

THE CHAMPIONS SPIRIT

The Beginning of Our Journey Together

The last two weeks have been a whirlwind for our family. As I sit and write this article, we are two days from starting the drive to Houston. It is hard for us to imagine that this Sunday will be our first as a part of the Champions family. There are times it feels like we are in the middle of chaos but in a very good kind of way.

At the same time, we know that it has been a whirlwind for the Church here too. Saying goodbye to people as special and important as Larry and Janet is never easy. While doing that, you were also preparing to welcome us. We can't even begin to express how overwhelming the support has been for us. We have received so many words of encouragement via Facebook, email, text, etc. Through all of the change you are experiencing, you have shown God's love in so many different ways.

It is interesting how life seems many times to involve change. That change can sometimes be chaotic and even uncomfortable. At other times, it can be incredibly exciting and energizing. The great thing about periods of change in our lives is we always have one constant. We have a Savior that does not change. The Hebrews writer reminds us of this important fact. *"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever"* (Heb. 13:8). His love, compassion, care, and empathy is consistent for us.

As we begin our journey together, it is Jesus that we always want to elevate and keep at the center of everything we do. He is the one we will follow. He is the one that we will share with our friends and neighbors. He is the one we will count on. Why? Because no matter what we will experience together, He is our anchor (Heb. 6:19).

Our family could not be more excited to be here. We are honored to be a part of the family here at Champions. So as our journey together begins, let's focus on Jesus and grow His Kingdom! Have a great day.

—Lance Leavens

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Family Matters

"I was glad when they said to me, Let us go into the house of the Lord" Psa. 122:1. Today is the Lord's Day and we are indeed glad to be gathered as God's people to worship Him. We want to offer a special welcome to all of our guests today. We are thankful that you have chosen to worship with us. We hope you will find your time with us to be uplifting. Our Family Circle 2 is sharing a meal after worship this morning. We would love for you to stay and eat with us if you can. Either way, we hope you will come back and worship with us anytime you can!

I want to take a moment to recognize *Larry Keele*. I had the opportunity to talk with him for a little while when we were here in November. He and I also exchanged emails last week. He was incredibly encouraging, kind, and gracious to me. As I begin my ministry here, I know that I am benefitting from his hard work for the past 18 years. I also know that he has been very active in making sure that my family and I are accepted and welcomed here. What a testament to him and his love for this Church! Let's be sure to continue our prayers for Larry and Janet and their work with the Midway congregation in

Lawrenceburg, TN.

Susan and I want to once again say thank you to everyone here. That seems so inadequate for all that you have done for us. You have already been a tremendous blessing to us. It is our prayer that we will be able to be a blessing in some way to you. We are excited to get to know each of you better!

Parting Thought: *"Whatever you are, be a good one."* — Abraham Lincoln

Have a great week!

Lance

ORDER OF WORSHIP—SUNDAY, December 2, 2018—AM SERVICE

WORSHIP ORDER

Song – Here I Am to Worship*

Welcome/Scripture/Prayer: Psalms 103:8-12 ESV

Song #2 – We Praise Thee, O God

Song #611 – Heavenly Sunlight

Song – Cornerstone*

Prayer

Song #344 – Low in the Grave He Lay

Communion/Offering*(Dismiss Children to Bible Hour)*

Song #550 – I Walk with the King

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 12:1-3 ESV

Sermon: Lance Leavens

Song #567 – Restore My Soul

Announcements/Prayer**Not in the Book*

John's Jogs: THE APOSTLES WERE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Waiting in the upper room were the Apostles with about 120 disciples gathered - In Acts chapter one Peter stood up and said: "***Men and Brethren, the scripture had to be fulfilled, Judas was one of our number and shared in this ministry. Therefore, we must replace him.***" They cast lots and the lot fell on Matthias. Matthias was numbered with the apostles.

The third activity within this 50 day period was the receiving of the Holy Spirit in the second chapter vs 1-13. Ten days of waiting after the ascension they were all together and in one accord (that's a miracle itself). Suddenly – from heaven – a sound like a mighty rushing wind and something like divided tongues of fire – sat upon each of them. They were filled

with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. (Note: This baptizing of the Holy Spirit occurred here and in Acts 10 as the Gospel is made available to the Gentiles. It did not and will never occur again.)

NOTE THE CROWD'S RESPONSE

There were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation. There were Parthian, Medes, and Elamites, residents of Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt, and the districts of Libya near Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs. They were astonished and amazed for each heard in his own lan-

guage. Amazed and perplexed, they asked what does this mean. Others said they are full of new wine.

Peter standing up with the eleven said "let me explain this to you—listen carefully: "*These are not drunk as you suppose – but this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel – Read Joel 2:28-32 and 2:17-21. 'It will come to pass in the last days (Christian Dispensation)' - He will pour out His Spirit on all people – (both Jew and Gentile). Everyone who calls on the Lord will be saved.*"

~John Qualls

THE CHAMPIONS SPIRIT

EVENTS AND NEWS

Welcome Lance and Susan Leavens daughters, Ashley, Carley and Kenzey



Progressive Dinner

DECEMBER 8TH

Cost: \$10.00 per person
Appetizers will begin at 5:45 P.M.
in the Host Homes.

FREE Babysitting provided!

Contacts: Justin or Julia Sammons



Ladies' Christmas Party
Monday, December 3 at 6 p.m.
Family Center

Bring a gift to exchange and finger food to share.
Gift should be between \$15 - \$20; something you would enjoy receiving.

