

Overseers

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 February*

Evangelists

Dan Jenkins 379-2325
David Sproule 301-2230
Robert Lupo 315-1411

Deacons

David Brown 972-7608
Victor Colage 719-1490
Lance Collier 985-4407
Kirk Crews 339-9283
Mike Erickson 310-9916
Tim Fry 373-9121
Jeff Goodale 261-1188
Rick Hall 622-5131
Dion Hayes 214-533-5065
Bob Higbee 303-386-6405
Gary Jenkins 889-3585
Jeff Leslie 744-3444
David Lord 346-2228
Buzz Nelson 385-1588
Lawrence Williams 662-3419

Church Office

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Vol. LXIII

February 25, 2024

No. 8

Welcome New Members



Young, Timothy

Group 2

Baptized February 13

**How to Get
From Here
to Heaven**



March 3-6
Gospel Meeting with Dan Winkler



By Dan Jenkins

Dogs, Swine and Dusty Feet

The words of Jesus are so powerful and are designed to help us enjoy Bible truths which demand we take time to slowly read the text. Think about these words from the Sermon on the Mount. "Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet and turn and tear you in pieces" (Matt. 7:6).

Can you imagine how strange these words sounded to those who first heard them. Just before talking about this, our Lord talked about motes and beams, specks and logs, inside men's eyes. He then turned his attention to puppies and pigs.

It is remarkable how easy it is to understand these words when you read the rest of the Bible. Casting pearls in the feet of swine becomes so understandable when you read more of the words Jesus later used. When he sent out the apostles on the commission limited to the Jews, He said, "And whoever will not receive nor hear your words, when you depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet" (Matt. 10:14). The holy message they were trying to deliver had so obviously been rejected by "dogs" and trampled under the feet of "swine."

Isn't that what Jesus did when He was on trial. For three years He had given the Jews that which God sent Him to

deliver. What did He do when He was being mocked? The Lamb of God lead to the slaughter did not open His mouth. His holy message as precious as pearls had been rejected.

Isn't this what Paul did at Antioch. After His first message in the synagogue the whole city, both Jews and Gentiles, came to that place the next week. When the Jews saw this, they were envious and began interrupting him, contradicting, blaspheming and opposing Paul. His response to these Jews?

"It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles" (Acts 13:45-46). They had openly rejected the holy message, and Paul told these "dogs and swine" they had trodden that message under their feet.

So do not blame yourselves when others say to you, "Don't ever talk to me about Jesus, quit wasting your time." Do not think that you are a failure. You saw the value of their souls, but by their fruits you can know that you have done all you can—at *this time*. It is a waste of time to give the holy message, precious as costly pearls, to those who openly reject it. Perhaps later they can be taught, but not *at this time*.

Our commission is for all mankind, and every person we know needs to hear the message. Do not feel guilty when you are rejected. They even rejected Jesus!

**Our commission
is for all mankind
and every person
we know needs
to hear it.**



By David Sproule

"Return to Me!"

It frustrates me when people talk about "the God of the Old Testament was vengeful, but the God of the New Testament was loving." They don't know God! It angers me when people say that "God only wants to send people to hell." They don't know God! It riles me when people claim that "God was just looking for people to make a mistake in the Bible so that He could punish them." They don't know God!

It would do all people well to just read the Bible. Don't just read certain parts. Don't read "looking for something." Just read it! Were there times when God punished people? Yes. But guess what the reader will find BEFORE the punishment? Clear instruction from God, patience from God but deliberate disobedience of the people. Actions have consequences! Every good parent teaches that fundamental truth. But I want you to zoom in on one part of the above progression—"patience from God."

God delivered His people from Egyptian bondage, all the while they complained against Him. He brought them to the Promised Land, but they rejected it. When He finally conquered the land for them, they repeatedly turned against Him and served the gods and peoples of the land. They rejected His reign over them and demanded a human king. They rose

to greatness under godly leadership, but they divided themselves under ungodly, selfish leadership. They turned against God, and worshiped and served idols. Yet, I want you to read what God said to these people through His prophet Jeremiah.

