Shepherds

*Johnny Davis	307-4232	
Dan Fuller	685-4454	
Paul Metzkes	870-8042	
Phil Porter	575-4782	
Richard Watson	307-2608	
*Chairman for the Month of April		

Evangelists

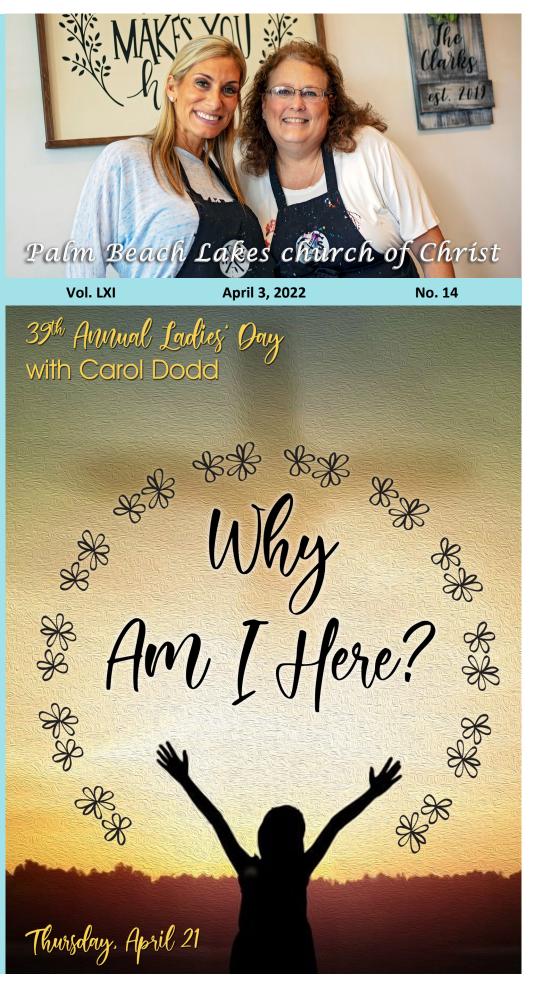
Dan Jenkins	379-2325
David Sproule	301-2230
Josh Blackmer	319-1418

Deacons

Mike Archer	
David Brown	972-7608
Novel Brown	
Victor Colage	719-1490
Lance Collier	
Kirk Crews	
Mike Erickson	
Tim Fry	
Jeff Goodale	
Rick Hall	
Dion Hayes	214-533-5065
Bob Higbee	303-386-6405
Gary Jenkins	
Jeff Leslie	744-3444
David Lord	
Buzz Nelson	
Ivan Villard	
Lawrence Williams	

Church Office

Phone	561-848-1111
Fax	561-848-1198
Website	www.pblcoc.org
E-mail	.office@pblcoc.org





An Amazing Man of Faith

Hebrews chapter eleven is often described as the chapter listing the "Heroes of Faith." It truly deserves this title and just to think of the lives of those who are listed there builds our faith. However, there may be some whose faith has been overlooked and whose lives we should also consider.

One of these is a man who made such tragic mistakes

in his life and both Jews and Romans thought he should be punished in the gruesome torture of crucifixion. Let's take time to consider the faith of one of the thieves crucified with Jesus (Luke 23:32-43).

It is remarkable how much he knew about Jesus even though so few verses are devoted to him.

- He knew the innocence and purity of Jesus. • While at first he was part of the mocking of Jesus, he rebuked the blasphemy of the other thief.
- He knew the importance of fearing God and his words seem to indicate he was aware of the deity of Jesus. "Do you not fear God?" To disrespect this man is to show an absence of the fear of God.
- He knew that Jesus was Lord. He began the sentence we know so well about remember me by calling Jesus "Lord." He understood the authority Jesus had over death.

- He knew about the fact that Jesus had come to establish His kingdom. How he learned of the kingdom is not told and if he had seen any miracles of Jesus is not specified. He knew that the kingdom was about to be established.
- He knew about the grace of Jesus. It is strange that a man whose life had brought about his crucifixion did not say, "Lord, forget me when You come in your kingdom."

He knew that Jesus' death would not keep the • Jesus honors our kingdom of God from being established by Jesus. The apostles saw the death of Jesus at the end. Those two men on the road to Emmaus showed they thought it had ended. "We had hoped He "

> He had some realization of some form of the resurrection of Jesus. The cross was not the end. There was more! The apostles did not believe the words of women who told them of His resurrection.

