



# The Pearland Harvester

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

## A LESSON FROM ANATHOTH

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About three miles northeast of Jerusalem, within the tribal territory of Benjamin, was the Levitical city of Anathoth (Josh. 21:18; 1 Ch. 6:60). Two of David's mighty men, Abiezer (2 Sm. 23:27; 1 Ch. 11:28, 27:12) and Jehu (1 Ch. 12:3), came from there. Later, Solomon would send into exile the priest Abiathar, confining him to his estate at

Anathoth, saying that he deserved to die (1 Kg. 2:26-27). It was also a marked city in one of Isaiah's prophecies concerning an impending invasion of Judah by the Assyrians (Is. 10:30).

But its most famous son was the great prophet Jeremiah (Jer. 1:1; 29:27). The men of Anathoth hated the prophecies of Jeremiah and threatened to kill him for speaking God's word (Jer. 11:21). Actually, their threats to murder him brought a specific prophecy concerning their own deaths by the hand of God (Jer. 11:22-23).

Though Jeremiah's message was so often a message of doom, it was also one of hope. For it often contained a promise that one day God would restore the people to their lands; and, of course, that meant that someday the remnant from Anathoth would once again inhabit their ancestral city. Those prophecies were faithfully fulfilled (Ezr. 2:23; Neh. 7:27, 11:32).

A remarkable thing concerning Anathoth took place in Jeremiah's day. It was not done in Jeremiah's hometown but in Jerusalem, and it took place at a time when the city was besieged by Nebuchadnezzar and while Jeremiah was imprisoned (within the imprisoned city) by King Zedekiah's order. By God's word, Jeremiah was visited by his cousin who lived in Anathoth. The nature of the visit was to try and convince Jeremiah to buy a piece of real estate in Anathoth which belonged to this cousin. Understand that property values in Anathoth could not have been good at that time. It was a good time to be selling but a terrible time to be buying, and therefore the appraisal value had to have sunk to the depths of a bottomless pit. Nevertheless, the visit and the transaction were of God's will. So Jeremiah agreed to buy the property and at a very favorable rate in the eyes of his cousin. Jeremiah weighed

17 shekels of silver in the presence of witnesses, took the deed for his newly acquired property which bore an official deed of sale containing terms and conditions, and a second copy of the deed and gave them to Baruch. It was done in the presence of the seller and the witnesses. Jeremiah ordered him to preserve the deeds in an earthen jar that could be sealed **"...that they may last a long time. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, 'Houses and fields and vineyards will again be bought in this land'"** (Jer. 32:14-15).

Thus, a deed of ownership of a piece of property in the little town of Anathoth became the sign of the promises of a faithful God. Not only that, but one of the most often quoted lines from the book of Jeremiah is from a prayer that he offered up to God upon completion of this transaction. **"After I had given the deed of purchase to Baruch the son of Neriah, then I prayed to the Lord, saying, 'Ah Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and by Your outstretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for You'"** (Jer. 32:16-17).

Two weeks ago today (Wednesday, March 16), my wife was teaching a Bible lesson to our grandson Ethan on a night when he was the only student in attendance. It was about the vision of the valley of dry bones that Ezekiel had seen. She explained the meaning of the story to him; and, being a boy of that age, the gruesomeness of dismembered skeletal remains was of great interest. After class he told me all about it and just thought it was the coolest story he had ever heard. He knew that it was intended to represent God's replenishing the land of Israel with the remnant returning from 70 years of exile.

Among those returning exiles were men from the tribe of Benjamin, who once again occupied the town of Anathoth (Ezr. 2:23; Neh. 7:27, 11:32). Among them, someone now had possession of a deed, sealed and recorded, that showed them the rightful owners of an inheritance from God.

We may in be in the valley of dry bones; but, if our deed is recorded in heaven, that inheritance is as certain as can be. We serve the God of impossible!

