

**Elders**

- Johnny Davis ..... 307-4232
- \*Dan Fuller ..... 478-3755
- Jerry Hopkins ..... 818-7164
- Phil Porter ..... 575-4782
- Richard Watson..... 307-2608

*\*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..... 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..... 389-2935
- Lawrence Richardson..... 772-336-4989
- Shaun Tyson..... 615-513-2045
- Ivan Villard ..... 422-5041
- Kevin Weeks..... 386-4108

**Church Office**

- Phone..... 561-848-1111
- Fax..... 561-848-1198
- Website..... [www.pblcoc.org](http://www.pblcoc.org)
- E-mail ..... [office@pblcoc.org](mailto:office@pblcoc.org)



*Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ*

**Vol. LVIV**

**April 12, 2020**

**No. 15**

# Reasons to Rejoice



While many are focused on sad news or uncertainty in present circumstances,

*Let's focus on some good news!*

**Marisa Reeves**  
was baptized on April 4.

**Keyana Gardner**  
was baptized on April 7.

And there are others who are studying and thinking about being baptized.

*You won't hear that good news on CNN or Fox News!*

*Let us rejoice together!*



By Dan Jenkins

## 60,000 Americans Likely to Die of Coronavirus

The “Grim Reaper of Death” is sweeping through our land. It now appears that the coronavirus will kill 60,000 fellow Americans. We probably are thinking more of death than we have in a long time. If you have not been thinking of it, it might be wise for each of us to realize how uncertain life is.

It might be wise to think of the importance of spiritually preparing for that time when the Grim Reaper knocks at our door.

A Google search will show how active that “Reaper” is in our land. The most recent numbers showing how many Americans die each year are from 2018. In that year 2,839,205 citizens died. Every month an average of 233,340 crossed to the other side. The number who passed from this life to face the judgment of God was 7,778 each day.

As a nation, we are concerned about how many will die because of coronavirus but seem to have no interest at all in others who are being killed. We became aware of COVID-19 in January, and about 16,000 Americans have died because of it. Think of that number and contrast it with the fact that during that same period of time over 236,000 abortions have been performed in America. Nothing is said about these deaths, but the news constantly updates virus deaths. To see the truth

about how many abortions are being performed, I urge you visit the website, [www.numberofabortions.com](http://www.numberofabortions.com), where you will find the actual up to the minute numbers who have been killed. A new clock is set as you open the site showing how many have died since you opened it. The value of all life hardly exists in our land.

A second lesson to be learned from the stats about the “Grim Reaper” is the importance of getting the gospel to the lost. Think about this. Since you began reading these words over twenty Americans have died! Almost that many more will die before you finish reading the entire article! The tragedy of this is that the vast majority of them will die separated from God.

Our task is not to save the world. The Great Commission does not teach that we are to go and convert the world. It does not command us to go and baptize the world into Christ. That commission is simple. Our task is to make sure we do all we can to teach the world and give every creature a chance to know about our Savior.

We pray for God to use us to reach others. Knowing that this virus and the vast number who will die from it has many thinking about death opens doors before us. When you call others to check on them, why not humbly ask if they have thought about dying from this virus, and if they did would they be saved?

**How many have died since you began reading this article about death?**



By David Sproule

## When Paul Was Quarantined: The Joys of Being a Christian

Paul spent two years quarantined as a Roman prisoner. What a horrible experience that must have been! He must have been miserable and maybe even started to question God. Right? Wrong! Just the opposite! Paul was anything but miserable! In fact, although he was a prisoner, he still

found a way to enjoy fellowship with his brethren. The text states that he kept on (the tense indicates continual action) “welcoming all who came to him” (Acts 28:30). While he was shut up, he was not shut off from his brethren! It was during this time that Paul wrote a letter to his Christian friends in **Philippi** expounding the many joys of being a Christian.

**While in quarantine, Paul focused on the amazing joy of fellowship with his brethren.** He was separated from them by hundreds of miles and yet he still felt a closeness with them. “I thank my God...for your fellowship in the gospel...you all are partakers with me of grace” (Phil. 1:3-7). The word “fellowship” involved a joint participation and partnership together—in this case, it was a sharing in the blessings and the purpose of being fellow Christians. There was a “togetherness” that they enjoyed, even though they were not “together.” A quarantine could not separate them.

