

THE CHAMPIONS SPIRIT

The Close of One Year and the Beginning of Another

It is hard to believe that 2018 is almost over. In fact, this week's bulletin will be the last one for the year. This is a time of year that can bring out a lot of different emotions. Some people experience great joy and happiness. This is a time of celebration for them where they enjoy time with family and friends. For others, it can be a difficult time of year. There are various reasons people may struggle during the holidays. The point I want to make is that it is important to be mindful that we will encounter people on both sides of the spectrum in terms of how they approach this time of year. Let's be sure to show kindness and love to all those with whom we come in contact.

As we come to the close of the year, it is a good time to pause and remember the blessings God has given us. I know our family has many things for which to be thankful. At the top of the list is our family here at Champions. God has blessed us so much by allowing us to be a part of the family here. You have welcomed us with open arms and made us feel as if we have been here for years. We are thankful for each one of you and look forward to 2019.

Speaking of 2019, it is indeed right around the corner. It is good to start thinking about what we are hoping to accomplish next year. The key to our planning is making sure that God is at the center of our planning. That is part of what James was referring to in James 4:13-17. There is nothing wrong with planning as long as we do it through the lens of putting God first and asking for His guidance.

With that thought in mind, I want to introduce our Church theme for 2019. We will focus on the theme of "Loving God, Loving People." It is easy sometimes to get distracted from our main purpose. We can even get distracted by good things. Our goal with this theme is to keep us focused as a Church family on what's really important. After all, Jesus Himself told the lawyer that tried to test him that when you boil everything down to what is really important, it all comes back to loving God and loving people (Mt. 22:34-40).

We will talk more about our theme this morning as we worship God together. I hope you will begin praying about this theme and how we can make sure that as a Church this is indeed our focus

~Lance Leavens

IN THIS ISSUE

Close of One Year...	1
Family Matters	1
Order of Worship	2
John's Jogs	2
Events and News	3
Calendar of Events	3
Prayers & Notes	4

Family Matters

"The Lord is in His holy temple; the Lord's throne is in heaven; His eyes behold, His eyelids test the sons of men" Ps. 11:4. God is indeed in His holy temple. He is sovereign Lord. We have come today to worship Him and give Him the glory and honor He deserves. If you are visiting with us this morning, we are glad that you are here to worship with us today. We want you to feel welcomed and to know that we are thankful you are here. Please come back and worship with us anytime you can.

We have some more exciting news as we want to welcome Megan Phillips to our Champi-

ons family (Megan is the daughter of Blake and Suzanne).

I want to mention how much I enjoyed the *Progressive Dinner*. This was my first one and it was a lot of fun. There were so many that gave of their time and talents to make the event a success. Thank you to everyone who contributed. If you have never been, I will say that we have some incredibly talented people, and the talent show alone is worth your attendance.

This is a busy time of year for many of our young people as well. Many of them have different school events that they participate in and have special holi-

day events. If you are able, it would be great to show them our support as they use the talents God has blessed them with in various ways. If you are interested in learning more about the different events, you can talk with Reid. He can help get you more information.

Since this is our last *Family Matters* for the year, I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Parting Thought: "Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant." – Robert Louis Stevenson

ORDER OF WORSHIP—SUNDAY, December 16, 2018—AM SERVICE

WORSHIP ORDER

Song: #997 O Come, All Ye Faithful

Welcome/Scripture/Prayer Psalm 116:1-2 NASB

Song: #63 I Will Call Upon the Lord

Song: #732 The Family of God

Song: #448 The Greatest Commands

Prayer

Song: #147 I Stand Amazed

Communion/Offering

Medley:

Song: #290 Shine, Jesus, Shine

Song: #446 Hear, O Israel

(Dismiss Children to Bible Hour)

Scripture Reading: Matthew 22:35-40 NASB

Sermon: Lance Leavens

Song: #453 Love Lifted Me

Announcements/Prayer

John's Jogs: 'Twas THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

'Twas the night before Jesus came and all
through the house
Not a creature was praying, not one in the
house.
Their Bibles were lain on the shelf without
care
In hopes that Jesus would not come there.

