

## Those to Serve

November 25		December 2	
Morning Worship		Morning Worship	
Opening Prayer	Greg Fabian	Opening Prayer	Gary Adams
Song Leader	Gary Adams	Song Leader	Greg Fabian
Communion		Communion	
<b>Presiding:</b> Chris Lindelof		<b>Presiding:</b> Kevin Scarsdale	
Paul Hamilton	Charlie Story	Tim Nations	David Clayton
Demetris Kelly	Charlie Layton	Nathan Scarsdale	James Maxcey
Matthew Fabian	Russell Genaro	Bob Williams	Bobby Parker
Closing Prayer	Kevin Scarsdale	Closing Prayer	Lynn Adams
Nursery		Nursery	
Canova Genaro	Elaine Genaro	Molly Godwin	Susan Peters
Evening Worship		Evening Worship	
Opening Prayer	Charlie Layton	Opening Prayer	Charlie Story
Song Leader	Greg Fabian	Song Leader	Paul Cartwright
Communion	Matthew Fabian, N Scarsdale	Communion	Bob Williams, Bobby Parker
Closing Prayer	Bobby Parker	Closing Prayer	Rick Nudelman
Nursery	Angela Parker	Nursery	Debbie Brown
Both Services		Both Services	
Ushers (*indicates head usher)		Ushers (*indicates head usher)	
*Clifford Layton, James Maxcey, Phil Godwin		*Jeremy Brown, Daniel Brown, Charlie Layton	
Announcements	Chris Lindelof	Announcements	Gary Adams
Greeters		Greeters	
Chris & Ginny Lindelof		Lynn & Lucille Adams	
Building Lock Up	Lindelof	Building Lock Up	Peters
Sound & Projector	Feezel	Sound & Projector	Feezel
November 21		November 28	
Building Lock Up	Kevin Scarsdale	Building Lock Up	Lindelof

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## 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 Study .....9 am

Morning Worship.....10 am

Evening Worship.....6 pm

Wednesday Bible Study.....7 pm

### ELDERS

**Gary Adams** 281-997-3790  
**Greg Fabian** 713-305-1626  
**Chris Lindelof** 281-997-6437  
**Kevin Scarsdale** 713-447-1866

### DEACONS

**David Blair**  
**Demetris Kelly**  
**Rick Nudelman**  
**Bobby Parker**  
**Chris Peters**  
**Charlie Story**  
**Bob Williams**

### MINISTERS

**D.C. Brown** Pulpit Minister  
**Paul Cartwright** Youth & Family Minister

### MISSIONARIES

**Benin, West Africa:**  
**Paul Tohionon - Bohicon**  
**Pascal Djedatin - Dassa, Soklogbo, Paouignan**  
**Jonas Sambieni - BTC and Glazoue**  
**Gaston Nda & Raul Baya- Natitingou**  
**Boniface Yentekoua - Kaboua**  
**Dorothee Tchekpo—Savé, Boubou Pompe**  
**Andre Assogba - Savé, Besse, Atchakpa**  
**Blaise Atta - Beterou, Sinaou, Wari Maro**  
**Elie Kouagou - N'Dali**  
**Joachin Tonou - Abomey**  
**Gabin Agbeci - Savalou**  
**Bienvenu Assogba - BTC student from Savé**

**Portsmouth, Dominica, West Indies**  
**Lewis Romain**

**Prison Ministry** Gene Rowe

NOVEMBER 21, 2012

# The Pearland Harvester

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

## TAKING THE LEAD

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The toughest challenge of faith is, and always will be, allowing God to lead. While that is a somewhat ambiguous statement and certainly open to interpretations never intended, the fact is we are supposed to be led. Not by some subjective feeling that suddenly overtakes us in a moment of doubt or uncertainty, but by surrendering self-will to God's stated will.

Peter merits one of the sharpest rebukes in Scripture. How it must have stung to hear those words, **"...Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not setting your mind on God's interests, but man's"** (Mt. 16:23b). Following so closely on the heels of one of Peter's greatest faith confessions comes this bitterly harsh rebuke. So harsh is it, that we immediately want it to be invective railed against Satan himself, yet the text says, **"But He turned to Peter and said..."** (Mt. 16:23a).

How did Peter so rapidly go from the "mountaintop" statement of faith, **"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God"** (Mt. 16:16) to the "death valley" reproach of **"Get behind Me, Satan"**? Between the six verses that separate those two statements we learn that Jesus has taken the knowledge they have (expressed by Peter in v. 16) and leads them to an understanding of knowledge they didn't have. Specifically, that **"He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day"** (Mt. 16:21).

And that is the moment where Peter found that being led by the Christ, the Son of the living God, can often be offensive to self-will. The language of the text is vivid. The one being led now takes the leader aside to do a little instructional leading of his own! **"Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This shall never happen to You'"** (Mt. 16:22).

Peter's opinions of the Messiah and the messianic mission could not have been more polarized from the stated will of the Messiah. Peter felt that the circumstances both justified and

demanded that he step in and intervene. Yet his brashness is no worse than ours when we find our opinions being threatened by God's stated will. Our opinions on matters of faith are often so firmly entrenched that we yield to them and even rebuke the stated will of the Lord.



Even in religious matters, especially in religious matters, we sometimes choose to do what seems best in our own opinion. And while we would like to think that none of us would ever take the Lord aside and rebuke Him, when we shut our minds to the Spirit's leading we have done just that. Faithful service and commitment to the Lord's church are matters of opinion to be jealously watched over. Stewardship of time, money or other resources are not really looked upon as stewardship; we choose to think of these things in terms of "volunteering my time, money or resources."

