

Those to Serve

July 26		August 2	
Morning Worship		Morning Worship	
Opening Prayer	Clifford Layton	Opening Prayer	Bill Russell
Song Leader	Gary Adams	Song Leader	Greg Fabian
Communion		Communion	
Presiding:	Chuck Huckabee	Presiding:	Gheath Alatrash
Pete Griffith	Jeremy Brown	Paul Dillon	Phil Godwin
Demetris Kelly	Ross Genaro	Eugene Priestley	Tim Godwin
Bobby Parker	Charlie Layton	Loyd Wilson	Nathan Scarsdale
Closing Prayer	Ben Lenamon	Closing Prayer	Paul Cartwright
Nursery		Nursery	
Monica Blair	Laurie Maxcey	Judy Dillon	Molly Godwin
Evening Worship		Evening Worship	
Opening Prayer	Paul Hamilton	Opening Prayer	Lynn Adams
Song Leader	Gary Adams	Song Leader	Greg Fabian
Communion	C. Lindelof & E. Ray	Communion	K. Scarsdale & R. Bazy
Closing Prayer	Daniel Brown	Closing Prayer	Bob Williams
Nursery	Amy Cuellar	Nursery	Debbie Brown
Both Services		Both Services	
Ushers (*indicates head usher)		Ushers (*indicates head usher)	
*Chris Lindelof, Eddie Ray, John Genaro, Dal Randle, Josh Hamilton		*Kevin Scarsdale, Ron Bazy, Russell Genaro, Derek Mauney, Davy May	
Announcements	Paul Cartwright	Announcements	Paul Cartwright
Video Camera	Kyle Huckabee	Video Camera	John Adams
Greeters		Greeters	
G. & J. Adams	K. & M. Scarsdale	V. & R.J. Knight	L. & D. Roberson
M. Harris & J. Coe	D. & T. Mauney	B. & D. Westmoreland	G. Whitmire & B. Shock
Building Lock Up	Clifford Layton	Building Lock Up	David Blair
Wednesday 7/22		Wednesday 7/29	
Song Leader	Bobby Parker	Song Leader	Wednesday
Opening Prayer	David Smith	Opening Prayer	Night
Closing Prayer	Eddie Ray	Closing Prayer	With The
Devotional	Greg Fabian	Devotional	Master

Pearland Church of Christ

...equipping the saints for the work of service, building up the body of Christ...

2217 N. Grand Blvd.

Pearland, TX 77581 • 281-485-2436

Worship Times:

Sunday

Bible Study9 am

Morning Worship.....10 am

Evening Worship.....6 pm

Wednesday

Ladies Bible Class.....7 pm

Wednesday Bible Study...7 pm

ELDERS

Gary Adams 281-485-2436

Greg Fabian 281-485-2436

Von Knight 281-485-2436

DEACONS

David Blair – Building & Grounds

Chuck Huckabee – Finances

Chris Lindelof—Benevolence

Kevin Odom – I.T.

Eddie Ray – Education & Missions

MINISTERS

D.C. Brown Pulpit Minister

Paul Cartwright Youth & Family Minister

Paul Tiohanon Evangelist
Save, Benin West Africa

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A PUBLICATION OF THE PEARLAND CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Pearland Harvester

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF SERVICE, BUILDING UP THE BODY OF CHRIST

GUIDED TOURS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

GUIDED TOURS 1

YOUTH EVENTS 2

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS 2

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES 3

KEPT IN PRAYER 3

THOSE SERVING 4

Last Sunday evening, Debbie and I took a river tour while in San Antonio. It is something we've done numerous times since our first tour more than thirty years ago. Because she wasn't feeling well the next day and needed some rest, I found myself strolling along the River Walk alone much of Monday afternoon. I strolled past places where our river tour guide of the previous evening had offered comments and passed on interesting factoids. Several times, as I passed one of these points of interest, a tour boat would be approaching and I could hear the spiel of the different guides as they pointed out these same sights.

