

### Bishops

Dan Fuller.....685-4454  
Dion Hayes.....214-533-5065  
Paul Metzkes.....870-8042  
\*Phil Porter.....339-3662

\*Chairman for the Month of January

### Evangelists

Dan Jenkins.....379-2325  
David Sproule.....301-2230  
Robert Lupo.....315-1411

### Deacons

David Brown.....972-7608  
Victor Colage.....719-1490  
Kirk Crews.....339-9283  
Mike Erickson.....310-9916  
Andres Fernandez.....768-3530  
Tim Fry.....373-9121  
Jeff Goodale.....261-1188  
Rick Hall.....622-5131  
Gary Jenkins.....889-3585  
Jeff Leslie.....744-3444  
Buzz Nelson.....385-1588  
Lawrence Williams.....662-3419

### Church Office

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*Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ*

Vol. LXV

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No. 3

**"Go into ALL THE WORLD  
and preach the gospel to every creature."**

### AROUND THE GLOBE

American Samoa, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Brazil, China, Costa Rica, Czech Rep., Cook Is., Cuba, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Easter Island, El Salvador, Fiji, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Guinea, New Zealand, N. Mariana Islands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Niue, Palau, Paraguay, Peru, Russia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Tokelau, Tonga, Togo, Trinidad, Turk Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Western Samoa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Truth for Today, Answering Macedonian Calls

### IN THE U.S. & AT HOME

Apologetics Press, Christian Courier, House to House/Heart to Heart, Douglas Alvarenga, Spanish Work, Mauricio Yegros, WVBS, School of Preaching Students, Assisting Local Congregations, I-95 Banners, Print Pieces, Radio Program, Robert C. Lupo, Tracts, TV Program, TV Spot Ads, HD Video Equipment, "Silencing of God," "In Search of the Lord's Way," Salvation Mailout, Teen Mission Trips, Car Magnets, I-95 Sign, Online Advertising

## 22 years of Mission Sundays

How will the Lord continue to use us in 2026?



By Dan Jenkins

## The “Secret Ingredient” Missing From Our Lives

Over the years, I have been part of conversations where people talked about just how good their mother/grandmother cooked a particular part of a meal. Or it may have been a friend who gave them a recipe of her specialty, but part of the conversation said something like, “I have tried and tried to prepare it like she did, but there must be some ‘secret ingredient’ she used and just don’t know what it might be.”

There is a parallel to this in the lives of far too many of us as we try to follow the Bible. We look at other Christians and wish that we could be what they are and wonder what “special ingredient” they have that we may have overlooked. If you have ever felt this way, keep reading the rest of this article to learn more about this secret.

Obviously, as we try to duplicate in our lives what we see in theirs, we need to understand these ingredients of maturing as a Christian. Some are so obvious—reading the Bible, studying the Bible, attending worship regularly, trying to share what we know with those around us. Yet, sometimes we wonder if there is a “secret ingredient” we have missed.

The Jewish leaders in Jesus’ day certainly understood much of what God had said for them to do. They made lists of the commandments and spent time discussing which of the

613 commands they had listed in the Bible was the most important. They were so devoted to “following the recipe” that they made sure they kept the Sabbath in not traveling more than a sabbath’s day journey. They washed their hands before eating, thinking this was part of what God wanted them to do. They literally strained the water they drank to get rid of any insect that might have fallen into that water. God gave them food laws and just maybe that insect might be one they should not eat. Read Jesus’ words to them as He talked about how they knew the law, but there was some part of it they had overlooked. Keep reading if you want to learn this “secret ingredient.”

They saw His miracles, and they understood these miracles were real. They ate loaves and fish that He miraculously gave to them. They knew His sinless life. Yet, they killed Him because they left something out of the recipe He tried to give them.

Is it possible we are making the same mistake? What was missing? The Bible clearly defines it in the book of Hebrews.