Yet this man, in the face of His death, knew that in some way both he and Jesus would meet again.

God does not just honor the "Heroes of Faith." Emmanuel honored the great faith of a sinful man who trusted Jesus to always do what was right.

As we think about those "heroes of faith," let us never overlook how Jesus honors those with the faith the size of a mustard seed.



The "Open Marriage" That God Approves

So, among those who some consider to be the "elite," the "sophisticated," the "woke," the "enlightened," the "cultured" of our day, the practice of an "open marriage" is acceptable, admired and applauded. Open marriage is defined as a consensual "form of non-monogamy in which the partners of

By David Sproule

a dyadic marriage agree that each may engage in extramarital sexual relationships, without this being regarded by them as infidelity, and consider or establish an open relationship despite the implied monogamy of marriage." That's a long definition. Let me define that with one word (the one that God uses): adultery!

God created marriage and God created the "sexual relationship," and God placed the sexual relationship inside and ONLY inside the husband-wife

relationship. From a Biblical standpoint (the only viewpoint that matters), an adulterer is one "who has unlawful intercourse with the spouse of another." It is "unlawful" because it violates the "law" of God (Heb. 13:4; 1 Cor. 6:9; Jas. 2:11). Thus, practicing anything like what society calls an "Open Marriage" today is sin in the eyes of God, plain and simple.

So, put society's practice and explanation of "Open Marriage" aside. Now, pick up the phrase "Open Marriage" in a different and more Biblical light. Let me ask you, do you have an "open marriage"? Again, I'm not talking sexually!

Do you have an "open marriage" in the sense that the Bible is what is "open" and guiding your marriage? If your marriage is "closed" to the Bible, it will fail.

Do you have an "open marriage" in the sense that you are engaged in worship with the church and Bible study every time the doors are "open"? If your marriage is "closed" to the church and worshiping God, it will fail.

> Do you have an "open marriage" in the sense that you both "open" your hearts to God and talk to Him together? If your marriage is "closed" to prayer, it will fail.

> Do you have an "open marriage" in the sense that you are "open" to considering the needs of each other? If your marriage is "closed" to looking

out for both of your needs and each partner fulfilling the needs of the other, it will fail.

Do you have an "open marriage" in the sense that you are "open" with each other and communicate freely about all things in your life without fear of harm or danger? If your marriage is "closed" to listening to each other's hearts, it will fail.

Do you have an "open marriage"? Not the one that society lauds as "woke," but the one that God longs for you to have with Him and with each other? If not, "open" up!

Do you have an "open marriage"? I'm not talking sexually!

heroes of faith

and those who

have "mustard

seed" faith



Are We Sharing or Virtue Signaling?

Virtue signaling is a relatively new term. It is the practice of posting your moral opinion of a situation on social media for the purpose of making you look good to a certain group of people. Perhaps garnering more attention and followers. An example of what you might find on Facebook [to be read with

By Josh Blackmer

Scarlet Ohara dramatization]: "It is so hard to be a righteous daughter of God and find fashionable modest apparel for my teenage daughter." Or someone announcing how many doors they knocked on in the hot sun for a gospel meeting. Then, people make comments and likes that continue to feed these kinds of posts. In a similar fashion, people post flags, stand in solidarity on social media, and throw out thoughts and prayers all to look moral or get attention. Frankly Scarlet, it is annoying. You might be surprised to learn that this is not a new concept, just a new platform.

"Beware of practicing your righteousness before men to be noticed by them; otherwise you have no reward with your Father who is in heaven" (Matt. 6:1). We need to be careful of falling into the trap of doing things to be seen by men. "Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips" (Prov. 27:2). Virtue signaling and fishing for compliments are roundabout ways of praising ourselves. We should be practicing our righteousness for the glory of God. "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven" (Matt. 5:16). The scribes and Pharisees were famous for this type of behavior. "The scribes and the Pharisees have seated themselves in the chair of Moses; therefore all that they tell you, do and observe, but do not do according to their deeds; for they say things and do not do them. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but they

themselves are unwilling to move them with so much as a finger" (Matt. 23:2-4).

Virtue signaling is just online self righteousness.

