

Bishops

- *Dan Fuller..... 685-4454
- Dion Hayes 214-533-5065
- 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
- 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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- Ivan Villard 667-8675
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- June Pack 627-5363



Vol. LXIV

February 9, 2025

No. 6

Dion Hayes *Ordained As Elder*



The ordaining of **Dion Hayes** as an elder at Palm Beach Lakes on Sunday, January 12, continues to give great promise and confidence to the future of this congregation. The appointing of an elder has more than just an immediate impact; the appointing of an elder will potentially flavor and shape a congregation for decades.

Dion and Misty came to Palm Beach Lakes in early 2019. They have been married for 27 years, and they have three children: Taylor, Kinsey and Graysen. Dion served as a deacon at PBL for the last 3 years and truly demonstrated a servant’s heart and great passion in every assignment.

Dion, we are excited to have you as one of our elders, which gives us great joy and hope for our future. As you enter into your new role as one of the shepherds and overseers of this church, we will keep you (and all of the elders) in our prayers, that you will have a heart of a shepherd, a devotion to the truth, an eye for souls and an example worthy of following. We thank God for your willingness to serve!



By Dan Jenkins

“I Hope God Exists” vs. “I Know God Exists”

Is there any way that you can really know that God exists? Is believing there is a God like a wish? A wish is something we would like to happen, but there is little chance that it will. Is faith more like a dream that has nothing to do with reality?

Or is faith more than an idle dream but there is some level of expectation that the dream likely will become a reality? We live our lives serving God, and we make choices every day hoping that He does exist. Sometimes when we talk about God and heaven we say, “Well, I really hope that there is a God.” Those words can imply that the odds are that He exists, but there is a chance that He does not.

Or is there another level so that we can really know that God exists. Can mature faith and hope become a reality? Can I actually know that God does exist? Look at how God uses the word “know” when He came into Egypt to deliver the Jews from bondage.

At the burning bush God gave Moses what most would consider to be an insurmountable task. God answered all of Moses’ questions like “Who am I...What is Your name...Suppose they will not believe me?” God answered that third question in three ways. Moses was to cast his rod on the ground before the people, and it would become a serpent. If

they did not believe him, he was to put his hand in his garment, and it would come out covered with leprosy. If they would not believe these first two signs, then he was to take water from the river, pour it on the dry ground and it would immediately be turned into blood. Wishes and dreams can become hope. Hope can become so strong that hope becomes knowledge.

See this shown in the events after Moses left Egypt. Moses told the Jews God was about to bring them out of bondage and when that happened, “Then you shall know I am the Lord” (Exo. 6:7). The Egyptians would know (Ex. 7:5). Pharaoh would know this when all the water turned into blood (Ex. 7:17). Moses told Pharaoh that the removal of the frogs at the time Pharaoh selected was so that he might “...know there is like Jehovah God” (Ex. 8:10). Space does not permit looking how often this was said in Egypt (Ex. 8:22; 9:14; 9:29; 10:2; 10:7; 14:4; and many, many others)!

If you believe this happened in Egypt because you trust the Bible, how much greater can your faith be because of what we read about Jesus and His life. Here’s the application of this to our lives. Do you wish that Jesus really lived and did what He did? Or do you fondly hope that the odds are that these signs show He is Immanuel? It is far more than this. You can know that God is and that Jesus came. It is not a dream!

Is there any way that belief in God is more than a wish or a fond hope He is?



By David Sproule

Why I Enjoy Teaching One-on-One Bible Studies (Part 1 of 2)

Preaching the gospel is fun! Standing up and proclaiming God’s Word to five people or 500 people is one of the most exciting things ever! I wish more men (and young men) desired to be preachers!

But, here’s something that I enjoy just as much as standing up and preaching to a bunch of people. I love an opportunity to sit down at a table one-on-one with someone who is not a Christian and open up the Bible with him/her. For some Christians (and some preachers, included), this can be an intimidating experience. But, when you do it, and the more you do it, the more comfortable you will become and the more you will enjoy it, to the point of wanting to do it more and more. Why do I enjoy one-on-one Bible studies with non-Christians so much?

