

Pastors

Dan Fuller.....685-4454
 Paul Metzkes.....870-8042
 *Phil Porter575-4782
 Richard Watson.....307-2608

**Chairman for the Month of January*

Evangelists

Dan Jenkins379-2325
 David Sproule.....301-2230
 Robert Lupo315-1411

Deacons

David Brown.....972-7608
 Victor Colage.....719-1490
 Lance Collier.....985-4407
 Kirk Crews339-9283
 Mike Erickson.....310-9916
 Tim Fry373-9121
 Jeff Goodale261-1188
 Rick Hall622-5131
 Dion Hayes214-533-5065
 Gary Jenkins.....889-3585
 Jeff Leslie.....744-3444
 David Lord346-2228
 Buzz Nelson.....385-1588
 Lawrence Williams662-3419

Church Office

Phone.....561-848-1111
 Fax.....561-848-1198
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 E-mailoffice@pblcoc.org
 Ivan Villard667-8675
 Cindy Nelson801-9457
 June Pack627-5363



Vol. LXIV

January 5, 2025

No. 1

Welcome New Members



Kelly, Justin

Baptized December 5



St-Cyr, Sterling

Baptized December 28



DiNetta, Tom

Identified December 29



First Sunday of the New Year

Bible classes at 9:00 a.m.

Worship at 10:00 a.m.

Worship at 6:00 p.m.

The theme and plans for 2025 will be presented at the morning worship.



By Dan Jenkins

Christians and Their Own “NIL” Portal

There has been a major change in college sports and the details of the new program, the NIL, can be complicated. Basically, it says that any athlete can leave the team he has joined and enter a portal to be paid more to play for his new team. If no one signs him, he might think of himself as being a college athlete but is no longer part of any team.

Those in the first century all became part of a team in local congregations. This concept is clearly seen by looking at what the apostle Paul did when he left Damascus and came to Jerusalem. “And when Saul had come to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples; but they were all afraid of him...” (Acts 9:26). They were not aware that he had boldly preached in Damascus until Barnabas explained this to them. When this happened, he was able to join that new congregation. “So he was with them at Jerusalem, coming in and going out” (v. 28). Paul became part of a local congregation because that is the place God uses individual Christians.

When Paul sought to bring unity to the local work in Corinth, he used the figure of a body. In 1 Corinthians 12, he illustrates the spiritual body at Corinth as having “hands, feet and eyes.” The body needs every part, and the eye cannot arbitrarily disassociate itself from the rest of the body.

**“NIL”
Christians are:
Not
Involved
Locally!**

The church is more than a body because it is an army, and we march together to defeat Satan. A soldier is not a soldier until he becomes part of a unit of the army. Both soldiers and Christians work together, protect each other, have common goals and serve those who have the oversight over us and our Commander-in-Chief—Jesus Christ.

The church is a family where we have brothers and sisters who exhort us and encourage us in worship. We eat at a common table around the Lord’s table. We know and love our brothers and sisters. We are not orphans! The Lord designed the church so that each one watches out and takes care of brothers and sisters.

Tragically, far too many members of the church never join the local church in its work. They are like unsigned NIL football players. They have uniforms but have no place to use it. They drift from one congregation to another and never become involved in any local congregation where God wants them to be. They have entered their own spiritual NIL portals and are like soldiers who never really enter the battle against sin. They are like members of a family who create a void between them and their brothers and sisters.

If you are a Christian who never joins a local church, you should consider these words and do what Paul did. He found the local church and joined it and then worked with it.



By David Sproule

Let Him Have His Way with Thee

In 1898, Cyrus S. Nusbaum penned the well-known hymn, “Let Him Have His Way with Thee,” while living in southeastern Kansas. The three stanzas of the song each ask three questions about your relationship with Jesus and what “you” would be willing to let Him do in your life and what “you” would be willing to do for Him. Each of the nine questions begins with, “Would you?” And the answer that he gives to each of the nine questions is the same seven words: “Let Him have His way with thee.”

In the chorus of the hymn, Nusbaum focuses on three major incentives and blessings that result when one chooses the “best” life of submitting to the care and direction of Jesus. Give these some serious thought.

“His power can make you what you ought to be.” Interestingly, he does not say that the power of Christ can make you what you “want” to be. No. The focus is on what you “ought” to be. Of course, the power of Christ is rooted in the Word of Christ. “The word of God is living and powerful” (Heb. 4:12). The power of Christ can “turn” you “from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God” (Acts 26:18). That’s what you ought to be. The power of Christ, in His Word, can “transform” you into the “image” of Christ (2

Cor. 3:18). When we let Jesus have His way and we yield our self-focused, minute power to His infinite, eternal power, He can make us what we ought to be.

