

Elders

- Johnny Davis 307-4232
- Dan Fuller..... 478-3755
- *Jerry Hopkins 434-4188
- Phil Porter 575-4782
- Richard Watson..... 307-2608
- *Chairman for the Month of January*

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
- Kirk Crews 339-9283
- Cam Crotts 214-3114
- Mike Erickson..... 310-9916
- Tim Fry 373-9121
- Jeff Goodale 261-1188
- Rick Hall 622-5131
- Bob Higbee..... 303-386-6405
- Bill Ingram, Jr. 772-341-5463
- Gary Jenkins 889-3585
- Dick Kelley..... 968-1799
- Jeff Leslie..... 744-3444
- Paul Metzkes..... 736-9086
- Buzz Nelson..... 627-4890
- Nate Nelson 801-9456
- Jerry Pittman..... 793-2725
- Lawrence Richardson..... 772-336-4989
- Shaun Tyson..... 615-513-2045
- Ivan Villard 422-5041
- Kevin Weeks..... 386-4108

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- E-mail office@pblcoc.org



Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ

Vol. LVIV

January 5, 2020

No. 1

**Every Member Present
Sunday**

January 5

*Let's begin
the new year
together!*



By Dan Jenkins

An Eternal Crown

The football season is about to end. High school state champions for various size schools have been recognized. The colleges have crowned division champions and conference champions. This year there were 40 winners in the bowl games. Next week the national collegiate team will receive its trophy. Then, next month there will be the Super Bowl trophy.

The awarding of trophies and crowns is not a recent practice. The victors in the ancient Olympic-like contests were awarded a wreath, a garland of leaves (the Greek word is *stephanos*). They used another word (*diadema*) to describe crowns of gold worn by rulers. This word is found only in Revelation. It was first worn by the dragon and beast, then by the victorious King of kings who triumphs over all evil rulers and wears many crowns (Rev. 12:3; 13:1; 19:12).

It is remarkable how often our life and its eternal rewards are described using the garland crowns of ancient times. It is ironic (or is it providential) that the same concept is still found in sports around the world in the 21st century. The garland trophy given to us is so different from the ancient ones.

That crown given to the ancients is described as a perishable one. "Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown" (1 Cor. 9:25). Those crowns

made of woven olive branches would soon dry out and become brittle. Ours is so different. It is eternal. Paul continues by describing how he ran to become victorious.

The Bible mentions at least four aspects of our eternal crown. It is so different from all other crowns.

What is our crown made of? That dragon and that beast may have a golden diadem made by a man, but our garland crown is made by God. "Be faithful until death and I will give you a crown of life" (Rev. 2:10). Our crown is eternal, it is a garland crown of eternal life.

It is a crown of righteousness (2 Tim. 4:8). Paul came to the end of his life. He had finished the race and approached the finish line. He had overcome the power of sin and Satan, and God declares him righteous. His life's choices were vindicated. Our righteous God awards a righteous crown.

It is a crown of glory. "When the Chief Shepherd appears, then you will receive the crown of glory which does not fade away" (1 Pet. 5:4). Our glorious God will reward us with His glory. What an amazing crown.

Finally, we are not given a crown, but we become a crown. Isaiah described us when he said, "You shall be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord" (Isa. 62:30). We honor Him by faithful service, and He honors us by making us His crown!

There are four aspects of our eternal crown. They are so different.



By David Sproule

My God Is Holy, Holy, Holy

When the prophet Isaiah had the privilege of peering into the heavenly realm of the Almighty God and to see Him sitting on His throne and to see the activity of the heavenly beings around Him, the prophet was overwhelmed with awe at what he saw and heard. The cry of those in the presence of Jehovah penetrated the ears and the heart, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!" (Isa. 6:3). Isaiah's immediate and instinctive response was to yield to the Lord, "Use me!" What an experience! What a heart!

The apostle John apparently saw the same awe-inspiring scene and heard the same glorious praise. The ceaseless cry of those in the presence of Jehovah penetrates the ears and the heart, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!" (Rev. 4:8). What an experience that must have been!

In both the Old Testament and the New Testament, we find only one quality of God in triplicate: His holiness. He is almighty and gracious and loving and faithful. But none of these characteristics are shouted in triplicate around His throne. His holiness is His defining quality—identifying both who and what He is. It is that quality, above all others, that ought to impact and shape my life in striving to serve Him.