**While in quarantine, Paul focused on the selfless joy**

**of serving each other.** Service is really easy to see, sometimes, in certain brethren, isn’t it? Some brethren seem to be natural at “doing good unto others, especially those in the household of faith” (cf. Gal. 6:10). Paul commended Timothy as one who would “sincerely care for your state” (2:20). He praised Ephaphroditus, who “came close to death” in bringing the latest “gift” of “care” and “service toward” Paul while he was in prison (2:30; 4:10, 18). In fact, what the Philippian brethren were doing for Paul was merely a reflection of what they saw Paul doing for them, for he was literally “being poured out as a drink offering on the sacrifice and service of [their] faith” (2:17). A quarantine would not stop them from serving each other.

**While in quarantine, Paul focused on the anticipatory joy of being together again.** He referred to his Christian friends as “my beloved and longed-for brethren” (4:1). While Paul could have been pessimistic, focusing on the present circumstances and thinking he would never see them again, he lived with confidence that he would “continue with” them (1:24-26) and that he himself “shall also come shortly” to them (2:24). A quarantine was not only going to not get him down, it seemed to drive him even more to want to be with his brethren.

Although Paul was separated from his brethren, he was constantly thinking of them and of the joys of Christianity.

**While he was shut up, he was not shut off from his brethren!**



By Josh Blackmer

## Seven Things the Lord Loves (Part 1)

Solomon makes a list in Proverbs chapter six of seven things that the Lord hates. We often think of the list of seven deadly sins, but that is not a biblical list. That list is attributed to a fourth century monk. It should be stated that God hates all sins and no sin is greater than another. All sins will separate us from God if it wasn't for the blood of Christ. While this list states the negative, in Hebrew Proverbs the opposite is usually understood to be true. Let's look at this list as highlighting what God loves.

The first thing that God hates is a "proud look" or "haughty eyes" (Prov. 6:17). This is the idea of pride. We understand the problem that pride possesses to pleasing God. The proud will not subject themselves to God. The opposite of pride is humility. We are to "clothe yourselves with humility toward one another" and "humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God," for "God is opposed to proud, but gives grace to the humble" (1 Pet. 5:5-6).

The second sin is a "lying tongue," the opposite of which is speaking truth (Prov. 6:17). Liars receive a scathing rebuke in the book of Revelation. They are listed among those that will burn in a lake of fire and not enter into heaven (Rev. 21:8, 27). We should be "laying aside falsehood, speak truth

each one of you with his neighbor" (Eph. 4:25). We should also "speak the truth in love" (Eph. 4:15).

The third sin is "hands that shed innocent blood" (Prov. 6:17). The opposite of this is obvious. We should not kill innocent people. This also highlights another reason why abortion is sinful. However, another aspect in this is what we do with our hands. Our hands represent what we do. That is why men pray "lifting up holy hands" (1 Tim. 2:8). Lifting holy hands is not a posture of praise but a metaphor of a life lived in holiness. This passage speaks to the condition of the heart when leading the congregation in prayer. That is why the Bible says, "Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded" (Jas. 4:8). What we do with our hands is tied closely with the purity of our hearts or minds.

The fourth sin is "a heart that devises wicked plans" (Prov. 6:18). Jesus said, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God" (Matt. 5:8). We must have a pure heart. We can have one by pursuing "righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart" (2 Tim. 2:22). We need to "Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life" (Prov. 4:23), being careful with what influences we have on our hearts. To please the Lord, we must do those things that He loves and take them to heart. We will look at the final three next week.

**To please the Lord we must do those things that He loves.**

## Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

### Portraying the Christian in a negative light

Television is a powerful influence in our society. Decades ago, church-going folks were held up in a positive light. Do you remember Andy, Barney, Aunt Bee and Opie going to church? That was the "normal" thing to do and they were portrayed positively for their values. What about today? Immorality of all sorts is the "normal" thing today, and television depicts anyone who lives by Christian values to be small-minded, bigoted, pretentious, deplorable and old-fashioned.

As 21<sup>st</sup>-century Christians, let us do all that we can to not be influenced by what the world thinks about us or how Hollywood tries to portray us. First of all, it doesn't matter if others agree with our values or not. Second, all that matters is how God sees us. Finally, we will never win a soul to Christ if we look more like the world than we look like Jesus.

Christians in the immoral city of Corinth completely changed who they were to live for Christ (1 Cor. 6:9-11), realizing He had bought them and they needed to glorify Him (6:19-20). Let us follow in their steps! – DS



### "Hello, God's gift to the world..."

Have you ever known anyone who thought they were "God's gift to the world"? The only thing they ever talked about was themselves. The only perspective they ever saw was their own. The only opinion they ever esteemed was their own. They believed they knew best in every situation and believed the world would be so much better off if it just listened to them.

