

## THE CHAMPIONS SPIRIT

### Spiritual Growth

I believe most of us understand the importance of growth and development. We can understand its importance in various aspects of life. There is a need for physical growth when a baby is born. Most of us experience growth and development through education and in our jobs. I believe most of us would acknowledge and understand the importance of spiritual growth. The Hebrews writer challenged his audience to "go on to maturity" (Heb. 6:1). In the context, he is reinforcing the need for spiritual growth.

Understanding a need and knowing how to achieve it are two different tasks. In many aspects of our lives, growth and development are planned for us. For instance, education is typically planned by grades, primary, and secondary education, etc. Many of our jobs have continuing education plans to help aid in growth. An important question for us spiritually though is how do we achieve spiritual growth?

As we consider that question, let's go back to the first group of Christians on the Day of Pentecost and see what they did in order to promote spiritual growth. They were "devoted" to four primary things (Acts 2:42):

Bible study ("apostles teaching")

Participating together in worship ("fellowship")

Partaking of the Lord's Supper ("breaking of bread")

Prayer

In addition to these things, they were together, focused on a spirit of unity, spent time in each other's home sharing meals together, and praised God together (Acts 2:42,46-47). These things provided the foundation for spiritual growth for this group of Christians. What's interesting to note is that as they did these things, the community around them took notice (Acts 2:47).

There are certainly other areas we could mention that aid in spiritual growth. I believe the items noted above can provide a solid foundation to help establish and promote growth. If we will be dedicated to meeting together for worship and Bible study, opening our homes and being together, and focus on praising God, we will grow spiritually. Let's encourage each other as we work to grow together.

—Lance Leavens

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### Family Matters

*"The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear him, and he makes known to them his covenant. My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net."* (Psa. 25:14-15). Through the blood of Jesus, you and I have the ability to be friends again with God. What an incredible blessing! We approach Him this morning with reverence and Godly fear. Let's worship our great God together!

The angels in heaven were rejoicing this past Sunday after-

noon as Cassandra Sonier was baptized into Christ. We rejoice with the angels, with her, and her family. Let's make sure to welcome Cassandra to our church family and encourage her.

We are close to the start of another school year. This Sunday will be the last Sunday for our kids going to college. Let's be praying for all of our young people during this important time of year.

Did you know we stream the audio portion of our services live and archive all of our services? There is now a link on our webpage ([www.championschurch.org](http://www.championschurch.org)) to access this feature. From the home page, click on the "media" tab and you will then see the image of a "TV". Click the "TV" image and it will take you directly to the live stream and archives. Thanks to Justin Sammons for setting up the link on the webpage.

~Lance

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**ORDER OF WORSHIP—SUNDAY, August 4, 2019—AM SERVICE**


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**WORSHIP ORDER**

Song – \*Here I Am to Worship\*

**Welcome/Scripture/Prayer:** Psalms 116:1-2 ESV

**Song - #537 – Here We Are But Straying Pilgrims**

**Song - #538 – My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less**

**Song - #539 – Higher Ground**

**Song - #319 – Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone?**

**Prayer**

**Song – \*Amazing Love\***

**Communion/Offering**

*(Dismiss Children to Bible Hour)*

**Song - #332 – Lead Me to Calvary**

**Scripture Reading:** - Luke 14:25-27 ESV

**Sermon:** Lance Leavens

**Song - #932 – O Heart Bowed Down with Sorrow**

**Announcements/Prayer**

\* Not in the Book\*

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**John's Jogs: Bible Basics #5**


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God continued His promises to Abraham and Isaac through Jacob. He then changed Jacob's name to **Israel**. **Israel** had twelve sons thus the "**Twelve Tribes of Israel**" into which the promised land was divided. However, only four of those sons play a significant role in the history of the promises God made to Abraham. Remember the promises were twofold: 1) He would make of him a great nation (Israel) and 2) Through him all the world would be blessed (Christ).

Two of these four did nothing outstanding themselves, but their descendants played an important role in the nation of Israel. Moses and Aaron were descendants of Levi. And their descendants were the spiritual leaders of the nation (priests). King Saul was a descendant of Benjamin. However, their stories come later and are not part of the Genesis story.

Therefore, there are only two sons of Israel

who have an important role in Genesis. They cover two important tracks in the history of Abraham's promises from God. It is through Judah that the Christ is to come through whom the world would be blessed. Not only was it through Judah's lineage that the Christ was to come, but it was also the Tribe of Judah that kept the nation intact to trace that lineage. It is Joseph who sets the stage for four hundred years later the promise of the nation to emerge.

Remember Jacob's parents showed preference between him and his brothers. Now Joseph is his favorite of the twelve making him a coat of many colors. In addition, Joseph tells them of his dream that they will all bow down to him. Being jealous, his brothers sold him to a train of Midianites who took him to Egypt and sold him to Potiphar, the captain of the guard. He placed him in charge of his whole household. However, Potiphar's wife tried to

seduce him and accused him of rape when he rejected her. Thus, Potiphar put him in prison.