There are certain things that my holy God calls upon me TO DO. He tells me to submit to Him (Jas. 4:7), to yield my will to His will (Jas. 4:15), to seek His church first in my life (Matt. 6:33), to worship Him every week (Heb. 10:25; 1 Cor. 16:1-2; 11:17-34), to put others ahead of myself (Phil. 2:3-4), to serve my brethren (Gal. 5:13), to honor my elders (Heb. 13:17), to seek the lost (Luke 19:10), to teach others the gospel of Christ (Mark 16:15), etc. There are a number of reasons for me to do these things, but perhaps above all others is that my God is holy, holy, holy! If I want to be like Him and honor Him, then I must also be holy in all of my conduct (1 Pet. 1:15). That impacts my thoughts, my choices, my words, my actions—my whole life.

Likewise, there are certain things that my holy God calls upon me NOT TO DO. He tells me to abstain from fleshly lusts (1 Pet. 2:11), sexual immorality (1 Thess. 4:3), alcoholic beverage (Eph. 5:18; 1 Pet. 4:3), filthy language (Col. 3:8), covetousness (Heb. 13:5), anger (Col. 3:8), hatred (Gal. 5:20), yes, every form of evil in general (1 Thess. 5:22). I will be eager to refrain from these things because my God is holy, holy, holy, and I want to (1) please Him and (2) be like Him. Striving to be holy, like Him, impacts my thoughts, my choices, my words, my actions—my whole life.

May my instinctive response to God's holiness be like Isaiah—a yielding heart that says, "Here am I, Lord. Use me!"

That impacts my thoughts, my choices, my words, my actions



By Josh Blackmer

Are Your Words Healthy?

You might be one of them, one of the many that take the opportunity of a new year to evaluate their health. This is not a bad idea but consider another point. How is your teaching? Specifically, what you teach. Is it healthy?

We have all heard or read about “sound doctrine.” The word *hugaino*, translated “sound,” literally means healthy in the New Testament. It is used today in a similar way when referring to those of sound mind. What we teach needs to be examined in light of some key passages.

Paul wrote to Titus with this imperative, “But as for you, speak the things which are fitting for sound doctrine” (Tit. 2:1). This is something we should consider. The words we speak concerning the truths of the Bible should be healthy. We should be careful not to propagate or promote untruths. It is easy to hear, read or post things that sound good but upon further inspection are not true. This is so important that it is among the qualifications of elders listed in Titus: “For the overseer must be above reproach as God’s steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain, but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled, holding fast the faithful word which is in accord-

ance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict” (1:7-9).

To Timothy Paul wrote, “If anyone advocates a different doctrine and does not agree with sound words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the doctrine conforming to godliness, he is conceited and understands nothing; but he has a morbid interest in controversial questions and disputes about words, out of which arise envy, strife, abusive language, evil suspicions, and constant friction between men of depraved mind and deprived of the truth, who suppose that godliness is a means of gain” (1 Tim. 6:3-5). When someone is purposefully not holding to healthy teaching, they are labeled as “conceited.” It is easy to see the opposite of healthy teaching in this passage.

Lastly, in his second letter to Timothy: “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths” (4:3-4). Sometimes it doesn’t matter what we say or teach. People will only hear what they want to hear. There are people who are looking for the truth. Sadly, there are more people who are looking for teaching based on their own desires. We should speak and teach truth, healthy doctrine.

We should speak and teach truth, healthy doctrine.

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

What kind of friend are you?

Sometimes in friendships, there is “the giver” and “the taker.” “The giver” is the one who goes out of her way to check on her friend, to be there when times are tough, to be available at a moment’s notice, to lend a listening and sympathetic ear, to help whenever and whatever the need might be, etc. “The taker,” on the other hand, is the one who is “always” taking advantage and asking for help, expecting a willing hand, venting personal grievances, focusing on inequities, complaining about the slightest slights, keeping a ledger of who has done more in the friendship, controlling most of the interaction that takes place in the friendship, etc.

So, what kind of friend are you? Jesus was a friend who cared (Matt. 9:36). Jesus was a friend who listened (Mark 5:33-36). Jesus was a friend who served His friends without being asked (John 13:1-17). Jesus was a friend who graciously handled interruptions (Mark 1:35-37) and disappointments in His friends (Luke 9:38-41). As a friend, Jesus was a “giver.” Are you? – DS



Is it wrong to *suneudokeo* evil, even if I don’t do it?

