



The Pearland Harvester

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

OUR CHALLENGE

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The next time you want to amaze someone with an impressive bit of trivia, consider asking this question: *“What is the 8th largest population in the world?”*

Even with a smart phone and instant access to Google, they are not likely to get the correct answer. They’ll be thinking in terms of self-governing nations, and so will the search engines they employ. Actually the 8th largest population, according a survey published by the Barna Group in December 2014, is the unchurched in America! They define that term as an adult who has “not attended a Christian church service, other than a special event such as a wedding or a funeral, at any time during the past six months” (*Faith & Christianity*, Dec. 10, 2014).

Now that you’ve got their attention, ask another question. *“Do you know what the percentage is of those who are unchurched today in comparison to 10 years ago?”* In just the last decade, the number of unchurched adults has increased by more than 30%—or by about 38 million people. To put that in perspective, that is more than the entire population of Canada or of Australia!

Now that you have hijacked the conversation and made everyone in the room uncomfortable, go for the gold! *“Of the 156 million Americans who are unchurched, what percentage of them once did belong to a church?”* If you still have any who will make eye contact with you by this time, be gentle. They’re already feeling pretty bruised. But still, you need to tell them that about 76% of the “unchurched” are in reality “de-churched.” In the past 10 years, the number of people who have stopped all affiliation with any denomination whatsoever has increased to the point that three of every four people who once considered themselves “a church-going Christian” no longer do.

Those figures, as depressing as they are, do not indicate a similar trend within our churches—right? Let’s see. In your extended family, how many of the

18 to 30-year-olds attend church services on a regular basis? Are you sure about that number? How many of your own children and grandchildren, within that age bracket, are faithful? In the congregation that you attend, how many of the young adults who have gone off to college are no longer faithful?



We can delude ourselves into thinking that our culture won’t claim our children, but it will! It already has. Today, the parents of elementary to high school-aged children within the church, find themselves constantly being pulled by others to be somewhere other than with the family of God on the Lord’s day. The numbers are beyond dispute. Parents who drop off their children for a Bible class, but won’t attend one themselves, are foolish to think their children will act differently when they can make their own adult choices. Parents who take their children to an event (sports, concerts, etc.) rather than to an evening service will not have to be humbled later by children who are more faithful—it just doesn’t work that way. And because the church is itself a family, we see the same trend in the spiritual family. Parents have delegated the responsibility to teach their children God’s word to Bible class teachers. But they don’t bring their child to class. Adults have delegated responsibility for their own spiritual growth to the elders and the minister, but they don’t attend opportunities for growth. In some locations, the elders have stopped attending services except for the bare minimum of Sunday morning attendance. Has culture affected us? It has, and it is!

OUR CHALLENGE is: 1.) As a person, stop being influenced by the world and return to God in every measurable way; 2.) As a parent, say as Joshua once did—“as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord” and do so in every measurable way. Our nation is ripe for another Great Awakening. If God blessed it with one today, could you—by your current choices and behaviors—lead this generation back to God?

Weekly Bible trivia question. Please submit answers to the elders. The first correct answer reported to the office will be recognized and published in the next bulletin. Here goes...I married twice; I had seven sons; I'm fairly well known. Who am I?

The correct answer to last week's question was: **The word of God.**

Daily Bible chapter reading schedule, beginning Thursday, March 24, 2016:

Thursday—**Romans 13-14**

Friday—**Genesis 24-27**

Saturday—**Judges 7-11**

Sunday—**Psalms 18-20**

Monday—**Job 13-14**

Tuesday—**Isaiah 34-39**

Wednesday—**Matthew 17-19**

Camp Bandina (for 7th-12th graders) will be June 5-11, 2016. Applications are available from Paul, or you can register online at <https://campbandina.wordpress.com/full-registration/>. Please sign up quickly, as space is filling up fast. First cut-off is April 10, 2016, before moving to a waiting list.

CAMP HENSEL

We will meet at the Annex on Friday, March 26, at 9:30 AM to depart for Camp Hensel. You will need money for a fast-food meal on the way up and the way back and for any other miscellaneous expenses. Please bring your linens, toiletries, clothes, Bible, and any other items you need for the weekend.



The Arms of Hope Grocery Run will be the week of **May 2-6, 2016**. We need to collect the following:

Paper Towels
Toilet Paper

Please bring your items by Sunday, May 1. Arms of Hope did not specify quantity, but let's have a generous donation.