I am always using the same textbook. I’m not a teacher who is handling math, science, history and health textbooks for multiple classes. I walk into a Bible study with one book. It’s the same book for every study and works the same in every study. That makes it easy and fun.

The Bible does not change. In some fields of study, you have to keep up with the latest advancements, the latest findings, the latest updates, the latest amendments, etc. That can be exhausting, and no doubt, you might miss something.

When I walk into a Bible study, I have absolute confidence that nothing has changed in the Bible from the last time I opened it. God’s truth “is settled in heaven” (Psa. 119:89), “endures forever” (1 Pet. 1:25) and will not “pass away” (Matt. 24:35).

The Bible is always right. Sometimes people in a study will question what the Bible says. Sometimes they will compare what they have heard from someone else. Sometimes they will even disagree with what the Bible is saying about something. But “none of these things move me,” for “The statutes of the Lord are right” (Psa. 19:8) and His “commandments are righteousness” (Psa. 119:172). It’s always right.

The Bible has all the answers. When I start a study, I know there is always a good chance that someone is going to ask a question for which I don’t have the answer myself. That’s ok. That doesn’t make me nervous, because I know that the Bible has the answers. Sometimes the answer is, “I don’t know, but let’s find out.” Or sometimes the answer is Deuteronomy 29:29, but for those things that are revealed to us, the answer always begins with, “The Scripture says...”

I can rely on the Bible and not me. Bible studies help me to build my faith in the Bible and to “trust in [His] word” (Psa. 119:42), for it will always “lead me in the way everlasting” (Psa. 139:14).
[More next week]

...to the point of wanting to do it more and more



By Robert Lupo

Pump the Brakes

If you have spent any time driving on I-95 through Palm Beach County, Florida, then you know that some of the worst driving in the world happens right here. The key to navigating these roads is to master defensive driving. If you can do that, you will probably be just fine.

First, you have to watch on the road. Spatial awareness is very important. Second, you need to anticipate possible road dangers. This can be a lot more difficult. You never know if someone will suddenly cut you off or slam on their breaks. The best practice is to play it safe. Don't rush, watch the flow of traffic, and if you have to, pump the brakes. Being willing to slow down can rescue you from all sorts of hazards.

Most drivers already know these things. But, for some reason we often have trouble applying these same principles to our view of sin. Instead of looking ahead and looking for the warning signs of sin, we allow ourselves to get as close as we possibly can and then are surprised when we have an "accident." Question: If I close my eyes and start driving down I-95 at rush hour, can I really call it an accident when I slam into the first car I come across? It is no different with sin. We need to walk defensively by being aware of our surroundings and anticipating temptations.

...we cannot close our eyes and expect to find an exit from sin.

Look at the example of David and Bathsheba. David allowed temptation to turn him into an adulterer and murderer. But, was it just an accident? In 2 Samuel 11:2-4, we can see that David ignored several warning signs. The scripture tells that first, he "saw" Bathsheba bathing. Then, he "beheld" her beauty. After that, he "inquired" about her. Finally, he "sent" for her. At which point should David have realized that he was heading down a dangerous path? Seeing Bathsheba could have been avoided to begin with if he kept his eyes where he knew they should have been. Instead, he let the temptation blind him to the dangers.

No one accidentally sins. God gives us warning signs. James 1:14-15 tells us, "But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death." We need to be aware of the things that tempt us and avoid them at all costs. In 1 Corinthians 10:13, God promised that He will always provide us a way to escape sin. But, we cannot close our eyes and expect to find an exit from sin.

We need to walk defensively. When we see the signs of temptation, instead of barreling through them blindly, pump the brakes. Look for the way out. "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Pet. 5:8).

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

God is with you at work!

Some Christians endure much hardship in their workplace—from their boss, coworkers, clientele, etc. It breaks my heart to hear of the mistreatments that many have experienced.

