Pastors

*Dan Fuller 685-4454
Dan McLeod 377-9988
Paul Metzkes 870-8042
Phil Porter 339-3662

**Chairman for the Month of October*

Evangelists

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

Deacons

David Brown 972-7608
Victor Colage 719-1490
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

Church Office

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Ivan Villard 667-8675
Cindy Nelson 801-9457
June Pack 627-5363

Vol. LXV **October 4, 2026** **No. 40**

New Bible Classes (Oct. 4 - Dec. 9)

Sunday Mornings at 9:00 a.m.

Auditorium (Dan McLeod):

Maximizing Your Encouragement Potential

Everyone needs encouragement, and every Christian has the ability to give it. Using Barnabas, the "Son of Encouragement," as a Biblical model, we will explore practical ways to strengthen others through words, actions, presence and service. Our goal is to recognize the encouragement potential God has already given each of us, then put it to work in our everyday lives.

Adult 1-2 (David Sproule):

Faithful Men Who Lead

The church needs faithful men who are prepared to serve, influence others, accept responsibility, stand for truth and help develop the next generation of leaders. Through the examples of godly men in Scripture, this study will examine practical principles of Biblical leadership and challenge every man to grow into greater usefulness in the Lord's work.

Adult 3 (Gary Jenkins):

Young Adults: Finding Hope

In a world filled with pressure, uncertainty and opposition, First and Second Peter point Christians to a living hope in Christ, with emphasis on holiness, suffering, spiritual growth, relationships, false teaching and the return of Christ. This class will help us take the original message of these letters and apply their timeless truths with courage, endurance and confidence today.

See Page 8 for
Wednesday Night Classes for Adults and Sr. High & Jr. High Classes

By Dan Jenkins

Blind Leaders Leading Blind Men

James highlighted the importance of the way teachers portray the truths of God. He said, "My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment" (Jas. 3:1). We share in the eternal destiny of those whom we teach. We bring them closer to heaven or hell in every word we speak. Jesus said, "If the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch" (Matt. 15:14).

In a sense, the religious leaders of the first century knew about God and what He had said, yet their pride and preconceived ideas made it so difficult for many to find Him as "…the way, the truth and the life." They sent officers to arrest Jesus, but they did not seize Him. Their reason was that when they heard Him, they returned empty-handed because they said they had never heard anyone speak like Him.

The Pharisees did all they could to block the door of entrance into His kingdom

The response to the words of the officers gives great insight into why many failed to find the truth. "Are you also deceived? Have any of the rulers or Pharisees believed in Him?" (John 7:47-48). In their minds, truth was to be determined by what the religious leaders taught. They wanted the Jewish nation to follow what the rulers believed, taught and practiced. Isn't this same problem part of what is found in the lives of so many today?

How did Jesus respond to this concept? "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in" (Matt. 23:13). Jesus was the Way, He was the Truth, but the Pharisees did all they could to block the door of entrance into His kingdom.

To see the application of these truths, think about how so many in our day blindly follow what is taught by pastors and televangelists. To see this, look at how Jesus introduced the Lord's Supper to mankind. Those early Christians knew that it was the central feature of their weekly assembly. When Paul was in Troas preaching in that city, they did not primarily come together to hear Him speak, but their focus of worship was the breaking of bread (Acts 20:7). Religious leaders have minimized the importance of communion, blocking the doors of worship to their followers.

The door of truth about baptism is also blocked by religious leaders who blindly minimize what the Bible teaches about baptism and salvation. It was never designed as a public demonstration of one's faith, but blind leaders continue to teach this. It was not a ceremony, but a time when sinners called on the Lord to save them (Acts 22:16). Let me encourage every reader of these words to find truth in all matters, by honestly following the One who is the way for all men.

By David Sproule

Can You Give Me Some Easy Verses?

A sister in Christ sent me a message: "Can you send me a couple easy-to-understand verses about why we partake of the Lord's Supper every Sunday? And some easy verses to understand about instrumental music. I'm having a discussion with someone and need to give just basic things."

This is a great question. And a common question. Both of those are important subjects, with much that could be said about each one. But, here is what I sent back to this sister. Maybe it will help you.