Meditate on this Divine truth. “The word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those that heard it” (Heb. 4:2). It’s not enough to read, to study, to worship, to try to teach others. Make sure you mix faith with knowledge. Heaven’s ingredient we overlook is personal faith!

**The Bible clearly defines the “secret ingredient” missing in many lives**



By David Sproule

## Use Your Reasoning Skills to Reason

At the beginning of His message to Judah through the prophet Isaiah, God called, as it were, His people to the courtroom. They had wronged the God of heaven, and now there was an eternity-sized case against them. God calls them to examine the evidence, to investigate the charges against them, to accept the Lord’s righteous judgments and to properly respond to Him. He does this in Isaiah 1:18 by saying, “Come now, and let us reason together.”

There are many things that can be understood and implied from those words. But consider just one of those thoughts—human beings, created in the image of God, have the God-given ability to reason. By definition, they have the ability “to think coherently, logically and systematically, and then to draw inferences or conclusions from facts and make sound judgments.” Let’s put this to the test in our courtroom.

Exhibit #1: The universe exists with all of its exquisite details. The human body exists with all of its minute details. God tells us to “reason.” What is the only reasoned conclusion to draw from the evidence? If a “house is built by someone,” then a universe and a human body must be “built by someone.” That’s evident! To argue against that is to dismiss all reason. Truly, “He who built all things is God” (Heb. 3:4).

Exhibit #2: Jesus requires one to “be baptized” to be “saved” (Mark 16:16). The Bible commands to “be baptized” to obtain “remission of sins” (Acts 2:38). God tells us to “reason.” What is the only reasoned conclusion to draw from the evidence? If “salvation” is “in Christ” (2 Tim. 2:10) and one must be “baptized” to get “into Christ” (Gal. 3:27), then baptism is essential to be “in Christ” and to be “saved.” That’s evident! To argue against that is to dismiss all reason.

Exhibit #3: A child of God can “wander from the truth” and become a “sinner” whose “soul” needs to be “saved from death” (Jas. 5:19-20). The Bible says that a Christian can (and did) “become estranged from Christ” and “have fallen from grace” (Gal. 5:4). God tells us to “reason.” What is the only reasoned conclusion to draw from the evidence? A child of God can become “again entangled” and “overcome” by “the pollutions of the world” (2 Pet. 2:20-22) and be “lost” (Luke 15:1-32). That’s evident! To argue against that is to dismiss all reason.

The exhibits could continue to be lined up for logical, coherent, systematic consideration. With each one, God demands that we open Scripture (Acts 17:11), gather all the relevant evidence (Psa. 119:160), and draw only such conclusions as are demanded by the evidence (2 Tim. 2:15; 3:16-17). Even today, God is calling, “Come now, and let us reason together.”

**That’s evident! To argue against that is to dismiss all reason.**





By Robert Lupo

## That's Awesome!

For many of us born in the 1980s, the first time we heard the word “awesome” was from the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. But it wasn’t just cartoons using the word, it was all over popular media, usually being the choice word of characters falling under the surfer guy stereotype.

By the time I was in middle school, “awesome” had become a replacement for the word “cool.” It basically meant that something was agreeable. You got a good grade on a test: “Awesome!” Your friend said he’ll arrive in 5 minutes: “Awesome!” Someone asks how you’re feeling: “Awesome!”

This is a far cry from what the word is supposed to mean. If you look “awesome” up in the dictionary, it will say “inspiring awe.” So, you then have to look up what “awe” means. Webster’s Dictionary defines it as “an emotion variously combining dread, veneration and wonder that is inspired by overwhelming greatness (as in beauty, power or size).” This is a word that was once reserved to describe the most wonderful of things. So, when we read it in the Bible today, it has lost some of its impact when describing the one true and most awesome God.

