

## Those to Serve

December 8		December 15	
Morning Worship		Morning Worship	
Opening Prayer	David Simmons	Opening Prayer	Kevin Scarsdale
Song Leader	Greg Fabian	Song Leader	Gary Adams
Communion		Communion	
<b>Presiding:</b> Demetris Kelly		<b>Presiding:</b> Greg Fabian	
Jeremy Brown	Charlie Layton	Charlie Story	Phil Godwin
Matt Cheshier	Chris Peters	Tom Langford	Matthew Fabian
Stephen Morton	Logan Lindelof	Kent Wroe	Tim Nations
Closing Prayer	Lynn Adams	Closing Prayer	Bobby Parker
Nursery		Nursery	
Laurie Maxcey	Dallas Maxcey	Molly Godwin	Virginia Visel
Evening Worship		Evening Worship	
Opening Prayer	Bobby Parker	Opening Prayer	Paul Hamilton
Song Leader	Gary Adams	Song Leader	Greg Fabian
Communion	S Morton, Charlie Layton	Communion	Matthew Fabian, Charlie Story
Closing Prayer	James Maxcey	Closing Prayer	Nathan Scarsdale
Morning Worship		Morning Worship	
Ushers (*indicates head usher)		Ushers (*indicates head usher)	
*Daniel Brown, Warren Hudman, Jacob Carriere		*Clifford Layton, Logan Lindelof, Matt Cheshier	
Announcements	Gary Adams	Announcements	Gary Adams
Greeters Lynn & Lucille Adams		Greeters Clifford & Nina Layton	
Building Lock Up	Lindelof	Building Lock Up	G Adams
Sound & Projector	Williams	Sound & Projector	Mauney
November 27		December 4	
Building Lock Up	Cartwright	Building Lock Up	Lindelof

## 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 281-224-2183  
 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 - 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



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

## WHERE ARE OUR PREACHERS?

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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BBTC. I wanted George to make suggestions that I could share with the board when we meet. George's report was not encouraging. There are several schools of preaching in West Africa, and George reports that all of them are frustrated with the low enrollment numbers they are experiencing. The biggest factor is that preaching is a full-time job, but none of these fledgling congregations can sustain the financial needs of a full-time preacher. He told me about two men who were already vetted and had been accepted but were not able to attend because of finances. One brother could not come to school because, as his wife pointed out, he had a full-time job and a family to feed. Going to school and then becoming a full-time preacher would deprive his family of the only means of financial support they have.

I realize that the economy in these impoverished countries is almost nonexistent. Our preaching brethren are preaching at great personal sacrifice. However, his report was very familiar to me. We have the same challenge right here in the United States. Since the mid-70's, the number of preachers has been steadily declining. There are hundreds upon hundreds of congregations in this country that cannot afford a preacher, and they have been without full-time preachers for decades. Good men with a heart for the word don't become preachers because it is such a low-paying form of employment. A huge percentage of men who graduate from preaching schools or have earned Bible degrees with the intent of being full-time preachers leave the pulpit within five years. Money is the single largest contributing factor.

Christian parents provide every opportunity for their children and want them to succeed, but few are

encouraging their sons to become preachers because it isn't a vocation that offers much financially. Our larger congregations do offer benefits in addition to salary, but those are rare. Most men who preach do so without any benefits and do so for a salary far below what they could have earned had they chosen any number of honorable vocations. Sons of preachers almost never go into the pulpit, and the latest reports coming from our Christian universities indicate that the majority of their graduates going into ministry choose not to go into the pulpit.



We believe in the necessity of men working full-time in ministry, and we want the best man in our pulpit; but we don't reflect that in the salaries we offer. We want men of faith to "live on faith" while the members of the congregation pursue degrees and career tracks that promise financial independence. The needs of a congregation seldom include salary increases. To raise the issue is a form of career suicide. But if we don't address this inequity, we will continue to see the trends of the past 40 years increase. Fewer men will want to preach.

