

## Those to Serve

Wednesday Evening May 20	Wednesday Evening May 27
Building Lock Up—Lindelof	Building Lock Up—Fabian

Morning Worship May 24	Morning Worship May 31
Opening Prayer Charlie Story	Opening Prayer Daniel Brown
Song Leader Paul Cartwright	Song Leader Paul Cartwright
Communion	Communion
<b>Presiding:</b> Charlie Layton	<b>Presiding:</b> Chris Lindelof
Gheath Alatrash Brandon Stafford	Ike Atkins Maverick Lemus
Matthew Fabian Phil Godwin	Zack Williams James Maxcey
Jojimon Puliypallil Jacob Carriere	Tom Langford Logan Lindelof
Announcements Greg Fabian	Announcements Greg Fabian
Closing Prayer	Closing Prayer
Nursery Attendants	Nursery Attendants
Tracey Mauney Angela Parker	Molly Godwin Nina Layton
Ushers (*indicates head usher)	Ushers (*indicates head usher)
*Rick Nudelman, Clifford Layton, Bobby Parker	*Derek Mauney, Russell Genaro, Josh Hundley
Greeters	Greeters
Clifford & Nina Layton	Kevin & Maresha Scarsdale
Audio—Projector—Video for AM & PM	Audio—Projector—Video for AM & PM
Williams, Banyai	Williams, Banyai
Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Fabian	Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Scarsdale

Evening Worship	Evening Worship
Opening Prayer Paul Hamilton	Opening Prayer
Song Leader Paul Cartwright	Song Leader
Communion Matthew Fabian, Charlie Layton	Communion
Closing Prayer Greg Fabian	Closing Prayer

### Worship Times:

#### Sunday

Bible Study .....9 am

Morning Worship.....10 am

Evening Worship.....6 pm

Wednesday Bible Study.....7 pm

**FRIENDS & FAMILY  
DAY  
NO EVENING  
SERVICES**

## 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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MAY 20, 2015



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

## BUT IT DOESN'T WORK!

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A publication called *India Newsletter* crosses my desk each month. In a recent edition, I read an article entitled "Teamwork and Victory" which reported on the successes of evangelistic efforts in that nation. According to the report, in 2014 there were **358,320 Gospel Meetings** held. Many were simply one-day events with two to five speakers. The net result was **704,415** baptisms. Of the almost three-quarters of a million who were baptized, **4,714** were denominational preachers. In the same year, there were **11,000** new congregations established. The article noted that "too many congregations in the USA are in retreat...often content with mediocrity. We do not expect to convert many souls..." (*India Newsletter*, Feb. 2015).

This morning I googled "Does evangelism still work?" which led me to billygraham.org. On that website I read an article published May 29, 2014, which reports that BGEA (Billy Graham Evangelistic Association) "will hold 28 large-scale evangelistic Festivals worldwide...[and] we will work with more than 2,000 churches worldwide in our Crusade ministry."

Last Saturday the doorbell rang. My wife went to the door and was greeted by two men from the First Baptist Church who wanted to invite us to worship with them.

A Seventh Day Adventist preacher reported last year that after "four public evangelistic series" in the past three years his small congregation had increased by 29 people in a small town of 1,900 (ministrymagazine.org, "It still works: Why public evangelism remains essential to the church's witness" by Shane Anderson, Feb. 2014).

I realize someone may be reading this and wondering why I am publishing quotes from denominational

preachers who are suggesting that public evangelism (i.e., Gospel Meetings) still works. If you google the exact question that I did, you won't find any articles from our brotherhood on the first two pages, which is as far as I looked.



That's not to say that all Churches of Christ have abandoned the idea of Gospel Meetings. In April the Benton Church of Christ in Benton, KY, hosted a three-night Gospel Meeting which was rained out on the last night. They had a full house on Sunday night and an even larger group, well over 400 in attendance, on Monday night. They had restorations and baptisms, and their elders reported that members had made 12,000 invites in the days leading up to the three-night event. They were just lucky!

What does it all mean? I don't know. I'll admit it is a bit disturbing because, as we all know, Gospel Meetings don't work anymore. They are a huge waste of resources! Why would any of us want to promote something so ... so ... inefficient? So what if it works in Benin, West Africa, or in India? That's not the same! Those people aren't like us! And so what if the Baptists or the Adventists are still using them? They've got deep pockets! Pearland is different! We know everyone here, and none of the folks we know are that interested. Oh! Wait a minute! I just read on the city webpage that as of September 2014 our estimated population is now 108,800.