“His blood can cleanse your heart and make you free.” The power of His Word, recognized in the first point, can “save your soul” (Jas. 1:21), because it transforms you from the inside out. When we submit ourselves “in obeying the truth,” our “souls” are “purified” (1 Pet. 1:22) by the “pure” Word (Psa. 19:7) and the “cleansing” power of His blood (1 John 1:9), “cleansing” our “conscience from dead works” (Heb. 9:14) and setting us “free from sin” (Rom. 6:7). When we let Jesus have His way and are baptized (Acts 22:16) and then live faithfully (1 John 1:7), He will cleanse us and free us.

“His love can fill your soul.” It is so easy to go through life and be dominated with love for self. But when we submit ourselves to the power of Christ and purify our hearts (Jas. 4:7-8; 2 Cor. 7:1)—all through the application of His Word to our hearts and lives—our passions and desires change. Love of self is removed and is replaced with the love of Christ—His love “abides” in us (1 John 4:12-16), “compels” us (2 Cor. 5:14) and “perfects” us (Col. 3:14). When we let Jesus have His way, His love will truly fill our lives and impact every part of who we are and what we do. Yes, “you will see ‘twas best for Him to have His way with thee.”

**When one
chooses the
“best” life of
submitting to
Jesus**



By Robert Lupo

A Resolution for Your Children

Another year has come upon us. Many of us celebrated by setting off fireworks or watching the Times Square count-down. Many more of us are determined to make some resolutions.

This is a great time for us to look back on the previous year and see where we succeeded, where we failed, where we grew, and where we fell short. Certainly, there are things we can do differently this year to better ourselves and our families. I would like to focus on just one thing we might consider for 2025. If you are a parent, then this is for you. Let's make a resolution to get our children more involved with the church.

Over the last year, I've noticed so many families already making changes to prioritize youth activities, and it has made a massive difference! I see closer bonds between the youth, I've been asked deeper Bible questions than before, and I've noticed a greater amount of enthusiasm for service projects. Every one of them is growing in their love for Christ and their love for each other.

But, let's not be satisfied with where we are now. Peter writes in 2 Peter 3:17-18, "...beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord

and Savior Jesus Christ." The life of a Christian cannot be allowed to plateau. We must be growing. Is there room to grow when it comes to your child's involvement in the church?

Just think of what your child is missing out on when they miss a devo, a hangout, a Bible class, a worship service or a visitation. Each one of these can have an immeasurable impact on the spiritual strength of our youth. By assembling together in study, in singing, in conversation, and laughter with the church, they are able to encourage each other to be the Christians that God wants them to be. Hebrews 10:24-25 tells us, "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."

Please don't misunderstand this. Not everyone can be at every youth event, but we must see the value in making every church activity that we can attend a priority. In a world that is fighting for as much of our children's attention as it can get, we need to fight even harder to provide a safe haven from its influence. There is no better place for our youth to be than with their brothers and sisters in Christ.

So, make a resolution for your children to be more involved in the church. Get a copy of this year's event calendar and see how much more growth 2025 can bring.

Let's make a resolution to get our children more involved with the church.

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

What makes His "special people" special?

Perhaps the word "special" has been so overused (and misused) that it has lost "specialness" when it comes to God's use of that word in the Bible. In both the Old Testament and the New Testament, God identified His people as "special." What does that involve?

God identifies His people as "a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth" (Deut. 7:6; 14:2; Ex. 19:5). These are ones He "loves" (Deut. 7:6-8), has "chosen" (Deut. 7:6; 1 Pet. 2:9), has "brought" to Himself (Ex. 19:4-5), and to whom He extends His "mercy" (1 Pet. 2:9-10). If you are one of His people, do you feel "special"? You are to God!

But in every context of Scripture where God identifies His people as "special," He equally specifies what He expects of them. "Obey My voice and keep My covenant" (Ex. 19:5), "love Him and keep His commandments" (Deut. 7:9; 26:18), "proclaim the excellencies of Him...abstain from fleshly lusts" (1 Pet. 2:9-12), being "zealous for good works" (Tit. 2:14). God's people are "special" because of Whose they are and what they do for Him! – DS



I love Wednesday nights, don't you?

There is something special about the church! God said so (1 Pet. 2:9; Acts 20:28)! There is something special about the church getting together! God said so (Acts 12:12; 1 Cor. 14:26; Heb. 10:24-25)! And, in my opinion, there is something special about Wednesday nights.

That seven days between Sundays—between the times that the church gets to see each other and be with each other and worship together and study together—is a long time! Wednesday nights is that little pick-me-up, reconnection, refueling that Christians need. (How often do you charge your phone battery? Why so often?)