Can I remind you what happened to Jacob? Well, he worked for his father-in-law. That might have been a recipe for trouble from the beginning. It started out well, but things changed. Laban's "countenance...was not favorable to him as before" (Gen. 31:2, 5). Jacob "served" "with all his might" and did the best he could (31:5), but things did not improve. Laban "deceived" him and "changed [his] wages ten times" (31:7). Does any of that sound familiar? Have you been mistreated on the job?

Underline three statements and remember these when you go to work: (1) Even in all of this, Jacob said, "But the God of my father has been with me" (31:5). (2) The Lord told him, "I have seen all that Laban is doing to you" (31:12). (3) Jacob realized, "God did not allow him to hurt me" (31:7). Remember in all that happens, God is with you, sees it all and protects you. —

DS



Complaint department—not where you think it is

I had someone call me at the church office one time and ask for the HR Office, as they wanted to file a complaint. That was a fun conversation. Have you ever wondered where the "Complaint Department" is for Christians? It's a two-part answer.

Part 1: "Do all things without complaining and disputing" (Phil. 2:14). Well, looks like the "Complaint Department" got closed before it could ever open. Circle the word "all." No complaining! (Ancient Israel apparently missed this memo.)

Part 2: "I pour out my complaint before Him" (Psa. 142:2). When you've got a complaint, consider Luke 6:31 and then Colossians 3:13, then grab 1 Peter 5:7. After that (or better yet, before that), "cry out to the Lord" (Psa. 142:1). Take your "trouble" (142:2) to Him: "My spirit was overwhelmed...No one acknowledges me...No one cares for my soul...I am brought very low...they are stronger than I" (142:3, 4, 6). After you unload your complaint, remember: "You knew my path... You are my refuge...You shall deal bountifully with me" (142:3, 5, 7). Leave it with Him! He will take care of it...and you! — DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Linda Coe	undergoing therapy on her knee following surgery
Betty King	recovering from a stroke, slowly improving
Norma Mariano	recovering from an outpatient procedure
Pat Patterson	recovering from second cataract surgery
Isolyn Sinclair	in severe pain
Jackie Stout	dealing with severe chronic back pain

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 These Relatives of PBL Members

Sharon Banks	Derrick & Jimmie Banks' sister, diabetes complications
Lillian Cunningham	Mary Brown's sister, knee replacement surgery (2/10)
Thelma Findley	Maria Hackshaw's mother, heart attack and pneumonia
Scott Kelley	Dick & Marcia Kelley's son, recovering from tumor surg.
Rudy March	Verdell March's husband, awaiting brain scan results
Clara Medina	Carolina Medina's sister, multiple health issues
Beverly Michaelian	Lynne Jorgensen's mother, heart complications
Ivan Villard, Sr.	Keila, Ivan & Nahum's father, surgery to remove tumor

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames	Daniel Johnson
Josie Dawson	Kasandra Jones
Zula Garrett	Leigh Puckett
Dick Haines	Maurine Reed
Margie Hardin	Ricky Smedley
Loretta Holaday	

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 9

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

Monday, February 10

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

Tuesday, February 11

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

Friday-Sunday, February 14-16

- ◆ **PBL Family Camping Trip** at Brownsville Park in Arcadia, 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.

Saturday, February 22

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

Wednesday, February 26

- ◆ **Prayer Meeting** 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.

Friday, February 28

- ◆ **Ladies' Fellowship** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Sue Hoelzer. Please bring finger foods or a charcuterie board and your Bible. See Allison Roman for more details.

Saturday, March 1

- ◆ **Ladies' Day hosted by Sixth Street.** This year's speakers will be Becky Blackmon and Janet Wilson.

Sunday-Wednesday, March 2-5

- ◆ **Gospel Meeting with Hiram Kemp.** This year's theme is "First-Century Faith in the Modern World."

<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

Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ
Young Adults

Friday-Sunday, February 14-16

- ◆ **PBL Family Camping Trip** at Brownsville Park in Arcadia, 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.

Saturday, March 1

- ◆ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Rick & Melinda Price. See Ivan Villard for details.

