

**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 February*

**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
- Jerry Pittman..... 389-2935
- Ivan Villard ..... 422-5041

**Church Office**

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- E-mail ..... office@pblcoc.org



Vol. LX

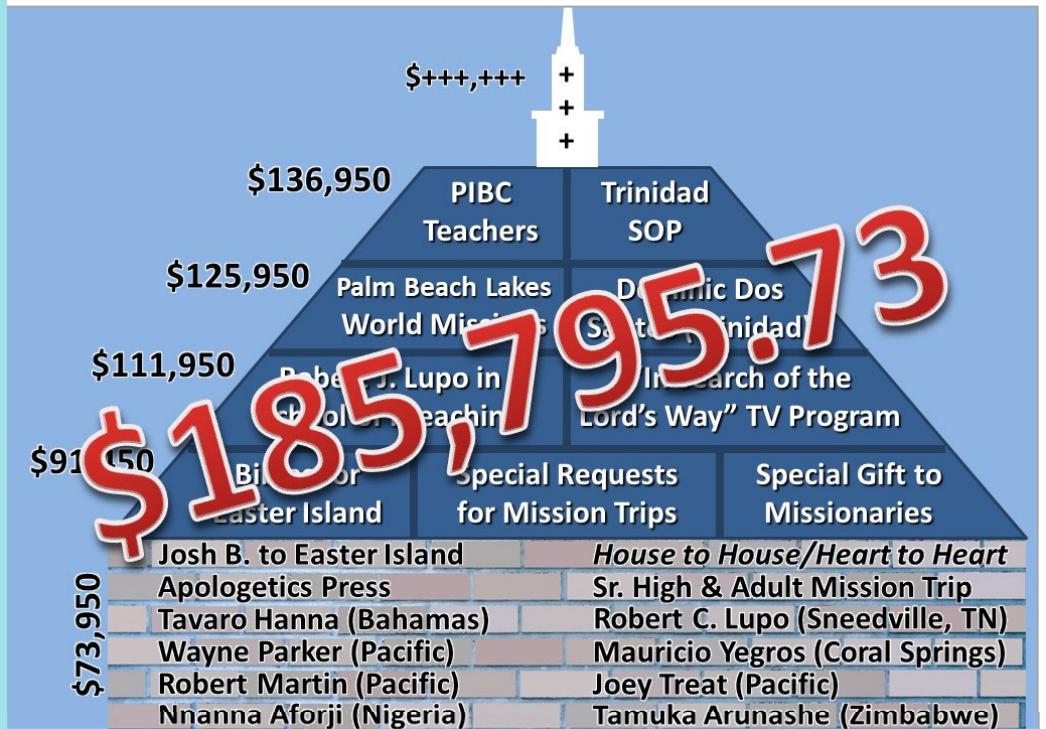
February 7, 2021

No. 6



# MISSION Sunday

TAKING THE GOSPEL TO THE WORLD



**TO GOD Be the Glory**



By Dan Jenkins

## His Name Is Not “I Was” or “I Will Be”—It Is I AM

One of the attributes of God is that He is the “I AM.” Go back to eternity when there was no universe, and the I AM is there. Go forward to that eternity where the universe is no more, and the I AM is there. David described God’s presence in these two eternities in this way: “Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God” (Psa. 90:2).

The reason His name is I AM is that He is eternally the same. He has never changed. God in the Old Testament is not what God *was* like and the God of the New Testament what God *became*. Emmanuel is no different from the Old Testament Jehovah. His name shows that it is impossible for Him to change. James calls God the Father of lights and then adds, “With whom there is no variation or shadow of turning” (Jas. 1:17).

The fact that He cannot change demands that no single attribute of His nature can change. This is why a knowledge of the Bible is so important. Since the beginning, He has dealt with sinful men. He is “...long-suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance” (2 Pet. 3:9). The atoning blood of the cross reaches forward to cleanse us, but it flows backward to pay the price of

redemption for those who sinned under the Old Testament (Heb. 9:15). He so loved the world that He gave His Son so that *whoever* believes in Him will be saved (John 3:16). He has put no difference between Jews and Gentiles. The righteousness of God comes “...through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23).

**The fact that God is eternally unchangeable is why Bible study is so important!**

His eternal nature shows that in both the Old Testament and the New Testament He punished all men who turn against Him. “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap” (Gal. 6:7). The writer of Hebrews looks back to the message of the Old Testament which was spoken through angels and described the uniformity of God’s message to mankind. “Every transgression and disobedience received a just reward” (Heb. 2:2).