Some question whether it's really worth the extra effort, when maybe they don't get as much out of it. But, your presence makes a big difference to everyone else. That's "worth" it! Some question whether they really "have to be there," since it's not a Sunday-Lord's-Supper worship. But, there is not one earthly thing you could be doing that night which is more valuable to your eternal soul. That's "worth" it! I love Wednesday nights! Don't you? – DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Crystal Burroughs	dealing with a lot of pain in her leg and hip
Linda Coe	total knee replacement surgery on January 16
Eddie Gooden	dealing with severe back pain
Ophelia Holmes	awaiting results from more tests on her lungs
Dan Johnson	struggling with some additional health issues
Bettye King	recovering from a stroke, slowly improving
Debora Lynch	arthoscopic surgery on her knee on January 3
Joyce Parker	Jupiter Rehab (room 403A), congestive heart failure
Pat Patterson	having cataract surgery on January 15 and January 19
Bereather Williams	now at home and doing better
Evetta Wilson	recovering at home, slowly improving

Ongoing Health Issues

Judy Carmack	chronic 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	Daniel Johnson
Josie Dawson	Kasandra Jones
Zula Garrett	Joyce Parker
Dick Haines	Leigh Puckett
Margie Hardin	Maurine Reed
Loretta Holaday	Ricky Smedley

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Sharon Banks	Derrick & Jimmie's sister, triple bypass surgery
Judy Chilcutt	Stephen Beliech's sister, moved to rehab for knee
Scott Kelley	Dick & Marcia Kelley's son, tumor surgery postponed
John Lord	David Lord's father, stage 4 prostate cancer treatments
Diana MacArthur	Maxine McCoy's mother, having issues with pacemaker
Greg Ryan	Lynne Jorgensen's son, awaiting test results from scan

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, January 5

- ♦ **Every Member Present Sunday** for Bible Class and Worship. New plans for the new year will be presented, and every member is urged to be in attendance. Let's start the new year together!
- ♦ **Meeting of All PBL Men** at 5:00 p.m. in the Family Room.

Monday, January 6

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

Tuesday, January 7

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

Saturday, January 11

- ♦ **PBL Ladies' Prayer Meeting** at 1:00 p.m. in the Family Room. See Maria Hackshaw for details.

Sunday, January 12

- ♦ **2 Week Mini-Session Classes Begin.** Age 3-Grade 5 meet in the Sr. High Room.
- ♦ **Josh Blackmer Mission Report** at 9:00 a.m. Jr. High, Sr. High and all adults will meet in the Auditorium.
- ♦ **PBL Family Camping Trip Meeting** after morning worship in Adult 1-2. This is for anyone interested in going camping on February 14-17. Sign up on the bulletin board in the Lobby. See Ivan Villard for more details.
- ♦ **His Kids Class** at 5:30 p.m. for Age 3 and up. Meet in the front of the auditorium.
- ♦ **Youth & Family Singing** after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

Sunday, January 19

- ♦ **New Member's Orientation Class** at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room. See Tim Fry for more details.

Saturday, January 25

- ♦ **Widows & Widowers Luncheon** from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the home of Kane & Fran Campbell. Come and enjoy food, fun and fellowship. Please RSVP to Kane & Fran Campbell.

Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ Young Adults

Monday, January 6

- ♦ **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.

Saturday, January 11

- ♦ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of David & Traci Sproule. See Ivan Villard for details.

Friday, January 31

- ♦ **Young Adult Game Night** at 7:00 p.m. Location TBD. See Ivan Villard for details.

Friday-Sunday, February 14-16

- ♦ **PBL Family Camping Trip** at Brownsville Park in Acadia, FL. Cost is \$35 per person. Sign up on the bulletin board in the lobby. All members are encouraged to enjoy this time of fellowship and camping. See Ivan Villard for details.



Palm Beach Lakes Youth

Monday, January 6

- ♦ **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.

Sunday, January 12

- ♦ **2 Week Mini-Session Classes Begin.** Age 3-Grade 5 meet in the Sr. High Room. Jr. High, Sr. High and all adults meet in the Auditorium.
- ♦ **His Kids Class** at 5:30 p.m. for Age 3 and up. Meet in the front of the auditorium.
- ♦ **Youth & Family Singing** after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

Sunday, January 19

- ♦ **His Kids Class** at 5:30 p.m. for Age 3 and up. Meet in the front of the auditorium.

Children's Bible Education & Experience



Age 3 thru Grade 5

Designed to develop and strengthen a living faith in the hearts of our children by walking them into the settings, narratives and truths of the living messages of God's Word!

