Saturday, February 3

- ♦ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. Location TBD.

Tuesday, February 6

- ♦ **Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night** at 6:30 p.m. See Rachel Fuller for details.



Palm Beach Lakes Youth

Sunday, December 17

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

Sunday, December 31

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

Friday, January 12

- ♦ **Sr. High & Young Adult Ladies' Hangout** at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Rachel Fuller. Bring snacks, drinks and your Bible. See Rachel, Julie or Brittany for details.

Sunday, January 14

- ♦ **Sr. High Beach Devo & Ice Cream** after evening worship. See Josh Blackmer for details.

Sunday, January 28

- ♦ **Jr. High & Sr. High Combined Devo** after evening worship. See Josh Blackmer or Ivan Villard for details.

PALM BEACH LAKES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Men's Worship Service Assignments - January, 2018

January 7

January 14

January 21

January 28

Morning Worship Service					
Song Leader	Bobbo Lupo	Jerry Hopkins	Gary Friedly	Bobbo Lupo	
Opening Prayer	Jimmie Bamks	Gary Jenkins	Nate Nelson	Chris Thompson	
Scripture Reading	John Loftis	Morris McDaniel	Taylor Reeves	Kevin Weeks	
Presiding at Table	Ken Tipton	Johnny Davis	Ivan Villard, Jr.	Dan McLeod	
Serving at Table:	Andy Anderson	Jordan Beasley	Henry Bass	Josue Charles	
	Harrison Crotts	David Brown	Greg Bland	Chuck Clark	
	Andy Fernandez	Mike Erickson	Rick Hall	Mike Damron	
	Ed Gager	Errol Gower-Winter	Bill Ingram, Jr.	Glen Dawson	
	Carmen Ruckman	Ken Long	Wallace Jones	Eddie Gooden	
	Scott Studer	Micah Trujillo	Orlando Lolo	Charlie Hayes	
	Nahum Villard	Simon Tyson	Vincent Rogers	Tyrone Toson	
	Marty Williams	Lawrence Williams	Austin Williams	Clayton Trujillo	
Closing Prayer	Bob Higbee	Tim Cox	Kane Campbell	Tom Martens	

Evening Worship Service					
Song Leader	Jerry Pittman	John Loftis	Dan McLeod	Ken Tipton	
Opening Prayer	Deltom Lequernaque	Freddie Gadson	Heath Johnson	Jim Rogers	
Scripture Reading	Joe Maloney	Richard Watson	Richard Lerro	Gary Seames	
Presiding at Table	David Lord	Victor Colage	David Thorpe	Jerry Pittman	
Serving at Table:	Josiah Blackmer	Lance Collier	Tim Mahlbacher	Dick Kelley	
	Jeremy Maloney	Ted Friesner	Daniel Swayne	Nick Pietro	
	Chuck Reeves, Sr.	Leonard Williams	Mike Trujillo	Shaun Tyson	
Closing Prayer	Stephen Beliech	Dirk Summerlot	Cam Crotts	Eugene Williams	

Alternates:					
	Jim Davis	Brent Leslie	Tim Fry	Novel Brown	
	Gary Friedly	Darin Summerlot	Paul Metzkes	Jeff Goodale	

Technical Assignments					
Morning:	Computer	TBD	Nate Nelson	Bob Higbee	Ivan Villard, Jr.
	Audio	Buzz Nelson	Kirk Crews	John Loftis	David Brown
	Video	Cam Crotts	Dan McLeod	Scott Studer	Darin Summerlot
Evening:	Computer	David Sproule	Nate Nelson	Bob Higbee	Ivan Villard, Jr.
	Audio	Buzz Nelson	Kirk Crews	John Loftis	David Brown
	Video	Cam Crotts	Dan McLeod	Scott Studer	Darin Summerlot

Ushers - Morning & Evening Services (Sunday & Wednesday)					
	Jan. 7 & 10	Jan. 14 & 17	Jan. 21 & 24	Jan. 28 & 31	
Head Usher	L.H. Richardson →				
	Doug Carrick	Gorman Ericksen	Bobby Ingraham	Kirk Crews	
	Brett Lau	Namdidie Ikon	Jeff Leslie	Chuck Reeves, Sr.	

