

Elders

- *Johnny Davis 307-4232
- Dan Fuller 685-4454
- Jerry Hopkins 818-7164
- Paul Metzkes 870-8042
- Phil Porter 575-4782
- Richard Watson 307-2608

**Chairman for the Month of December*

Evangelists

- Dan Jenkins 379-2325
- 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
- Jeff Leslie 744-3444
- Buzz Nelson 627-4890
- Nate Nelson 801-9456
- Jerry Pittman 389-2935
- Shaun Tyson 615-513-2045
- Ivan Villard 422-5041
- Kevin Weeks 386-4108

Church Office

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Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ

Vol. LVIV

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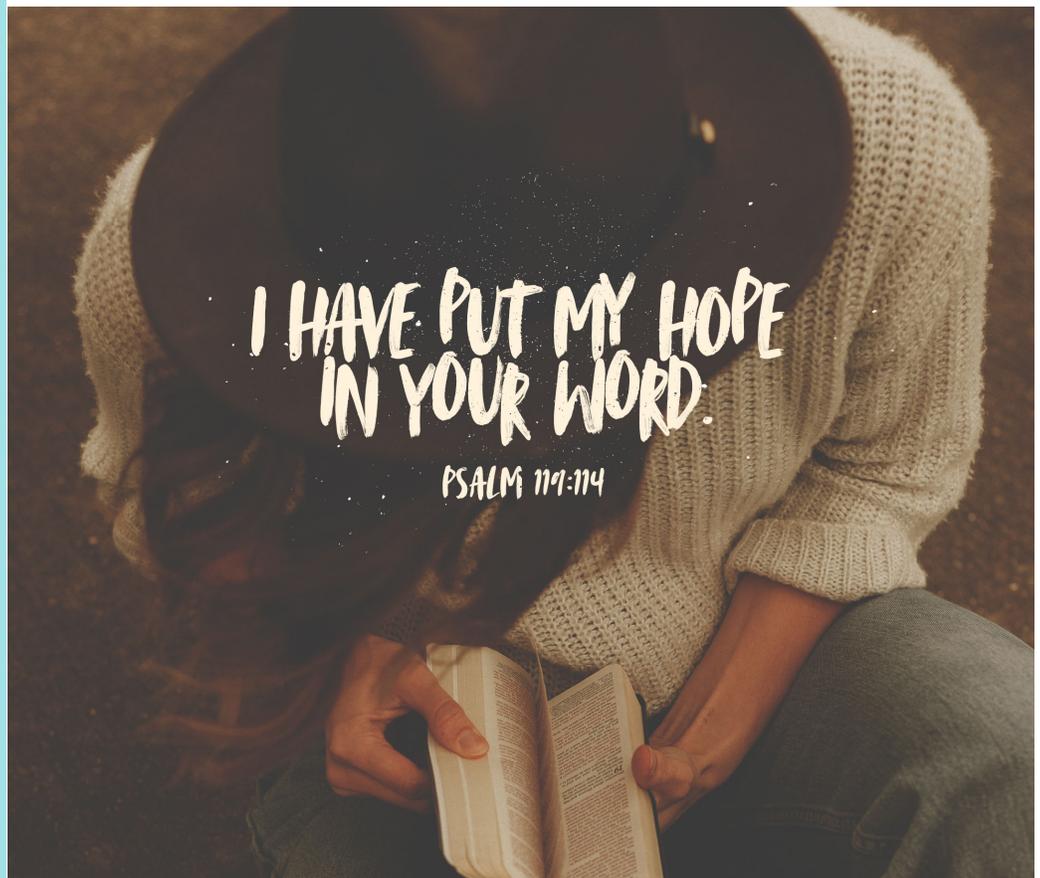
Welcome New Members



Tyson, Sully

Group 1

Baptized December 8





By Dan Jenkins

What Should You Say to Visitors?

So, as you walk through the church building or when sitting in a pew you see a person who is a visitor. What do you say to them? It may be an awkward moment, but it is obvious that saying the right thing is so important. Below are seven ideas of what each of us can say to cause visitors to return again. These ideas are not original (I found them in a blog by Thomas Rainer), but they might help you become a person God can use in an amazing way.