Soon Joseph oversaw prisoners. A baker and a cupbearer each had a dream that Joseph asked the Lord to interpret. Both dreams come true. When the cupbearer was restored to Pharaoh, Pharaoh had a dream and the cupbearer told him about Joseph. God through Joseph interpreted Pharaoh's dream of seven years of plenty then seven years of famine. Pharaoh placed Joseph in charge of all Egypt second only to himself to plan for the famine.

During the famine Joseph's brothers had to come to Egypt to buy grain, setting the stage to fulfill Joseph's dream when they bowed down to him. They then moved all Israel's family into Egypt settling in the land of Goshen. Four hundred years later there is a Pharaoh who does not know Joseph and has enslaved the Israelites.

Next: The Exodus

# THE CHAMPIONS SPIRIT

## EVENTS AND NEWS

### **FAMILY WEEKEND SATURDAY, AUGUST 24-25 BACK TO SCHOOL BASH SUNDAY**

Prayers for Children & Teachers  
ALL Church Potluck  
Fellowship Sunday Schedule  
No 6 P.M. Service



#### **Cassandra Sonier**

We rejoice with the angels in heaven in the baptism of Cassandra last Sunday afternoon by Reid Stafford.



#### **Sympathy**

We extend our love and sympathy to *Nita Reed, Alan and Lisa Reed, and Renee Lewis* in the loss of Nita's daughter, and Renee's mother, Sherryl Ann Reed., who passed away in Houston on August 2, 2019. A family memorial will be held later.

#### **Family Circle 7 Meal**

Meets Today!

Leaders: Penn & Patricia Pennington  
All Visitors Welcome!

#### **Fall Softball Signup**

The fall softball league is back for year 11. This is co-ed, adult (14 and up) slow pitch softball played on a big league sized baseball field at Northland Christian High School. We will play every Monday night starting Sept. 9 - Nov 11 against other churches of Christ. It is a friendly, yet competitive league for the inner ballplayer in you. If interested in playing, please sign up for the team on the link here <https://forms.gle/BbZLTviSiRup6Snw7> or you may sign up in the *Welcome Center Area*. **Please sign up by August 14<sup>th</sup>!** Once the roster is complete, we will discuss next steps. For any questions, see Justin Sammons or Eltonio Brown.

#### **Sunny Glen Children's Home**

Truck will be here September 10<sup>th</sup>

Needs are:

Liquid Dish Soap & Deodorant



#### **Mahle/Marshall Wedding Shower**

Come and Go Wedding Shower honoring Amanda Mahle and Derek Marshall will be held at Kelly Thompson's house, 14202 Mindy Park Lane, Houston, TX 77069, on Saturday, August 17 from 2 - 4 p.m. Since they will be moving to California, we will shower them with Amazon gift cards or money.

#### **Devin & Dayani Holum Wedding Reception**

August 18th from 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Family Center  
All are invited!

Please no gifts, cards are welcome.

#### **Ladies Bible Class**

Our Wednesday morning Ladies Bible Class will begin August 28th at 9:45 a.m. with a potluck brunch and prayer time. Books will be available in class. We will be discussing *Life With a Capital L* by Matt Heard. FREE Babysitting!

Champions Church of Christ,  
Thank you for an amazing Summer! You guys have been so welcoming to me, and I am so grateful. This is the first time I have been an "Outsider" at a new church and am leaving this summer encouraged to live out "Loving God and Loving People." Thank you for taking me in and loving me so well. I am looking forward to visiting everyone again in the near future. I have really enjoyed going to Tuesday night Bible Study! I'm going to miss the amazing Wednesday night meals and fellowship!

Thanks again for all of your love and support. I truly felt at home here at Champions. Please stay in touch! God bless!

Love,  
Avery Arndt  
aggieavery@tamu.edu  
(512)796-1559 Gig'Em!

#### **Church Calendar August**

11: Family Circle #7 Meal  
17: Mahle Bridal Shower  
17: Parents' Night Out  
18: Family Circle #1  
18: Holum Wedding Reception  
24: Back to School Bash  
25: Children's Sunday  
25: ALL CHURCH POTLUCK MEAL  
28: Ladies Bible Class Resumes/Brunch

#### **September**

1: NO Family Circle Meal Today  
7: Ladies Craft Day  
8: Family Circle #2 Meal

#### **Youth Events**

August 11: Intern Farewell Celebration

#### **Children's Ministry Updates**

August 14: Summer Chill-Outs  
August 17: Parents' Night Out

#### **Bible Hour Schedule**

Aug 11: Killough  
Aug 18: Ashley Trent  
Aug 25: Stafford

#### **FriendSpeak Sign-up**

If you are interested in participating in FriendSpeak, we have a sign-up list in the Welcome Center area. We will have a training session in the fall.

#### **Family Circle 1 Meal**

Sunday, August 18

Leaders: Monte & Debbie Campbell

Menu: Mexican Food

Please sign the list in the Welcome Center



To our Champions church family,  
Thank you for your prayers, cards, visits, food and lovely plant at the passing of Howard.