Semester #13

January 26 thru June 11

Cradle Roll & Toddler Classes

**December 2024
thru
February 2025**

Cradle Roll

"God Made Families"
Gwen Lyons

Toddlers

"Creation"
Kathy Nelson

	The Church Begins	The Church in Jerusalem	The Church Grows	Saul Converted	The Apostle Peter
Session 1 <i>Jan. 26 thru Feb. 19</i>	Grades 4-5 <i>Robert Lupo</i>	Ages 3-4 <i>Trish Clark</i>		K & Grade 1 <i>L. Metzkes & M. Porter</i>	Grades 2-3 <i>Jennifer Goodale</i>
Session 2 <i>Feb. 23 thru Mar. 19</i>	Grades 2-3 <i>Jennifer Goodale</i>	Grades 4-5 <i>Robert Lupo</i>	Ages 3-4 <i>Trish Clark</i>		K & Grade 1 <i>L. Metzkes & M. Porter</i>
Session 3 <i>Mar. 23 thru Apr. 16</i>	K & Grade 1 <i>Brenda Collier</i>	Grades 2-3 <i>Reanna Lupo</i>	Grades 4-5 <i>Dan McLeod</i>	Ages 3-4 <i>Peggy Hall</i>	
Session 4 <i>Apr. 20 thru May 14</i>		K & Grade 1 <i>Brenda Collier</i>	Grades 2-3 <i>Reanna Lupo</i>	Grades 4-5 <i>Dan McLeod</i>	Ages 3-4 <i>Peggy Hall</i>
Session 5 <i>May 18 thru June 11</i>	Ages 3-4 <i>Peggy Hall</i>		K & Grade 1 <i>Brenda Collier</i>	Grades 2-3 <i>Reanna Lupo</i>	Grades 4-5 <i>Dan McLeod</i>

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

Members Traveling
this week



Thank You
for worshipping with us

Sunday,
December 29

Birthdays & Anniversaries This Week

Sunday, January 5th

Anthony Marion

Monday, January 6th

Joe Maloney

Tuesday, January 7th

Willie & Giselle Smith (Ann.)

Lucy Bond

Sandy Colage

Thursday, January 9th

Matthew & Kasandra Jones (Ann.)

Brenda Collier

Friday, January 10th

Crystal Burroughs

Marjorie Ruiz-Carmona

LOCAL VISITORS: Mr. Emilio Clergé; D. Elaine; Mr. Sterling Frederick; Mr. Michael Fuentes; Mr. & Mrs. Dennis & Sharon Mann; Ms. Diane Martin; Mr. & Mrs. Bret & Shelley Nesbitt; Mrs. Beulah Peat; Mr. & Mrs. John & Andrea Phillip; and Mr. Trevor Wellington.

OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS: Mr. Brad Collier, Patterson, GA; Mr. & Mrs. Alex & Brenda Coloma, Memphis, TN; Mr. & Mrs. Brent & Lindsey McPherson, Nashville, TN; Mrs. Jacqueline Parker, Ringgold, GA; Mr. & Mrs. Jon & Kristen Reames, Franklin, TN; Ms. Darlene Smith, Valdosta, GA; Mrs. Andrea Spradlin, Milton, FL; Miss Lakeshia Tumblin, Jacksonville, FL; and Mr. & Mrs. Merritt & Noah Verspohl, Vero Beach, FL.



Directory Changes

News&Notes

There will be a **PBL Family Camping Trip Meeting** on Sunday, January 12 after morning worship in Adult 1-2. This is for anyone interested in going camping on February 14-17. Sign up on the bulletin board. See Ivan Villard for more details.

MEETING OF ALL PBL MEN SUNDAY, JAN. 5 @ 5:00 P.M.

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, January 5

Singing Robert Lupo
Opening Prayer Tim Cox
Scripture Reading Orlando Lolo
Singing
Lord's Supper Stephen Beliech
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer Phil Porter

Serve at Table:

Ryan Hanks	Robert Mariano
Namdidie Ikon	Taylor Reeves
Steward Lynch	Nahum Villard
Tim Mahlbacher	Richard Weinstein

Sunday Evening, January 5

Singing Dion Hayes
Opening Prayer Richard Watson
Scripture Reading Trevin Roman
Singing
Lord's Supper Tim Fry
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer Joe Maloney

Serve at Table:

Troy Alberga	Sylvester Jackson
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Audio this week: Ricky Smith

Computer this week: Buzz Nelson

Video this week: Ed Gager

Wednesday Evening, January 8

Singing Dan McLeod
Invitation Ricky Smith
Family Prayer Victor Colage

Our Record

Attendance	Dec. 29	Nov. Avg
Sun. Bible Study	165	175
Sun. AM Worship	252	245
Sun. PM Worship	114	102
Wed. Bible Study	119	125
Contribution	\$17,206	\$17,280

2024 Weekly Budget: \$16,452

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$22,872

Service Coordinator:
Rick Hall

Ushers for this week: Victor Colage & Tom Garrison
Safety Team for this week: Rick Hall



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: Islay Rodriguez, Willie Smith & David Lord



MISSION Sunday

TAKING THE GOSPEL TO THE WORLD

January 26

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).