“Thank you for being here.” Imagine the impact that saying these simple words would have on visitors to our services. Especially if they heard them many times when they come.

“Let me help you with that.” From the moment visitors arrive at our services, the warmth of these words can have a profound impact when they come. It might be helping them carry items into the building—purses, books, diaper bags, coats, etc. The fact you were there, saw their need and offered to help will not be forgotten.

“Please take my seat.” Covid-19 and social distancing have created some unusual situations. Imagine a family with two or three children arriving at services and are having trouble finding seats. It would be far easier for you or you and your mate to move to another pew and give your seats to them.

“Here is my email address. Let me know if I can help in any way.” These words spoken from your sincere heart reflect the life of Jesus. Newcomers likely have several questions you can answer.

“Can I show you where to go?” Visitors find themselves in a new place not knowing the location of restrooms, nurseries or classrooms. When you see them struggling, go out of your way to help them.

The warmth of these words can have a profound impact when they come

“Let me introduce you to _____.” Bring them to one of the preachers or elders. If you learn where they are from or where they work, make sure they meet members who share this in common with them. You will be amazed how “passing a visitor” along to another member will impact their lives.

“Would you join us for lunch?” Almost every week you eat out, perhaps with other members, inviting them to go with the group quickly introduces them to others. Our young adults do an excellent job in this area. Think of how often Jesus ate with others. Studies show what a great impact this has on those who visit.

What would you add to this list? What have you said to visitors which has impacted them? I’d like to hear from you with your ideas we can share. Just put yourself in the place of a visitor and think of what could be said that will help them see Christ’s likeness in the church. Let’s work on this together.



By David Sproule

Thankfully God Doesn’t Wait Until the End of the Year

There seems to be something almost magical about the end of one year and the beginning of a new year. It is so magical that many folks often make “New Year’s Resolutions”—this is going to be the time that I start something new, or this is going to be the time that I stop that particular habit.

And so, we wait. Something that we ought to be doing “today” is put off until that future day when the year changes. Or, with a year like this one, we put our hopes in the major difference that leaving one year and entering another year will supposedly bring.

But, what is the big deal about the first day of January? Why is that “the day” that seems to be the difference-maker? If there is something that is worth doing and will make a significant difference in our lives, why wait for another day beyond TODAY? Or, if there is something that is detrimental to my life and needs to be discontinued to get on a better path, why wait for another day beyond TODAY?

Aren’t you glad that God doesn’t wait for New Year’s Day? In the Old Testament, the Jews celebrated the Day of Atonement once every year. On that one day every year, the high priest would enter into the Most Holy Place with the blood of a bull and then he would lay his hands on the scape-

goat, and the sins of the people would be remembered and then sent away into the wilderness on that day every year (Heb. 10:3; 9:7; Lev. 16:1-34). Not so today! An alien sinner’s sins are removed at the point of baptism (Acts 2:38; 22:16), never to be remembered again (Heb. 8:12). A child of God’s sins are removed continually during his faithful walk and confession of sins (1 John 1:7, 9), never to be remembered again (Heb. 10:17). God doesn’t wait until a “move convenient season” to forgive! He forgives immediately! “The Lord is not slack” (2 Pet. 3:9)! If God doesn’t wait, why do you?

Why wait for another day beyond TODAY?

So, if there is something that you need to change in your life, in order to be right with God, don’t wait until New Year’s Day. Don’t wait until you “get everything worked out.” Don’t wait until a more convenient season (Acts 24:25). Don’t wait!

God told Ananias to say to Saul, “Why are you waiting?” (Acts 22:16). God told Paul to say to the Corinthians, “Behold, now is the accepted time” (2 Cor. 6:2). God told the Hebrew writer to quote from Psalm 95:7 three times, emphasizing the word “Today” five times (Heb. 3:7, 13, 15; 4:7). If something is the “right” thing to do, then it is right to do it “right now”! With God, every day is a “new day” (cf. Lam. 3:23). Make TODAY (not some day in the future) THE DAY that you take the necessary steps to get right with God!