"You have played the harlot with many lovers; Yet RETURN to Me," says the Lord" (Jer. 3:1). "The Lord said..., 'Have you seen what backsliding Israel has done? She has gone up on every high mountain and under every green tree, and there played the harlot. And I said, after she had done all these things, "RETURN to Me." But she did not return. And her treacherous sister Judah saw it" (3:6-7). "Then the Lord said to me, '... Go and proclaim these words toward the north, and say: "RETURN, backsliding Israel," says the Lord'... 'RETURN, O backsliding children,' says the Lord, 'for I am married to you'...'RETURN, you backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings'" (3:11-12, 14, 17). The Lord pleaded with them again, "If you will RETURN, O Israel," says the Lord, "RETURN to Me" (4:1). As rebellious as His people had become and as far as they had run from Him, He still begged them over and over, "RETURN to Me!"

Can you hear the heart of God? That's the heart of your God! He has not changed! He is not eager to punish! Are you right with Him? Do you need to come back to Him? He's pleading with you, "Return to Me!"

**That's the heart
of your God! He
has not changed!**



By Robert Lupo

God Is Immutable

We see a lot of change in our lifetimes. It doesn't seem that long ago that we were waiting hours for a five minute video to download on dial-up internet. Now, we can stream 8K ultra-high-definition video instantly.

The changes get even more extreme when we talk about our culture and religion. The public's view of long-held Christian values has totally shifted over the last few decades. The God of the Bible, whose transcendent word stood as a firm foundation, has been replaced by a god that is willing to bend his laws depending on the time, place and circumstance of each individual.

Many claim this "nonjudgmental, all-inclusive" god is the same Lord Jehovah we read of in the scriptures. However, he is a false idol created in the minds of men. Their god changes with every shift in the culture, ready to accept any sin man ties to his identity. But, the God of the Bible has never changed and is unchangeable. He is immutable.

God's immutability is in His nature. In Malachi 3:5, God made this clear, "For I am the Lord, I do not change..." Why does God not change? Because He is the Lord! If He changed, He would no longer be the Lord.

God's immutability cannot be influenced. Job proclaimed, "But He is unique, and who can make Him change? and whatever His soul desires, that He does" (Job 23:13). The opinions of man are not considered when it comes to God's judgments. As the one sovereign of all creation, no one holds any power over the eternal will of God. "God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?" (Num. 23:19).

Times are changing. But the god that changes with it is not the God of Heaven.

God's immutability is needed. If God was changeable, it would be devastating to mankind. Goodness would be gone from the world. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning" (Jas. 1:17). God is the standard of goodness. If He were to change, then goodness itself would change. Humanity would have no way of knowing what is good or evil. But, with God as our standard, we know exactly and judge accordingly.

Times are changing. But the god that changes with it is not the God of Heaven. He is the god of this world—the devil (cf. 2 Cor. 4:3-4). If we want to serve the Lord Jehovah, then we must submit before His eternal, unchanging Word, manifested in the person and work of Jesus Christ (John 1:1), who "...is the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Heb. 13:8).

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

Silly excuses aren't so silly!

Kids! They know how to make excuses, don't they! Whew! When they don't want to do something, they can come up with "the best reasons" to explain their inactivity. "My foot hurts." "I need to go to the bathroom." "I'm tired." As adults, we can see right through their excuses to just how pitiful their efforts to avoid action really are.

It makes me wonder. If we can see right through excuses that kids make, how effective do you think that our excuses are in the eyes of our Father in heaven? Are they just as pitiful? When God calls us to action (speaking to lost souls, encouraging brethren, worshiping with the church, etc.), do you think that He is really persuaded by our "But I'm so busy," "Someone else will handle it," "I'm basically being a good person already," "I'll make it up to Him in some other way"?

In the Parable of the Great Supper in Luke 14:15-24, the master became angry at his servants' excuses, and he just went and found others who would follow him. Will He also give up on us because of our excuses? —DS



Is your love there or here?

There is very little known about Demas in the New Testament. We know that he was a Christian, who spent time with Paul in Rome, while Paul was imprisoned there for the first time (Col. 4:14; Phile. 24). But by the time Paul was imprisoned in Rome the second time (about 5-8 years later), something had changed in Demas' life. He had lost his first love.