The God who brought judgment against Sodom and Gomorrah and the God who destroyed the world by the flood will judge all men and destroy our world by fire. His justice demands it.

On the other hand, never forget that the I AM who was the God of Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph and David is our God. His mercy and presence in their lives is the same in our lives. Read those stories of the providence of God and know that the eyes of I AM were over them, and the eyes of I AM are over us. He is eternally the same!



By David Sproule

## Elders Aren’t Perfect—Did You Know That?

Is there a tougher job on earth than being an elder in the Lord’s church? I will save you some time—the answer is “No!” Think about it. Most of the time they are paid zero dollars. Yet, they are responsible for the most valuable thing on this earth—the local congregation of the Lord’s church and the souls of each of the members. They are answerable to God for shepherding human sheep, many of whom don’t want to be shepherded. (Human sheep are more stubborn than actual sheep.) Elders are responsible for making decisions in a local congregation that are most often in the area of subjective judgment. (Objective truth about all things—including salvation, worship, leadership, marriage, morality, etc.—has already been determined. That’s in the Bible.) Elders are responsible for areas of expediency regarding the application of God’s truth—such as when to worship, the order of worship, keeping track of members, identifying tasks in the church for members, encouraging wayward members, selecting volunteers, screening teachers, choosing mission works to support, hiring/firing preachers, overseeing funds and financial decisions, handling pandemics, etc., etc., etc. In many (or most) of these areas, there is no definite right or wrong. These are areas of judgment and elders do their very best to make the best judgments.

**True, they are not perfect. But neither are we.**

Did I mention that there is no tougher job on earth? And, guess what? These men are not perfect. They do their best to be compassionate, understanding, vigilant, diligent, sensible and impartial, but sometimes they will do something or say something that you may not think is the right thing to do or say. Is it possible that they know something about a situation that you do not? Is it possible that they are basing some actions on wisdom from past experiences? Is it possible that they see some potential consequences that you do not? Of course, they could just be wrong in their assessment and their plotted course, but does that necessarily have to be the case when their choice is different from your choice? I’m not making excuses for elderships that make genuine mistakes, but remember, they are finite humans trying to oversee and shepherd a spiritual, eternal entity. True, they are not perfect. But neither are we.

As members of the Lord’s church, let us do our part to make the job of the elders easier, rather than harder; more rewarding, rather than more challenging. Let us “esteem them very highly in love for their work’s sake” (1 Thess. 5:13), “obey...and be submissive” to them, and let them “watch out for our souls...with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for” us (Heb. 13:17). (As of the time of this article, I am not aware of any issues or disgruntlement toward our elders, which makes this the perfect time to write.)



By Josh Blackmer

## How Well Are You Sleeping?

How quickly do you fall asleep? According to a recent study, there are a lot of reasons why it might take us some time to fall asleep. Some of the most popular reasons are replaying the day's events, being too hot or too cold, caffeine, or back pain. According to this same study done by OnePoll, a market research company, the most common reason for lost sleep is anxiety about tomorrow.

This brings to mind the lyrics from the hymn "Living by Faith." James Wells wrote these lyrics in 1918, "I care not today what the morrow may bring, if shadow or sunshine or rain, the Lord I know ruleth o'er everything, and all of my worry is vain." Anxiety over the events of tomorrow is a worry or deep concern about which we have very little control. Jesus addressed this in His Sermon on the Mount. "And who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life?...So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own" (Matt. 6:27, 34). Worry is not productive for solving problems or perceived problems. Worrying about things that haven't happened yet is even less productive. When we worry about tomorrow, we assume we know what will happen. In doing so, we negate the providence of God and take away energies or sleep that should be focused on today's events.

**Faith guards our hearts, minds, and sleep.**

Faith is a great source of comfort for us. It removes the day-to-day worries and concerns that might otherwise overwhelm us. There was one particular event in the life of Christ that highlights this concept. When Jesus was with His disciples on the water and the storm came up, the disciples feared for their lives (Matt. 8:25). Jesus was awakened by the disciples as He was sleeping through the storm (Matt. 8:24-25). When Jesus awoke, He rebuked the disciples for their lack of faith and then calmed the storm (Matt. 8:26). After calming the storm, He might have gone back to sleep. There are two observations that can be made from this event. One, they were all in the same boat and same storm. The conditions of all the individuals were the same. Second, it was the understanding of Who was in control that allowed One to sleep and the others to panic. Jesus' comment concerning their lack of faith was the determining factor as to how they responded differently to the same set of circumstances. Faith puts things into perspective and allows for "the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension" to "guard your hearts and your minds," and in this case, your sleep also.