By Josh Blackmer

Are We Distracted?

It feels like there are so many things clamoring for our attention. Things like demands from work, the family schedule, end of the year preparations and seasonal shopping. On top of all that the media outlets are cascading with headlines about the election, fraud, spies, Corona, masks, infringement of rights, political unrest, persecution in Nigeria. On and on and on. All of it is the most important and all of it has to be dealt with now. It is no wonder why anxiety is the most common mental disorder in the United States. It affects 40 million Americans. That's 18% of the population. Even before the onset of Covid-19 and all the fear and regulations that came with it, these statistics were on the rise. For youth, they are not struggling with the unholy three—drugs, sex, and rock-n-roll. These will never be completely gone for an age group growing into independence. Their biggest struggles now are anxiety, depression and other mental health issues. So, what do we do with the distractions that lead us into distress and distrust?

We need to regain focus and clarity about what is really happening. We need to lift our heads and see beyond the cloud of competing information and the sources that demand our attention to the true source. Go to the Scriptures and find the verses that help you keep perspective. One such

verse is found in the book of Colossians. "Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory" (Col. 3:1-4).

Look to the Scriptures and find the passages that help you maintain focus.

This passage speaks to those who have been "raised up"—a reference to baptism (Rom. 6:3-5). "Keep seeking"—don't stop looking up and maintain our focus. "Set your mind on the things above"—a reminder that our thinking can get hijacked by the cares of this life. Set the dial, preprogram your mind to be focused on heavenly things. "For you have died"—I am not my own. My life is now in Christ and He is my life (Gal. 2:20). "When Christ is revealed"—not if, then we will be with Him in glory. Something to look forward to. This life with its cares and concerns is not the end. It's not heaven. This life isn't the reward. The rest of the chapter goes on to speak about an ordered life clothed in Christ.

Look to the Scriptures and find the passages that help you maintain focus. When we lose focus, it is easy for us to succumb to the distractions and wander off the path that is laid out before us. With prayer and the help of our brothers and sisters we need to keep ourselves from the distractions.

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

The Amber Alert will find you out

Sometimes you hear something so often that you tune it out. Such is often the case with announcements made at church services. This was evident on a Sunday morning when the announcement maker made the customary appeal to silence all cell phones for the worship service, and then ten minutes later an Amber Alert came out. The Amber Alert revealed who wasn't paying attention during the announcements or thought that it didn't apply. Oops!

Does that ever happen in other parts of our lives, including in our walk as a Christian? How often do we read or hear things that we need to do (teach, encourage, worship, study, pray, etc.) and we just let the words pass us by, or how often do we read or hear things that we must not do (lie, hate, gossip, curse, covet, etc.) and we just let those words pass us by? Friend, "it is high time to awake out of sleep" (Rom. 13:11). Moses' words still ring true today, "But if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the Lord; and be sure your sin will find you out" (Num. 32:23). — DS



Don't let your "policy" lapse!

Insurance is an interesting thing! It is not something that you just automatically receive when you are born or buy a house or a car. There are steps you must take to qualify for it. After you have it, you must continue to maintain it and keep up on your premiums. The worst thing to hear is that your insurance policy has lapsed.

This is not an identical concept, but there are a few similarities. Eternal life is not something that you just automatically receive because you are alive. There are steps you must take to be qualified. Don't misunderstand, these are not steps to "earn" eternal life, but steps established by God in order to secure His promise of eternal life (John 3:15-16; Matt. 19:16). After you have followed His steps to secure the promise, you must continue to "maintain good works" (Tit. 3:8, 14), "fight the good fight of faith" (1 Tim. 6:12), "make your call and election sure" (2 Pet. 1:10) and live a faithful life "in Christ" (1 John 5:11), in order to "lay hold on eternal life" (1 Tim. 6:12).

