



The Pearland Harvester

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

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REASONS

that thinking about growth is an occupational hazard. Nor do I think that NOT thinking about growth is normal for brethren who did not choose this occupation. I believe that wanting growth is second nature to all servants of Christ because we know that growth is what He wants.

We know that God desires it and that He revealed that desire to ancient Israel hundreds of years before the church began. Through His faithful prophet Isaiah, God declared, **“Now it will come about that in the last days the mountain of the house of the Lord will be established as the chief of the mountains, and will be raised above the hills; and all the nations will stream to it. And many peoples will come and say, ‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that He may teach us concerning His ways and that we may walk in His paths.’ For the law will go forth from Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And He will judge between the nations, and will render decisions for many peoples; and they will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, and never again will they learn war”** (Isa. 2:2-4).

In the **“last days,”** the church will be the people of God. The beginning will be in Jerusalem. The nations will stream to it. We see that fulfilled with the establishment of the church on the day of Pentecost at Jerusalem where **“devout men from every nation under heaven”** (Acts 2:5) were gathered.

In the **“last days,”** people will come to be taught concerning the ways of God with a desire to walk according to His teaching. This will happen because in the **“last days”** men who know the truth will go forth, beginning in Jerusalem, taking with them the teachings of Christ. Not only did God predict this through the

I think about growth a lot. Some will no doubt attribute that to my occupation. No doubt about it, my training and my work do influence the things I think about. But I don’t believe

8th-century B.C. prophet Isaiah, but it was emphatically given by way of command from Christ to His apostles just days before He ascended into heaven.

Now He said to them, **“These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”** Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and He said to them, **“Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.”** (Lk. 24:44-47). And a second time, Luke tells us that Jesus intended the message to be taken to the world (Acts 1:8) and then records the beginning of the church’s advance across the globe (Acts 8:1).

I see growth in the descriptive words and phrases in the New Testament. **“There were added about three thousand souls”** (Acts 2:41) **“and the Lord was adding to their number”** (2:47). **“And all the more believers in the Lord, multitudes of men and women, were constantly added to their number”** (5:14). **“While the disciples were increasing in number”** (6:1) ... **“The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly”** (6:7). **“Those who had been scattered went about preaching the word”** (8:4).

I read of God’s desire for growth and the salvation of sinners: **“This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth”** (1 Tim. 2:3-4); and **“The Lord is not slow about His promise, ... but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance”** (2 Pt. 3:9).

There are plenty of good reasons for any Christian to desire growth. Let’s pray, plan, and work toward growth in 2017.

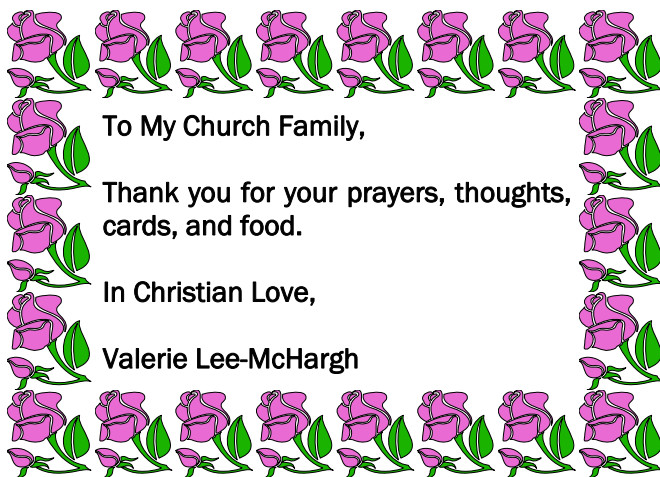


Weekly Bible trivia question. Please submit answers to the elders. The first correct answer reported to the office will be recognized and published in the next bulletin. Here goes...Where can one read about nearsighted Christians?

Answer to last week's question: David wanted a census taken, but he had Joab and the commanders do it. It took them 9 months and 20 days (2 Samuel 24:1-9). Connie Powell gave the first correct answer.

Daily Bible chapter reading schedule, beginning Thursday, January 5, 2017:

- Thursday—1 John 1-3
- Friday—Deuteronomy 20-22
- Saturday—Nehemiah 1-4
- Sunday—Psalms 137-139
- Monday—Ecclesiastes 11-12
- Tuesday—Malachi
- Wednesday—Acts 19-20



For the Record—1-1-17	
Sunday AM	116
Sunday PM	49
Wednesday (12-28-16)	31
Contribution	\$6,337
Weekly Budget	\$5,800
YTD Contribution	\$6,337
YTD Budget	\$5,800

KEPT IN PRAYER

Our deepest sympathy to the family of **Gene Lenamon**, who passed away on January 1, 2017. Gene was Ben Lenamon's brother. The memorial service will be on Friday, January 6, 2017, at 4 PM at Clayton Funeral Home. The family requested that everyone dress casually (i.e., no suits or ties) because there will be a reception (finger foods) at the funeral home following the service.

Mark Pridgen, Betty's son, will resume chemo because his cancer has spread to the liver and spine.

Ryan Rangel, friend of Greg Fabian, has bone cancer. Ryan is 29 years old and is married with two children.

Jean Nudelman is recuperating after breaking a leg in two places.

Shirley Scarsdale, Kevin's mother, is doing well.