Sunday, March 16

- ◆ **Youth & Young Adult Family Lunch** after morning worship in the Family Room. All Youth and Young Adult families are invited to have lunch together and prepare advertising packages for this year's Vacation Bible School. Cost is \$5 per person (age 5 & up); kids under 5 are free. Please RSVP by March 12 and pay Ivan Villard (cash or venmo @Ivan-Villard-1).

Saturday, April 5

- ◆ **Young Adult Bike Ride** at 10:00 a.m. Location TBD.



Palm Beach Lakes
Youth

Sunday, February 9

- ◆ **No His Kids Class.**
- ◆ **Youth & Family Singing** after evening worship in the Family Room. Every member is invited to stay and sing for about 35 minutes.

Sunday, February 16

- ◆ **No His Kids Class.** Class will resume on Sunday, February 23.

Friday-Sunday, February 21-23

- ◆ **Challenge Youth Conference** for Jr. High & Sr. High in Pigeon Forge, TN. See Robert Lupo for details.

Sunday, February 23

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

Sunday, March 9

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

Equipping & Edifying Families

7 Steps to Recovering from Crises in the Home

by Dan Winkler



Introduction

- i. Job 5:7; 14:1; 1 Corinthians 5:4
- ii. Some of the greatest heroes of the Bible experienced personal crises (e.g. Heb. 12:1-3).
- iii. The Lord challenges us in the “Sermon on the Mount” to take seven steps away from “our cares” and into “God’s care”!

1. Live for Heaven (Matt. 6:19-23)!

- a. Jesus’ admonition – *Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth...but...treasures in heaven.*
- b. Colossians 3:1-2 – Personal questions:
 - 1) Why do you want to go to heaven?
 - 2) How much do you think of it?
 - 3) Why?

2. Love/Be Loyal to God (Matt 6:24-25)!

- a. Jesus’ admonition – *No one can serve two masters...Therefore...do not worry about your life...*
- b. Romans 12:11 – Personal questions:
 - 1) What is the first item on your personal budget?
 - 2) What is the largest item on your personal budget?

3. Become a Birdwatcher (Matt. 6:26)!

- a. Jesus’ admonition – *Look at the birds of the air...Are you not of more value?*
- b. Matthew 10:29 + Luke 12:5-6 – Personal questions:
 - 1) How important are you to God?
 - 2) How important are you to Jesus?

4. Learn to Appreciate Flowers (Matt. 6:27-30)!

- a. Jesus’ admonition – *Consider the lilies...if God so clothes the grass...will He not much more clothe you?*
- b. John 14:1 – Personal questions:
 - 1) Ever had your faith tested?
 - 2) What grade would you give yourself?

5. Give God Your Cares (Matt. 6:31-32)!

- a. Jesus’ admonition – *Therefore, do not worry...your heavenly Father knows...*
- b. 1 Peter 5:6-7 – Personal questions:
 - 1) Who controls your life?
 - 2) Now, what kind of future do you expect?

6. Commit Yourself to a Cause (Matt. 6:33)!

- a. Jesus’ admonition – *But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness...*
- b. Luke 14:25, 33 – Personal questions:
 - 1) How do you spend the majority of your free time?
 - 2) How do you spend the majority of your monies?

7. Live One Day at a Time (Matt. 6:34)!

- a. Jesus’ admonition – *Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow...*
- b. James 4:13-14 – Personal questions:
 - 1) Can you predict [no guessing] the details of tomorrow?
 - 2) Why worry?

Conclusion

- i. Someone has said, “Worry is like a rocking chair. It gives you something to do, but it gets you nowhere.”
- ii. Philippians 4:6-7 – NOTE the sequence: (a) Problems? (b) Pray. (c) Peace!
 - a. An exclusion: Do not worry about anything! – *Be anxious for nothing!*
 - b. An inclusion: Pray about everything! – *In everything by prayer...let your requests be made known to God!*
 - c. A conclusion: Peace! – *The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard!*

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

Members Traveling
this week



Thank You
for worshipping with us

Sunday,
February 2



PBL Family Camping Trip

February 14-17

It's that time of year! Our PBL Family Camping Trip will be Friday-Monday, February 14-17 at Brownville Park in Arcadia, FL. Cost is \$35 per person (ages 6+). Please pay Ivan Villard by Monday, February 10. If you haven't signed up, there's still time to join us for the weekend! Day visitors are also welcome (\$2 gate fee).