Is it wrong to post about moral or Godly things? No, but maybe think about why we are doing it. Is it to purely inform people about a particular issue or work of the church? Or are you unnecessarily keeping yourself in the center of the spotlight? Who really is getting the attention? Paul would say,

"But may it never be that I would boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Gal. 6:14). John was also exemplary on this point: "It is He who comes after me, the thong of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie" (John 1:27). Jesus said there was none like him in the kingdom (Matt. 11:11). If we would humble ourselves and keep the work of the Lord in the spotlight, we would truly be in a good place. "Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted" (Matt. 23:12). Virtue signaling is just online selfrighteousness and brings glory to no one.

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

There's nothing "Gentlemen" about it!

It's a called a "Gentlemen's Club." What does that mean? The word "gentleman" used to be defined as "a courteous, gracious man with a strong sense of honor." So, is that the kind of men who are gathering in these "Gentlemen's Clubs" today? Hardly!

The things that are happening in those clubs today are hardly what gentlemen should even talk about, let alone engage (Eph. 5:12). What the "men" in those clubs are seeing (Job 31:1; Matt. 5:28) and what they are doing (Gal. 5:19; Prov. 6:25-27) is anything but "gentlemanly" (by definition), let alone Christ-like!

Parents, let us raise our children to honor their bodies and the bodies of others (1 Cor. 6:15-20). Men, let us set an example of godliness (Matt. 5:16) and behave like a true man, made in the likeness of God and living in the likeness of Christ (Eph. 5:1 -2). Let's not fool ourselves by redefining another term to mean something it does not. -DS

If only there was someone like this in your life

Has anyone ever stood up for you? Did you ever have anyone who worked their hardest to look out for you and for your best interests? Have you ever known of someone who selflessly put you above themselves for no gain or credit or benefit to them? Have you ever hurt someone and yet that someone was still there for you and tried to do you good? Has anyone

> ever, out of the blue, called to check on you, to express interest in your walk with the Lord and even told you that they were praying for you? Have you ever had anyone like this in your life?

Take this a step further. Do you know anyone who longs so desperately for you individually to

go to heaven that they will plead your case to Jesus Himself on the day of judgment? Is there anyone in your life who will even put their own eternity on the line for you?

Brethren, please take a moment and thank God for your elders, for your spiritual shepherds! Everything asked above describes the work (and the heart) of God's shepherds! Pray for them! Encourage them! Love them! Honor them! Follow them! – DS



Keep in Your Prayers

Pray for These PBL Members

Bonnie Arthur	in rehab, no visitors or phone calls	
Casey Bound	awaiting results from MRI on her knee	
Novel Brown	dealing with severe knee pain	
Mary Coombs	recovering from an outpatient procedure	
Johnny Davis, Jr.	undergoing chemo treatments for kidney cancer	
Glen Dawson	undergoing treatment for stage 4 lymphoma	
Nicole Freseman	recovering from an elbow injury	
Diane Leslie	recovering from knee surgery	
Peggy Simpkins	undergoing chemo treatments for rare cancer	
Sam Simpkins	diagnosed with kidney and bladder cancer	
Giselle Smith	dealing with a number of health issues	
Jennifer Walker	still recovering from surgeries and hospitalizations	

Ongoing Health Issues

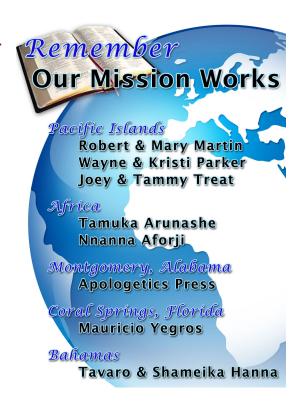
Mike Archer	severe pain and weakness	
Lillian Bankston	dialysis treatments	
Judy Carmack	multiple health issues	
John Loftis	back pain, weakness	
Joel Ramirez	dialysis treatments	
Sherri Richmond	multiple health issues	
Henry Williams	dialysis treatments	

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames	Maria
Bonnie Arthur	Joan
Josie Dawson	Inell I
Dianne Frye	Danie
Terri Hahn	Betty
Margie Hardin	Ricky
Loretta Holaday	

.

Marian Holland Joan Holloway Inell Ingram Daniel Johnson Betty Matter Ricky Smedley





sympathy

is extended to ...