Continuing Need:

Our Members: Fran Barnhill, Annette Bumpers, David & Libby Clayton, Jeff Coe, Daisy Dees, June Evans, Matthew Fabian, Bennie Sue Galindo, Ross Genaro, Dorendia Hamilton, Charlyne Harper, Murrell Hill, Judy Indest, Kaliya Kelly, Wanda Kirby, Dorothy Kirkland, Jo Knight, Wanda Knight, Clifford Layton, Jan Lemoine, Valerie McHargh, Becky Nicholson, Vi Price, Betty Pridgen, David Smith, Loma Stone, Sandy Stone, Doris Stuteville, Angela Terry. **Others:** Carol Addison, Leona Anderson, Catherine Bailey, Octaline Beupierre, Raquel Castillo, Evelyn Cordell, Ray Craycraft, Larry & Carla Doolen, Billie Dykes, Linda Evans, Roger Farmer, Gwen Fikes, Glenda Garner, Betty Goad, Sarah Goeman, Robert Hudman, Sharon Johns, Nelderine Johnson, Kerry Lemoine, Martha Locke, Austin, Celia, & Doug Matthews, Jim & Julie Maxcey, Mary Means, Pat Miller, Scott & Cindy Miller, Lewis Moss, James Navarro's son, Jean Nudelman, April Parker, Mark Pridgen, Cloey Pruitt, Alice Puckett, Ryan Rangel, Sandra Brown Ryan, Butch Sapp, Shirley Scarsdale, Henry Schaefer, Don Scott, Sherly Scott, Tony Smajstrla, Michael Smith, Rick Stone, Erin & Elijah Timmons, Leon Vanderveer, Bennett Vincent, Alexis Anderson Washington, Mary White, Wanda Williams, Anthony Young, Lesli (friend of Heather Brown's friend).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Greg Fabian is our contact elder for **January**. If you would like to schedule a meeting, please see **Greg**.

Please note the following schedule of services:

Sunday, February 5, 2017: Classes, morning service, and evening service at usual times. No Super Bowl party is planned.

January 2017

- 4 Wednesday Night with the Master—Meal will be served at 6 PM in the Annex with areas of service following at 7 PM. The menu will be breakfast. DC & Debbie Brown are preparing the meal.
- 8 Game Activity for Adults & Youth—4 PM—Annex. Will conclude before evening services.
- 9 Kickoff meeting for Secret Sisters—6:30 PM—Annex (potluck dinner).
- 11 Ladies' Bible Class—10 AM—Annex
- 14 Ladies' Prayer Breakfast—8 AM—Kelley's
- 25 Ladies' Bible Class—10 AM—Annex
- 29 Friends & Family Day

2017 sign-up sheets for communion preparation and sound/projector are on the bulletin board.

We are also in need of more volunteers for nursery duty and leading the youngsters in song before the services.

January Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 2 Jared Johnson | 4 Wanda Kirby |
| 4 Branden Shelton | 8 Jeanette Hays |
| 14 Valerie Lee-McHargh | 17 Tom Langford |
| 20 Bobby Parker | 22 Cameron Alatrash |
| 25 Ethan Brown | 27 Meredith Williams |
| 28 Terri Bumpers | 29 Dawn Bell |
| 30 Lindsay Parker | |

January Anniversaries

- | |
|--------------------------|
| 17 David & Libby Clayton |
|--------------------------|

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 January 4	Wednesday Evening January 11
Building Lock Up—K Scarsdale <i>WNWTM</i>	Building Lock Up—Bob Williams

Morning Worship January 8	Morning Worship January 15
Opening Prayer Chris Lindelof	Opening Prayer Kevin Scarsdale
Song Leader Gary Adams	Song Leader Greg Fabian
Communion	Communion
<i>Presiding:</i> James Maxcey	<i>Presiding:</i> Daniel Brown
Jake Satterwhite Josh Hundley	Phil Godwin Zack Williams
Russell Genaro Nathan Scarsdale	Charlie Story James Maxcey
Matthew Fabian Grayson Townzen	Jacob Carriere Bob Williams
Announcements Greg Fabian	Announcements Greg Fabian
Closing Prayer	Closing Prayer
Nursery Attendants	Nursery Attendants
Nina Layton Molly Godwin	Laurie Maxcey
Ushers (*indicates head usher)	Ushers (*indicates head usher)
*Lynn Adams, Tom Langford, Gheath Alatrash	*Bobby Parker, Clifford Layton, Paul Hamilton
Greeters	Greeters
Clifford & Nina Layton	Kevin & Maresha Scarsdale
Audio—Projector for AM	Audio—Projector for AM
Mauney	Mauney
Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Bob Williams	Building Lock Up for AM & PM—Gary Adams
Evening Worship	Evening Worship
Song Leader Greg Fabian	Song Leader Gary Adams
Communion Russell Genaro, N Scarsdale	Communion James Maxcey, Bob Williams
Closing Prayer Greg Fabian	Closing Prayer Greg Fabian

Worship Times:

Sunday

Bible Study9 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

James Maxcey
Bobby Parker
Charlie Story
Bob Williams

MINISTERS

D.C. Brown Pulpit Minister
Zack Williams Youth Minister

MISSIONARIES

Benin, West Africa:
Paul Tohionon - Bohicon
Pascal Djedatin - Dassa
Blaise Atta - Bétérou
Clément Djebede - Okéwo
Gaston Nda - Natitingou
Valentine Ndimonte - Natitingou
André Assogba - Gobé
Dorotheé Tchekpo - Savé et Bessé
Paul Kouagou - N'Dali
Jonas Sambieni - Kaboua
Gabin Agbeci - Savalou
Portsmouth, Dominica, West Indies
Lewis Romain