We must have authority from His all-authoritative Word

First, before getting into specific subjects, you need to lay the foundation of the authority of Scriptures, otherwise it will not matter what you say. Christ has all authority, not us (Matt. 28:18). His Word is going to be the final judge, not ours (John 12:48). We must do all by the authority of Christ—we must have authority from His all-authoritative Word for all that we teach and practice, including in worship (Col. 3:17). We have no right to add to, take away from or modify His Word in any way (Rev. 22:18-19; Gal. 1:6-9). Once you lay down those foundational principles, here is what the Bible teaches.

What do we know from the New Testament about the Lord's Supper? As soon as the church was established, they "continued steadfastly...in the breaking of bread" (Acts 2:42). There was regularity to it. Scripture then tells us that the church was coming "together" on "the first day of the week" for the purpose "to break bread" (Acts 20:7). The church in Corinth was rebuked because their purpose when they came together as a church was "not to eat the Lord's Supper" (1 Cor. 11:20). So, the church was partaking and was supposed to be partaking when they assembled on the first day of the week. And since they assembled "every first day of the week" (1 Cor. 16:1-2, NASB), they were to partake every Sunday.

What do we know from the New Testament about the music in the worship of the church? Every verse in the New Testament regarding music in worship, without one exception, specifies singing. The church was commanded to engage in "speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord" (Eph. 5:19; see also Col. 3:16). There is no Biblical authority to add an instrument to the singing anymore than there is authority to add peanut butter and jelly to the bread in the Lord's Supper. We live under the New Testament and must have New Testament authority for what we teach and practice.

All of our worship must be done "in spirit and truth" (John 4:24). Worshiping "in truth" is done according to God's "Word" (John 17:17). If I change God's authorized worship, then it becomes my worship and not God's worship.

By Robert Lupo

Tell the Truth Even When It Is Hard

Every Christian knows that lying is wrong. Proverbs 12:22 calls lying an abomination. It is one of those sins God hates (Prov. 6:16-19). And according to Revelation 21:8, those who lie will be punished with the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers and idolaters in hell. We know these verses well, yet given the right circumstances, many of us will lie anyway.

Sometimes a situation presents itself where lying seems like the best solution. Perhaps we broke something valuable. Maybe we exaggerated our skills or accomplishments to get a job. Maybe we did something that would hurt our reputation amongst people we love. No matter how sincere of a Christian you are, many situations could result in you telling a lie.

"We have to commit ourselves to the truth!"

Abraham struggled with this exact issue. Twice, Abraham found himself in a circumstance where he tried to justify lying. In Genesis 12:10-20 and 20:1-18, Abraham stood before kings (Pharaoh and Abimelech respectively), and both times he feared that they would kill him if they found out that Sarah was his wife. She was very beautiful, so he feared they would want her for themselves.

So, Abraham lied, telling them that she was his sister instead. Abraham's plan worked to keep the kings from killing him, but this news made them believe Sarah was eligible for marriage and so they tried to take her as a wife. But God intervened in both instances, withholding them from sinning against God (cf. Gen. 20:6). Abraham's lie nearly put two innocent people in danger of God's wrath.

Between Abraham, Pharaoh and Abimelech, Abraham should have been the one that knew how to be righteous. Instead, two pagans demonstrated greater integrity than God's chosen man. As Christians, we have a responsibility to be lights of God's righteousness in the world just like Abraham (cf. Matt. 5:14-16). Jesus chose us out of the world like the apostles before us (cf. John 15:19). If we allow circumstances to cause us to lie, we are no better than the world our Lord called us out of.

We must train ourselves to never see lying as an option. Proverbs 13:5 says, "A righteous man hates lying…" This requires a fundamental change of mind toward lying. We have to commit ourselves to the truth! Paul says in Ephesians 4:25, "Therefore, putting away lying, 'Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,' for we are members of one another." We must treat lying as a thing of the past. Later Paul exhorts us, "…that you put off, concerning your former conduct…" and "…put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness" (4:22-24). If we are committed to the truth, then we will tell the truth even when it is hard.

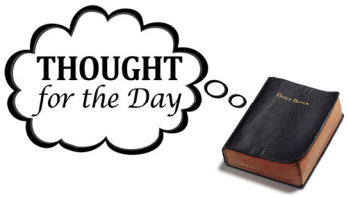
Articles Published in **PBL Family News Emails** Last Week

Spectator criticism

Sports fans criticize the officials, the coaches and the players. Parents criticize the teachers, the principals and the curriculum. And, yes, Christians criticize the elders, the deacons, the preachers, the other members and the church, in general. It's easy to be a spectator and to lob criticisms at what others are doing (or perhaps, not doing that you think they should be doing).