- Sunday Morning - Meet in classroom (Grade 7-8) at 9:45 A.M.
- Sunday Evening - Meet at front of auditorium before 5:50 P.M.
- Scripture Reader - Announce the pew Bible page number and read from the New King James translation.
- Please consider this opportunity to serve as special and dress accordingly.
- Please call 775-3533 (Mike Ellis), if you can not serve at the time indicated.

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



Directory Changes

Cornelius Brown was restored Sunday, December 10.

Lynn & Cynthia Parker are completing their move to Philadelphia on December 17.

Alex Romigh placed membership at the Stuart congregation.



Sunday
December 10

LOCAL VISITORS: Ms. Gail Archer; Donna Bleau; Taylor & Shantay Caster; Mr. Jean Charles; Mrs. Susan Crosswhite; Richard Gathright; Miss Jamie Granino; Dylan, Lauren & Megan Griffiths; Mrs. Maxine Griggs; Ms. Evangela Harper; Ms. Lynne Karilla; Mr. & Mrs. Rich & Nancy Light; Louis, & Shaqanna Louis-saint; Mr. & Mrs. Dennis & Sharon Mann; Ms. Pat Patterson; Miss Janise Paul; Mrs. Alexis Rosemene; Mr. Anthony Spinoga; Michael Staley; and Ms. Shartia Thomas.

OUT OF TOWN VISITORS: Mr. & Mrs. Chet & Brenda Brown, Elko New Market, MN; Ms. Marcia Farrar, Palm City, FL; Terry Mann, Belle Glade, FL; Chad Morgan, Port St. Lucie, FL; Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Quinia Morning, Port St. Lucie, FL; Mr. Aaron Ross, Jr., Nassau, Bahamas; and Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Watson and Jonah, Winter Garden, FL.



Monday (December 18th)
Ted & Karen Friesner (Ann.)
Rick & Melinda Price (Ann.)

Wednesday (Dec 20th)
Eugene Williams

Tuesday (December 19th)
Victor & Sandy Colage (Ann.)
Mary Quinn
Angie Seames
Brittany Thompson

Thursday (December 21st)
Casey Bound

Saturday (December 23rd)
Sam & Peggy Simpkins (Ann.)
Kinney Dozier
David Lord

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 17

Lead Singing Jerry Hopkins
Opening Prayer Joe Maloney
Scripture Reading Gary Friedly
Presiding at Table Gary Jenkins
Serve at Table:
Jordan Beasley Kenneth Long
Tim Cox Nate Nelson
Edward Gager Shaun Tyson
Brett Lau Lawrence Williams
Alternates:
David Brown Victor Colage
Closing Prayer Johnny Davis

Sunday Evening, December 17

Lead Singing Dan McLeod
Opening Prayer Josh Blackmer
Scripture Reading Micah Trujillo
Presiding at Table Kirk Crews
Jim Davis
Charles Hayes
Leonard Williams
Closing Prayer Darin Summerlot
Wednesday Evening, December 20
Lead Singing Jimmie Banks
Invitation Willie Smith
Family Prayer Nate Nelson

Our Record

Attendance	<u>Dec. 10</u>	<u>Nov. Avg.</u>
Sun. Bible Study	247	268
Sun. A.M. Worship	360	376
Sun. P.M. Worship	184	163
Wed. Bible Study	158	162
Contribution	\$12,802	\$13,564

2017 Weekly Budget: \$15,065

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: -40,909

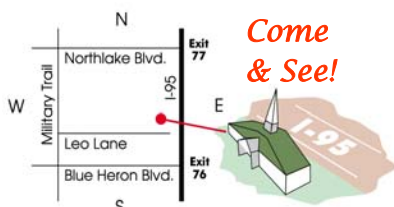
Ushers for week of **Dec. 17**: Head Usher: F. Gadson-N Brown; Jerry Pittman & Daniel Swayne



PALM BEACH LAKES CHURCH OF CHRIST

4067 Leo Lane
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
www.pblcoc.org

*Speaking
where
the
Bible
speaks,
silent where the Bible is silent.*



*Come
& See!*

Palm Beach Lakes Church of Christ Bulletin (USPS 097-200)

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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: **Samantha Eutsey & Amberdenise Puckett**

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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).