

## Those to Serve

<b>Wednesday Evening December 17</b>	<b>Wednesday Evening December 24</b>
Building Lock Up — G Adams	Building Lock Up — Scarsdale

Morning Worship December 21		Morning Worship December 28	
Opening Prayer	Zach Williams	Opening Prayer	Brandon Stafford
Song Leader	Greg Fabian	Song Leader	Gary Adams
Communion		Communion	
<b>Presiding:</b> Chris Lindelof		<b>Presiding:</b> Bob Williams	
Russell Genaro	Demetris Kelly	Charlie Layton	Logan Lindelof
James Maxcey	Paul Hamilton	Nathan Scarsdale	Bobby Parker
Matthew Fabian	Bob Williams	Jeremy Brown	Daniel Brown
Announcements	Gary Adams	Announcements	Gary Adams
Closing Prayer		Closing Prayer	
Nursery Attendants		Nursery Attendants	
Laurie Maxcey	Dallas Maxcey	Angela Parker	Tracey Mauney
Ushers (*indicates head usher)		Ushers (*indicates head usher)	
*Daniel Brown, Warren Hudman, Brandon Stafford		*Zach Williams, Jacob Carriere, Charlie Story	
Greeters		Greeters	
Kevin & Maresha Scarsdale		Clifford & Nina Layton	
Audio—Projector—Video for AM & PM		Audio—Projector—Video for AM & PM	
Whitmire, Riggs, Banyai		Whitmire, Riggs, Banyai	
Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Scarsdale		Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Fabian	
Evening Worship		Evening Worship	
Opening Prayer	Bob Williams	Opening Prayer	Paul Hamilton
Song Leader	Craig Williams	Song Leader	Greg Fabian
Communion	James Maxcey, M Fabian	Communion	Charlie Layton, Logan Lindelof
Closing Prayer	Gary Adams	Closing Prayer	Gary Adams

### Worship Times:

#### Sunday

Bible Study .....9 am

Morning Worship.....10 am

Evening Worship.....6 pm

Wednesday Bible Study.....7 pm

## 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

### 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**  
**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**  
**Blaise Atta - Bétérou**  
**Clément Djebede - Okéwo**  
**Boniface Yantekoua - Kaboua**  
**Joachim Tounou - Abomey-Goho**  
**Gaston Nda - Natitingou**  
**Valentine Ndimonte - Natitingou**  
**André Assogba - Savé et Kokoro**  
**Dorotheé Tchekpo - Savé et Bessé**  
**Paul Kouagou - N'Dali**  
**Jonas Sambieni - Glazoué**  
**Gabin Agbeci - Savalou**  
**Portsmouth, Dominica, West Indies**  
**Lewis Romain**

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DECEMBER 17, 2014



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

## LESSONS FROM THE PAST

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- LESSONS FROM THE PAST 1
- YOUTH EVENTS 2
- KEPT IN PRAYER 2
- BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES 3
- UPCOMING EVENTS 3
- THOSE SERVING 4

In the early decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the hearts of honest men, newly liberated politically and severed as well from a state religion, began to search for truth in an unfettered environment. Among them was a Virginian by the name of James O’Kelly. In 1774, a circuit-riding preacher of the Methodist Episcopal denomination preached a sermon that brought about O’Kelly’s conversion. By 1777, he was himself a circuit rider working largely in North Carolina. During the Revolutionary War, he traveled extensively, preaching to open-air audiences wherever opportunities arose.

On December 25, 1784, at what is now famously known as the “Christmas Conference,” a letter from Charles Wesley was read that officially released his Methodist followers from all ties and obligations to the Episcopal Church and also appointed Thomas Coke and Francis Asbury as Co-Superintendents of the Methodist churches in America. Asbury proved to be very autocratic in leadership style, appointing preachers to circuits of his choosing without regard to their situations. O’Kelly opposed the arrangement. In time he became convinced that Scripture does not authorize one man to have power over all the congregations. By late 1792, the disagreements between the two had reached a breaking point. O’Kelly and a small group of preachers walked out of the Baltimore Conference. The following year, he organized a group known as the Republican Methodist Church. Within another year, the group voted to drop the name and be known simply as Christians. The group also determined that Scripture authorized a plurality of elders to be over each local body.

O’Kelly’s Bible studies led him to renounce much of what he had been taught as a denominationalist. He soon rejected the Calvinist belief of Original Sin. He also argued against Unconditional Election stating “If there be a secret number of souls unconditionally elected, such were never to be lost. But Christ came to

seek and to save the lost.” He denounced Irresistible Grace, insisting that faith comes by hearing and obeying the gospel. O’Kelly also opposed instruments of music in the churches.