One caveat, I am speaking to those dealing with common anxiety or worry, not anxiety disorders. It takes more than faith to work through mental disorders. However, they shouldn't be used as an excuse, badge, or reason for attention. We should be working to be molded into the image of Christ.

## Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

### Some members denying themselves

While speaking with one of our elderly members on the phone, this member made the following observation about the generous spirit that seems to permeate this congregation and leads to incredibly large contributions: "I think we probably have some members who are not able to give what they give, but they deny themselves in order to give to the Lord." Think about that for a minute. Would some Christians actually "deny" their own needs to give to the Lord?

We know for certain that the early church had folks like that in it. Regarding some brethren in Macedonia, Paul said, "...the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality. For I bear witness that according to their ability, yes, and beyond their ability, they were freely willing" (2 Cor. 8:2-3). They gave "beyond their ability," and they did so with "abundance of joy" and "freely willing." Two verses later Paul revealed the secret to such giving: "They first gave themselves to the Lord" (8:5).

What a joy to know there are Christians today just like those folks in Macedonia! – DS



### Why do I want the praise of others?

Do you suppose the apostle Paul ever had Christians telling him how great he was, how wonderful his sermons were, how talented a preacher he was? No doubt he did. That's the nature of people. Some even went so far as to hold him up as "their preacher" and to claim, "I am of Paul" (1 Cor. 1:12). Do you think that went to Paul's head?

Later in that same letter, Paul wrote, "I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle" (1 Cor. 15:9). Had the praise of people gone to his head? He was even more emphatic in his letter to the Ephesian brethren, when he described himself as "less than the least of all the saints" (Eph. 3:8).

It is easy sometimes to begin to think (for one reason or another) that we are "all that." We may think we deserve high praise for who we are and what we do. May we continually humble ourselves (1 Pet. 5:5; Phil. 2:3) and work continually to have a heart that says, "I am less than the least." – DS

# Keep in Your Prayers



## Pray for These PBL Members

<b>Marie Y. Achille</b>	recovering at home
<b>Mike &amp; Jean Archer</b>	still recovering from their accident and in a lot of pain
<b>Adrienne Banks</b>	has been dealing with a lot of pain
<b>Gorman Ericksen</b>	undergoing therapy on his fractured shoulder
<b>Annie Faison</b>	under Hospice Care at her daughter's home in Miami
<b>Patricia Hackshaw</b>	undergoing physical therapy at home
<b>Joan Holloway</b>	back at Brookdale
<b>John Loftis</b>	still dealing with severe back pain and weakness
<b>Betty Matter</b>	recovering at home
<b>Cheryl Milton</b>	dealing with some medical issues
<b>Willie Smith</b>	back surgery was postponed from Feb. 2

## Ongoing Health Issues

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

## Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames	Daniel Johnson
Josie Dawson	Betty Matter
Annie Faison	Leigh Puckett
Dianne Frye	Les Sawyer
Margie Hardin	Ricky Smedley
Loretta Holaday	Patricia Ventress
Joe Holland	



**Betty Matter**, upon the passing of **Don Matter** on Monday, February 1.

## Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

<b>Russell Beliech</b>	Stephen Beliech's brother, recovering from a back proc.
<b>Barbara Coe</b>	Linda Coe's mother, dealing with health issues
<b>Ronald Fernander</b>	Turkessa Staley's father, in Good Samaritan, more testing
<b>Don Fields</b>	Trish Clark's brother, testing for possible cancer
<b>Clara Medina</b>	Carolina Alvarenga's sister, having severe health issues

**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, February 7

- ◆ **House-to-House/Heart-to-Heart Labeling** at 4:45 p.m. in the Family Room. Everyone is encouraged to come and help out.

## Monday, February 8

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

## Tuesday, February 9

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

## Saturday, February 13

- ◆ **CANCELLED: Sweetheart Banquet.**

## Sunday, February 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.

## Sunday, February 14

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

## Monday, March 1

- ◆ **Men Meet Monday Night** at 7:00 p.m. 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.