Was it right of the Jewish leaders in Jesus’ day to “approve” (Greek: *suneudokeo*) of their forefathers killing God’s prophets (Luke 11:47-48)? Of course not! Was it right of Saul of Tarsus to “consent” (Greek: *suneudokeo*) to the murder of Stephen (Acts 8:1; 22:20)? Of course not!



That same Greek word is found in Romans 1:32, after a long listing of “unrighteous” deeds. The text states that “those who practice such are worthy of death,” but they are not the only guilty ones in this text. The “righteous judgment of God” is also directed against those who “approve of those who practice” the evil deeds. The word “approve” is from the Greek compound word *sun* (“with”), *eu* (“well”), *dokeo* (“to think”). Thus, it literally means, “to think well with.”

Read Romans 1. Do you “think well with,” agree with or approve of any of the unrighteousness detailed in verses 18-32 (including the practice of homosexuality)? God’s judgment is just as real against those who “approve” as it is against those who “practice.” Give that some thought. – DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Adrienne Banks	recovering at home from hospitalization, doing better
Skye Brown	recovering from surgery on broken arm
Victor Colage	four crushed vertebrae in his lower back
Betty Davis	back at home and slowly improving
Maria Hackshaw	recovering from a procedure
Joe Holland	now home from the hospital
Shirley Hopkins	at home and slowly improving
Sandy Mann	recovering from elbow surgery
Winifred Patterson	having cataract surgeries on January 7 and 14
Connie Plouffe	undergoing rehab on her leg
Mary Reeves	having major surgery on her back and neck on Jan. 6
Sue Shelt	still being treated for bacterial meningitis
Linda Studer	doing a little better, still having chemo every 3 weeks
Henry Williams	recovering from an outpatient procedure

Long-Term Health Issues

Lillian Bankston dialysis treatments

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames	Joe Holland
Karen Bibbee	Daniel Johnson
Hattie Daniels	Don & Betty Matter
Sandra Daniels	Deidra Miley
Josie Dawson	Harriet Morris
Annie Faison	Leigh Puckett
Dianne Frye	Les Sawyer
Margie Hardin	Ricky Smedley
Loretta Holaday	Patricia Ventress



Aaron Ross, upon the passing of his brother, Jerome Sanders, on Monday, December 23.

Jerry Pittman, upon the passing of his brother, Pat Pittman, on Friday, December 27.

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Margaret Brown	David Brown's mother, now under Hospice Care
Ron Fernander	Turkessa Staley's father, Lakeside Health Center
Janie Floren	Josie Dawson's sister, chemo treatments for breast cancer
Farrell Thoni	Josie Dawson's brother, in a coma after massive stroke

Remember Our Mission Works

Pacific Islands
Robert & Mary Martin
Wayne & Kristi Parker
Joey & Tammy Treat

Africa
Tamuka Arunashe
Nnanna Aforji

Montgomery, Alabama
Apologetics Press

Coral Springs, Florida
Mauricio Yegros

Bahamas
Tavaro & Shameika Hanna



Church Family Calendar of Events

Sunday, January 5

- ◆ **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!
- ◆ **North Lake Nursing Home Visit** at 2:30 p.m.
- ◆ **Meeting for All PBL Men** at 5:00 p.m.
- ◆ **House-to-House/Heart-to-Heart Labeling** after evening worship in the Family Room. Everyone is encouraged to stay and help out.

Saturday, January 11

- ◆ **Family Group 4 Meeting** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Tim & Beth Fry.

Sunday, January 12

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

Saturday, January 18

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

Tuesday, January 21

- ◆ **Family Groups 1 & 2 Meeting** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of David & Skye Brown.

Sunday, January 26

- ◆ **Mission Sunday.** Every dollar given will be used for mission work. *Be preparing for it! Be praying about it!*
- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **EDP Meeting** at 4:30 p.m. in the Family Room.

Saturday, February 1

- ◆ **Ladies' Day hosted by Sebring Parkway** from 9:00 a.m. until noon. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. with brunch following the lesson. Saundra Morgan will be speaking on "Let Your Light Shine." RSVP by January 25.

Sunday, February 2

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

Friday-Sunday, February 7-9

- ◆ **Mother/Daughter Retreat at CFBC.** This year's theme is "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus." Cost is \$40.

Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ
Young Adults

Friday, January 10

- ◆ **Sr. High & YA Ladies' Hangout** at 7:00 p.m. Bring snacks, drinks and your Bible. See Michelle Franck for more details.

