

## Those to Serve

<b>Wednesday Evening December 2</b>	<b>Wednesday Evening December 9</b>
Building Lock Up—Cartwright <b>WNWTM</b>	Building Lock Up—Williams

Morning Worship December 6		Morning Worship December 13	
Opening Prayer	Charlie Story	Opening Prayer	Gheath Alatrash
Song Leader	Paul Cartwright	Song Leader	Gary Adams
Communion		Communion	
<b>Presiding:</b> Daniel Brown		<b>Presiding:</b> James Maxcey	
Demetris Kelly	Tom Langford	Matthew Fabian	John Adams
Phil Godwin	Derek Mauney	Jimmy Terry	Nathan Scarsdale
Jacob Carriere	Zack Williams	Charlie Layton	Bobby Parker
Announcements	Chris Lindelof	Announcements	Chris Lindelof
Closing Prayer		Closing Prayer	
Nursery Attendants		Nursery Attendants	
Appeal Byers	Angela Parker	Nina Layton	Molly Godwin
Ushers (*indicates head usher)		Ushers (*indicates head usher)	
*Lynn Adams, James Maxcey, Brandon Stafford		*Clifford Layton, Bob Williams, Paul Hamilton	
Greeters		Greeters	
Lynn & Lucille Adams		Kevin & Maresha Scarsdale	
Audio—Projector—Video for AM		Audio—Projector—Video for AM	
Banyai		Banyai	
Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Williams			
Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Williams		Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Scarsdale	
Evening Worship		Evening Worship	
Opening Prayer	Bob Williams	Opening Prayer	Demetris Kelly
Song Leader	Gary Adams	Song Leader	Greg Fabian
Communion	Zack Williams, B Stafford	Communion	Matthew Fabian, N Scarsdale
Closing Prayer	Chris Lindelof	Closing Prayer	Chris Lindelof

### 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.

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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

**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

DECEMBER 2, 2015



# The Pearland Harvester

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

## I WAS WONDERING

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As board chairman for FACE, I had the sad duty of sending out a letter to all board members this week informing them of a substantial loss in our monthly support. Fortunately, I was also able to soften the blow with the news that we have gained additional supporting partners, though not enough to offset the recent loss. This financial loss did not come about because of anything we've done. We didn't lose it due to philosophical or doctrinal differences. We lost it because the congregation that gave it is suffering from declining membership. Their heart for missions is still there, but their loss in members has forced them to make severe cuts in their budget.

Membership in the Lord's kingdom is more than an RSVP for an eternal home in heaven. Though I fear that some only see it from that perspective (and they may well be bitterly disappointed in the end), the fact is that membership in the Lord's kingdom is a commitment to working in the Lord's vineyard. Jesus taught a parable based on exactly that premise (Mt. 20:1-16). And I wonder if ...

I wonder if parents have failed to teach the necessity of attendance and of commitment to the Lord's work.

I wonder if parents, preachers, and elders have failed to teach the purpose of attendance and commitment.

I wonder if church leaders have lost sight of the shepherd's role and thus no longer seek out the members who no longer attend. And if they don't attend, they certainly won't commit to the work.

I wonder if the congregation (from pulpit to pew) has lost enthusiasm for worship, for learning, and for stretching. If so, it would be impractical to assume new members will be any different.

I wonder if the craze for being entertained has brought many to ask one subjective question (upon which their every decision is weighed): "What's in it

for me?" Put another way, "I quit attending because it was a waste of time. I just didn't get anything out of it."

I wonder if the concept of growth produced by growth is lost on our present generation.

I wonder if the hunger for the Scriptures is gone. I get encouragement every week from a segment of the congregation. They express thanks for the message and for the way it touched them. Another segment never does. I see in them body language that says everything that shouldn't be said.

I wonder if the church as I knew it growing up will exist when my grandchildren are grown. I know the Lord's church will not pass from this world for He has promised as much. But will it still be in the part of the world that I share?

I wonder if our conscious decision to stop doing things that once increased membership and fueled the commitment to work has really improved our situation. Do congregations who remain mission-minded and who exert effort and finances to feed the flock and reach the community suffer from declining membership and declining interest? They seem to thrive and to grow. Why is that?

I wonder if the expectation of growth now resides only in those who preach and if responsibility to achieve growth is limited to those who preach.

Writing about such things, the Hebrews writer said, "But, beloved, we are convinced of better things concerning you, and things that accompany salvation, though we are speaking in this way. For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints. And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope until the end" (Heb. 6:9-11).



Keep studying and keep serving! DC Brown ©2015

Our annual Faith in Action Campaign is taking place on Saturday, December 12, 2015, at the Impact Church of Christ. Once again, our goal is to collect 100 blankets to pass out to the homeless. This year, we will also be accepting donations of socks and bottled water to help with this effort. While this is a youth event, we invite anyone in the congregation to participate. Cash donations are welcome. Please bring your items by Friday, December 11, 2015. If you have any questions, please see Paul Cartwright.

PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES FOR THE PEARLAND CHURCH OF CHRIST HOMECOMING FOR CURRENT & FORMER MEMBERS:

APRIL 16 & 17, 2016

More information will be provided in the coming weeks. If you would like to contribute to the Homecoming fund, please give your money to Gretchen Whitmire. If you would like to add names to the invitation list, please provide those to Gretchen, as well.

**KEPT IN PRAYER**

Our deepest sympathy to the family of **Alfonso Hernandez, Sr.**, who passed away on November 27, 2015. Services were held last Sunday in Lufkin. Brother Hernandez was the father of Cruz Hernandez, who is the pulpit minister at Hidden Valley Church of Christ in Houston.

**Ted Bowers**, Jessica Bilnoski's father, is dealing with multiple serious health issues.

**Sam Coley**, a college student from Minnesota who studied with and attended the Pearland Church of Christ, was baptized into Christ on November 22, 2015, at the Roseville Church of Christ in St. Paul, Minnesota.

**Betty Goad**, Bobby Parker's aunt, does not have cancer, but will have surgery to remove some tissue.

Heather Thomas, one of DC's Tuesday night Bible students, has asked for prayers for **Jayson Romano**. Jayson is in very bad shape with a widespread blood infection.

**Margie Stephens**, Jeanette Hays' cousin, is in rehab in Kingwood, closer to her home. The family is very grateful for the continued prayers.

**Continuing Need:**

**Our Members:** Fran Barnhill, Annette Bumpers, David & Libby Clayton, Evelyn Cordell, Daisy Dees, June Evans, Bennie Sue Galindo, Ross Genaro, Dorendia Hamilton, Charlyne Harper, Minnie Harris, Murrell Hill, Judy Indest, Kaliya Kelly, Wanda Kirby, Dorothy Kirkland, Von Knight, Wanda Knight, Jan Lemoine, Mary Means, Vi Price, Betty Pridgen, David Smith, Loma Stone, Sandy Stone, Doris Stuteville. **Others:** Mary Alford, Leona Anderson, Timothy Anderson, Norman Bumpers, Billie Dykes, Carter Ellison, Linda Evans, Richard Fairservice, Darrell Farmer, Glenda Garner, Betty Goad, Capri Hendrix, Paul Hillier, Robert Holmes, Carol Jackman, Bartis Knight, Charles Layton, Sr., Dave Manley, Pat Miller, Lauren Murphy, Myra Njoku, Jillian Polete, Susan Priel, Cloey Pruitt, Kathy Reigh, Don Scott, Sherly Scott, Frank Staten, Margie Stephens, Rick Stone, James Thabiso Taylor, Heather Thomas, Kenny Warren, Ingram & McIntosh families, Lynch family, Wells family, Young family.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

2016 sign-up sheets for communion preparation and audio-projector-video assignments are on the bulletin board.

*December 2015*

- 4 Ladies' Christmas Party—6 PM—Brenda Blair's house, 2321 Francis, Pearland TX 77581
- 6 Homecoming Committee will meet at 4:30 PM in the Annex.
- 9 Ladies' Bible Class will meet at Ginny Lindelof's house, 3416 Highland Point Ln, Pearland TX 77581 at 11 AM. Please meet at Annex parking lot at 10:40 AM to carpool to her house.
- 10 Secret Sisters—6:30 PM—Jean Coe's house, 2606 Gunpowder Ln, Pearland TX 77581. Meat will be provided; everyone should bring a side dish or dessert. Everyone in the gift exchange will find out who their Secret Sister was during 2015.
- 12 Ladies' Prayer Breakfast has been CANCELED for this day.
- 12 Elders, Deacons, Ministers Meeting—9 AM—Elders' Conference Room
- 12 Ugly Sweater Christmas party for the young families on December 12, 2015, at 5:30 PM in the Annex. Meat will be provided. Sign up on the list on the foyer bulletin board to bring sides. See Heather Brown or April Cartwright if you have questions.
- 14 Golden Agers luncheon has been CANCELED for this day.
- 23 Ladies Bible Class has been CANCELED for this day.

**December Birthdays**

- 4 Zanna Osuorji
- 12 Harold Moore
- 18 Kaliya Kelly
- 21 Bryan Hudman
- 24 Davy May
- 27 Haley Biegay
- 31 Jessica Bouillion
- 31 Loma Stone
- 7 Jacob Carriere
- 16 Chase Shelton
- 18 Victor Osuorji
- 22 Norman Bumpers
- 24 Bob Williams
- 27 Matthew Fabian
- 31 Maresha Scarsdale

**December Anniversaries**

- 1 Jeremy & Heather Brown
- 22 Norman & Annette Bumpers
- 27 Bob & Mitzi Williams
- 9 Ricky & Janice Pearson
- 24 Jojimon & Shiny Puliyampallil