## Friday-Sunday, March 5-7

- ◆ **Scrap the Weekend at CFBC.** Cost is \$90. Register online at [www.cf biblecamp.org](http://www.cf biblecamp.org).

## Sunday, March 14

- ◆ **Daylight Saving Time Begins.** Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour.

## Sunday, March 21

- ◆ **EDP Bible Study & Fellowship** at 4:30 p.m. in the Family Room.

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

## Friday, February 12

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

## Sunday, February 14

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

## Monday, March 1

- ◆ **Men Meet Monday Night** at 7:00 p.m. 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.

## Tuesday, March 2

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



*Palm Beach Lakes*  
**Youth**

## Friday, February 12

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

## Saturday, February 13

- ◆ **CANCELLED: Sweetheart Banquet.**

## Sunday, February 14

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

## Thursday-Sunday, February 25-28

- ◆ **Challenge Youth Conference** for Grades 8-12 in Pigeon Forge, TN. Cost is \$75. Meet at the building on Thursday at 4:00 p.m. See Josh Blackmer for more details.

## Sunday, February 28

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



IN MY  
RELATIONSHIP  
WITH

MY FAMILY

FEBRUARY

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

Members **Traveling**  
this week



 **Thank You**  
for worshipping with us

Sunday,  
January 31

**LOCAL VISITORS:** Mr. Silas Balfour; Ms. Nancy Bodin; Mr. Ryan Bodin; Mrs. Liz Otero; Miss Brenda Pribyl; Ms. Jettie Sweetenbury; Ms. Marie Josee Telfont; and Mr. DeMarcus Turner, Sr.

**OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS:** Mr. & Mrs. Jerry & Mary Jo Cole, Okeechobee, FL; Ms. Guerline Paul, AL; Mr. & Mrs. Kendell & Sandra Stevenson, Benton, KY; and Mrs. Julie Watson & Jonah, Orlando, FL.

**Birthdays & Anniversaries** *This Week*

Sunday (February 7th)  
Connye Plouffe

Thursday (February 11th)  
David Brown

Tuesday (February 9th)  
Joe & Janice Maloney (Ann.)  
Rudolph & Verdell March (Ann.)

Friday (February 12th)  
Dave Holaday

Wednesday (February 10th)  
Pete & Pat Brown (Ann.)

Saturday (February 13th)  
Eugene & Penny Williams (Ann.)

**News & Notes**

**PBL Family Photos will be updated next Sunday, February 14.** 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.



**Labeling Night**

**Sunday, February 7**

Begins at 4:45 p.m. in the Family Room. Everyone is encouraged to come and help out.

**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 at the front of the auditorium 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, February 7**

Lead Singing ..... Robert Lupo  
Opening Prayer ..... Gary Seames  
Scripture Reading..... Jeff Goodale  
Presiding at Table ..... Ivan Villard  
Serve at Table ..... TBD  
Closing Prayer ..... David Brown

**Sunday Evening, February 7**

Lead Singing ..... Stephen Beliech  
Opening Prayer ..... Rick Hall  
Scripture Reading..... Paul Metzkes  
Presiding at Table..... Andy Anderson  
Serve at Table ..... TBD  
Closing Prayer ..... David Brown

**Wednesday Evening, February 10**

Lead Singing ..... Ivan Villard  
Invitation..... Victor Colage  
Family Prayer ..... Cam Crotts

**Our Record**

	<u>Jan. 31</u>	<u>Dec. Avg</u>
Attendance		
Sun. Bible Study	141	144
Sun. AM Worship	221	197
Sun. PM Worship	115	118
Wed. Bible Study	117	121
Contribution	\$185,795.73	\$15,792

2021 Weekly Budget: TBA

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: TBA

Ushers for this week: Dan McLeod (Head Usher); Robert Mariano

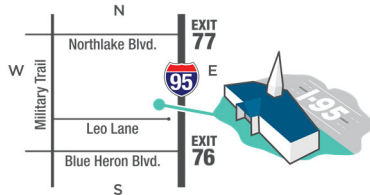
Safety Team for this week: Mike Damron



# 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: Tina & Daniel Wagner

## Upcoming Events

### March 28-31

Gospel Meeting with Neal Pollard

### April 11

New Bible Class Semester Begins

### April 16

Ladies' Day

### May 1

Power Up! A Recharge for Christian Men

### May 21-23

Biblical Creation Seminar with Dr. Jeff Miller

### May 30

Promotion Sunday

### June 19-20

Vacation Bible School

## 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).