What would be the worst thing to hear about that on the day of judgment? — DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Jean Archer	Wellington Regional Medical Ctr, high blood pressure
Adrienne Banks	undergoing medical tests
Jacqueline Creary	undergoing medical testing
Glen Dawson	recovering at home from hospitalization
Cynthia Ingraham	recovering from surgery and is in a lot of pain
John Loftis	still dealing with severe back pain and weakness
Sandy Mann	undergoing medical testing
Cheryl Milton	dealing with some medical issues
Phil Porter	having outpatient surgery on December 21
Angie Seames	recovering from surgery on foot, other complications

Ongoing Health Issues

Lillian Bankston	dialysis treatments
Terri Hahn	leukemia
Inell Ingram	Courtyard Gardens (Jupiter)
Joel Ramirez	dialysis treatments

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames	Daniel Johnson
Josie Dawson	Don & Betty Matter
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

Shelley Dayman	Ally Alberga's sister, nursing home, stage 4 kidney disease
Ron Fernander	Turkessa Fernander's father, Lakeside Health Center
Perrethia King	Bettye King's sister, still under Hospice Care
Rhonda Moody	Angie Seames' sister, cancer spreading throughout body
Martin Williams	Marty Williams' father, recovering from a stroke
Lori Wolfe	Mike Ellis' sister, tested positive for COVID-19

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

Monday, December 14

- ◆ **No Monday Night Bible Study** until January 2021.

Tuesday, December 15

- ◆ **No Tuesday Morning Bible Study** until January 2021.

Wednesday, December 30

- ◆ **No Midweek Bible Study.** Meet on Thursday, December 31 at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 31

- ◆ **Midweek Bible Study** at 7:30 p.m. Regular Bible classes will meet for children and adults (instead of Wednesday night).
- ◆ **New Year's Eve Gathering** at 9:00 p.m. in the Family Room. Bring your favorite games to play and some personal snacks for yourself. Singing in the New Year will begin at 11:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 3

- ◆ **Wedding Shower for Sam Ford & Katie Sproule** at 4:30 p.m. in the Family Room. They are registered at Bed, Bath & Beyond.

Monday, January 4

- ◆ **Men Meet Monday Night** at 7:00 p.m. at the pavilion on the church property. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited. Bring your Bible, a chair, some meat to grill, a drink and your own plate/utensils.

Sunday, January 10

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

Sunday, January 17

- ◆ **New 10-Week Classes Begin** at 9:00 a.m. for Jr. High, Sr. High and adults.

Sunday, January 31

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

Saturday, February 13

- ◆ **Sweetheart Banquet hosted by the Jr. High Youth.** Begins at 5:00 p.m. PBL members 55+ years old or married 25+ years are invited.

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

Monday, January 4

- ◆ **Men Meet Monday Night** at 7:00 p.m. at the pavilion on the church property. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited.

Tuesday, January 5

- ◆ **Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Keila McLeod. Bring your own dinner. Dessert will be provided. See Cindy Nelson for details.

Friday, January 8

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

Saturday, January 9

- ◆ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Josh & Cara Blackmer. See Ivan Villard for details.

Sunday, January 31

- ◆ **Mission Sunday.** Prepare for it and pray about it. Every dollar given will be used for mission work.



Palm Beach Lakes **Youth**

Sunday, December 13

- ◆ **Jr. High & Sr. High Family Meeting** at 5:00 p.m. in the Family Room. All families are encouraged to come and hear about the plans for 2021.

Saturday, December 19

- ◆ **Jr. High Mini-Golf & Ice Cream** at 5:00 p.m. See Ivan Villard for details.

Thursday-Friday, December 31-January 1

- ◆ **Sr. High Lock-In** from midnight until 7:00 a.m. at the building. Bring games and things to entertain yourself. No pillows or things for sleeping.

Monday, January 4

- ◆ **Men Meet Monday Night** at 7:00 p.m. at the pavilion on the church property. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited.

