

## Those to Serve

December 9		December 16	
Morning Worship		Morning Worship	
Opening Prayer	Ben Lenamon	Opening Prayer	Paul Cartwright
Song Leader	Paul Cartwright	Song Leader	Greg Fabian
Communion		Communion	
<b>Presiding:</b> Chris Peters		<b>Presiding:</b> Bob Williams	
Phil Godwin	Derek Mauney	Ben Lenamon	David Clayton
Matthew Fabian	Gheath Alatrash	Tim Nations	Charlie Layton
Charlie Story	David Blair	Jeremy Brown	Lynn Adams
Closing Prayer	Kevin Scarsdale	Closing Prayer	Demetris Kelly
Nursery		Nursery	
Nina Layton	Tracey Mauney	Dallas Maxcey	Laurie Maxcey
Evening Worship		Evening Worship	
Opening Prayer	Paul Hamilton	Opening Prayer	Charlie Layton
Song Leader	Paul Cartwright	Song Leader	Paul Cartwright
Communion	Charlie Layton, N Scarsdale	Communion	Matthew Fabian, Bobby Parker
Closing Prayer	Jeremy Brown	Closing Prayer	Nathan Scarsdale
Nursery	Gretchen Whitmire	Nursery	Angela Parker
Both Services		Both Services	
Ushers (*indicates head usher)		Ushers (*indicates head usher)	
*Clifford Layton, Eugene Priestley, Charlie Story		*Bobby Parker, Daniel Brown, Matthew Fabian	
Announcements	Gary Adams	Announcements	Gary Adams
Greeters		Greeters	
Clifford & Nina Layton		Kevin & Maresha Scarsdale	
Building Lock Up	Cartwright	Building Lock Up	Fabian
Sound & Projector	Feezel	Sound & Projector	Feezel
December 5		December 12	
Building Lock Up		Building Lock Up	
Peters		Cartwright	

## 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**  
**Joachim Tonou - Abomey**  
**Gabin Agbeci - Savalou**  
**Bienvenu Assogba - BTC student from Savé**

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

**Prison Ministry** Gene Rowe



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

## 2012 FAITH IN ACTION REPORT

By Dr. Gheath Alatrash

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honestly, I could have easily made the same error – referring to the homeless like they were animals, “ducks,” that we were going to feed the next day. So I took the opportunity to highlight to Robbie and Gabriel (my 7-year-old) that the homeless were people like us who had simply made some wrong choices in life. After all, it was their bad choices that got them on the streets. Right? *(Please read on!)*

I was a bit nervous about whom we were going to meet Saturday morning. I was hoping we wouldn't run into last night's drunk looking for food or the schizophrenic talking nonsense.

So we got up the next morning at 6:30. Robbie was excited. Gabriel was a bit shy and didn't want to go, but I made him go anyway. I told him that all he had to do was hand the homeless the food and move on. We got to the Impact Church building, and we each filled 4 bags with a toothbrush/paste, ChapStick, candy, crackers, socks, and a hat. And then we were challenged by one of the ministers: “It's going to be easy for you to hand these folks their bags and walk away. But I want you to talk to them, know their stories, and pray with them,” he said. So much for my earlier comment to Gabriel that all he had to do was “hand them their food and move on.” I don't think Gabriel even remembered what I had told him earlier that morning. He was really getting into it!

We got on a school bus and made our first stop at a park filled with homeless individuals. We ran into Daniel, who caught Gabriel's attention, as his middle name is Daniel. He was a man in his 60s from the Virgin Islands. He limped toward us, and then we started chatting. He seemed as normal as any of us. He explained how he was a mover, then his knee gave out and he lost his job. We gave him his bag. Asked him if we can pray with him and he replied “I never turn down a prayer,” so we prayed. He then pointed to a run-down building a few miles away where he was staying. “I get two meals there and a good shower,” Daniel said. He seemed content. “But wait a minute, what happened to the third meal? What about the afternoon snack?” thought the boys. I quickly explained the reality of living in a homeless

shelter and soon after was interrupted by a Mexican lady who only spoke Spanish. The boys didn't really understand a word she was saying but were fixated on her diabetic leg ulcer. It was a textbook diabetic ulcer: a white lesion on a background of red skin. Not the prettiest picture, but as you might have guessed, the boys were staring. I explained to my boys the awful situation of not having enough money to pay for even the simplest of medications. I think they were beginning to get it!

