

## Those to Serve

August 4		August 11	
Morning Worship		Morning Worship	
Opening Prayer	Paul Hamilton	Opening Prayer	Demetris Kelly
Song Leader	Paul Cartwright	Song Leader	Gary Adams
Communion		Communion	
<b>Presiding:</b> Ike Atkins		<b>Presiding:</b> Kevin Scarsdale	
Tim Nations	Demetris Kelly	Russell Genaro	Nathan Scarsdale
Greg Fabian	Matthew Fabian	Chris Peters	Matt Cheshier
Phil Godwin	Logan Lindelof	Charlie Layton	Tom Langford
Closing Prayer	Charlie Story	Closing Prayer	Chris Lindelof
Nursery		Nursery	
Canova Genaro	Elaine Genaro	Mitzi Williams	Virginia Visel
Evening Worship		Evening Worship	
Opening Prayer	Matt Cheshier	Opening Prayer	Jeremy Brown
Song Leader	Paul Cartwright	Song Leader	Greg Fabian
Communion	Logan Lindelof, M Fabian	Communion	Charlie Layton, N Scarsdale
Closing Prayer	Chris Peters	Closing Prayer	Bobby Parker
Morning Worship		Morning Worship	
Ushers (*indicates head usher)		Ushers (*indicates head usher)	
*Rick Nudelman, Warren Hudman, Lynn Adams		*Clifford Layton, Jacob Carriere, Daniel Brown	
Announcements	Gary Adams	Announcements	Gary Adams
Building Lock Up	Cartwright	Building Lock Up	Nudelman
Sound & Projector	Mauney	Sound & Projector	Mauney
July 31		August 7	
Building Lock Up	Scarsdale	Building Lock Up	Cartwright

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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

**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



# The Pearland Harvester

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

JULY 31, 2013

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A recent article that dealt with church attendance made mention of a study done in an Ohio county in the 1990's.<sup>1</sup> Apparently two independent studies of the same population gave significantly different results. One survey was a self-reporting survey which indicated that 36% of the population attended at least one service each week. But when a firm was hired to conduct the same survey of the same population, it reported that only 20% of the county attended at least one service per week.

When the results were published, there was much speculation as to why some “over-report” their attendance. It was suggested that it indicated “a certain psychological aspect” on the part of Americans who view polling questions about their attendance as questions about their identity.

According to the polling agency, it seems that they are not attempting to be deceitful; instead, they are “over-reporting” in order to “maintain perceptions of themselves as ‘churched’ Americans.” In other words, if brother Johnson tells others that he attends worship services at least once each week, he can still think of himself as being faithful and not feel guilty about being unfaithful. The inspired writer has a strong word of wisdom for this culture: **“But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves”** (James 1:22).

The same article indicated that the nation with the highest percentage of weekly worshippers is the African nation of Nigeria (89%). By comparison, the United States is 43% while the former Soviet bloc nation of Poland is 63%. By the way, the motto of Nigeria is “Unity and Faith, Peace and Progress,” Poland does not have a national motto, and the United States motto is ... does anybody remember?

The article also reported that church attendance in developed countries is gradually declining.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Researchers attribute the decline to two factors: (1. boredom during services and (2. incompatibility with the belief system. It is to be assumed that boredom is self-professed. Would anyone long remain a part of any institution if they felt it a waste of time? What is your position regarding worship? Is it boring? Do you find yourself coming in late, leaving early, making frequent trips to the foyer, bathroom, etc. during the service? Is your iPad your entertainment for the hour? How long will boredom allow a person to continue on? Has the faith or doctrine of the church fallen out of favor? Are the commands of Scripture regarding worship, marriage, morality, setting a Christian example, etc. become too distant from who you really are?

The article also indicated a study done in Switzerland in 2000 which indicated that the religious practice of the father of a family determines their children's religious practices in the future. If both father and mother are faithful, 33% of their children will also be faithful as adults, and 41% will be at least somewhat faithful. But if the mother is faithful and the father is not, the study indicates that only 3% of their children will be faithful as adults. “In short, if a father does not go to church, no matter how faithful his wife’s devotions, only one child in 50 will become a regular worshipper. If a father does go regularly, regardless of the practice of the mother, between two-thirds and three-quarters of their children will become churchgoers (regular and irregular).”

