

*Let's make sure
our delight is in
the law of the
Lord!*

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A Special Letter

Have you ever received a note or message from someone special? It is amazing how much a note, email, letter, or message from someone close to us can brighten our spirits and change our day. I know we don't send letters as much as we used to, but imagine what it must have been like to receive a letter when there was no phone, internet, text messaging, etc. A person could go months without being able to communicate with people they care about. Receiving a letter would have been a very exciting time.

That's what it was like for our first century brethren when they received a letter. I was reading the book of Philippians and couldn't help but think about this idea. The church at Philippi had a special relationship with the apostle Paul. Listen to how Paul describes the church there: "Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown....." (Ph. 4:1). Paul had a longstanding relationship with the church at Philippi. We first read of Paul's work there in Acts 16. The church helped support Paul throughout his ministry. In fact, they sent Epaphroditus some supplies to help support Paul (Ph. 4:18).

When you read this letter, one can tell of the love he had for them. He is writing a letter from his heart to people he loves and cares about. Can you imagine how excited the church there must have been when they received his letter? How about the anticipation of the letter being read as word spread of its arrival? The letter would have been read in its entirety to the church. I would suspect that everyone at the church who could be there for the reading was present. It would have been something that was greatly anticipated and met with joy.

If we are not careful, it can be easy for us to take for granted the fact that we have the complete and written Word of God so easily at our fingertips. Most of us probably have several written copies, a copy on our computer, iPad and smartphone. The question is do we have that same excitement for God's Word that the church at Philippi must have had when they received Paul's letter?

We should long to read God's word, to study it, and to meditate on it. Psalm 1 gives us a contrast between a righteous man and the way of the ungodly. In that Psalm, we can read how God's Word should be to us. "But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night" (Ps. 1:2). Are we excited to study God's Word, to be at Bible class, to hear lessons proclaimed from the pulpit? Let's make sure our delight is in the law of the Lord!

~Lance Leavens

1 Family Matters

"I love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies." (Ps. 18:1-3). God is indeed worthy to be praised.

He is our salvation, and today we gather to call upon Him and worship Him as Lord.

We are grateful for your presence here today. We are thankful for our visitors. We hope that you feel welcomed and uplifted by worshipping with us

today. Thank you for being with us.

We celebrate with *Jeff Smith*. Jeff was baptized into Christ this past Monday, April 8th. Jeff is the husband of Christie Smith, and the father of Preslie and Vaughn. Let's welcome him to the Champions family.

Congratulations to *Mr. and Mrs. Zack Richman*. *Zack and Samantha* were married on Saturday, April 6th. We celebrate with them and their families. We wish them much happiness as they begin this new journey together.

LTC is quickly approaching. In fact, many of our young people and their families will be in Dallas this coming weekend. We are so thankful for all those participating and for those that have given of their time. Let's be praying for their safety as they travel and for their work as they serve through this program.

Parting thought: *"Make each day your masterpiece"* – John Wooden

Have a great week!

~Lance

ORDER OF WORSHIP—SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2019—AM SERVICE

WORSHIP ORDER

Song - *Surround Us, O Lord*

Welcome/Scripture/Prayer: I John 4:7-8 EVS

Song - #705 – A Common Love (2 Times)

Song—#71 As The Deer (All Vs.)

Prayer

Song – #364 Come, Share The Lord (All Vs)

Communion/Offering

(Dismiss Children to Bible Hour)

Song - #123 – The Steadfast Love of The Lord (All Vs)

Song - #448 – The Greatest Commands

Scripture Reading: John 13:34-35 ESV

Sermon: Lance Leavens

Song - #948 – I Am Resolved (Vs. 1,2, &3)

Announcements/Prayer

Not in the book

John's Jogs: The Overshadowed Super Star - Barnabas

We tend to think of Peter and Paul as the super stars of the book of Acts and they are. But I believe there is a third overshadowed superstar in this book. We see this in politics where we see people who could never be elected but can produce leaders who can be elected. We see sports people overshadowed by others. For example, take Lou Gehrig. He was one of the all-time great baseball players but was completely overshadowed by the one and only great Babe Ruth. Few people know that in 1927 the year Ruth hit 60 home runs Gehrig hit 57.... Ruth had 417 total bases Gehrig had 447 Ruth had 138 RBIs Gehrig had 175.....For years Gehrig held the record for most games played as well as most consecutive games. As team-mates their overall life time records are very close,

except Ruth was a pitcher for a time. It is generally believed that Gehrig would scarcely be known except for the way he died. It took his rare illness (Lou Gehrig's Disease) to get the recognition he so richly deserved.