Inspiration makes only one definitive statement regarding this man—he forsook Paul, "having loved this present world" (2 Tim. 4:10). He could have done a lot of good in his life for the Lord. We don't know. The picture we do have is one who did exactly the opposite of what First John 2:15 says, "Do not love the world or the things in the world."

Demas had taken his eyes (i.e., love) off of the goal. Draw a line from verse 10 back to verse 8. Demas "loved this present world." But a "crown of righteousness" awaits "all who have loved His appearing." Which do you love? Where are your eyes? On the appearing of Jesus? Or on this present world? —DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Charles Hayes	struggling with several health issues
Ophelia Holmes	emphysema in one lung and bronchitis in the other lung
Mary A. Jackson	undergoing tests
Grace Judge	undergoing treatments for severe neck and back pain
Dick Kelley	recovering at home, improving slowly, IV antibiotics
Yolanda Stewart	having upcoming medical tests and procedures

Ongoing Health Issues

Robin Landen	multiple health issues
John Loftis	back pain, weakness
Joel Ramirez	dialysis treatments
Sherri Richmond	multiple health issues
Henry Williams	dialysis treatments

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Thelma Findley	Maria Hackshaw's mother, in the hospital
Ann Freseman	Nicole Freseman's mother, in LaPosada Rehab
Jim McCoy	Maxine McCoy's brother, hospitalized with heart issues
Joann McNutt	in ICU in St. Cloud, complications from surgery
Eddy Rodriguez	Islay Rodriguez's brother, lung cancer, now at home

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames	Inell Ingram
Lillian Bankston	Daniel Johnson
Judy Carmack	Kassandra Jones
Josie Dawson	Betty Matter
Zula Garrett	Joyce Parker
Margie Hardin	Leigh Puckett
Loretta Holaday	Maurine Reed
Joan Holloway	Ricky Smedley

Remember Our Mission Works

Pacific Islands
Robert & Mary Martin
Wayne & Kristi Parker

Africa
Nnanna Aforji
Tamuka Arunashe

Bahamas
Tavaro & Shameika Hanna

United States
Apologetics Press
Robert C. Lupo
Mauricio & Kayla Yegros

Answering Macedonian Calls
Josh & Cara Blackmer



Church Family Calendar of Events

Sunday, February 25

- ♦ **Wedding Shower for Alice Nelson & Cris Cuevas** at 4:30 p.m. in the Family Room. They are registered at Amazon and would appreciate Target gift cards.

Monday, February 26

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

Tuesday, February 27

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

Wednesday, February 28

- ♦ **Prayer Meeting** at 7:00 p.m. to prepare for the Gospel Meeting. Jr. High, Sr. High and adults will meet together in the auditorium after the devotional. Children in Grade 5 and under will have their regular classes.

Sunday-Wednesday, March 3-6

- ♦ **Gospel Meeting with Dan Winkler.** This year's theme is "How to Get from Here to Heaven."

Sunday-Wednesday, March 3-6

- ♦ **Gospel Meeting with Dan Winkler (cont.)**

<u>Sunday</u>	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	10:00 a.m.	Morning Worship
	12:45 p.m.	Evening Worship
<u>Mon.-Wed.</u>	12:15 p.m.	Midday Bible Study
<u>Mon.-Wed.</u>	7:00 p.m.	Evening Bible Study

Friday, March 8

- ♦ **Family Group 4 Meeting** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Dirk & Elizabeth Summerlot. Please bring a potluck dish. This is for all PBL members and families who live south of Southern Blvd.

Saturday, March 10

- ♦ **Daylight Saving Time Begins.** Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour.
- ♦ **2 Week Mini-Session Classes Begin** at 9:00 a.m. Age 3-Grade 5 will meet in Adult 1-2. Jr. High, Sr. High and adults will meet in the auditorium.
- ♦ **New Member's Orientation Class** at 9:00 a.m. See Tim Fry for more details.
- ♦ **Congregational Singing** in the Lobby during evening services.

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

Wednesday, February 28

- ♦ **Prayer Meeting** at 7:00 p.m. to prepare for the Gospel Meeting. Jr. High, Sr. High and adults will meet together in the auditorium after the devotional. Children in Grade 5 and under will have their regular classes.