We probably don't really know all of those people. We might not know all of those living in our subdivision. We might not really know whether or not they would be interested in hearing the gospel. But that is a lot of "might nots," and we probably shouldn't let those things influence our thinking. After all, it's the Lord's church; and, if He wants it to grow, He will figure out a way that really does work. Because if there is one thing we do know, it's this—evangelistic outreach just doesn't work anymore!

Keep studying and keep serving! D.C. Brown ©2015

**YOUTH EVENTS**



Camp Bandina is June 7-13, 2015, for 7th-12th graders. Scholarships are available. Please see Paul for applications and scholarships.

Vacation Bible School will be July 12-15, 2015. If you are interested in helping, please see Paul or April Cartwright.

May 31, 2015

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

*Friends*



*Family Day*



On Sunday morning, June 7, DC would like to meet briefly with EVERYONE over the age of 18 who has or who is old enough to have children still living at home. We will meet down at the front of the auditorium immediately after services that morning. DC will be presenting a challenge and a new program for all who are in this age group.

**KEPT IN PRAYER**

**Dorris Honeycutt** has returned to The Medical Resort at Bay Area, 4900 E Sam Houston Pkwy S, Pasadena TX 77505.

**Jan Lemoine** is still battling a UTI and E. coli and will get a shot on Friday.

**David Smith** is consulting with his surgeon today.

**Mary Lee Miller**, 104-year-old sister of David Smith, is in hospice care.

**Jillian Polete** (34-year-old sister of Francine Indest, Judy Indest's sister-in-law) is in critical condition in Florida.

Our sympathy to the family of **David W. Scott**, who passed away May 15, 2015. Mr. Scott was Pearland's oldest born citizen. Visitation is today (May 20, 2015) from 6 to 8 PM at Clayton Funeral Home. The funeral service will be on

Thursday, May 21, 2015, at 10 AM at First United Methodist Church. Interment will follow at South Park Cemetery.

**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, Evelyn Lawhon, Jan Lemoine, Mary Means, Vi Price, Betty Pridgen, David Smith, Doris Stuteville **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, Douglas Teague

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Greg Fabian will be our contact elder for May. If you would like to schedule a meeting, please see Greg.

**May 2015**

25-29 Meals on Wheels—See Leah Bateman to volunteer.

27 Ladies Bible Study—10 AM—Annex

**June 2015**

1 Secret Sisters—6:30 PM—Annex. Meat will be provided by the hostesses, Sheila Banyai and Patricia Stafford. Others, please bring sides and desserts.

8 Golden Agers' Luncheon—11:30 AM —Dairy Queen, 3614 Broadway, Pearland TX 77581

13 Ladies Prayer Breakfast—8 AM—Kelley's

13 Elders, Deacons, Ministers Meeting—9 AM—Elders' Conference Room

The new pocket directories will be in the foyer this Sunday.

**May Birthdays**

- 20 Fran Barnhill
- 24 Morris Dyes
- 31 Atticus Brown
- 20 David Blair
- 26 Gena Coe

**June Birthdays**

- 4 Alice Moore
- 7 Kevin Scarsdale
- 11 Lucy Gartrell
- 11 Shiny Puliyampallil
- 13 Katie Stafford
- 16 Dallas Maxcey
- 18 John Gartrell
- 19 Jason Holmes
- 21 Chris Lindelof
- 23 June Evans
- 25 Maverick Lemus
- 4 Betty Pridgen
- 10 Von Knight
- 11 Charlyne Harper
- 12 Phil Godwin
- 15 Tracy Cain
- 18 Dwight Bateman
- 18 Stacy Puliyampallil
- 20 Jeremy Brown
- 23 Debbie Brown
- 25 Stephanie Forster
- 28 Ben Lenamon

**May Anniversaries**

- 31 Bruce & Becky Hopkins

**June Anniversaries**

- 1 Charlie & Peggy Story
- 11 Jimmy & Angela Terry
- 12 Hugh & Pat Fletcher
- 9 Ike & Bethany Atkins
- 12 Jeremy & Jessica Bouillion