We even see this over shadowing in the apostles. There are the two brother apostles – Andrew and Peter. We hear very little of Andrew, for his brother is in the limelight. But did you ever stop to think that Peter might not have ever even been a Christian if Andrew had not run to tell him he had found the Christ. I'm afraid that we often are awed by the miracles of the early church and miss the true lesson of their humanity.

As the tempestuous fiery oratory of the apostle Peter was needed for the beginning of the church and its early days in Judea....and the articulate well educated Paul was needed to carry the message into the Roman World.....So the seasoned wisdom of the stable Barnabas was needed for the transition....Because of their more explosive styles Barnabas is overshadowed by these two giants....But in value to the church and its outward thrust, his worth may have equaled theirs. We'll consider three of the works in which Barnabas was engaged as we look for some of the characteristics he displayed that reveal his greatness. That's next week.

THE CHAMPIONS SPIRIT

EVENTS AND NEWS

Men's Day



Menu: Free Barbecue Lunch

Men's Day Title: *You Are That Man!* **Saturday, April 27th**

From 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

McCall Farm in Hempstead
Men of all ages invited.

Guest Speaker:
Jeff Sammons

Sign-up lists are in the Welcome Center.



Church Calendar

April 2019

14: Family Circle 3 Meal
14: Directory Pictures Today
14: LTC Dress Rehearsal
21: Easter—No Family Circle Meal
27: Men's Day
28: Family Circle 4 Meal
28: New Member Meet and Greet
28: All Church Family Game Night
May 2019
5: Impact Meal

April Youth Events

14: LTC Dress Rehearsal
24: Youth Led PM Service
27: Men's Day @ McCalls

Bible Hour Schedule

April

14: Killough
21: Sammons
28: Stafford



Jeff Smith

We rejoice with the angels in heaven in the baptism of Jeff Smith last Monday. He is the husband of Christie, and dad of Preslie and Vaughn.

PICTURES TODAY! Before and after a.m. worship. Come to front of the auditorium.

Ladies Craft Day Saturday, April 27th 8:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.

This is the last one till September 7th! Salad will be provided. Bring a snack to share.
Contacts: Linda Rickman & Donna Gustafson

Family Circle 3 Meal Today In Family Center

Leaders: Paul & Edie Tews
All Visitors Welcome!

Parents Night Out Family Center April 27th from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

New Member Reception

"Meet and Greet"

Sunday, April 28th

5:00 P.M. in Family Center

If you have placed membership with Champions in the last year, or haven't had an opportunity to meet with our elders and ministers, or are new in spirit if not in membership, you are invited!

Contact: Ryan Nelson

SIGN-UP TODAY! CHURCH WIDE RETREAT May 18 & 19th Palestine, Texas

Cost: \$30 for singles and \$55 for families. This price includes one night stay (Saturday) in a cabin and three meals.

Lunch and dinner on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. Leave Houston around 8 or so on Saturday to arrive around 10:30 on Saturday morning. Come back to Houston after church service on Sunday morning.

Forms are available in the Welcome Center!

Combined Sunday Evening Service And LTC Rehearsals April 14th

Join us for a time of worship and an opportunity to preview some of our LTC participants as they rehearse for their upcoming LTC events.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR CHRIST (LTC) NEWS AND NOTES

Practice today at 3:30 p.m.

TODAY—LTC Dress Rehearsals begins at 4:15. Please pay Wes Smith, who is collecting our payments and is heading that up. Thanks Wes! Make checks payable to Church of Christ in Champions.

If you are staying only [Friday Night](#), you do not owe anything; the elders are covering the cost of [Friday night](#).

Cost per Night:

1 night is \$103.79 (Thursday or Saturday).

2 nights \$207.58 (Thursday and Saturday).

Contact: Aaron Trent 832-904-8800



Will be here Wednesday morning!

Needs:

Floor Cleaner & Toilet Paper.



church of Chris

IN CHAMPIONS

"A Place to Belong."

13902 Cutten Road,
Houston, Texas 77069
281-440-9898

www.championschurch.org

Elders:

- David Arnold
- Jim Chitwood
- Bill Johnson
- Britt Jones
- Danny Mize
- Don Sammons
- Marvin Trice

Deacons:

- Chris Ball
- Kevin Barnett
- Barney Bowles
- Eltonio (Tony) Brown
- Gordon Casey
- Darrell Fariss
- Jay Fraley
- Tommy Hill
- Joe Jackson
- Charles Joachim
- Brent Killough
- Michael McCall
- David Morgan
- Ryan Nelson
- Blake Phillips
- Kent Phillips
- Bryan Runions
- Justin Sammons
- Joel Smith
- Wes Smith
- Paul Tews
- Troy Thompson
- James Wyatt

Ministers:

- Lance Leavens (Pulpit)
- John Qualls (Associate)
- Wes Arnold (Associate)
- Reid Stafford (Youth)

PRAYERS & NOTES

Prayer Requests:

Howard Mahle was moved to Encompass for additional time to recover from his recent fall.