It wasn't long before I began to notice that no two guides told their paying customers the same thing. I started walking with purpose from one sight to another, staying at each one long enough to hear comments from several guides before going on to the next location. Boats were passing by the same spots just minutes apart so it was easy to sit in one spot and hear three or four different versions of historic events or interesting "facts."

I noticed that sometimes the comments were contradictory, but that wasn't typical and often what was contradicted was relatively slight. More often the differences were embellishments. Some guides had a flare for the theatrical and really liked to pour it on. Others seemed to feed off their audiences and worked for the laughter their witty sayings and comedy might evoke. Every guide reminded his charges that they gratefully accepted tips from the tourists and they always received some. Obviously, the ones who could generate the most laughter and entertain received the most tips.

After an hour or so I had heard enough to have my favorite tour guide. So on Tuesday, our last day in San

Antonio, I talked Deb into taking one more river tour. We used my new "favorite" guide. His routine was not disappointing. He certainly had our fellow tourists in stitches with his humor and he awed them with his explanations. I made a point to see how he fared financially at the end our little excursion and, as I had expected, he received a lot of tips.

On the way back home I was thinking about it and I realized that even though it was an enjoyable way to pass the time as the temperature soared above the century mark each day, I didn't know more about the history of San Antonio or of its River Walk. Listening to so many guides had created confusion and doubt rather than reaffirmation of known facts. I had paid money for tickets and given tips according to my subjective perception of how well each guide performed his routine. In the end it was about the entertainment. The "facts," though interesting, were less important. A guide did not receive tips for reciting facts, but for engaging his audience in an entertaining way. How many of the tourist walked away feeling more knowledgeable having taken the tour? Would they remain confident of their newfound knowledge if they had made a point of listening to as many tour guides as I did?

Denominational Christianity isn't much different. Like getting on a river tour boat, the unlearned take a "tour" of the gospel message and are treated to some biblical "facts" that are often contradicted by different denominational guides / preachers. Years ago, the confident assertion that many older Christians could rightfully make was that no matter where one went, he or she would observe the same practices and hear the same truth if they worshipped among us. But that isn't a guarantee any longer.

The urgency of evangelizing the lost has been subtly subverted by a drive to swell the ranks on Sunday morning. At first, that

Continued on next page >



YOUTH EVENTS

JR. & SR. HIGH

J.A.M. 3RD THRU 6TH



BAWD will be at Hidden Valley Church of Christ. We will LEAVE the Annex at 5:45 PM.

Bible Class 2 Yr Old—6th Grade

Sunday morning Bible class lesson will be Solomon Establishes His Rule (1 Kings 2) Wednesday evening Bible class lesson will be Solomon Asks for Wisdom (1 Kings 3).



Continued from previous page

might seem like two ways of saying the same thing. Evangelizing does result in numeric growth. But being instant in season and out of season will always cause those who cannot endure sound doctrine to simply find another "boat." The best way to keep the boat full is to find a way to engage the audience. Make them feel that it was worth their time and money. Life can be hot and full of ordeals that wear one out. A pleasant ride can be rejuvenating and if it is appealing, then the factoids are interesting. If it's only about the truth, then the discomfort factor becomes intolerable for some. That brings to mind another point.

Those tour boats were designed to get as many people on board as possible. The aisles were impossibly narrow. We sat knee to knee with people we didn't know - and it was awkward. Jokes were made with complete strangers about the intimate confinement we found ourselves in to minimize the discomfort of having someone else in one's personal space. A good guide can make you forget all about that for the next 35 minutes. We don't like a reality check when it points out the uncomfortable truths. Preaching that demands a change has often been labeled "hell fire and brimstone" which is code for "I don't like the message" and "I'm not going to come back." We want a message that doesn't require a

total change of life but rejoice if it made someone else change their life! So we inquire and we look around and then we settle on the church where we can have all that we think is important: 1.) a good group of people who look like us and think like us; 2.) a place crowded enough to assure us that we've chosen well; and 3.) a message that is tastefully toned down, artfully disseminated and seasoned with "facts."