The children were dressing to crawl into
bed,
Not once ever kneeling or bowing of head.
And Mom in her rocker with the baby in
her lap
Was watching the Late Show while I took
a nap.

When out of the east there arose such a
clatter,
I sprang to my feet to see what was the
matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters and threw up the
sash!

Then what to my wondering eyes should
appear
But the angels proclaiming that Jesus is
here.
With a light like the sun sending forth a
bright ray
I knew in a moment this must be THE
DAY!

The light of His face made me cover my
head
It was Jesus! Returning just like He said.
And though I possessed worldly wisdom
and wealth,
I cried when I saw Him in spite of myself.

In the book of life which He held in his
hand
Was written the name of every saved man.
He spoke not a word as He searched for
my name;
When He said "Its not here" my head
hung in shame.

The people whose names had been written
with love
He gathered to take to His Father above.
With those who were ready He rose with-
out a sound
While all the rest were left standing
around.

I fell to my knees, but it was too late;
I had waited too long and thus sealed my
fate.
I stood and I cried as they rose out of
sight;
Oh, if only we had been ready tonight.
Author Unknown

In the words of this poem the meaning is
clear;
The coming of Jesus is drawing near.
There's only one life and when comes the
last call
We'll find that the Bible was TRUE AF-
TER ALL!
Author Unknown

THE CHAMPIONS SPIRIT

EVENTS AND NEWS



*Wishing you a Merry
Christmas
And
Happy New Year!*

*From the staff at
Champions*

*Welcome
to Champions*

Megan Phillips

14811 Cypress Ridge Grove Ln.
Cypress, TX 77349
Cell: 281-813-2872
megan.phillips1986@gmail.com
DOB: 5-19

Men's Night Out December 20th @ 6:30 P.M. Blue Water Seafood

6107 FM 1960 W., Houston, TX
77069
(281) 895-9222

Friday Morning Fellowship

Christmas Edition

December 21st 9:00 a.m.

Family Center

Breakfast items will be served

Contacts

Don Sammons or Wes Arnold



Dear Christians,
My heartfelt thank you for
your prayers and cards. You
are a wonderful group of
Christians.

In Him,
Melba McKee

**This will be the last
Champions Spirit Bulletin
of 2018!**



Sympathy

We extend our love and sympathy to **Keith and Kimberly Bickham** in the loss of Keith's father, **Gordon Bickham**, whose services will be as follows: Visitation will be held on Thursday, December 20th at Sawyer George Funeral Home in Calallen, Texas from 6-8 p.m. Funeral services will be held on Friday, December 21st at 10:00 a.m. at the Highway 44 church of Christ in Robstown.

Directory Additions

John and Jackie Harris
John: DOB 1-8-54
Cell 713-829-6328
Work 832-624-5210
email John.r.harris@exxonmobil.com
Jackie DOB 9-3
Cell 281-813-2872
Home number 281-894-0613
Wedding Anniversary 12-29
Joint email Jnhhrs@hotmail.com



We want to thank you for all your sweet cards and just heartfelt words of encouragement and sympathy to David in the recent death of his father. It has meant so much to us and is proof that Champions is a beautiful and loving example of what it means to belong to a church family!

Love in Christ,
David and Andrea Oakley



Many thanks for the prayers offered in my behalf. I am home now and improving daily. What a blessing to have a loving Christian family so far away.
Mildred Kirk
Niece of John Qualls

Church Calendar

16: Family Circle 4 Meal
20: Men's Night Out
21: Friday Morning Fellowship
23: No Family Circle Meal
24: Office Closed
25: Office Closed
26: No Wednesday Night Meal
30: No Family Circle Meal
31: Office Closes at Noon

JANUARY 2019

1: Office Closed
2: No Wednesday Night Meal
5: Friend Speak Training
9: Ladies Bible Class Resumes

Sunday Morning Bible Hour Ages 2 to Kindergarten

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

December

16: Stafford
23: Sammons
30: Pending

**Today!
Family Circle 4 Meal
Family Center**
Leaders: Bill & Sherry Johnson
All visitors are invited!

Ladies Craft Day Saturday, January 26th 8:00 A.M.—8:00 P.M.