Then it was time to board the bus. As we were walking, we heard one of the ministers asking if anyone had an aspirin for the man who was following him. “A toothache,” he said. “Does anyone have an Aspirin or a Tylenol?” Unfortunately, no one had any pain relievers. Two minutes after the bus took off, Gabriel turned to me and with genuine concern asked me what that man was going to do about his pain. I explained that he just had to tough it out. I could tell that Gabriel was unsatisfied by my answer; he really wanted me to do something about it. Maybe it was the fact that he just lost a tooth on Wednesday and could really relate to that toothache.

A few minutes later, we pulled up to a downtown location that we pass regularly when we drive to visit grandma in Fort Worth. Except that we don't usually see the homeless people we saw that morning. This time we saw a man and a woman “camped out” on the sidewalk. The boys asked me why these people had their blankets and pillows on the sidewalk...yes, another teachable moment that I took advantage of. We got off the bus and ran into Charlie, who was from Seattle. Aunt Nikki is from Seattle, so that caught the boys' attention. He told us how he came here for a relative's funeral and had no way of getting back. He told us his aspirations to get a job as an offshore cook at one of the oilrigs. He loved the boys' names and let them know it. In the middle of our conversation, we were interrupted by Michael Davis, a very friendly, cheerful man who gave my boys a high five and was very playful. Robbie really liked Michael. I think for a minute, the boys forgot where they were. This guy reminded them of many of our friends and relatives. In the middle of play, we were called to board the bus for the last stop.

What a day we had! We met eight *normal* individuals who happened to be in bad circumstances; so much for my “wrong choices” theory that I proposed to my boys earlier that morning. They all had hope in a better future and a great faith in God. We gave away 8 food bags and led 7 prayers; I unfortunately didn't know enough Spanish to pray

WNNWTM

YOUTH EVENTS JR. & SR. HIGH



Continued from Page 1

with the Mexican lady. We all learned something Saturday. We learned how blessed we are to have even the simplest of things. We learned that sometimes life is not fair, no matter how good you try to be—it wasn't necessarily the bad decisions that anyone made. Most importantly, we learned the human qualities of these "ducks" that we fear at every street corner. Yes, the same ones we lock our car doors when we see them standing 50 yards away.

Tonight my boys ate most of their spaghetti without much complaining. I did have to remind them a couple of times about Saturday, and it worked! I know some things will be forgotten, but I hope my boys (and I) will remember this experience until the next time we do it! **Gheath Alatrash**



Change for Children

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 payable to the Pearland Church of Christ or to 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

**Annie White** is doing much better.

**Mike Farmer**, Lela's son, is having heart surgery today at Memorial Hermann (Medical Center).

**Mark Pridgen**, Betty's son, will have surgery on December 10 in Austin.

**Charlie Pruitt**, Wanda Knight's brother-in-law, received a feeding tube and has been moved to a nursing home in Early, Texas (near Brownwood), for rehab.

Our condolences to the **Robertsons** (friends of the Cooks) whose young child passed away in an accident.

**Steve Taylor**, Brenda Riggs' son-in-law, is scheduled for surgery on December 12 to remove a kidney.

In Continuing Need:

**Our Members:** Tracy & Martha Cain, Evelyn Cordell, Daisy Dees, 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, Oleda Putman, 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

Gary Adams is the contact elder for December. If you would like to schedule a meeting, please see Gary.



My friends at the Pearland Church,  
Thank you for the fruit basket. The Young family will think of you all during the Christmas season.  
From the family of Bob Young

DECEMBER EVENTS

- 7 Holiday Party at Brenda Blair's house - 6 PM.
- 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
- 13 Secret Sisters will meet at 6:30 PM at Jean Coe's house. Jean Coe and Jean Nudelman are the hostesses.
- 15 Golden Agers Dinner & Gift Exchange - 6 PM at the Annex. Ham will be provided; please bring a side dish and a gift to exchange. Please see Jo or Nina if there are questions.

January 6, 2013

Invite someone to be your guest and to stay for a great meal!



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        |                      |

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.