

## Those to Serve

Wednesday Evening April 1	Wednesday Evening April 8
Building Lock Up—Adams <b>WNWTM</b>	Building Lock Up—Fabian

Morning Worship April 5	Morning Worship April 12
Opening Prayer Lynn Adams	Opening Prayer Zack Williams
Song Leader Gary Adams	Song Leader Paul Cartwright
Communion	Communion
<b>Presiding:</b> Bob Williams	<b>Presiding:</b> Charlie Layton
Jacob Carriere James Maxcey	Ike Atkins Phil Godwin
Gheath Alatrash Tom Langford	Maverick Lemus Charlie Story
Jeremy Brown Daniel Brown	Logan Lindelof Matthew Fabian
Announcements Gary Adams	Announcements Gary Adams
Closing Prayer	Closing Prayer
Nursery Attendants	Nursery Attendants
Tracey Mauney Angela Parker	Laurie Maxcey Dallas Maxcey
Ushers (*indicates head usher)	Ushers (*indicates head usher)
*Bobby Parker, Russell Genaro, M Fabian	*Clifford Layton, Rick Nudelman, Josh Hundley
Greeters	Greeters
Kevin & Maresha Scarsdale	Lynn & Lucille Adams
Audio—Projector—Video for AM & PM	Audio—Projector—Video for AM & PM
Whitmire, Riggs, Banyai	Whitmire, Riggs, Banyai
Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Fabian	Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Cartwright

Evening Worship	Evening Worship
Opening Prayer Paul Hamilton	Opening Prayer Chris Lindelof
Song Leader Greg Fabian	Song Leader Paul Cartwright
Communion James Maxcey, Daniel Brown	Communion Logan Lindelof, Charlie Story
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...

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### 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**

www.pearlandcoc.com

APRIL 1, 2015



# The Pearland Harvester

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

## GETTING GRACE RIGHT

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Did you ever have one of those moments as a kid when you *really* wanted to buy something? Whatever the item may have been, you had your eye on it for months as you saved to buy it. Finally the day came when you decided it was time to make your long-awaited purchase. You got your parents to take you to the store, you proudly took the item off the shelf and walked straight to the checkout line... only to find out that you were a few dollars short. Maybe the price had gone up since you last checked, or you hadn't factored in taxes, but whatever the case, you simply didn't have enough to get what you wanted. So, in your time of desperation, maybe your mom or dad stepped up and covered the extra cost. They made up the difference for you and now your trip to the store ends happily ever after with you having secured what you wanted all along. Great story, nice memory if you have one like it.

Not a good analogy for God's grace, despite the fact that many Christians see it that way. In much of what I read and hear about grace (and even as I understood it for a time), the following scenario is given by implication: We as God's children have a goal in mind (heaven). We have to try our hardest to get to that goal (obedience), and where our efforts come up short (sins we haven't conquered by the time we face the judgment), God takes care of whatever cost remains by offering His grace to cover the difference. Therefore, the less grace you need, the better. That couldn't be more painfully illustrated than by preachers or writers who say things akin to, "We don't want to rely on God's grace too much!" In all seriousness, the way some Christians talk about grace you would almost think it's a bad thing, something we should only use in limited quantities because it means we're not good enough.

Well, a bit of a newsflash for you, if you think that way: you aren't good enough. There is no such thing as relying on God's grace too much. In 1 Peter 1:13, Peter commanded his readers to "rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ." Grace brings us salvation and justifies us (Titus 2:11, 3:7).

Grace, not our precise obedience, is our comfort and hope (2 Thes. 2:16) Even the good works which He has planned for us are not possible without His grace, as Paul stressed throughout His writings (Eph. 2:8-10, 4:7).

As these verses show, grace isn't the spare change that meets with our good works where we come up short to help us pay the toll into heaven. A more accurate understanding of it would be to see it as the air you breathe in your new life in Christ. You can't do anything without it. It is literally an essential part of every single second of your life as a Christian. God breathes life into us through His grace and it is by this breath that we operate in obedience to Him. Sure, you can always choose to give up your life for the death that previously reigned in you (Romans 6). But at that point you aren't "relying too much on air," you've decided not to use it at all.

**Here's what we have to constantly keep in mind: You are nothing without grace.** All the good you can ever do in your entire life is absolutely worthless if it's done outside of the grace of God (Isaiah 64:6). This idea we have that there is a certain percentage of us that's good and God's grace fills up the rest is completely false. You won't stand before Him at the judgment in need of a bit of spare change to make it into heaven. You will stand before Him as a hopeless, lost sinner but for the grace of God covering you entirely.