Additional details to follow.

Contacts: Linda Rickman or Donna Gustafson

Children's Worship Bulletins

Will be available at the Welcome Center on Sunday for ages 3-6 and 7-12 year-olds.

No Family Circle Meals December 23rd December 30th

No Wednesday Night Meals December 26th January 2nd

Wednesday Night Meal December 19th

Menu: Chicken and Sausage Gumbo, White and Dirty Rice, Cornbread, Green Salad Bar and Banana Pudding

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.

church of Christ

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:

Glenna Sanders and family in the loss of her brother, **Clyde Barber** on Thursday. His services are pending at this writing. **Keith and Kimberly Bickham and family** in the loss of Keith's dad, **Gordon Bickham**.

Hanna Haavikko is scheduled for surgery on Monday, December 17 at 9:00 a.m. at Willowbrook Methodist Hospital.

Cindy Kell is recovering from shoulder surgery.

Cary Gerhart continues to struggle with pneumonia.

Rebecca Jaquez MRI did not show a cause of her hearing loss.

Dennis Long is recovering from ear surgery.

Pam Shaw is waiting on biopsy results from her lung and spine.

Charles & Lois Boyd both continue to have health struggles and are moving into an assisted living in The Woodlands.

Gwen Crosby is struggling with severe eczema. She received great news, NO Cancer!

Family and Friends Prayer Requests:

Elizabeth Cuccerre, Phillip's mom, is struggling with health issues. Please pray for her comfort and peace.

Hank Sheppard is waiting on tests results.

Dorothy Allee, Al's mother, is in Tomball Hospital struggling with leukemia and pneumonia.

Donna Holloway, wife of Joe Holloway, the minister at the Ellabell church of Christ in Georgia, who helps coordinate funds for Roland Moshen, is in ICU in

serious condition. Both their parents are also in poor health.

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

Michael Nelson, Marvin and Sue Trice's nephew, is recovering from heart bypass surgery.

Cindy Lindsay, friend of the Fariss & Bills families, has been diagnosed with cancer.

Matthew George, Chris and Allison's son, court date was moved to March. Doctors changed his medication and it seems to be helping his depression and anxiety.

Bobbie Damron, June Freeman's sister-in-law, is struggling with health issues.

Flor, FriendSpeak student, is having health problems in Mexico.

Samuel, Hanna Haavikko's cousin, has been diagnosed with MS. Please pray for their family.

Families Who Have Lost Loved Ones:

Bickham, Bills, Oakley, Richter

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, Nora Zarate

Family and Friends with Health and Other Concerns:

Hanna Burt, Robert Malonson, Clifagean Palmer, Hilkka and husband, Don Long

Family and Friends Cancer Concerns:

James Kersh, Rocky Harrell, Glenda Maco Fariss, Donna Petty, Mike Rice, Terri Barker, Patricia Lopez

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, 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 16: Karen Casey & Alaina Robinson

December 23: Kelly Thompson & Ashley Trent

December 30: Kimberly Bickham & Christy Smith

January 6: Laura Mize & Darlene Ewell

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

FOR THE RECORD 12/9/2018

Sunday Morning.....423
Sunday Bible Class 185
Sunday Night 161
Wednesday Night 175
Contribution..... 20,971.35
Weekly Budget.....19,307.69
YTD Contributions.974,461.45
YTD Budget.....946,076.81
Over/(Under) 28,384.64

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

January

Don Sammons

Food Coordinator

Check with your Family
Circle Leaders

Little Champs: Mothers Day Out

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