The first time we find the word “awesome” in the Bible is when Jacob receives the vision of a ladder going into

heaven at Bethel in Genesis 28:10-22. Here, God spoke to Jacob and gave him the same great land, great nation and great Seed promises that were given to Abraham and Isaac. When Jacob awoke, verse 17 tells us, “And he was **afraid** and said, ‘How **awesome** is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!’” Jacob realized that he was in the presence of God. And in response, he consecrated the place and vowed his loyalty to the Lord (28:18-22).

...it demands our  
immediate  
reverence and  
obedience.

In the Bible, the word “awesome” is a feeling reserved for only the most uniquely wonderful or fearful things. With very few exceptions, the word is almost always referring to the Lord God or His works. It is such a powerful feeling that, like Jacob, it demands our immediate reverence and obedience. In Deuteronomy 10:16-17, Moses declared, “Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart, and be stiff-necked no longer. For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome...”

This article is not written to make anyone feel guilty about using the word “awesome” in a casual way. However, it is a reminder that when the Bible uses it, we must understand the grand magnificence it is conveying. Our God is fearful (Deut. 7:21). Our God is mighty (Jer. 20:11). Our God is holy (Psa. 111:9). And, our God is so loving, He suffered and died to save us (John 3:16-17). Now that’s awesome!

## Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

### Not in return or in the first place

Jesus. Truly, He is our perfect example in all things regarding righteous living. Consider what Peter (an eyewitness) reveals to us about the interaction of Jesus with those who mistreated Him. “When He was reviled, [Jesus] did not revile in return” (1 Pet. 2:23). Secondly, “when He suffered, He did not threaten.” Of course, you expect that out of Jesus! But, Peter’s point is that Jesus was “leaving us an example, that [we] should follow His steps” (2:21).

How often do people do you wrong? How often do people revile you, insult you, abuse you verbally? How often do you suffer at the maltreatment of others? It may seem impossible, but the Lord calls us to not respond in like manner, but (1) to keep on committing ourselves to our God (1 Pet. 2:23), (2) to practice the Golden Rule (Luke 6:31), and (3) to do that person right regardless (Rom. 12:17-21; Matt. 5:44).

Not only did Jesus not respond to evil with evil, but He didn’t behave that way in the first place! What a lesson for us! – DS



### Checkbox Christianity?

Sometimes as Christians, we may approach our Christian life like we do a grocery list or a honey-do list. At the grocery store, we mark off the things as we put them in the basket. “Got it! Done!” We may sometimes drag our feet to do things on a honey-do list, but once they’re done, we check them off and gladly say, “Finished! Don’t have to worry about that again!”

Do we ever look at the Christian life in that way? Maybe we see “going to church” on Sunday (or any other number of responsibilities) as something we’ve got to “check off our Christian duty list.” Once we’ve been there and done that, “Check it off! Done with that for now!”

But, truly, can I ever cross any of these off my list and say that “I’m done”? “Love one another” (John 13:34-35). “Outdo one another in showing honor” (Rom. 12:10). “Edify one another” (1 Thess. 5:11). “Greet one another” (Rom. 16:16). “Have the same care for one another” (1 Cor. 12:25). “Comfort one another” (1 Thess. 4:18). “Consider one another” (Heb. 10:24). “Have fellowship with one another” (1 John 1:7). “Exhort one another” (Heb. 10:25). A Christian is never done! – DS

# Keep in Your Prayers



## Pray for These PBL Members

<b>Sonia Davidson</b>	recovering from cataract surgery, next one is on 1/28
<b>Charlene Knowles</b>	dealing with pain in her knee
<b>Brittany Summerlot</b>	undergoing medical testing

## Ongoing Health Issues

<b>Jimmie Banks</b>	dialysis treatments
<b>Judy Carmack</b>	chronic health issues
<b>Dianne Halenda</b>	pain, swelling in legs & back
<b>John Loftis</b>	back pain, weakness
<b>Tiffany Mayes</b>	dialysis treatments
<b>Sherri Richmond</b>	multiple health issues
<b>Jackie Stout</b>	trouble walking

## Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

<b>Barbara Coe</b>	Linda Coe's mother, struggling with Alzheimer's
<b>Donald Coe</b>	Linda Coe's father, recovering at home from a fall
<b>Willie Evans</b>	Rosa Nash's brother, hospitalized with the flu
<b>Tania Llarena</b>	Islay Rodriguez's sister, multiple myeloma cancer

## Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames	Kasandra Jones
Gloria Boyd	Leigh Puckett
Josie Dawson	Don Seay
Zula Garrett	Ricky Smedley
Loretta Holaday	Samuel Williams

**Remember Our Mission Works**

*Pacific Islands*  
Robert & Mary Martin  
Wayne & Kristi Parker

*Africa*  
Nnanna Aforji  
Tamuka Arunashe

*Bahamas*  
Tavaro & Shameika Hanna

*United States*  
Apologetics Press  
Robert C. Lupo  
Mauricio & Kayla Yegros

*Answering Macedonian Calls*  
Josh & Cara Blackmer



# Church Family Calendar of Events

## Monday, January 19

- ♦ **Monday Night Bible Study** at 7:00 p.m. in the Family Room.

## Tuesday, January 20

- ♦ **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m. in the Family Room.

## Saturday, January 24

- ♦ **Ladies' Day hosted by Liberty City** from 8:00 a.m. until noon. See the bulletin board for more details.

## Sunday, January 25

- ♦ **Mission Sunday.** Every dollar given will be used for mission work. Be preparing for it! Be praying about it!
- ♦ **EDP Meeting** at 4:30 p.m. in the Family Room.

## Thursday, January 29

- ♦ **"Digging Deep" Women's Bible Study** at 7:00 p.m. in the Family Room. See Misty Hayes or Lisa Metzkes for more details.

## Saturday, January 31

- ♦ **Widows & Widowers Gathering** at 4:00 p.m. in the Family Room. See John Hoelzer for more details.

## Monday, February 2

- ♦ **Men's Meet** at 6:30 p.m. at the church building. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited. Bring your Bible, a chair, some meat to grill, a drink and your own plate/utensils. This is a great opportunity for men of all generations to fellowship.

## Saturday-Sunday, February 7-8

- ♦ **Family Seminar with Steve Minor.** The focus will be *"Family Strong: Building Homes That Last."* Childcare provided on Saturday—RSVP to [office@pblcoc.org](mailto:office@pblcoc.org).

### Saturday

10:00 a.m.

*What Drives Your Family?*

11:00 a.m.

*10 Priorities in Our Home*

### Sunday

9:00 a.m.

*7 Dangers Killing the Family*

10:00 a.m.

*What Does It Mean to Build an Intentional Family?*

12:45 p.m.

*Learning to Raise Failures*

## Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ Young Adults

### Sunday, January 18

- ♦ **Young Adult Bible Study** at 9:00 a.m. in Adult 3. All young adults are encouraged to join as we continue our study on *"Fundamentals of the Faith."*

### Friday, January 30

- ♦ **Young Adult Game Night** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Nicole Freseman. Bring finger foods, desserts, and drinks to share. We will be doing a "Second Chance Gift Exchange." Got a gift that wasn't quite your style? Bring it (max value: \$25) and give it a second life with someone else! See Ivan Villard for details.

### Saturday-Sunday, February 7-8

- ♦ **Family Seminar with Steve Minor.** The focus will be *"Family Strong: Building Homes That Last."*

### Saturday, February 21

- ♦ **Chill & Grill Day hosted by the Young Adults** at 2:00 p.m. on the church property. See Ivan for more details.



## Palm Beach Lakes Youth

### Sunday, January 18

- ♦ **His Kids Class** at 5:30 p.m. for Age 3 and up. Meet in the front of the auditorium.

### Sunday, January 25

- ♦ **His Kids Class** at 5:30 p.m. for Age 3 and up. Meet in the front of the auditorium.