There is no greater news than that God loved us enough to provide grace through the cross. To diminish that, to shy away from it in our teaching, or to act as though grace is God chipping in where we come up short is something the church has no business doing. Instead of avoiding the topic of grace or looking at it as the spare change we need to cover our deficiencies, why don't we aim to declare our sinfulness and God's amazing love, power, and grace that still provides us a way to know Him and be with Him in heaven some day?

*Jack Wilkie is the author of "Failure: What Christian Parents Need to Know About American Education" and is the speaker for Focus Press's "The Lost Generation" seminar. To schedule a seminar at your church, contact jack@focuspress.org.*

YOUTH EVENTS



Camp Bandina is June 7-13, 2015, for 7th-12th graders. Please see Paul for applications.

The Arms of Hope Grocery Run will be the week of April 13-17, 2015. We need to collect the following:



- 50 Liquid Laundry Detergent (large)
- 30 Body Wash (bottles)
- 10 Dish Soap (large bottles—90 oz.)

Please bring your items by Sunday, April 12. Let's have a generous donation.



The church-wide encampment is set for April 17-19, 2015, at Martin Dies, Jr. State Park. You will need to make your own reservations. At last check, there were plenty of campsites available for that weekend. Overnight cost per campsite is \$20. We hope we have a big turnout.

KEPT IN PRAYER

Our sympathy to the family of **Leslie Hunt**, who passed away March 26, 2015. Leslie was Gretchen Whitmire's aunt. Services will be held on April 2, 2015, in College Station TX.

**Fran Barnhill's** surgery went well yesterday, and she is returning home today.

**Taylor Cuellar** is suffering from a severe case of vertigo. Please pray that she will recover quickly and not miss many classes.

**Dorris Honeycutt** is taking another round of antibiotics and will be consulting with her primary care physician this week.

**Chase Shelton** had an MRI last week; test results are expected this week.

**Paul Pridgen**, Betty Pridgen's son, has completed his cancer treatments, is feeling well, and has a good prognosis. Betty thanks the congregation for the many prayers offered in Paul's behalf.

In Continuing Need:

**Our Members:** Leona Anderson, Fran Barnhill, Tracy & Martha Cain, David & Libby Clayton, Evelyn Cordell, Daisy Dees, Billie Dykes, June Evans, Dorendia Hamilton, Charlyne Harper, Minnie Harris, Murrell Hill, Dorris Honeycutt, Kaliya Kelly, Wanda Kirby, Dorothy Kirkland, Von Knight, Wanda Knight, Brenda Langford, Evelyn Lawhon, Jan Lemoine, Mary Means, Vi Price, Betty Pridgen, David Smith, Doris Stuteville, Delores Truelove. **Others:** Mary Alford, Timothy Anderson, Richard Fairservice, Marjorie Garrison, Robert Holmes, Carol Jackman, Rhonda Jones, Bartis Knight, Charles Layton, Sr., Pat Miller, Lauren Murphy, Cloey Pruitt, Sherly Scott, Bill Severn, Rick Stone.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

April 2015

- 6 Secret Sisters—6:30 PM—Casa Ole. Jo Knight and Nina Layton are the hostesses.
- 8 Ladies Bible Study -10 AM - Annex - Proverbs 5. Please read and study chapter before class.
- 11 Ladies Prayer Breakfast—8 AM—Kelley's
- 11 Elders, Deacons, Ministers Meeting—9 AM—Elders' Conference Room
- 13 Golden Agers' Luncheon—TBD
- 22 Ladies Bible Study -10 AM - Annex - Proverbs 6. Please read and study chapter before class.



Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive, and painless health screenings at our Annex on Friday, April 17, 2015. Flyers are in the foyer. In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6450 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners).

April Birthdays

- 2 Morgan Cuellar
- 3 Dianne Westmoreland
- 7 Elaine Genaro
- 13 Tracey Mauney
- 16 Brenton Cook
- 19 Michael Terry
- 25 Lacey Gartrell
- 28 Noelle Holmes
- 2 Derek Mauney
- 7 Jack Chisum
- 13 Shawn Cravens
- 14 Jean Coe
- 19 Hannah Atkins
- 23 Charlie Story
- 28 Lucille Adams
- 30 Angela Terry

April Anniversaries

- 7 Morris & Berna Dyes
- 9 Orlando & Amy Cuellar
- 19 Chuck & Sheila Banyai
- 7 John & Lacey Gartrell
- 11 Douglas & Doris Teague
- 25 Josh & Ashley Hundley