Tuesday, January 14

- ◆ **Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Hollie Crofts.

Sunday, January 26

- ◆ **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.

Saturday, February 1

- ◆ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. See Ivan Villard for details.

Tuesday, February 4

- ◆ **Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Cindy Nelson.



Palm Beach Lakes
Youth

Friday, January 10

- ◆ **Sr. High & YA Ladies' Hangout** at 7:00 p.m. Bring snacks, drinks and your Bible. See Michelle Franck for more details.

Sunday, January 12

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

Friday-Monday, January 17-20

- ◆ **Winter Camp at CFBC.** Cost is \$60 per person. Register online at www.cfbiblecamp.org.

Sunday, January 19

- ◆ **Jr. High & Sr. High Family Devo** after evening worship at the home of Lawrence & Julie Williams. Bring snacks and drinks. See Josh Blackmer or Ivan Villard for details.

Sunday, January 26

- ◆ **2-Week Mini-Session Classes Begin.** Age 3-Grade 5 meet in the Sr. High Room.

A Christian New Year All Year Long!

by Mark N. Posey



Resolutions are typical this time of year. Most of us will make a resolution, promising to make changes in our lives for the better. Therefore, commitment, dedication and determination are in full swing and great abundance. Losing weight, exercising more, better financial stability and enjoying life rank high on most lists. However, as February rolls around, fires cool and steam fizzes, but it should not, especially for Christians. Resolute and resilient Christians should blaze the trail in the land called “Promises Kept,” but in what areas? In what ways will this year be any different than the previous?

1. **This year I will lose the weight of sin.** I will lay aside every weighty transgression, encumbrance and distraction, and run with perseverance the Christian race (Hebrews 12:1-2). I will **not** run a competitive race, but a cooperative one. I am running with, not against, my brethren.
2. **This year I will exercise greater discernment between good and evil.** I will repetitiously and habitually train my spiritual senses to discern good from evil (Hebrews 5:14). In doing so, my ability to teach God’s Word will dramatically increase; I will go from being a student to being a teacher.
3. **This year I will save the souls of my friends and family.** Jesus is the only Savior; so, I will live like Him, love like Him and labor like Him in bringing my loved ones to His precious and redeeming blood (1 Peter 1:19).
4. **This year I will improve my spiritual health.** I will consume large quantities of spiritual meat (Hebrews 5:13-14). My hunger and thirst for righteousness (Matthew 5:6) will help me grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ (1 Peter 2:2; 2 Peter 3:18). I will be faithful and fit for the Lord!
5. **This year I will better organize my thoughts, words and deeds.** I will clean out all the evil from my heart, mind and soul, replacing it with virtuous and praiseworthy thoughts, words and deeds (Colossians 3:5-17; Philippians 4:8).
6. **This year I will enjoy my spiritual life more.** I will rejoice in “newness of life” (Romans 6:4), repentance of sin (2 Corinthians 7:9, 10), “joy of faith” (Philippians 1:25), “the Lord” (Philippians 4:4) and difficulties that strengthen my faith (James 1:2-4). I will realize more than I have in the past that lasting joy comes from a Christ-like mind (Philippians 2:5), faith-filled heart (Philippians 1:3-11), soul-centered hope (Hebrews 6:19; 1 Peter 3:15) and love-motivated life (Matthew 22:37-39).
7. **This year I will quit making excuses and always abound in the Lord’s work.** I will conduct myself as an effective and faithful worker for the Lord (Ephesians 2:10). I will refuse the notion that my efforts for Him are empty and worthless (1 Corinthians 15:58b). I will work, not to gain salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5), but to display it (James 2:18).

Resolutions are only as good as the ability and dedication of the promise maker to reach their goal. Therefore, my work is clear and ordered! I must determine to be unwavering, grounded and unmovable in my commitment to reach spiritual goals. **This year is for the Lord!**

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

Members Traveling
this week



Thank You
for worshiping with us

Sunday,
December 29

LOCAL VISITORS: Tunde Akingbade; Terrence Breaux; Johnny Mark Davis; Lamar Donaldson; Rose Espindola; Kenisha Geathers; Sylvia Goldie; Jamie Granino; Hazel Hackshaw; Milton Jones; Collin & Charles Kato; Karen Lester; Victoria Logue; Dennis & Sharon Mann; Regina Mayne; Trevor Meikle; Sherri Richmond; Lee Ann Rogers; Carlos & Angela Romero; Lizzie Rozier; James & Brittany Terry; Rick Tibbetts; Debbie Vasco; and Terry West.