In the business model, a manager or a business owner looks at what makes the company grow and throw as much money in that direction as they can. That's why salesmen command good salaries and bonuses, and service techs get far less. The Lord's church is certainly not a business; but for all that, we do seem to expect our ministers to do the teaching and preaching that win souls and build up the body of Christ. Do we see their worthy work as a manager or business owner would?

I pray that our school in Zinvie will see greater enrollment in the future and that our schools of preaching in the USA will also see greater enrollment; but I fear that until we see the value of preaching the way we see the value of a business degree, the current trends will continue.

YOUTH EVENTS

For all those participating in the Faith in Action activity, we will leave the Annex at 9 AM on Saturday, December 7. If you want to participate, please let Paul know so he can arrange transportation.

Teen Devo on December 8 at the Hudmans' house following the evening service.

Fruit Basket assembly for our widows and widowers Saturday, December 14, at 1 PM in the Annex.



December 29, 2013

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

Friends



Family Day



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 15, 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 **Winston McHargh**. Services will be held Thursday, December 5, at 1 PM at Stewart & Calhoun Funeral Home, Akron, OH. Mr. McHargh was the father of Leon McHargh.

Our sympathy to the family of **Warren Hood**. A memorial service will be held at 11 AM on December 7 at the Memorial Church of Christ in Houston, where Mr. Hood served as an elder.

**Lynn Clark**, grandson of Daisy Dees, is scheduled for heart surgery at St. Luke's on December 9.

**Charles Lauderdale**, friend of the Cherrys, is having colon surgery December 5.

**Sherly Scott**, friend of the Knights, has been diagnosed with cancer. She and her husband Chris have children ranging in age from 9 months to 18 years.

In Continuing Need:

**Our Members:** Neil & Fran Barnhill, Tracy & Martha Cain, David Clayton, Evelyn Cordell, Daisy Dees, Paul Dillon, Billie Dykes, June Evans, Dorendia Hamilton, Charlyne Harper, Noah & Murrell Hill, Kaliya Kelly, Wanda Kirby, Dorothy Kirkland, Von Knight, Brenda Langford, Evelyn Lawhon, Chris Lindelof, Claudia Martin, Mary Means, Betty Pridgen, Brenda Riggs, Doris Stuteville. **Shut-In:** Libby Clayton **Others:** Timothy Anderson, Marjorie Garrison, Jim Godwin, Dee Grigg, Bartis Knight, Pat Miller, Lauren Murphy, Cloey Pruitt, Rick Stone, Scott Westmoreland, Darlene Woods, Wayne Wyatt.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

DECEMBER

- 6 Ladies Christmas Party - 6 PM - Brenda Blair's house. Start sewing!
- 7 Ladies Prayer Breakfast - 8 AM - Joe's Banquet Center, 1300 E Hwy 6, Alvin TX
- 9 Golden Ager Luncheon - 11:30 AM - Annex.
- 12 Secret Sisters - 7 PM - Jean Coe's house
- 13 Christmas Party for the congregation at 6 PM in the Annex. Please bring your favorite Christmas dish and a gift of no more than \$20 for White Elephant.
- 14 Elders, Deacons, Ministers Meeting - 9 AM - Elders' Conference Room
- 25 No Wednesday night classes or services
- 29 Friends & Family Day

JANUARY 2014

- 1 No Wednesday night classes or services
- 17-18 Ladies' activity at Leah Bateman's Galveston home



Thank you, Charlie & Clifford Layton, for cutting and disposing of the limbs in front of the church building. We appreciate the hard work and your willingness to step up when there is a need!

Please sign up for 2014 communion preparation and sound & projector duties. The sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in the foyer. Thanks.

December Birthdays

- |    |                   |    |                   |
|----|-------------------|----|-------------------|
| 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      | 21 | Stephen Morton    |
| 22 | Gavin Finch       | 24 | Bob Williams      |
| 25 | Noah Hill         | 27 | Haley Biegay      |
| 27 | Matthew Fabian    | 31 | Jessica Bouillion |
| 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   |    |                        |