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Delores Sims

Jimmie Banks' mother, has 4 masses in mastectomy site

The family of Connye Plouffe, who passed

daughter, Kym Parker, in your prayers.

away on Sunday, March 27. Please keep her

Church Family **Calendar of Events**

Sunday, April 3

- Mount Dora Coin Cans Available in the Lobby. Pick up a can to fill with change for Mount Dora. Please return to the church office by Wednesday, July 4.
- House-to-House/Heart-to-Heart Labeling at 5:00 p.m. in the Family Room. Everyone is encouraged to come and help out.

Monday, April 4

- No Monday Night Bible Study.
- Men's Meet at 7:00 p.m. at the church building. 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. This is a great opportunity for men of all generations to fellowship.

Tuesday, April 5

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

Saturday, April 9

• **PBL Ladies' Prayer Meeting** at 1:30 p.m. in the Family Room. See Maria Hackshaw for details.

Sunday, April 10

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

Monday, April 11

• No Monday Night Bible Study.

Tuesday, April 12

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

Friday, April 15

 Ladies & Lattes at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Misty Hayes. All PBL women in Grades 9 and up are invited to fellowship and grow together in God's word. Coffee and tea will be provided. Please bring a dessert.

Monday, April 18

• Monday Night Bible Study at 7:00 p.m. in the Family Room.

Thursday, April 21

• Ladies' Day at PBL at 6:00 p.m.

Young Adults

Monday, April 4

• Men's Meet at 7:00 p.m. at the church building. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited.

Saturday, April 9

• Young Adult Devo at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Dirk & Elizabeth Summerlot. See Ivan Villard for details.

Friday, April 15

• Ladies & Lattes at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Misty Hayes. All PBL women in Grades 9 and up are invited to fellowship and grow together in God's word. Coffee and tea will be provided. Please bring a dessert.

Thursday, April 21

• Ladies' Day at PBL at 6:00 p.m. Carol Dodd will be speaking on "Why Am I Here?" Please RSVP by Monday, April 11.

Saturday, April 30

• Power Up! A Recharge for Christian Men from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.



Monday, April 4

• Men's Meet at 7:00 p.m. at the church building. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited.

Sunday, April 10

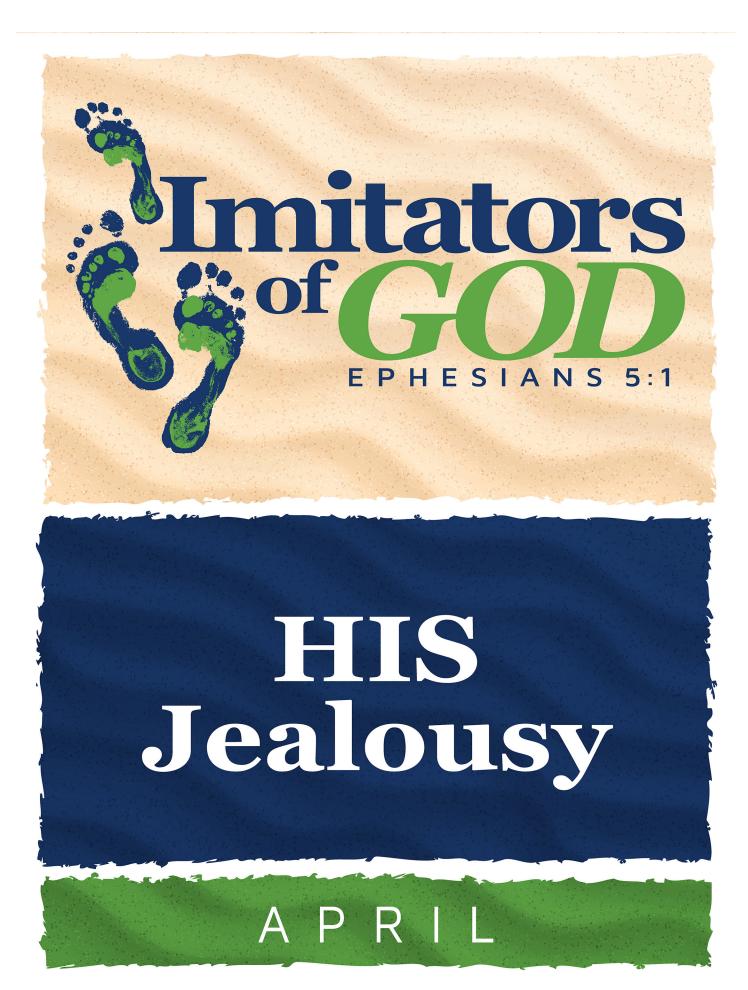
• Youth & Family Singing after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

Friday, April 15

• Ladies & Lattes at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Misty Hayes. All PBL women in Grades 9 and up are invited to fellowship and grow together in God's word. Coffee and tea will be provided. Please bring a dessert.