It's easy sometimes to sit back and point the finger at others. But, the real and first question ought to be, "Does that describe me?" Do I ever consider anyone else's perspective in a matter, or only my own? Do I ever welcome and esteem someone else's opinion in a matter, or only my own?

God's book of wisdom says, "Do not be wise in your own eyes...Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him" (Prov. 3:7; 26:12). Are you wise? In God's eyes? Or in your eyes? There is only One who was ever "God's gift to the world," and it wasn't you! – DS

# Keep in Your Prayers



## Pray for These PBL Members

<b>Karen Bibbee</b>	diagnosed with lung cancer
<b>Betty Davis</b>	recovering at home
<b>Joe Holland</b>	Heartland Health Care, treatments for an infection
<b>Ophelia Holmes</b>	in a lot of pain
<b>Bettye King</b>	recovering from surgery
<b>Connye Plouffe</b>	Martin Nursing & Restorative Care Center (room 204-A)
<b>Betty Sanders</b>	has not been feeling well
<b>Linda Studer</b>	undergoing chemo treatments every three weeks

## Long-Term Health Issues

**Lillian Bankston** dialysis treatments

## Pray for Our Shut-Ins

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

## Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

<b>Lucious Davis</b>	Tonya Ross' father, diagnosed with stage 4 bone cancer
<b>Ron Fernander</b>	Turkessa Staley's father, Lakeside Health Center
<b>Conrad Mills</b>	Tasha Ellis' brother, dealing with health issues
<b>Doug Philips</b>	Jacqui Jenkins' brother, stage 4 cancer in his spine
<b>Alison Williams</b>	Novel & Mary Brown's daughter, recovering from c-virus

*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

All Events Are Subject to Change.

## Sunday, April 12

- ♦ **ALL SERVICES WILL BE ONLINE ONLY.** Go to [www.pblcoc.org](http://www.pblcoc.org) and click on "Watch Our Services Live."
  - 9:15 a.m. Bible Study
  - 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship
  - 6:00 p.m. Evening Worship
- ♦ **Communion:** You can pick up the Lord's Supper from church on Friday, if you need it. Please come in the morning (9:00-11:00 a.m.) or afternoon (1:00-3:00 p.m.). Call ahead and it will be ready for you.

## Wednesday, April 15

- ♦ **ONLINE Midweek Bible Study** at 7:00 p.m. Go to [www.pblcoc.org](http://www.pblcoc.org) and click on "Watch Our Services Live."

## Thursday, April 16

- ♦ **Family Group 1 Zoom Meeting with Josh Blackmer.** Please start connecting at 7:00 p.m. Study will begin at 7:15 p.m.
- ♦ **Family Group 2 Zoom Meeting with David Sproule.** Please start connecting at 7:00 p.m. Study will begin at 7:15 p.m.

## Thursday, April 23

- ♦ **Family Group 3 Zoom Meeting with David Sproule.** Please start connecting at 7:00 p.m. Study will begin at 7:15 p.m.
- ♦ **Family Group 4 Zoom Meeting with Josh Blackmer.** Please start connecting at 7:00 p.m. Study will begin at 7:15 p.m.

## Saturday, May 2

- ♦ **CANCELLED: Power Up! A Recharge for Christian Men** is being rescheduled to the first Saturday of May 2021. Mark your calendars for May 1, 2021.

## Sunday, May 3

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

## Sunday, May 10

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

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

### Friday, May 1

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

### Tuesday, May 5

- ♦ **Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Cara Blackmer. See Cara for more details.

### Saturday, May 9

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

### Sunday, May 10

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

### Saturday, May 30

- ♦ **VBS Work Day** from 9:00 a.m. until noon. All members are encouraged to come and help prepare decorations. See Josh Blackmer for details.



## Palm Beach Lakes Youth

### Sunday, April 12

- ♦ **Sunday Morning Bible Classes.** Please join your class early so that we can start lessons on time. For details on how to join the online class, contact Jeff Goodale or Kevin Weeks (Grades 5 & Under) or Josh Blackmer (Jr. & Sr. High).
 