As the frontier opened up present-day Kentucky and Tennessee, the need for preachers became desperate. A spiritual movement began to stir. Barton W. Stone and James O’Kelly met and began to share their views with each other. Thus, the famous Cane Ridge Revival was influenced to some degree by the convictions of O’Kelly.

The one doctrine he would not abandon is the need for adult immersion for salvation. However, the clear teaching of Scripture on the subject caused a large number to break with his movement, taking the name Christian Baptist for their insistence on the necessity of baptism.

What does this mean for you and me today? Several things come to mind. First, it proves beyond doubt that members of the church of Christ did not originate with Thomas or Alexander Campbell. Movements to get back to the Bible were happening in the New England states, the central states, and the southern states by men from different denominational backgrounds who chose Scripture over creeds. Second, it demonstrates that no matter how complex or widely embraced a doctrine may be, it only takes an honest heart to study Scriptures and distinguish error from truth. Calvinism was easily disproved by preaching from Scripture. Third, the gospel never loses its power to convict men of sin and point men to salvation. The lawlessness of the frontier and the dominance of denominationalism in the coastal states were both conquered by preaching the word of God. We don’t live in the horse-and-buggy days of O’Kelly, Stone, Campbell, Scott, and others like them. But we do live in a lawless frontier, and the hold of denominationalism is ever-present. Just going back to the Bible for our authority will have the same effect today as it did back then.

Keep studying and keep serving! DC Brown ©2014

YOUTH EVENTS



Virginia Visel  
9620 Mariner Cir Apt 2106  
Fort Worth TX 76179

KEPT IN PRAYER

**Wanda Knight** is in Windsong Village following knee replacement surgery.

**Jan Lemoine** is hospitalized at Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital with a UTI. **No visitors** are requested at this time.

**Gary Moss** is in ICU at Clear Lake Regional Medical Center. Danette has requested prayers, as Gary's condition has become very critical while battling cancer.

**Vi Price** is being released from the hospital today and has requested prayers and visits at her home.

**Bobby Dees**, Daisy Dees' son, is critically ill with pancreatic cancer and heart problems.

**Robert Holmes**, Jason Holmes' father, is back home, and his blood pressure has improved. He will require physical therapy and pain management. Jason is with his parents in Louisiana this week. Please pray for the entire family.

**Matthew Indest**, Jim Indest's brother, is going into hospice.

**In Continuing Need:**

**Our Members:** Neil & Fran Barnhill, Tracy & Martha Cain, David Clayton, Evelyn Cordell, Daisy Dees, Billie Dykes, June Evans, Lela Farmer, Dorendia Hamilton, Charlyne Harper, Minnie Harris, Murrell Hill, Dorris Honeycutt, Kaliya Kelly, Wanda Kirby, Dorothy Kirkland, Von Knight, Brenda Langford, Evelyn Lawhon, Betty Pridgen, Doris Stuteville, Delores Truelove.

**Shut-In:** Libby Clayton **Others:** Mary Alford, Timothy Anderson, Marjorie Garrison, Jim Godwin, Rhonda Jones, Bartis Knight, Pat Miller, Lauren Murphy, Cloey Pruitt, Sherly Scott, Rick Stone, Darlene Woods.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Communion Preparation and Audio-Projector-Video sign-up sheets for 2015 are on the bulletin board.

**December Birthdays**

- 18 Kaliya Kelly
- 24 Davy May
- 27 Haley Biegay
- 31 Jessica Bouillion
- 31 Loma Stone
- 21 Bryan Hudman
- 24 Bob Williams
- 27 Matthew Fabian
- 31 Maresha Scarsdale

**January Birthdays**

- 3 Felicia Wroe
- 4 Branden Shelton
- 12 Leona Anderson
- 16 Teresa Wroe
- 20 Bobby Parker
- 22 Cameron Alatrash
- 29 Dawn Bell
- 4 Wanda Kirby
- 8 Jeanette Hays
- 14 Valerie McHargh
- 17 Tom Langford
- 21 Donald Mickan
- 25 Ethan Brown
- 30 Lindsay Parker

**December Anniversaries**

- 19 Chris & Susan Peters
- 27 Bob & Mitzi Williams
- 27 Rick & Jean Nudelman

**January Anniversaries**

- 9 Jason & Noelle Holmes
- 17 David & Libby Clayton