OUT OF TOWN VISITORS: Henry & Josephine Bass, FL; Manny & Amanda Benezra, FL; Joyce Blake, GA; Chad Brown, MS; Jacob Campbell, TN; Nellie Clayton, FL; Conley Clouse, TN; Amanda Costello, TN; Matt & Debbie Cox, OH; Judd, Leann & Cecily Davis, TN; Jon Erickson, ME; Chris & Vickie Fry, TN; Lauren Fuller, TN; Gerry & Joyce Giffin, AL; Charles & Patricia Hall, TN; David & Kenna Hardy, TN; Pete & Kelly Idema, WY; Jonathan & Julie Jenkins, FL; Colton & Jacob Kelley, FL; Jason & Rebecca Kendall, IN; Bianca McIntosh, Marsh Harbor, Bahamas; Michael & Astrid Menendez, CA; Jacqueline Parker, GA; Steven & Lee Ann Reeves, TN; Tauric & Candice Rice, NC; Glenwood & Yvette Smith, Freeport, Bahamas; and Ryan & Carla Sumner, AR.



To our Brothers and Sisters,

What great love to us that has come from the church at Palm Beach Lakes: the cards, the calls, the visits, the food have shown us kindness and attention. It is so very comforting to us to have so many loving Christians show their concern. We love you so very much and thank you beyond all boundaries. We could not ask for more or expect more.

In Christ with you,
Johnny & Betty Davis

Birthdays & Anniversaries This Week

- | | |
|--|--|
| <u>Monday (January 6th)</u>
Shaun & Emily Tyson (Ann.)
Bobby Ingraham
Joe Maloney | <u>Thursday (January 9th)</u>
Matthew & Kasandra Jones (Ann.)
Brenda Collier |
| <u>Tuesday (January 7th)</u>
Willie & Giselle Smith (Ann.)
Lucy Bond
Sandy Colage | <u>Friday (January 10th)</u>
Marjorie Ruiz-Carmona |
| | <u>Saturday (January 11th)</u>
Aisha Commander |

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, January 5

- Lead Singing Gary Friedly
- Opening Prayer Freddie Gadson
- Scripture Reading..... David Lord
- Presiding at Table Jeff Goodale
- Serve at Table:
- Novel Brown Gary Seames
- Mike Erickson Jonathan Swayne
- Bobby Ingraham David Thorpe
- Daniel Lord Marty Williams
- Alternates:
- Max Fonrose Dick Kelley
- Closing Prayer Dave Holaday

Sunday Evening, January 5

- Lead Singing Stephen Beliech
- Opening Prayer Josh Blackmer
- Scripture Reading..... Ivan Villard
- Presiding at Table..... Dan McLeod
- Mike Ellis
- Paul Metzkes
- Jerry Pittman
- Closing Prayer Tim Fry
- Wednesday Evening, January 8**
- Lead Singing Bobbo Lupo
- Invitation..... Tim Cox
- Family Prayer Jerry Hopkins

Our Record

Attendance	<u>Dec. 29</u>	<u>Nov. Avg</u>
Sun. Bible Study	205	228
Sun. A.M. Worship	321	299
Sun. P.M. Worship	154	129
Wed. Bible Study	120	150
Contribution	\$19,441	\$14,061
2019 Weekly Budget: \$15,190		
Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: -\$14,915		

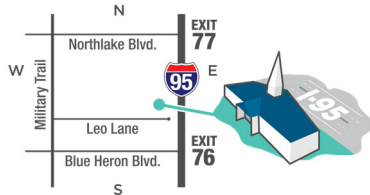
Ushers for this week: Jimmie Banks (Head Usher); Namdidie Ikon & Vince Rogers
Safety Team for this week: Bob Higbee & Seth Watson



Palm Beach Lakes CHURCH OF CHRIST

4067 Leo Lane
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

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



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: **Jeff & Katherine Goodale**



MISSION Sunday

TAKING THE GOSPEL TO THE WORLD

January 26

Upcoming Events

January 5

Meeting for All PBL Men

January 26

Mission Sunday

February 15

Sweetheart Banquet

March 1-4

Gospel Meeting with Eric Owens
Theme: "Making My Salvation Sure"

March 29

Fifth Sunday Night Finger Foods

April 16

Ladies' Day with Brittany Owens-Davis

May 2

Power Up! A Recharge for Christian Men