### Friday, February 13

- ♦ **Sweetheart Banquet Set-Up** at 7:00 p.m. for Jr. High & Sr. High. See Robert Lupo for more details.

### Saturday, February 14

- ♦ **Sweetheart Banquet hosted by the Jr. High & Sr. High Youth.** Begins at 5:00 p.m. PBL members 55+ years old or married 25+ years are invited. Jr. High & Sr. High Youth should arrive at 4:00 p.m. Please wear a white button-up shirt and black pants. RSVP to Robert Lupo.

### Thursday-Sunday, February 19-22

- ♦ **Challenge Youth Conference for Jr. High & Sr. High Youth** in Pigeon Forge, TN. Cost is \$40 per person.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> ☆ <b>NO His Kids Class</b>	<b>2</b> ☆ <b>Men's Meet</b> b Gai Ingram	<b>3</b> b Jennifer Goodale	<b>4</b> b Lilly Lolo	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> ☆ <b>Family Seminar with Steve Minor</b> (10 a.m. - Noon)
<b>8</b> ☆ <b>Family Seminar with Steve Minor</b> (Evening Service at 12:45 p.m.) ☆ <b>New 10-Week Classes Begin</b> ☆ <b>NO His Kids Class</b>	<b>9</b> a Joe & Janice Maloney a Rudolph & Verdell March	<b>10</b> a Pete & Pat Brown	<b>11</b> b David Brown	<b>12</b> b Dave Holaday	<b>13</b> a Eugene & Penny Williams	<b>14</b> ☆ <b>Sweetheart Banquet hosted by Jr. High &amp; Sr. High Youth</b> a Marty & Leslie Williams
<b>15</b> ☆ <b>His Kids Class</b>	<b>16</b> b Laura Schuemann	<b>17</b> b Julie Williams	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> ☆ <b>PBL Ladies' Prayer Meeting</b> ☆ <b>Chill &amp; Grill Day hosted by the Young Adults</b>
				<b>Challenge Youth Conference (19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>)</b>		
<b>22</b> ☆ <b>His Kids Class</b> b Lester Galloway	<b>23</b> b Ricky Smedley	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> b Ayanna Babcock-Sutherland b Lisa Eutsey b Terietta Frazier	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> ☆ <b>Ladies' Fellowship</b> b Sonia Davidson b Caila Juckett b Chuck Milton	<b>28</b> ☆ <b>Widows &amp; Widowers Luncheon</b>

**"...always abounding in the work of the Lord..." (1 Cor. 15:58)**

Members **Traveling**  
this week



 **Thank You**  
for worshiping with us

Sunday,  
January 11

**LOCAL VISITORS:** Mr. Chris Bonanno; Mr. Dane Eaks; Mr. Lawrence Gilmore; Ms. Sylvia Goldie; Mr. Kerry Krause; Mr. & Mrs. Rai & Ashley Masuda; Mr. Noel Michelet; Miss D.L. Moore; Ms. Liz Otero; Mr. Kyle Prichett; Mr. Jerome Shneider; Mr. Nathan Smith; and Prosper Snachla.

**OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS:** Mr. Mark Coley; Mr. & Mrs. Larry & Nancy Hansel, Paris, IL; Mr. Mark Lester, Orlando, FL; Mrs. Jacqueline Parker, Ringgold, GA; and Mr. Jim Shiver, GA.



**Birthdays & Anniversaries** *This Week*

Tuesday, January 20th  
Julie Charles

Friday, January 23rd  
Luther Robinson

Wednesday, January 21st  
Edward Gager

Saturday, January 24th  
Keila McLeod  
Marisa Reeves

Thursday, January 22nd  
Andrea Leslie

### Those to Serve

*If you are unable to serve, please contact the Service Coordinator for the week or Rick Hall at 827-4269.*

*If you are scheduled to serve on Sunday morning, please meet in the Grades 6-8 classroom at **9:50 a.m.***

