

Those to Serve

Wednesday Evening December 16	Wednesday Evening December 23
Building Lock Up—Williams	Building Lock Up—Lindelof

Morning Worship December 20	Morning Worship December 27
Opening Prayer Paul Hamilton	Opening Prayer Gheath Alatrash
Song Leader Paul Cartwright	Song Leader Greg Fabian
Communion	Communion
Presiding: Kevin Scarsdale	Presiding: Charlie Layton
Demetris Kelly Phil Godwin	John Adams Matthew Fabian
Russell Genaro Charlie Story	Daniel Brown Paul Hamilton
Zack Williams Jacob Carriere	Josh Hundley Derek Mauney
Announcements Chris Lindelof	Announcements Chris Lindelof
Closing Prayer	Closing Prayer
Nursery Attendants	Nursery Attendants
Laurie Maxcey	Canova Genaro Elaine Genaro
Ushers (*indicates head usher)	Ushers (*indicates head usher)
*Nathan Scarsdale, Greg Fabian, Gary Adams	*Lynn Adams, Bob Williams, Brandon Stafford
Greeters	Greeters
Clifford & Nina Layton	Lynn & Lucille Adams
Audio—Projector—Video for AM	Audio—Projector—Video for AM
Banyai	Banyai
Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Lindelof	Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Adams

Evening Worship	Evening Worship
Opening Prayer Demetris Kelly	Opening Prayer Bobby Parker
Song Leader Greg Fabian	Song Leader Gary Adams
Communion Matthew Fabian, N Scarsdale	Communion John Adams, Bob Williams
Closing Prayer Chris Lindelof	Closing Prayer Chris Lindelof

Worship Times:

Sunday

Bible Study9 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

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 16, 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

GOOD FRIENDS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

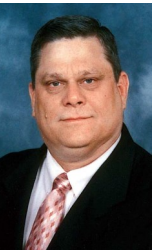
- GOOD FRIENDS** 1
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- UPCOMING EVENTS** 3
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A theme I try to stress in my Tuesday night Bible classes is the importance of choosing good friends. Friendship develops slowly. There is so much time and emotion invested in developing friendships that the thought of intentionally letting a friendship go sounds unreasonable at best and just plain wrong at worst. Yet, everyone cultures some friendships to the exclusion of others. Choosing friends is more than a one-time selection process. It is a constant re-evaluation process. When a friend encourages bad environments and bad choices, it's time to re-evaluate the relationship and find new friends.

I listen to the anecdotal accounts of time spent with friends and can't help but think about the wisdom of making friendships among Christians. Solomon wrote: *Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up. Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm alone? And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him. A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart* (Eccl. 4:9-12).

Have you ever thought about Satan's temptation of Eve? He was never interested in her alone. He wasn't willing to be happy with getting 50% of the human population to sin against God. He always intended to lead both into sin. But he picked them off one at a time. I don't know how close by or how far away Adam was when Eve was being tempted, but I do know that Satan chose to work on her heart exclusively. How differently things might have turned out if only Eve had talked it over with Adam before she made her decision! Satan didn't need

the garden of Eden to do his destructive work. He only needed an isolated soul. Eve's first bad choice was to remain in a situation where she was cut off from any encouraging words.



We can all see the devastation of a ruined life that came about because someone, in a moment of weakness, made the wrong choice while alone. It happens in a bar, on a business trip, or even on a busy street. Once the choice is made and the deed is done, there is no going back. And nothing is ever the same again.

God knows us better than we know ourselves, and He tells us to prefer one another. **Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor** (Romans 12:10). We find strength in the fellowship of Christian friends. We find role models for our faith. We find partners in our work of service. We find a loving acceptance that has no parallels outside the fellowship of Christian bonds.

How different things might be if every Christian truly believed that his or her lifelong friendships could only be found among believers. We don't see the immediate harm of choosing friends who aren't Christians and may even convince ourselves that if we prefer them over the brethren, we'll be making the better decision. We won't. Think of all those you know who were once strong in their faith but now are completely lost to the world. How many of them told you they had to stop being involved in the church that God placed them in because their Christian friends were corrupting their soul?

Culture your friendships in Christ this week and resolve to make them stronger in the coming year. It will make a big difference – and it will be the best decision you'll make.

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



The youth will be assembling fruit bags for our widows and widowers this Saturday, December 19, 2015, at 1 PM in the Annex. Anyone who would like to help assemble them is welcome to come and lend a hand.

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

Mike Barnhill, good friend of Greg Fabian, was in a very severe motorcycle accident on December 7, 2015, going home from work. He has extensive head injuries, collapsed lung, broken arms in several places, and a shattered leg. He is in very critical condition. Please pray for his wife Cindy and family.

Updates on Greg Fabian's co-workers:

Dave Manley—surgery to remove the tumor was very successful.

Kinnie Warren—tumor is Stage 3, but a very slow-growing cancer. Outlook is good.

Continuing Need:

Our Members: Fran Barnhill, Mike & Cindy 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, Ted Bowers, Margaret Brown, 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, Steve & Gayle Miller, Lauren Murphy, Myra Njoku, Jillian Polete, Susan Priel, Cloey Pruitt, Kathy Reigh, Jayson Romano, Don Scott, Sherly Scott, Frank Staten, Margie Stephens, Rick Stone, James Thabiso Taylor, Heather Thomas, Kinnie Warren, Hernandez family, 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.

Our Sunday worship service and Wednesday night class schedule will remain the same through the holidays. We will meet on December 23, 27 (both services), 30, and January 3 (both services).

December 2015

23 Ladies Bible Class has been CANCELED for this day.

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

Maria Sanchez's birthday was December 12.

December Birthdays

16	Chase Shelton	18	Kaliya Kelly
18	Victor Osuorji	21	Bryan Hudman
22	Norman Bumpers	24	Davy May
24	Bob Williams	27	Haley Biegay
27	Matthew Fabian	31	Jessica Bouillion
31	Maresha Scarsdale	31	Loma Stone

January Birthdays

4	Wanda Kirby	4	Branden Shelton
8	Jeanette Hays	14	Valerie Lee-McHargh
17	Tom Langford	20	Bobby Parker
21	Donald Mickan	22	Cameron Alatrash
25	Ethan Brown	28	Terri Bumpers
29	Dawn Bell	30	Lindsay Parker

December Anniversaries

22	Norman & Annette Bumpers	24	Jojimon & Shiny Puliampallil
27	Bob & Mitzi Williams		

January Anniversaries

9	Jason & Noelle Holmes	17	David & Libby Clayton
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