Keep studying and keep serving! DC Brown ©2016



**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 was written by the most prolific writer of the New Testament; but, strangely, I contain no greetings to named Christians among my intended audience. Who am I?

**The correct answer to last week's question was: ABRAHAM. James Maxcey gave the first correct answer.**

**Daily Bible chapter reading schedule, beginning Thursday, March 31, 2016:**

Thursday—**Romans 15-16**

Friday—**Genesis 28-31**

Saturday—**Judges 12-16**

Sunday—**Psalms 21-23**

Monday—**Job 15-16**

Tuesday—**Isaiah 40-44**

Wednesday—**Matthew 20-22**

*New*  
ADDRESS



Effective March 31, 2016:

Grayson & Candice Townzen & family  
4012 Spring Forest Dr  
Pearland TX 77584

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.



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

**Annette Bumpers** is still battling the effects of congestive heart failure.

**Becky Nicholson** is still suffering from neuralgia pain.

**Ray Craycraft**, husband of one of the FACE board members, will be receiving treatment at MD Anderson.

**Ed Jones** is improving at a rehab facility in Paducah, Kentucky.

**Kerry Lemoine** is having health problems.

#### 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, Becky Nicholson, 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, Ray Craycraft, 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, Cloey Pruitt, Jayson Romano, Martha Salyer, 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.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**April 2016**

- 3 The Homecoming Committee will meet for the last time in the Annex at 4:30 PM. Please make every effort to attend.
- 4 Secret Sisters—6:30 PM at Casa Ole. Jo Knight & Nina Layton are the hostesses.
- 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.



There will be a party for Sheila Banyai from 7-9 PM this Saturday, April 2, 2016, in the Annex. It is a come-and-go event to wish her well on her new adventure. Please bring finger foods. Debbie Brown is providing the cake and soft drinks.

**March Birthdays**

- 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

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.

## 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**

<b>Wednesday Evening March 30</b>	<b>Wednesday Evening April 6</b>
Building Lock Up—Lindelof	Building Lock Up—Scarsdale <b>WNWTM</b>

Morning Worship April 3	Morning Worship April 10
Opening Prayer      Gheath Alatrash	Opening Prayer      Charlie Story
Song Leader          Paul Cartwright	Song Leader          Greg Fabian
Communion	Communion
<b>Presiding:</b> Demetris Kelly	<b>Presiding:</b> Bobby Parker
Daniel Brown        Jimmy Terry	Tom Langford        Phil Godwin
Paul Hamilton       James Maxcey	Josh Hundley        Jacob Carriere
Zack Williams        Russell Genaro	Bob Williams        Demetris Kelly
Announcements      Gary Adams	Announcements      Gary Adams
Closing Prayer	Closing Prayer
Nursery Attendants	Nursery Attendants
Appeal Byers        Molly Godwin	Nina Layton          Angela Parker
Ushers (*indicates head usher)	Ushers (*indicates head usher)
*Brandon Stafford, Matthew Fabian, N Scarsdale	*Clifford Layton, Jimmy Terry, Matthew Fabian
Greeters	Greeters
Kevin & Maresha Scarsdale	Clifford & Nina Layton
Audio—Projector for AM	Audio—Projector for AM
Riggs, Whitmire	Mauney
Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Scarsdale	Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Williams
Evening Worship	Evening Worship
Opening Prayer      Bob Williams	Opening Prayer      Charlie Layton
Song Leader          Paul Cartwright	Song Leader          Gary Adams
Communion          Charlie Layton, Jimmy Terry	Communion          Bob Williams, Charlie Story
Closing Prayer      Gary Adams	Closing Prayer      Gary Adams

### 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*

### Worship Times:

#### *Sunday*

Bible Study .....9 am  
Morning Worship.....10 am  
Evening Worship.....6 pm

Wednesday Bible Study.....7 pm

[www.pearlandcoc.com](http://www.pearlandcoc.com)