Monday, March 11

- ♦ **Men's Meet** at 6:30 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.

Friday, March 15

- ♦ **Ladies and Lattes** at 7:00 p.m. Location TBD. 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.

Sunday, March 17

- ♦ **Young Adult & Young Families Lunch** after morning worship in the Family Room. See Ivan Villard for details.



Palm Beach Lakes **Youth**

Wednesday, February 28

- ♦ **Prayer Meeting** at 7:00 p.m. to prepare for the Gospel Meeting. Jr. High, Sr. High and adults will meet together in the auditorium after the devotional. Children in Grade 5 and under will have their regular classes.

Sunday, March 10

- ♦ **2 Week Mini-Session Classes Begin** at 9:00 a.m. Age 3-Grade 5 will meet in Adult 1-2. Jr. High, Sr. High and adults will meet in the auditorium.
- ♦ **His Kids Class** at 5:30 p.m. for Age 3 and up. Meet in the front of the auditorium.

Monday, March 11

- ♦ **Men's Meet** at 6:30 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.

Friday, March 15

- ♦ **Ladies and Lattes** at 7:00 p.m. Location TBD.

PALM BEACH LAKES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Men's Worship Service Assignments - March 2024

	March 3 ^(A)	March 10 ^(C)	March 17 ^(A)	March 24 ^(L)	March 31 ^(A)
Morning Worship Service					
Song Leader	Gary Friedly	Dion Hayes	Gary Friedly	Dion Hayes	Gary Friedly
Opening Prayer	David Lord	Jimmie Banks	Taylor Reeves	Darin Summerlot	James Green
Scripture Reader	Bill Ingram, Jr.	Johnny Davis	Tim Fry	Paul Metzkes	Jim Rogers
Presiding at Table	Dan McLeod	Jeff Leslie	Douglas Alvarenga	Gary Jenkins	Jeff Goodale
Serving at Table	Ed Buonadonna Addison Collins Cris Cuevas Gorman Ericksen Edward Gager Timothy Powell Joel Ramirez Chuck Reeves, Jr. Dirk Summerlot Daniel Swayne	Michael Erickson James Green Jack Holoman Jim Rogers Vincent Rogers Cayden Scriven Johnny Singer Cristian Suarez Joseph Snyder Marty Williams	Tim Cox Ryan Hankins Namdide Ikon Todd Juckett Richard Kelley Steward Lynch Tim Mahlbacher Robert Mariano John Patrick Nahum Villard	Ed Buonadonna Addison Collins Gorman Ericksen Andres Fernandez Freddie Gadson Edward Gager Bill Ingram, Jr. Keith Joy Dan McLeod Chuck Reeves, Jr.	Lance Collier Kirk Crews Jack Holoman Jeff Leslie Luther Robinson Islay Rodriguez Cayden Scriven Cristian Suarez Joseph Snyder Lawrence Williams
Closing Prayer	Keith Joy	Kirk Crews	Orlando Lolo	David Holaday	Henry Williams

Evening Worship Service					
Song Leader	Robert Lupo	Robert Lupo	Ivan Villard	Stephen Beliech	Graysen Hayes
Opening Prayer	Paul Metzkes	Joe Maloney	Richard Watson	Dan Fuller	John Hoelzer
Scripture Reader	Daniel Wagner	Rick Hall	Victor Colage	Timothy Powell	Connor Goodale
Presiding at Table	Dan Fuller	Ivan Villard	Stephen Beliech	David Lord	Kane Campbell
Serving at Table	David Brown David Perez	Connor Goodale Jim Davis	Trevin Roman Troy Alberga	David Perez Joel Ramirez	Jim Davis Joe Maloney
Closing Prayer	Eugene Williams	Trey Higbee	Willie Smith	Daniel Wagner	Ivan Villard

Technical Assignments (Sunday & Wednesday)					
Audio	Ricky Smith	Timothy Powell	James Green	David Brown	Timothy Powell
Computer	Buzz Nelson	Seth Watson	Bob Higbee	Ivan Villard	Seth Watson
Video	Todd Juckett	Scott Studer	Edward Gager	Scott Studer	Scott Studer