Friday, January 8

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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 ☆ Sr. High Lock-In a Julio & Flo Aristy a James & Michelle Green b Sarah Rodgers	2 a Gary & Jacqui Jenkins b Michael Archer b Ellen Gager
3 ☆ Wedding Shower for Sam Ford & Katie Sproule b Jacqueline Creary b Jessie Gower-Winter b Natalie Villa	4 ☆ Men Meet Monday Night a Joseph & Anthioda Charles b Gabrielle Newby	5 ☆ Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night	6 a Shaun & Emily Tyson b Bobby Ingraham b Joe Maloney	7 a Willie & Giselle Smith b Lucy Bond b Sandy Colage	8 ☆ Sr. High & YA Ladies' Hangout	9 ☆ Young Adult Devo a Matthew & Kasandra Jones b Brenda Collier
10 ☆ Youth & Family Singing b Marjorie Ruiz-Carmona	11 b Aisha Commander	12 b Barbara King	13	14 b Mary Coombs b Robin Davis b Cindy Nelson	15	16
17 ☆ New 10-Week Classes Begin	18 b Terry Denton	19 a Cornelius & Andrea Henderson	20 b Julie Charles b Norma Pratt	21 b Edward Gager	22 b Andrea Leslie	23 b Luther Robinson
24 ☆ Jr. High & Sr. High Combined Devo b Keila McLeod b Marisa Reeves	25	26 b Jimmie Banks b Winifred Patterson b Melanie Weeks	27 b Christene Bean b Ed Buonadonna b Sasha Smith	28 b Joyce Parker b Lana Smith	29 b Annie Faison	30 b Joyce Barnhouse b Dick Haines
31 ☆ Mission Sunday ☆ EDP Meeting a Tom & Sharon Masciarelli b Charles Hayes b Mary A. Jackson						

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

Members **Traveling**
this week



 **Thank You**
for worshipping with us

Sunday,
December 6

LOCAL VISITORS: Mr. Silas Balfour; Ms. Nancy Bodin; Mr. Ryan Bodin; Ms. Marcia Farrar; Ms. Sylvia Goldie; Mr. Michael Gooch; Mr. Jesse Hover; Ms. Renee Jones; Mr. Jason Millard; Miss Brenda Pribyl; Ms. Marie Josee Telfort; and Mr. Robert White.

OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS: Mrs. Janna Allen, Riverview, FL; Mr. David Bozdogan, Miami Beach, FL; Mr. Jerry Cole, Okeechobee, FL; and Mr. Keith Hatchett, Ormond Beach, FL.

It's  girl!

Congratulations to **Jaime & Natasha Campbell-Flores** upon the birth of their **daughter, Jana Kerry-Ann**, on Friday, December 4, weighing 7 lbs, 11 oz.

Birthdays & Anniversaries *This Week*

Sunday (December 13th)

Kevin & Stephanie Weeks (Ann.)

Friday (December 18th)

Ted & Karen Friesner (Ann.)
Rick & Melinda Price (Ann.)

Monday (December 14th)

Tim Fry
Patricia Hackshaw
Daisy Lord
Juliette Mauvais

Saturday (December 19th)

Victor & Sandy Colage (Ann.)
Patricia Patterson
Mary Quinn
Angie Seames



**Jr. High & Sr. High
Family Meeting**

Sunday, December 13

**At 5:00 p.m.
in the Family Room**

All families are encouraged to come and hear about plans for 2021.

Sunday Worship Services

All Bible classes and worship services will be at the church building this week and will be webcast live from our website.

Worship Services for Sunday, December 13

9:00 a.m. Bible Class
10:00 a.m. Morning Worship for ALL
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship for ALL

Bible Class for Wednesday, December 16

7:00 pm. Meet in the Auditorium

Leading Singing Josiah Blackmer
Invitation Simon Tyson
Family Prayer Tim Fry

(We will have a devotional, the Family Prayer, then be dismissed to classes)

Our Record

Attendance	Dec. 6	Nov. Avg
Sun. Bible Study	150	141
Sun. AM Worship	192	193
Sun. PM Worship	117	101
Wed. Bible Study	138	132
Contribution	\$15,260	\$14,563

2020 Weekly Budget: \$14,944

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$17,839

Please observe good distancing inside the building and sit only in the designated pews.



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: **Pat Brown, Marcia Kelley, Joan Holloway,
Jean Archer & Elizabeth Summerlot**

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Strengthen and defend your faith!

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).