KEPT IN PRAYER

Continuing Need:

Our Members: Sheila Banyai, 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: Brianna Aaronson, Mary Alford, Leona Anderson, Timothy Anderson, Harold Anglin, Mike & Cindy Barnhill, Ted Bowers, Margaret Brown, Catina Davis, Brooke Dempsey, Billie Dykes, Marcia Ellison, Linda Evans, Richard Fairservice, Darrell Farmer, Glenda Garner, Betty Goad, Bo Herrington, Cody Holcomb, Robert Holmes, Charles (Huck) Huckabee, Carol Jackman, Ed Jones, Charles Layton, Sr., Kerry Lemoine, Dave Manley, Blake McAdams, J. S. Miller, Pat Miller, Steve & Gayle Miller, Lauren Murphy, April Parker, Carolyn Cheshier Peters, Jillian Polete, Susan Priel, Cloey Pruitt, Jayson Romano, Henry Schaefer, Don Scott, Sherly Scott, Frank Staten, Margie Stephens, Rick Stone, James Thabiso Taylor, Heather Thomas, Larry Thornhill, Pedro Vasquez, Kinnie Warren, Anna Young.

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Thank you so much for your prayers, phone calls, and love during this challenging time with my vision.

It really was very calming to go into surgery knowing you were behind me praying.

My sight is so much better now.

Thank you again—you mean so much to me.

Brenda Blair

Our sister Jerri Farmer thanks us for all of the prayers that were offered over the years for her brother, Bartis Knight. She appreciates so much the love that her Christian family has shown to her after his passing. Thanks for all of the cards and continued prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kevin Scarsdale is our contact elder for **March**. If you would like to schedule a meeting, please see **Kevin**.

April 2016

- 4 Secret Sisters—TBD
- 6 Wednesday Night with the Master—Meal served at 6 PM in the Annex—Menu is Mexican stack-ups. Please bring your favorite dessert.
- 11 Golden Agers’ Luncheon—11:30 AM—Location TBD
- 13 Ladies’ Bible Class—10 AM—Annex
- 16-17 Homecoming—Singing and sandwich supper at 5 PM on April 16; Regular class and morning worship schedule on April 17, followed by a catered lunch. Afternoon fellowship includes history and recognitions with a period of devotional.
- 27 Ladies’ Bible Class—10 AM—Annex



The church-wide encampment is set for April 22-24, 2016, at Cagle Recreational Area which is 6 miles west of New Waverly on FM 1375. Take I-45 north to New Waverly, take FM 1375 west for 6 miles to Cagle Rd. All sites have water and electricity for tents and full hookup for RVs. Two nice bathhouses, hiking trails and paved roads throughout. The campground is 80 miles north of Pearland. Each camper is responsible for making reservations.

Mainland Church of Christ in Texas City is having a Ladies Day on April 2, 2016. A flyer is on the bulletin board. Mary Allen is the speaker. RSVP requested by March 25, 2016.

March Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 25 Evelyn Cordell | 25 Demetris Kelly II |
| 27 April Cartwright | 29 Judy Indest |
| 30 Candice Townzen | 31 Heather Cook |
| 31 Mary Holmberg | |

April Birthdays

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

March Anniversaries

- | |
|----------------------------|
| 31 Russell & Canova Genaro |
|----------------------------|

April Anniversaries

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 7 Morris & Berna Dyes | 7 John & Lacey Gartrell |
| 9 Orlando & Amy Cuellar | 18 Don & Connie Powell |
| 19 Chuck & Sheila Banyai | 25 Josh & Ashley Hundley |

Those to Serve

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

Wednesday Evening March 23	Wednesday Evening March 30
Building Lock Up—Cartwright	Building Lock Up—Lindelof

Morning Worship March 27	Morning Worship April 3
Opening Prayer James Maxcey	Opening Prayer Gheath Alatrash
Song Leader Gary Adams	Song Leader Paul Cartwright
Communion	Communion
Presiding: Daniel Brown	Presiding: Demetris Kelly
Bobby Parker Bob Williams	Daniel Brown Jimmy Terry
Jacob Carriere Matthew Fabian	Paul Hamilton James Maxcey
Tom Langford Josh Hundley	Zack Williams Russell Genaro
Announcements Closing Prayer Kevin Scarsdale	Announcements Closing Prayer Gary Adams
Nursery Attendants	Nursery Attendants
Laurie Maxcey	Appeal Byers Molly Godwin
Ushers (*indicates head usher)	Ushers (*indicates head usher)
*Phil Godwin, Clifford Layton, Lynn Adams	*Brandon Stafford, Matthew Fabian, N Scarsdale
Greeters	Greeters
Clifford & Nina Layton	Kevin & Maresha Scarsdale
Audio—Projector for AM	Audio—Projector for AM
Mauney	Mauney
Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Lindelof	Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Scarsdale
Evening Worship	Evening Worship
Opening Prayer Gary Adams	Opening Prayer Bob Williams
Song Leader Greg Fabian	Song Leader Paul Cartwright
Communion Bobby Parker, N Scarsdale	Communion Charlie Layton, Jimmy Terry
Closing Prayer Kevin Scarsdale	Closing Prayer Gary Adams

Worship Times:	
<i>Sunday</i>	
Bible Study	9 am
Morning Worship.....	10 am
Evening Worship.....	6 pm
Wednesday Bible Study.....	7 pm

ELDERS

Gary Adams 281-797-2575
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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