Maybe we do put too much emphasis on numbers, but then I think about Abraham bargaining with God for the sake of the righteous in Sodom and Gomorrah. Numbers are important, but if we go by the numbers today, we ought to be realizing how much trouble our nation is in – one family at a time.

Keep studying! ✉ DC Brown ©2013

<sup>1</sup>[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/church\\_attendance#Weekly\\_church\\_attendance\\_statistics](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/church_attendance#Weekly_church_attendance_statistics)



**YOUTH EVENTS**



Bay Area Wide Devotional Schedule:  
August 5 - 7 PM at League City; van will leave the Annex at 6 PM.

**CONGREGATIONAL ACTIVITIES PLANNING SESSION**

All members are invited to attend a planning session this Sunday night after evening services in the Annex. Please bring food for a light meal for your family and one other person.

We will discuss and plan activities for the coming year.

**Celebration In Music**  
Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 PM  
Crestmont Park Church of Christ  
5907 Selinsky Rd  
Houston, TX  
*25 groups from Texas and Mississippi will be performing.*

**KEPT IN PRAYER**

**Claudia Martin** has a bruised ankle.

**Jean Coe** will be undergoing more tests before knee replacement surgery.

**Chuck Banyai** will be undergoing a heart procedure on August 1 at St. Luke's.

**In Continuing Need:**

**Our Members:** Neil & Fran Barnhill, Tracy & Martha Cain, Evelyn Cordell, Billie Dykes, June Evans, Dorendia Hamilton, Charlyne Harper, Noah & Murrell Hill, Kaliya Kelly, Wanda Kirby, Dorothy Kirkland, Von Knight, Evelyn Lawhon, Chris Lindelof, Claudia Martin, Betty Pridgen, Brenda Riggs, Doris Stuteville. **Shut-In:** Libby Clayton **Others:** Timothy Anderson, Evelyn Fabian, Marjorie Garrison, Jim Godwin, Dee Grigg, Charles Huckabee, Linda Kacal, Bartis Knight, Pat Miller, Lauren Murphy, Charlie Pruitt, Cloey Pruitt, Gene Rowe, Sr., Rick Stone, Scott Westmoreland, Darlene Woods.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**August Events**

- 5 Secret Sisters - Big Horn BBQ - 6:30 PM
- 10 Ladies' Prayer Breakfast - 8 AM - Kelley's
- 10 Elders, Deacons, Ministers Meeting - 9 AM - Elders' Conference Room

*The family of Cecil F. Kirkland acknowledges with deep appreciation your kind expression of sympathy.*

*Dottie & Sherry*

All of the ladies are invited to attend the 2013 Ladies/Adolescents Day Program on August 10, 2013, at the Crestmont Park Church of Christ. Registration and continental breakfast begin at 8 AM, followed by the program at 9 AM. Lunch will be provided following the program.

The guest speaker is Yvette Williams from the Highland Heights congregation; the theme is "Bridging the Generation Gap through Unity, Love, and Respect (Eph. 4:1-3, 6:1; Col. 3:20; Ps. 133:1).  
RSVP to: Sharon Blacklock (281-650-6072) or Ethelrene Burns (713-734-7575).

**July Birthdays**

31	Kylee Fabian	31	James Maxcey
2	Mark Holmberg	5	Lynn Adams
7	Tim Nations	8	John Adams
8	Judy Dillon	9	Russell Genaro
9	Dorothy Kirkland	10	Molly Godwin
10	Nathan Scarsdale	11	Billie Dykes
13	Jeff Coe	13	Evelyn Lawhon
13	Beverly Stewart	14	Jean Nudelman
15	Chloe Hudman	15	David Smith
16	Peggy Chisum	16	Daniel White
17	Brenda Blair	17	William Cheshier
22	Robbie Alatrash	22	Laurie Maxcey
23	Ross Genaro	26	Charlie Layton
27	Wanda Knight	30	Pat Fletcher
30	Josh Hamilton		

**July Anniversaries**

31	Jack & Dorothy Cherry
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**August Anniversaries**

1	Von & Jo Knight	2	Jim & Judy Indest
4	Leon & Valerie McHargh	18	Noah & Murrell Hill
20	Gheath & Kristin Alatrash	29	Ben & Susan Lenamon

*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.*