Contact: Susan Sammons

Friday Morning Fellowship

Christmas Edition
December 21st
9:00 a.m.

Family Center

Contacts: Don Sammons or Wes Arnold

FriendSpeak Training

January 5, 2019

If you are interested in the FriendSpeak Training, please sign the list in the Welcome Center.

Contacts: Alan Reed or Diann Thurston

Church Calendar

DECEMBER

- 2: Lance Leavens' 1st Sunday at Champions
- 2: Family Circle 2 Meal
- 3: Ladies' Christmas Party
- 7: Widows' Christmas Party
- 8: Progressive Dinner
- 9: Family Circle 3 Meal
- 9: Leadership Party
- 15: ELFS Workshop Service Project
- 20: Men's Night Out
- 21: Friday Morning Fellowship
- 24: Office Closed
- 25: Office Closed

Sunday Morning Bible Hour

Ages 2 to Kindergarten

Parents and children are dismissed to check-in following the Lord's Supper.

December

2 Killough
9 Smith



DECEMBER

9 Youth Devo
12 Summit
14 Progressive Dinner

Men's Night Out

December 20th @ 6:30 P.M.

Details to follow!

Contact: Wes Arnold

No Family Circle Meals
December 23rd
December 30th

No Wednesday Night Meals
December 26th
January 2nd

Wednesday Night Meal

December 5th

Menu: Jambalaya and Rice, Salad, cornbread and Dessert

COST: Adults \$5, Children \$3.00 (Ages 3-6th Grade), Children 2 and under, Free.

Meal served from 6:00 - 6:40 p.m.

If you plan to eat, please indicate the number eating on the attendance sheet Sunday.

(EAGER LOVING FAITHFUL SERVANTS)

ELFS

workshop

DEC 15 FROM 11AM-4PM

JOIN US IN HELPING SERVE OUR COMMUNITY IN VARIOUS WAYS. THIS IS A GREAT FAMILY EVENT TO SERVE THIS HOLIDAY. THERE WILL EVEN BE A MAILBOX TO WRITE & SEND YOUR CHRISTMAS LIST TO SANTA!

COME AND GO.

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 (Involvement)
- Reid Stafford (Youth)

PRAYERS & NOTES

Prayer Requests:

Lance and Susan Leavens and family during their transition.

Pam Shaw will have a biopsy on her lung and spine where spots have been found. The brain swelling resolved without treatment!

Janice Norman as she recovers from her back procedure.

Lois Boyd is recovering from multiple falls over the past few weeks. Please pray for both her and Charles. Visitors are welcome!

Gwen Crosby is struggling with gastric issues and severe eczema. Tests are scheduled for December 4th to see if the cancer has returned.

Hanna Haavikko remains very weak and continues to struggle with her health issues.

Larry and Janet for a smooth transition into their new home and church family.

Family and Friends Prayer Requests:

Nora Zarate, Rosalinda's mom and Josie Biron's sister, is in Methodist Hospital, room 5425 with multiple health issues.

Don Long, Jess' brother, has just been diagnosed with Alzheimer's.

Gordon Bickham, Keith's

dad, is in a private facility for continued care and treatment for bed sores.

Kayla, Paulette Wellman's granddaughter, that her disability claim be approved.

John Emshoff, Pat Stolte's son-in-law, is having additional health problems.

Patricia Lopez, Gilberto Moreno's cousin, has been diagnosed with Metastases Breast Cancer.

Terri Barker, Debbie Campbell's dear friend, has lymphoma and is undergoing treatments.

Families Who Have Lost

Loved Ones: Bills, Bickham, Richter

Family and Friends Prayer Requests:

Champions Members with Cancer: LaNell Allee, Gwen Crosby, Don Dearen, Pam Shaw, John Burns, Donna Nance, Caella Chappell, Gilbert Moreno, Keith Underwood, Jamellah Jones

Members with Health & Other Concerns: Dennis Long, John Hixon, Stacey Farmer, Bill Cartwright, Dennis Crosby, Lynn & Earlene Antwine, Julia Shaw, Angela Joachim, John Hixon, Linda Underwood

Employment Concerns: Cindy Schlesener, Ernesto Harris, Jeff Long, Rody Willis

Hospice: Bill Cartwright, Hank Barnett

Family and Friends with Health and Other Concerns:

Hanna Burt, Robert Malonson, Nora Zarate, Clifagean Palmer, Hilkka and husband

Family and Friends Cancer Concerns:

James Kersh, Jean Taylor, Rocky Harrell, Glenda Maco Fariss, Donna Petty, Mike Rice

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:

Terri Bennett, Nell McDonald, Edwina Moore

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

Hank Barnett, Marie McCall, Jean Simpson, Dorothy Kuehl, Gladys McHenry, Dorothy Allee, Polly Lindsay, Nettie Jo Jackson

Prayers for our Military:

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

Nursery Attendants

December 2: Jessica Holt & Susan Sammons

December 9: Karen Watson & Alaina Hill

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 11/25/2018

Sunday Morning..... 363
Sunday Bible Class 217
Sunday Night 164
Wednesday Night 171
Contribution..... 19,361.91
Weekly Budget.....19,307.69
YTD Contributions.923,442.06
YTD Budget.....907,461.43
Over/(Under) 15,980.63

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 Resumes 1-9
Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

Elder of the Month

December
Danny Mize

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