Important: Please let Ivan know what time you are planning to arrive at the camp site.

Activities: Hiking, biking, kayaking, fossil hunting, fishing, stargazing and more!

Packing List: Bring your own cups, plates & utensils. Tent, sleeping gear, toiletries, bug spray, flashlight, clothing, and any other personal essentials.

LOCAL VISITORS: Miss Christy Anderson; Ms. Althea Bignall; Mrs. Vita Chery; D. Elaine; Ms. Stephanie Flournoy; Mrs. Terietta Frazier; Mr. Sterling Frederick; Mrs. Ann Freseman; Ms. Sylvia Goldie; Mrs. Tangela Jackson; Mr. James Lang; Miss Tanya Lubin; Mr. & Mrs. Dennis & Sharon Mann; Mr. Morris McDaniel; Ms. Tiffany McIntosh; Miss D.L. Moore; Mr. & Mrs. Bret & Shelley Nesbitt; Mrs. Nikki O'Hanlon; Ms. Mornese Paige; and Mr. & Mrs. Hunter & Jewell Sanders.

OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS: Ms. Patricia Harrington, Gladwin, MI; Mr. & Mrs. Don & Phyllis Lallathin, Belpre, OH; and Mrs. Andrea Spradlin, Milton, FL.

Birthdays & Anniversaries This Week

Sunday, February 9th

Joe & Janice Maloney (Ann.)
Rudolph & Verdell March (Ann.)

Wednesday, February 12th

Dave Holaday

Monday, February 10th

Pete & Pat Brown (Ann.)

Thursday, February 13th

Eugene & Penny Williams (Ann.)

Tuesday, February 11th

David Brown

Friday, February 14th

Jaime & Natasha Flores (Ann.)
Marty & Leslie Williams (Ann.)

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 9

Singing Dion Hayes
Lord's Supper Kirk Crews
Singing
Opening Prayer Dan Jenkins
Scripture Reading James Green
Singing
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer Ivan Villard

Serve at Table:
Casey Crews Jim Rogers
Jeff Leslie Cayden Scriven
Michael Menendez Joseph Snyder
John Patrick Marty Williams

Sunday Evening, February 9

Singing Graysen Hayes
Opening Prayer Jeff Goodale
Scripture Reading Connor Goodale
Singing
Lord's Supper Kane Campbell
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer Islay Rodriguez

Serve at Table:
John Hoelzer Jack Holoman

Audio this week: Ricky Smith
Computer this week: Buzz Nelson
Video this week: Ed Gager

Wednesday Evening, February 12

Singing Chuck Reeves, Jr.
Invitation Eugene Williams
Family Prayer Tim Fry

Our Record

Attendance	Feb. 2	Jan. Avg
Sun. Bible Study	171	183
Sun. AM Worship	261	270
Sun. PM Worship	111	117
Wed. Bible Study	127	132
Contribution	\$16,403	\$18,349
2025 Weekly Budget: \$16,803		
Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$4,238		

Service Coordinator:
Eugene Williams

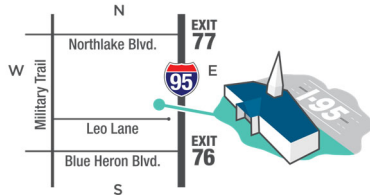
Ushers for this week: Lance Collier & Vincent Rogers
Safety Team for this week: Jimmie Banks



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: **Paul & Lisa Metzkes**

He will tend his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms;
he will carry them in his bosom, &

GENTLY LEAD

those that are with young

—
ISAIAH 40:11
—