*If you are scheduled to serve on Sunday evening, please meet at the front of the auditorium at **5:50 p.m.***

#### Sunday Morning, January 18

Singing ..... Gary Friedly  
Opening Prayer ..... Tim Fry  
Scripture Reading ..... Bret Nesbitt  
Singing  
Lord's Supper ..... Robert Mariano  
Contribution  
Singing  
Sermon  
Singing  
Closing Prayer ..... Paul Metzkes

#### Serve at Table:

Ryan Hankins	Taylor Reeves
Namdidie Ikon	Trevin Roman
Orlando Lolo	Nahum Villard
Steward Lynch	Lawrence Williams

#### Sunday Evening, January 18

Singing ..... Stephen Beliech  
Opening Prayer ..... Tom Garrison  
Scripture Reading ..... Andres Fernandez  
Singing  
Lord's Supper ..... Joe Maloney  
Singing  
Contribution  
Singing  
Sermon  
Singing  
Closing Prayer ..... Phil Porter

#### Serve at Table:

Jack Holoman      Ricky Smith

Audio this week: James Green

Computer this week: Buzz Nelson

Video this week: Ed Gager

#### Wednesday Evening, January 21

Singing ..... Graysen Hayes  
Invitation ..... Dan McLeod  
Family Prayer ..... Tim Fry

### Our Record

Attendance	Jan 11	Dec Avg
Sun. Bible Study	169	152
Sun. AM Worship	259	249
Sun. PM Worship	100	106
Wed. Bible Study	113	106
Contribution	\$17,226	\$17,145

2026 Weekly Budget: TBA

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: TBA

Service Coordinator:  
Mike Damron

Ushers for this week: Victor Colage & Tim Mahlbacher  
Safety Team for this week: Rick Hall





# Palm Beach Lakes CHURCH OF CHRIST

4067 Leo Lane  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

*Speaking where the **Bible** speaks, Silent where the **Bible** is silent.*



## Service Schedule

### Sunday:

Bible Classes..... 9:00 a.m.

Worship ..... 10:00 a.m.

Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.

### Wednesday:

Bible Classes..... 7:00 p.m.



Front Cover: Lorena Pittman & Amber Villard

## What Jesus DID for YOU ...and why

**He created you**  
(John 1:3; Col. 1:16)

**He came to this earth for you**  
(Phil. 2:6; John 1:14)

**He died on the cross for you**  
(Rom. 5:8; Gal. 2:20)

**He shed His blood for you**  
(Eph. 1:7; Heb. 9:12)

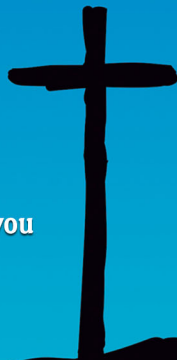
**He was raised from the dead for you**  
(1 Cor. 15:1-26; Rom. 8:34)

### Because...

**He loves you**  
(Eph. 5:2; 1 John 3:16)

**He wants to save you**  
(Matt. 20:28; Tit. 2:14)

**He wants to take you to heaven**  
(John 14:1-3; 1 Thess. 4:17)



## What Jesus EXPECTS of YOU ...and why

**Learn and know the truth** (Rom. 10:17; John 8:32)

**Obey the will of God** (Matt. 7:21; John 14:15; Heb. 5:8-9)

**Believe Jesus is God's Son** (John 1:12; 3:16; 20:30-31)

**Repent (turn) from your sins** (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30)

**Confess your faith in Jesus** (Matt. 10:32; Rom. 10:9-10)

**Be immersed into Christ** (Acts 2:38; 22:16; Gal. 3:27)

**Live faithfully and serve Him** (Rev. 2:10; 1 Cor. 15:58)

### So that...

**You can prove your love for Him** (John 14:15; 1 John 5:2-3)

**You can be saved from your sins** (Acts 2:38; 1 John 1:7)

**You can go to heaven** (Matt. 7:21; Heb. 5:8-9)