Saturday, April 16

• Egg Hunt for Grades 5 & Under hosted by the Jr. & Sr. High Youth at 10:00 a.m. There will be outdoor games and activities following the hunt. Jr. & Sr. High should arrive at 9:30 a.m. and bring 3 dozen filled plastic eggs (no chocolate in eggs; it will melt). See Ivan & Amber Villard for more details.



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





Jerry & Shirley Hopkins moved away on Sunday, March 27.



Sadie Myrie was restored on Sunday, March 27.

for worshiping with us

Sunday, March 27

LOCAL VISITORS: Mr. Addison Collins; Ms. Janice Cooley; Mrs. Krystian Dubuisson; Ms. Sylvia Goldie; Mr. & Mrs. Keith & Kim Hutchison; Mrs. Karen Lester; Ms. Elsa Lester; Ms. Suzette McQueen; Ms. Sadie Myrie; Mr. & Mrs. Arpit & Swati Samson; Mrs. Trellini Smith; Mrs. Lisa Suarez; and Mr. Garfield Walks.

OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS: Mrs. Janna Allen, Riverview, FL; Mrs. Amanda Benezra, Melbourne, FL; Mr. & Mrs. Jerry & Nancy Berry, Akron, OK; Mr. & Mrs. Jerry & Mary Jo Cole, Okeechobee, FL; Mr. Fritz Exantus, West Park, FL; Mr. & Mrs. Jim & Judy Howell, Tallahassee, FL; Mrs. Julie Jenkins, Melbourne Beach, FL; Miss Bethany Leslie, Winter Garden, FL; Mr. Mark Lester, Orlando, FL; Mr. & Mrs. Kendell & Sandra Stevenson, Okeechobee, FL; and Mr. & Mrs. Virgil & Julie True, Franklin, TN.

Birthdays

Sunday, April 3rd Giselle Smith

<u>Tuesday, April 5th</u> Elizabeth Summerlot Friday, April 8th Micky Affron Jean Archer Zula Garrett Nadia King

Those to Serve

If you are <u>unable to serve</u>, please contact the Service Coordinator for the week or Rick Hall at 827-4269. If you are scheduled to serve on <u>Sunday morning</u>, please meet in the Grades 6-8 classroom at <u>9:50 a.m.</u> If you are scheduled to serve on <u>Sunday evening</u>, please meet at the front of the auditorium at <u>5:50 p.m.</u>

Sunday Morning, April 3

	Gary Friedly Richard Watson
Singing Opening Prayer Scripture Reading Singing	
Contribution	
Singing	
Sermon	
Singing	
Closing Prayer	Phil Porter
Serve at Table:	
Tim Cox	Nicholas Pietro
Namdidie Ikon	Taylor Reeves
Steward Lynch	Vincent Rogers
Tim Mahlbacher	Nahum Villard
Robert Mariano	Tyler Williams
Sanvica Coordinatory	Lichard for the

Sunday Evening, April 3

Singing David Sproule Lord's Supper Stephen Beliech
Singing Opening PrayerNovel Brown
Singing
Contribution
Scripture Reading Tim Fry
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing PrayerRichard Lerro
Serve at Table: Silas Balfour Trey Higbee

Wednesday Evening, April 6

Singing	Ivan Villard
Invitation	Josh Blackmer
Family Prayer	Jeff Goodale

Our Record			
Attendance	<u>Mar. 27</u>	Feb. Avg	
Sun. Bible Study	160	192	
Sun. AM Worshi	p 262	259	
Sun. PM Worshi	p 140	107	
Wed. Bible Study	y 143	120	
Contribution	\$14,610	\$15,480	
2022 Weekly Budget: \$15,220			
Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$7,058			

Service Coordinator: Bob Higbee <u>Ushers</u> for this week: Victor Colage & Rick Tibbetts <u>Safety Team</u> for this week: Seth Watson



Front Cover: Marisa Reeves & Skye Brown