Service Assignments (Sunday & Wednesday)					
Safety	Darin Summerlot	Lawrence Williams	Seth Watson	Brandan Widner	Mike Damron
Usher	Andres Fernandez Freddie Gadson	Islay Rodriguez Lance Collier	Rick Hall Ricky Smith	Daniel Swayne Dirk Summerlot	Jimmie Banks Marty Williams

Service Coordinator (Sunday Morning & Evening)					
	Bob Higbee	Eugene Williams	Mike Damron	Tim Cox	Rick Hall

Please consider this opportunity to serve as special and dress accordingly.

Sunday Morning - Meet in Grade 6-8 classroom at 9:45 AM. Sunday Evening - Meet at front of auditorium before 5:50 PM.

If you are unable to serve, please contact the Service Coordinator for the week or Rick Hall at 827-4269.

Technical, Safety and Usher assignments are for Sunday morning, evening and Wednesday.

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

Members Traveling
this week



 **Thank You**
for worshiping with us

Sunday,
February 18

Birthdays & Anniversaries This Week

Sunday, February 25th
Lisa Eutsey

Tuesday, February 27th (cont.)
Chuck Milton

Tuesday, February 27th
Sonia Davidson
Caila Juckett

Friday, March 1st
Willie Smith

News & Notes

There is a **Wedding Shower for Alice Nelson & Cris Cuevas** on Sunday, February 25 at 4:30 p.m. in the Family Room. They are registered at Amazon and would appreciate Target gift cards.

 **Thank You** notes

Thanks be to God, our heavenly Father, for in this church we have righteous brothers and sisters, whose prayers avail much (James 5:16). Thanks to all of you.

Love,
Ophelia Holmes

Those to Serve

If you are unable to serve, please contact the Service Coordinator for the week or Rick Hall at 827-4269.

*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, February 25

Opening Prayer Victor Colage
Singing Gary Friedly
Contribution Willie Smith
Scripture Reading Tim Fry
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Lord's Supper
Singing
Closing Prayer Robert Mariano

Serve at Table:

Troy Alberga	Orlando Lolo
Douglas Alvarenga	Steward Lynch
Ryan Hankins	Tim Mahlbacher
Namdidie Ikon	Ricky Smith
Sylvester Jackson	Taylor Reeves

Sunday Evening, February 25

Singing Stephen Beliech
Opening Prayer Phil Porter
Scripture Reading Paul Metzkes
Singing
Lord's Supper Richard Watson
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer Johnny Davis

Serve at Table:

John Patrick Trevin Roman

Audio this week: David Brown

Computer this week: Ivan Villard

Video this week: Scott Studer

Wednesday Evening, February 28

Singing Jimmie Banks
Invitation James Green
Family Prayer Dan McLeod

Our Record

Attendance	Feb. 18	Jan. Avg
Sun. Bible Study	173	163
Sun. AM Worship	288	272
Sun. PM Worship	166	127
Wed. Bible Study	122	132
Contribution	\$15,647	\$18,473

2024 Weekly Budget: \$16,452

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$5,292

Service Coordinator:
Tim Cox

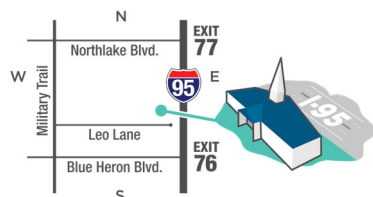
Ushers for this week: Rick Hall & Tyler Williams
Safety Team for this week: Nahum Villard



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: Lisa Suarez & Allison Snyder

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Islam & Other World Religions

Visit it often!

Sign up for Email Newsletter!

Strengthen and defend your faith!

Upcoming Events

March 3-6

Gospel Meeting with Dan Winkler

Theme: "How to Get from Here to Heaven"

April 18

Ladies' Day with Kristi Burleson

Theme: "A Heart of Humility"

May 4

Power Up! A Recharge for Christian Men

Theme: "Strong Men in Christ"

May 5

Friends & Family Day with Andy Robison

May 26

Promotion Sunday

June 2-5

Vacation Bible School

Theme: "Building for God"