Jesus had dinner in a Pharisee's home in Luke 7. That Pharisee did not wash Jesus' feet or even provide water for a washing. In other words, he wasn't doing the necessary job himself. Yet, that Pharisee was the loudest critic of the woman who came and washed Jesus' feet with a fragrant oil (Luke 7:36-39), without offering help himself. Jesus soundly rebuked him (7:40-47).

It is easy to sit back, without actually doing anything to help a situation ourselves, and hurl criticisms at the elders of a congregation for decisions or indecisions, for actions or inactions. It takes a true Christ-like heart to step up and help, serve and personally fill a gap (Matt. 20:28; Ezek. 22:30). What role do you usually play? – *DS*



The art of listening

Sometimes we might be eager to make a decision and hesitant to seek any advice. Other times we might be determined for someone to hear our point of view and less inclined to hear theirs. Whatever the reason and the occasion, there are often times in our lives when we are not very good listeners. Yet, the Bible urges us to hone the skill of listening.

The Jews named one of their key Biblical texts (Deuteronomy 6:4-9) the "Shema," which is a Hebrew word meaning "hear" or "listen." The first word of that passage is "Hear." God wanted His people to learn to "hear/listen." Wisdom, personified in the book of Proverbs, calls out, "Blessed is the man who listens to me" (8:34), and the book promises safety and success to the one who heeds a "multitude of counselors" (11:14; 15:22; 24:6). However, "folly and shame" follow the person who "answers a matter before he hears it" (Prov. 18:13). The New Testament tells us to be "quick to hear" (Jas. 1:19).

Are you a good listener? That's not, "Are you good at being quiet?" Rather, are you honing your skill of listening? – *DS*

Pray for These PBL Members

Paul Davidson	dealing with a several health issues
Sandy DeVall	has been improving
Charlene Knowles	undergoing radiation on her nose soon
Janice Osborne	dealing with severe neck pain
Emma Reeves	having surgery on October 2
Isolyn Sinclair	still dealing with severe back pain

Ongoing Health Issues

Jimmie Banks	dialysis treatments
Judy Carmack	chronic health issues
Dianne Halenda	pain, swelling in legs & back
Bill Ingram, Jr.	advanced Alzheimer's
John Loftis	back pain, weakness
Tiffany Mayes	dialysis treatments
Sherri Richmond	multiple health issues

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Laura Griffin	Jennifer Goodale's mother, recovering breast cancer surg
Stacey Lynch	Debora Lynch's daughter, undergoing medical tests
Linda Price	Rick Price's mother, recovering from knee surgery
Curtis White	Betty White's brother, recovering from hip replacement

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames	Sadie Myrie
Gloria Boyd	Leigh Puckett
Josie Dawson	Don Seay
Zula Garrett	Ricky Smedley
Loretta Holaday	Jackie Stout
Kasandra Jones	Samuel Williams
Owen Miley	Evetta Wilson

Church Family Calendar OF Events

Sunday, October 4

- **Deadline: Gift Cards for Mount Dora Children's Home.** Please bring Publix, Wal-Mart or Wawa gift cards and place them in the box in the Lobby.
- **New Bible Classes Begin** at 9:00 a.m. for all children and adults *(Stepping into the Bible, Semester 1)*.

Monday, October 5

- **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.
- **Monday Night Bible Study** at 7:00 p.m. in the Adult 3.

Tuesday, October 6

- **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m. in Adult 3.

Thursday, October 8

- **PBL Ladies' Bible Study** at 7:00 p.m. at the church building. The Evergreen Cypress Light study journals for First Peter will be distributed in this first meeting. See Lisa Metzkes or Traci Sproule for more details.

Saturday, October 17

- **PBL Ladies' Prayer Meeting** at 1:00 p.m. in the Family Room. See Maria Hackshaw for more details.
- **Trunk-or-Treat for Grades 5 & Under** hosted by the Jr. & Sr. High Youth at 5:00 p.m. ALL members are encouraged to decorate their trunk and pass out treats to the kids. There will be food, games and Trunk-or-Treating. Hot dogs will be provided for dinner. Please RSVP by October 14. See Robert Lupo for more details.