8:45 a.m.	<b>Grades 5 &amp; Under Bible Class</b>
9:15 a.m.	<b>Jr. &amp; Sr. High Bible Class</b>

### Friday, May 1

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

### Sunday, May 10

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

### Sunday, May 24

- ♦ **Promotion Sunday** at 9:00 a.m. All adults and children will meet in the Auditorium for a special presentation.



The  
Cross of Christ  
Is an  
Object of Glory  
Because It Is:

- A world-crucifier (Galatians 6:14).
- A self-crucifier (Galatians 6:14).
- A sin-convincer (Acts 2:36-37).
- A sin-remover (Hebrews 9:26).
- A sin-annuller (Romans 6:11).
- A life-redeemer (1 Peter 1:18-19).
- A sin-bearer (1 Peter 2:24).
- A repentance and forgiveness-encourager (Acts 5:29-31).
- A ransom-payer (Matthew 20:28).
- A justification-maker (Acts 13:38-39).
- A wrath-saved (Romans 5:9).
- A judgment-circumventor (1 Thessalonians 1:10).
- A people-sanctifier (Hebrews 13:12).
- A victory-provider (Revelation 12:11).
- A righteous-promoter (1 Peter 2:24).
- A conscience-healer (Hebrews 10:1-4).
- A life-generator (John 12:24).
- A blessing-procurer (1 Corinthians 10:16).
- A self-displacer (Galatians 2:20; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15).
- A humility-promoter (Philippians 2:5-8).
- A responsibility-impartor (Acts 20:28).
- A love-begetter (1 John 3:16).
- A love-inspirer (2 Corinthians 5:14-15).
- A barrier-breaker (Ephesians 2:16).
- A refreshment-bringer (Acts 3:13-19).
- A peace-maker (Colossians 1:20).
- A ceremony-destroyer (Colossians 2:14).
- A power and wisdom-provider (1 Corinthians 1:18).
- A Spirit-bringer (Acts 10:39-44).
- A fellowship-bringer (1 Peter 3:18).
- A joy-procurer (Acts 8:29-39).
- A rest-giver (Matthew 11:28).
- An oppression-liberator (Luke 4:18).
- A pollution-cleanser (1 John 1:7, 9).



# FAMILY GROUP MEETINGS



We will be having our **Family Group Meetings via Zoom** over the next two weeks.

<b>Family Group 1</b>	Thursday, April 16	Connect at 7:00 p.m.
<b>Family Group 2</b>	Thursday, April 16	Connect at 7:00 p.m.
<b>Family Group 3</b>	Thursday, April 23	Connect at 7:00 p.m.
<b>Family Group 4</b>	Thursday, April 23	Connect at 7:00 p.m.

*You will receive a Zoom invitation (and instructions) a few days before your meeting.*

## Sunday Worship Services

All services this week will be streamed live on our website:  
 Sunday (9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.) and Wednesday (7:00 p.m.)



**Marisa Reeves** was baptized on Saturday, April 4. She is listed with her family in the church directory.

**Keyana Gardner** was baptized on Tuesday, April 7.



**Congratulations to Chuck Milton, upon the birth of his granddaughter, Brooke Mae**, born to Brittany on Monday, April 6 weighing 8 lbs, 6 oz. Congratulations also to proud great-aunt, Cheryl Milton.

## Birthdays & Anniversaries This Week

<u>Sunday (April 12th)</u> Bill & Inell Ingram (Ann.) Kaylani Carmona Mendy Crews	<u>Wednesday (April 15th)</u> Aaron & Squadeina Ross (Ann.)
<u>Monday (April 13th)</u> Alex & Stephanie Contreras (Ann.) Henry & Bereather Williams (Ann.) Marcia Clough-Moss	<u>Friday (April 17th)</u> Joseph Charles
	<u>Saturday (April 18th)</u> Jerry & Shirley Hopkins (Ann.) Loni Fuller

## Our Record

	<u>Apr. 5</u>	<u>Mar. Avg</u>
Attendance		
Sun. Bible Study	NA	212
Sun. A.M. Worship	NA	334
Sun. P.M. Worship	NA	166
Wed. Bible Study	NA	185
Contribution	\$13,790	\$14,218
2020 Weekly Budget: \$14,944		
Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: -\$17		



# 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: **Gai Ingram**

## First-Century Christianity in the Twenty-First Century

 *Speaking where the Bible speaks*

 *Silent where the Bible is silent*

 *Calling Bible things by Bible names*

 *Doing Bible things in Bible ways*

# CHURCH OF CHRIST



**Phil Sanders**, who has spoken numerous 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.*