David Morgan is waiting on tests to determine the cause of some weakness in his hand and fingers.

Linda Lopez's liver specialist said her liver cancer was stage 4, but was a slow growing cancer. A scan is scheduled for April 24th to determine treatment options.

Nick Lazerko is home recovering from surgery.

Kenneth Smith, wife, Carolyn, daughter, Michelle, as they all struggle with multiple health issues. Your prayers are appreciated.

Jerry McKinney is in University Place Inpatient Rehab, 7480 Beechnut, Houston, TX 77074, room 723, telephone number 713-778-7028 recovering from hip surgery.

Family & Friends Prayer Requests:

The family of Nathan Monk, former members at Champions. Nathan was killed in a motorcycle wreck on Wednesday. Tentatively, his services are set for Tuesday in Decatur, Texas. Hawkins Funeral Home is in charge.

Andre Buchanan, a child friend of Darlene Ewell is recovering from an illness.

Hanna Haavikko requested prayers for her friend, Annie, who lives in Finland, and is having marriage problems.

The family of Tina Jones, friend of Darlene Bounds, in their loss.

Santo Moreno, Gilberto's uncle who lives in Venezuela, suffered a second stroke and currently remains in a coma in Venezuela.

Champions Members with Cancer:

Wes Smith, LaNell Allee, Gwen Crosby, Don Dearen, Pam Shaw, John Burns, Donna Nance, Caella Chappell, Gilbert Moreno, Keith Underwood

Members with Health & Other Concerns:

Josie Biron, Nick Lazerko, Hanna Haavikko, Marcia Chitwood, Rebecca Jaquez, John Hixon, Stacey Farmer, Lynn & Earlene Antwine, Julia Shaw, Angela Joachim, Linda Underwood, Patricia Richmond

Employment Concerns:

Jeanne Dearen, Cindy Schlesener, Ernesto Harris, Jeff Long, Rody Willis

Hospice:

Hank Barnett

Family and Friends with Health and Other Concerns:

Lois Fuller, Robert Malonson, Hilkka and husband, Don Long, David Long, Jody Bullard, Hulda Horton, Ken Freeman, Hank Sheppard, Braden

Family and Friends Cancer Concerns:

Jill King, Elizabeth Cuccerre, Maco Fariss, Donna Petty, Mike Rice, Patricia Lopez, Shelley Lindsay, Thelma Edwards, Barbara Calhoun

Missionaries:

Dale DuVerney, Peter Chin, Eddie Cloer, Roman Halamicek, Roland Mohsen, Biblical Institute of Central America, Eastern European Mission, Jordan Arnold, Will Hanstein, Elijah Brown

Members in Assisted Living/ Rehab/ Nursing Homes:

Nell McDonald, Edwina Moore, Charles & Lois Boyd

Family and Friends in Assisted Living/Rehabs & Nursing Homes:

Terri Bennett, Hank Barnett, Marie McCall, Jean Simpson, Gladys McHenry, Nettie Jo Jackson, Dorothy Kuehl

Prayers for our Military:

Brent Tyler Bowles, Traveon Gaines, William E. Taylor IV, Aaron Jean, Charles DuVerney, Philip Cuccerre, Jr., Aaron Schubert

Nursery Attendants

April 14: Everlina Jones & Lisa Reed

April 21: Holly Freeland & Martha Fassino

If you cannot serve, please find a replacement by checking names posted on the wall outside the nursery classroom.

Contact: Karen Casey

FOR THE RECORD 4/7/2019

Sunday Morning..... 331
(Higher Ground Retreat) 6
Sunday Bible Class 191
Sunday Night..... 175
Wednesday Night 186
Contribution 20,202.42
Weekly Budget..... 20,247.31
YTD Contribution 296,250.55
YTD Budget..... 283,462.34
Over/(Under) 12,788.21

Service Times:

SUNDAY MORNING
9:00 a.m. Bible Classes
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
Sunday Morning Bible Hour

SUNDAY NIGHT
6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
Ladies Bible Class 9:45 a.m.
Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

Elder of the Month

April

Jim Chitwood

Food Coordinator

Check with your Family
Circle Leaders

**Church Wi-Fi
Password**
churchguest

Little Champs: Mothers Day Out

Contact: Lisa Killough
littlechampsmdo@gmail.com
281-893-2062
Lisa Killough—Director