Sunday-Wednesday, October 18-21

- **Lectureship hosted by Haverhill Road** each night at 7:00 p.m. (Monday-Wednesday). Guest speakers Terry Francis & Phil Robertson will be speaking on "United By the Cross: Called to Be a People of the Cross."
- **Gospel Meeting hosted by Lake Placid.** Tom Hall will be speaking each night at 6:30 p.m. (Monday-Wednesday).

Sunday, November 1

- **Daylight Saving Time Ends.** Set your clocks back one hour.
- **Shepherds Praying** at 5:30 p.m. in Adult 3. All members are invited to come and pray with them.

YOUNG ADULTS

Thursday, October 8

- **PBL Ladies' Bible Study** at 7:00 p.m. at the church building. The Evergreen Cypress Light study journals for First Peter will be distributed in this first meeting. See Lisa Metzkes or Traci Sproule for more details.

Saturday, October 24

- **Young Adult Sunrise & Breakfast** at 7:00 a.m. at Juno Beach. Breakfast will be at Juno Beach Café. See Ivan Villard for more details.
- **Youth & Young Adult Costume Party** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Victor & Sandy Colage. All Jr. High, Sr. High & Young Adults are invited. Please bring a pumpkin to carve, and drinks and desserts to share.

Saturday, November 14

- **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. See Ivan Villard for more details.

Saturday, December 5

- **Young Adults Baking Cookies** at 9:30 a.m. for Grades 5 & under children.

YOUTH & FAMILY

Sunday, October 4

- **New Bible Classes Begin** at 9:00 a.m. for all children and adults *(Stepping into the Bible, Semester 1)*.
- **His Kids Class** at 5:30 p.m. for Age 3 and up. Meet in the front of the auditorium.

Sunday, October 11

- **Jr. High & Sr. High Family Devo** after evening worship at the home of Brent & Lindsey McPherson. We will be going over plans for 2027, so **parents are encouraged to be there**. Bring drinks and desserts to share. See Robert Lupo for more details.

Saturday, October 17

- **Trunk-or-Treat for Grades 5 & Under** hosted by the Jr. & Sr. High Youth at 5:00 p.m. Jr. High & Sr. High, please arrive at 4:00 p.m. to help set up. There will be food, games and Trunk-or-Treating. Hot dogs will be provided for dinner. Wear your costume! Please RSVP by October 14. See Robert Lupo for more details.

Children's **Bible Education & Experience**

STEPPING INTO THE BIBLE

Age 3 thru Grade 5

Designed to develop and strengthen a living faith in the hearts of our children by walking them into the settings, narratives and truths of the living messages of God's Word!

Semester #1

October 4 thru **February 17**

Cradle Roll & Toddler Classes

September 2026
thru
November 2026

Cradle Roll

"God Made It All"
Giselle Smith

Toddlers

"Moses"
Sandy Colage & Tina Wagner

STEPPING INTO THE BIBLE	Creation	Adam & Eve	Noah	Abraham	Abraham & Isaac
Session 1 *Oct. 4 thru Oct. 28*	**Grades 4-5** *Tim Fry*	**Ages 3-4** *Cindy Nelson*		**K & Grade 1** *Beth Fry*	**Grades 2-3** *Loni Fuller*
Session 2 *Nov. 1 thru Nov. 25*	**Grades 2-3** *Loni Fuller*	**Grades 4-5** *Tim Fry*	**Ages 3-4** *Cindy Nelson*		**K & Grade 1** *Beth Fry*
Session 3 *Nov. 29 thru Dec. 23*	**K & Grade 1** *Beth Fry*	**Grades 2-3** *Loni Fuller*	**Grades 4-5** *Tim Fry*	**Ages 3-4** *Cindy Nelson*	
Session 4 *Dec. 27 thru Jan. 20*		**K & Grade 1** *Allison Roman*	**Grades 2-3** *Amber Villard*	**Grades 4-5** *Ivan Villard*	**Ages 3-4** *Trish Clark*
Session 5 *Jan. 24 thru Feb. 17*	**Ages 3-4** *Trish Clark*		**K & Grade 1** *Allison Roman*	**Grades 2-3** *Amber Villard*	**Grades 4-5** *Ivan Villard*

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

Members Traveling this week

Thank You for worshiping with us

Sunday, September 27

LOCAL VISITORS: Mr. Jack Charles; Mr. & Mrs. Rai & Ashley Masuda; Ms. Reina Murray; Ms. Jean Powers; and Mrs. Jennifer Walker.

OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS: Mrs. Esperanza B. Alcantara, Deltona, FL; Mr. & Mrs. Jacob & Lauren Campbell, Pembroke Pines, FL; Mrs. Terietta Frazier, Sugarland, TX; and Ms. Esperanza A. Rivera, Deltona, FL.

Birthdays & Anniversaries This Week

Sunday, October 4th
Amelia Rogers

Monday, October 5th
Rosa Nash

Tuesday, October 6th
Tom DiNetta

Wednesday, October 7th
Jimmie & Cheryl Banks (Ann.)
Lisa Suarez

Thursday, October 8th
Donna Erickson
Norma Mariano
Bessie Walker
Betty White

Friday, October 9th
Lawrence Williams

Saturday, October 10th
Dirk Summerlot

Mount Dora Children's Home — Est 1945 — GIFT CARDS

Sunday, October 4 is the deadline to bring gift cards for Mount Dora Children's Home. Please bring Publix, Wal-Mart or Wawa gift cards and place them in the box in the Lobby.

Wawa

Walmart Publix

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, October 4

Opening Prayer ..... Dan Fuller
Singing ..... Robert Lupo
Scripture Reading..... David Lord
Singing
Lord's Supper ..... Kirk Crews
Singing
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer ..... Dave Holaday

Serve at Table:

Ed Buonadonna	Wilton Moorer
Addison Collins	Bobby Shelton
Gorman Ericksen	Cristian Suarez
Can Margarini	Darin Summerlot

Sunday Evening, October 4

Singing ..... Stephen Beliech
Opening Prayer..... David Brown
Scripture Reading ..... Daniel Wagner
Singing
Lord's Supper..... Dirk Summerlot
Singing
Contribution
Singing
Singing
Closing Prayer..... Douglas Alvarenga

Serve at Table:

Addison Collins	Richard Gathright

Audio this week: Jack Holoman
Computer this week: Buzz Nelson
Video this week: Ed Gager

Wednesday Evening, October 7

Singing ..... Chuck Reeves
Invitation..... Jeff Goodale
Family Prayer ..... Stephen Beliech

Service Coordinator:
Eugene Williams

Ushers for this week: Jimmie Banks & Michael Menendez
Safety Team for this week: Mike Damron

Our Record

Attendance	Sep 27	Aug Avg
Sun. Bible Study	135	153
Sun. AM Worship	214	234
Sun. PM Worship	75	92
Wed. Bible Study	91	118
Contribution	$15,662	$16,964

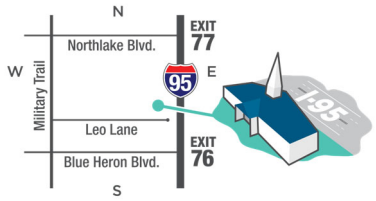
2026 Weekly Budget: $17,161

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: $5,780

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: **Bret & Shelley Nesbitt**

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ADULT BIBLE CLASSES (Oct. 7 - Dec. 9)

Auditorium (Dan Jenkins):

Second Kings

Second Kings records a dark period in Israel's history, marked by spiritual decline, wicked rulers, judgment and national collapse. Yet even in those difficult years, faithful servants remained steadfast. This textual study will focus especially on Elisha, Hezekiah and Josiah, examining their faith, courage, reforms and dependence on God, while drawing practical lessons for faithful living in challenging times today.

Adult 1-2 (LADIES ONLY: Traci Sproule):

Through the Lens of Eternity: Focusing on What Matters Most

What we focus on shapes how we think, how we live, and ultimately where we are headed. Let's examine what Scripture teaches us to focus on: eternity, truth, godly thinking, faith, service, relationships, and the work God has given us to do. Together, we'll learn to look beyond life's distractions and focus on what truly matters.

SR. HIGH & JR. HIGH BIBLE CLASSES

SR. HIGH: SUNDAY MORNINGS

Survey of the O.T. & N.T.

(Robert Lupo)

SR. HIGH: WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Interpreting the Bible

(Robert Lupo)

JR. HIGH: SUNDAY MORNINGS

Esther Becomes Queen

(Stephen Beliech)

JR. HIGH: WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

The Church

(Dan Fuller)