For \$8.50 (plus tips if you're generous) you can escape the heat and take a 35 minute tour of the River Walk by boat. You'll hear some interesting things along the way, learn a few things you didn't know (which will not impact your life at all), and have a few laughs along the way. I would recommend the experience to anyone including those who have already done it before. It's just about the cheapest thing you can do in San Antonio! And the best part of all? Thirty five minutes later you are right back where you started from.

Would you want your faith to bring you back to where you started? Would the Lord?

Keep studying, D. C. Brown ©2009

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

- Gary Adams is the contact elder for July. If you would like to schedule a meeting with the elders, please see Gary.
• Meals On Wheels will be July 27-31. If you are able to help, please contact Leah Bateman.

KEPT IN PRAYER

Murrell Hill suffered a fall last week but has had the stitches removed & is doing better.

Dorothy Kirkland fell and broke her wrist.

Von Knight is awaiting test results later this week.

Mary Clem Noe has been released from rehab.

Jerry DeWeese, son of Carol Ann DeWeese, is in Park Plaza Hospital. He is doing better but will be hospitalized for another 2 weeks or so. Carol Ann expresses her gratitude for your prayers and concern. It is the power of prayer that has improved "Bubba's" condition and they ask that you continue to keep him in prayer.

Dee Grigg underwent knee surgery on Monday.

Jim Miller has been diagnosed with Crohn's Disease and has been very ill.

In Continuing Need:

Our Members: Lianne Biegay, LaRue Case, Glenda Cashiola, June Evans, Cooper Gartrell, Elaine Genaro, Dorendia Hamilton, Becky Hopkins, Dorothy

Kirkland, Ed & Wilma Koob, Claudia Martin, Jennifer & Chase Shelton, Rick Stone, Bill Westmoreland.

Shut-In: Varnell Allison, Katie Barnes, Leonard Dunford, Rossie Gilbert, Rebecca Morgenthaler.

Others: Timothy Anderson, Alexander & Elias Barahona, Elton Bennett, Justin Britt, Mark Brown, Pat Burkett, Delta Burner, Bobbie Chenault, Hazel & Doyal Childress, Margaret Clayton, Michael Dykes, Leanna Fink, Michael Fleury, Rachel & Joe Glaze, Jim Godwin, Dee Grigg, Fred & Florence Henshaw, Cliff Hollingshead, Leslie Hunt, William Kay, Samuel Knight, Kerry Lemoine, Margaret McKinney, Pat Miller, Lauren Murphy, Clairette Pool, Lt Col Robert Reese, Betty Rosenberg, Bing Scherzer, Lance Smith, Brett Statham, Pat Stewart, Kay Taliaferro, J.D. Taylor, Penny Waldrum, Bruce Welch, Elaine Wilson, Claudia Scott Wright.

July Birthdays

Table with 2 columns: Date and Name. Includes Erica Blair, Neil Barnhill, Jack Cherry, Taylor Griffith, Kylee Fabian, Sarah Scarsdale, Suzy Jones, Leah Gartrell, Laura Odom.

July Anniversaries

Table with 2 columns: Date and Name. Includes Paul & Judy Dillon, Jack & Dorothy Cherry, Loyd & Laura Wilson.

August Birthdays—1st Half

Table with 2 columns: Date and Name. Includes Elijah Sandoval, Nina Partin, Judy Dillon, Dorothy Kirkland, Billie Dykes, Stephanie Kay, Jean Nudelman, Lynn Adams, John Adams, Russell Genaro, Nathan Scarsdale, Loyd Wilson, Evelyn Lawhon, David Smith.

August Anniversaries—1st Half

Table with 2 columns: Date and Name. Includes Von & Rubye Jo Knight, Cecil & Dorothy Kirkland, Jim & Judy Indest, Leon & Valerie McHargh.