Opinion about acceptable conduct is often the great silencer. Clearly stated instructions and divinely approved examples can be silenced today just as firmly as when Peter once sought to silence the Lord. Opinions, and the freedom to live by them, are so much a part our national heritage that we sometimes refuse to be led in our faith because it is a path contrary to self-will.

In the introduction to his book, *Arguing With Idiots*, Glen Beck writes, "We often forget that opinions should end where facts begin." God's stated will is fact. Jesus said, **"Thy word is truth"** (Jn. 17:17). God's stated will, the New Testament, is where all human opinions must yield and God's will be done. When we do things because we feel "led by the Lord" to do them, we need to be at least faithful enough to the Lord to examine those feelings. Did it glorify God or self? If not God, then opinion took the lead. Does it contradict what is written ("fact" as Beck would say)? If so, then we've done nothing less than taking the Lord aside and offering our own rebuke.

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer** (Ps. 19:14).

Keep studying! ✉ DC Brown ©2012

**YOUTH EVENTS JR. & SR. HIGH**



Our annual Faith in Action project, in conjunction with the Impact Church of Christ, will be Saturday, December 1, 2012. We will leave from the Annex that morning at 8:15 AM and be home around 3 PM.

Teen Devo at the Sloans' house following evening services on December 2, 2012. Van will leave following evening services and return no later than 9 PM.



**Change for Children**

Collection cans are available for you to pick up. They are located in the back of the auditorium. Although you may, it is not necessary to fill in the blanks on your can. They will be collected, opened and all monies counted and deposited in our account. The church will then issue one check to Arms of Hope for the total amount given. If you want a receipt for your donation, you should write a check, making it payable to the Pearland Church of Christ or Arms of Hope.

Please turn in the cans to the office by December 16, so we can get your donations to them before Christmas. Thanks for having a heart for the children. James 1:27

**KEPT IN PRAYER**

Our deepest sympathy to the family of **Bob Young**. Our brother Bob passed away Monday, November 19, 2012, after a battle with cancer. Arrangements are at Clayton Funeral Home in Pearland: Visitation - 6-8 PM on Friday, November 23; Service - 10 AM on Saturday, November 24, with interment following at Forest Park East Cemetery in Webster.

Our deepest sympathy to the family of **Dick Pewthers**, who passed away November 16, 2012. Mr. Pewthers was Wanda Kirby's friend.

Wanda Knight's brother-in-law, **Charlie Pruitt**, is out of his coma but is still in serious condition in Brownwood. He may get to go home from the hospital soon..

**In Continuing Need:**

**Our Members:** Tracy & Martha Cain, Evelyn Cordell, Billie Dykes, June Evans, Dorendia Hamilton, Charlyne Harper, Minnie Harris, Noah & Murrell Hill, Kaliya Kelly, Dorothy Kirkland, Von Knight, Clifford Layton, Claudia Martin, Alice Moore, Harold Moore, Betty Pridgen, Brenda Riggs, Doris Stuteville. **Shut-In:** Libby Clayton **Others:** Tom Althaus, Timothy Anderson, Mike Carter, Marjorie Garrison, Jim Godwin, Frances Grams, Dee Grigg, Willadean Hecker, Florence Henshaw, Leslie Hunt, Janice Jackson, Wanita Jones, Bartis Knight, Wilma Koob, Kerry Lemoine, Roy Leasman, James Lewis, Landon Lovett, Lyle Martin, Pat Miller, Lauren Murphy, Charlie Pruitt, Cloey Pruitt, Dixie Dee Scriber, Rick Stone, Dorothy Watters, Lavonne Welch, Scott Westmoreland, Darlene Woods.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chris Lindelof is the contact elder for November. If you would like to schedule a meeting, please see Chris.

**DECEMBER EVENTS**

- 5 Wednesday Night with the Master - Meal will be served at 6 PM in the Annex.
- 7 Holiday Party at Brenda Blair's house - 6 PM. Ladies — start sewing!
- 8 Ladies Prayer Breakfast - 8 AM - Kelley's
- 8 Elders, Deacons, Ministers Meeting - 9 AM
- 10 Golden Agers luncheon at 11:30 AM in the Annex
- 10-14 Meals on Wheels - See Leah Bateman to volunteer
- 13 Secret Sisters will meet at 6:30 PM at Jean Coe's house. Jean Coe and Jean Nudelman are the hostesses.

We will not have Friends & Family Day on December 30. It has been rescheduled for January 6, 2013.

**November Birthdays**

- 26 Lela Farmer
- 27 JJ Martinez
- 29 Nicholas Feezel
- 29 Aaron Peters

**December Birthdays**

- 1 Shawn Feezel
- 3 Autumn Taylor
- 6 Susan Peters
- 6 Eugene Priestley
- 7 Jacob Carriere
- 7 Wilma Koob
- 12 Harold Moore
- 16 Chase Shelton
- 18 Kaliya Kelly
- 19 Madison Finch
- 21 Bryan Hudman
- 22 Gavin Finch
- 24 Bob Williams
- 25 Noah Hill
- 27 Haley Biegay
- 27 Matthew Fabian
- 29 Jennifer Buchanan
- 31 Maresha Scarsdale
- 31 Loma Stone

**November Anniversaries**

- 25 Tracy & Martha Cain

**December Anniversaries**

- 1 Jeremy & Heather Brown
- 9 Ricky & Janice Pearson
- 19 Chris & Susan Peters
- 27 Rick & Jean Nudelman
- 27 Bob & Mitzi Williams

We will not intentionally omit anyone from the birthday/anniversary list. If you have not turned in the **Members Information Update Sheets** to the office, please do so.