We are uplifted by your kindness and support and we appreciate the comfort you have provided.

With grateful hearts -  
The Mahle family

#### **Wednesday Night Meal August 14th**

Menu: Chicken Nuggets, Corn Dogs, Tater Tots, Mac & Cheese, Fruit, 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 today.

**(Cooks needed for August 28th.)**

**If you sign-up to eat and do not eat, please pay, unless you contact the cooks by Monday Noon.**

# church of Chris

## IN CHAMPIONS

*"A Place to Belong"*

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

[www.championschurch.org](http://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
- 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:

**Nita Reed**, Renee Lewis and family in the loss of Nita's daughter and Renee's mom. Renee's new address is 2300 Broadmoor Dr., Apt. 47, Bryan, TX 77802. **Dennis Crosby** will have hernia surgery on August 14th at Houston Methodist in The Woodlands. Surgery is schedule for 7:00 a.m. **David Arnold** will have chemo this Wednesday. Please continue to pray for his strength and healing.

**John Burns** continues to struggle with low blood counts.

**David Bounds** is home regaining his strength.

**Claudia Greenhaw**, Josie Biron's daughter, responded on Sunday morning requesting prayers.

**Nick Lazerko** requested prayers for strength.

### Family and Friends Prayer Requests:

**Fran Jorgensen** is in Willowbrook Methodist Hospital, room 3423 with fluid around her lungs. **Daniel Wiseman**, frequent visitor, is experiencing eye problems. Please pray that he will quickly respond to treatment.

**Jean Taylor**, June Freeman's sister and Doug's aunt, has started chemo treatments. Please pray for a quick response to these treatments which will be over the next four months.

**Joy Balderas**, regular visitor at Champions, request prayers for safe travel to Mexico during the next three weeks.

**John McKissic**, dear friend of John Qualls from Michigan, as he transitions from this life.

**Ligia**, friend of Hannah Haavikko, has swollen lymph nodes and is being tested for cancer. Your prayers are requested that no cancer be found.

**Baby Eli Gaston**, Jess and Peggy Long's great-grandson, is home and doing great! Prayers of Thanksgiving!

**Doris Dickenson**, John's sister-in-law, is recovering from brain aneurysm surgery.

**Glen Dixon**, Dennis and Gwen Crosby's grandson, has requested prayers for redirection in his life. He would love cards of encouragement sent to Robert Dixon, 17722/F-1, Houston Co. Jail, 700 So. 4th Street, Crockett, TX 75835.

**Frank Downes**, Jeanie Kuehl's uncle, is in the hospital in Waco with a fractured neck following a fall.

### Families Who have Lost Loved Ones:

**Reed, Mahle**  
**Champions Members with Cancer:** David Arnold, Linda Lopez, Sue Trice, Wes Smith, LaNell Allee, Gwen Crosby, Don Dearen, Pam Shaw, John Burns, Donna Nance, Caella Chappell, Gilbert Moreno, Keith Underwood

### 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, Hope for Haiti, Southern African Bible College

**Employment Concerns:** Rody Willis, Earnest Harris, Jeff Long

**Hospice:** Hank Barnett, Porta Lee Bagley

**Champions Members with Health & Other Concerns:** Jerry McKinney, Arlene Hale, Pamela Woodley, David Bounds, Rebecca Jaquez, John Hixon, Stacey Farmer, Julia Shaw, Angela Joachim, Linda Underwood

**Family and Friends with Health and Other Concerns:** Angelina Rodriguez, John Gerber, John Gerber, Jr., Angela Kemp, Milton Martin, Joe Jones, Carolyn Slatton, Paul Isom, Grady Gettings, Nick Osiek, Modestina Moreno, Hazel Hicks, Hilka and husband, Don Long, David Long, Frances Leavens, Leslie Woodley, Karen Cullins

**Family and Friends Cancer Concerns:** Brian Richardson, Craig Rabb, Peb Ratliff, Jill King, Elizabeth Cuccerre, Donna Petty, Mike Rice, Patricia Lopez, Thelma Edwards, Tony, Janie

### 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, Andrew Martinez, Erick Martinez

### Nursery Attendants

**August 11:** Susan Frazier & Susan Peters

**August 18:** Susan Sammons & Jena Asher

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 8/4/2019

Sunday Morning..... 419  
Sunday Bible Class ..... 256  
Sunday Night..... 171  
Wednesday Night ..... 194  
Contribution ..... 22,458.11  
Weekly Budget..... 20,247.31  
YTD Contribution..680,870.77  
YTD Budget..... 627,666.61  
Over/(Under) ..... 53,204.16

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

### Elder of the Month August

Don Sammons

### Food Coordinator

Check with your Family  
Circle Leaders

### Church Wi-Fi Password

Churchguest

### Church Streaming Available @

[Championschurch.org](http://Championschurch.org) - Media

### Little Champs: Mothers Day Out

Contact: Lisa Killough  
[littlechampsmdo@gmail.com](mailto:littlechampsmdo@gmail.com)  
281-893-2062  
Lisa Killough—Director