

**THE CHAMPIONS SPIRIT**

*“A Place to Belong”*

*If it is a worthwhile goal and challenge, it won't be accomplished overnight. It won't be met if just the leadership buys into it. It won't materialize by just opening our refurbished building and saying, “Ya'll come.” Reaching those goals will be a process.*

**“How To Get There From Here?”**

Here's a line (although parenthetical) from *Far More Than a Game*, an article written in this space in June of 2014, “...you might want to read what *Sports Illustrated* says about who may well win the *World Series in 2017*.” As you can guess, the team referred to in the article was the Houston Astros.

While the Astros are one of the elite teams of 2017, whether or not they achieve that specific goal of being the top team in baseball at the end of the season remains to be seen. Actually, (as I hope you would know by now) the final standing of the Astros is *not* the point of this article. What I do want us to consider is how a team that was one of the very worst teams in baseball (they lost 111 games in 2013 while winning only 51) can make such a great turn-around. How did they get to this level from where they were in 2013? There are so many ingredients—from the workings of their draft, to their “farm system” to their managerial changes and styles. Yet in short, we can say they had a goal and then attended to the details to accomplish that goal. It did not happen overnight; it was a process.

Whether it is the goal for Bible classes (285), Morning worship (425), or whatever, the question arises, how to get there from here? If it is a worthwhile goal and challenge, it won't be accomplished overnight. It won't be met if only the leadership buys into the goal. It won't materialize by just opening our refurbished building and saying, “Ya'll come.” Reaching our goals will be a process.

We will all have to decide to take it upon ourselves to invite others to visit. We will have to take advantage of those opportunities within conversations to share a word about Christ. We will use the events that we have—such as Ladies Bible Class, Men's Night Out, Teen activities, and the Fall Festival—as tools to help us encourage our friends to “come and see” what Champions is all about.

There is one more factor in the work of the church that must be considered, for it is the greatest of all. While we might work in one area or serve in another, true growth will come as it is blessed by God. Remember, it is “God who gives the increase.” (1 Cor. 3:7)

You see...it's the work...it's the process—faithfully adhered to—and with the Lord's blessing and aid—that will enable us to answer the question **“How To Get There From Here?”**

—Larry Keele

**Family Matters**

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- 1 We are so thankful for each one of our guests today! We hope that as a result of our time together today, we will all have a closer walk with our God. Please complete your portion of the visitor's information on the blue pad when it is passed down the aisle at the end of services. Thank you!
- 2 We rejoice with *Gilbert Alexander* in his decision to be baptized into Christ a week ago yesterday. We were also blessed with the addition of *Cedrick Pennywell* as he expressed his desire to place membership with us last Sunday.
- 3 We were privileged to pray in his behalf and with *Josie Biron* in her special family request. Last week, a sister in Christ shared a link for a petition which will be sent by the American Family Association to the United States Supreme Court judges letting them know of the desire that Roe vs Wade with its legalization of abortion be overturned. I am including this not as an endorsement of the other projects that can be found on that site, but to share the opportunity for you to have a proactive, positive voice expressing the desire to overturn the killing of babies in our nation through legalized abortion. The link is: <https://www.afa.net/activism/action-alerts/2017/08/the-moral-outcry>.

**Bible Questions?** If you have a biblical question you would like to have discussed, write it down and put it in the box marked “Questions” found on the back counter *or* you can email your question to me at: [larry@championschurch.org](mailto:larry@championschurch.org). If there is enough response, I will be dedicating the 3rd Sunday nights of the month to “Questions and Answers.”

**Parting Thought:** *Guilt is concerned with the past. Worry is concerned about the future. Contentment enjoys the present!*

**HAVE A BLESSED WEEK!**  
*Larry*

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**LOCATIONS FOR SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE CLASSES**


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**FAMILY CENTER:****Danny Mize & Don Sammons:**

**Jesus teaches Parables - Room 117  
(FC west wing)**

**Wes Smith & Justin Sammons:**

**First Century Family: Room 118 (FC  
east wing)**

**Glenn Asher & Mike McCall:**

**Exodus, the great deliverance -  
FC auditorium**

**CUTTEN PARKWAY HOUSE****College Class:****Teacher: Chris Ball:****Location: Cutten Parkway House****PROFESSIONAL CLASS:****Teacher: Bryan Runions:****Location: Cutten Parkway House**


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**John's Jogs: Barnabas The Overshadowed Super Star**


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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 when 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 teammates, 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 Dis-

ease) 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 revealed his greatness.

That's next week.

**In Search Of The Lord's  
Way  
October 2017 Programs**

OCTOBER 1:  
What HAPPENS AT DEATH  
OCTOBER 8:  
THE SECOND COMING  
OCTOBER 15:  
THE RESURRECTION  
OCTOBER 22:  
THE JUDGMENT  
OCTOBER 29:  
HEAVEN

Houston TV: KUBE 57,  
Sunday at 7:00 a.m.

# THE CHAMPIONS SPIRIT

## EVENTS AND NEWS

### Friday Morning Fellowship (FMF)

**Friday, September 29th**

**@ 9 a.m. in Family Center**

Everyone is invited (all ages) to attend and please take the opportunity to bring friends, neighbors and anyone that would enjoy a time of Bible Study and fellowship. Don Sammons will lead the FMF! Snacks and coffee.



#### Gilbert Alexander Moreno

We rejoiced with the angels in heaven in the baptism of Gilbert on Saturday morning, September 16, 2017. We met Gilbert through our Hurricane Relief efforts.

Cell: 832-739-7116

Date of Birth 2-4

Email: GilbertojoseAlexanderMoreno@aol.com



#### Cedrick Pennywell

12618 Vinvale St.

Houston, TX 77066

346-212-1652

DOB: Cedrick 11-21

Cathy 9-22

Tristien 9-30-2007

Anniversary June 28th

#### Church Calendar

**September**

29: Friday Morning Fellowship

**October**

15: Mission Sunday

15: Baby Shower Sarah Kinsey

28: Fall Festival & Trunk N Treat

#### Sunday Morning Bible Hour

**Ages 2 to Kindergarten**

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

September 24: Tiffiany Thomas

October 1: Brent & Lisa Killough

October 8: Reid & Natalie Stafford

October 15: Wes & Christy Smith

Dear Champions Church Family,

We want to express our sincere thank you for the outpouring of prayers, support, encouragement, and help with our flooded home.

The supplies and furniture for our move to temporary housing were appreciated so much. The wonderful workers who helped us pack and store our belongings were a true blessing. God has truly blessed us with a great church family.

We love you all,

Ron and Carole Blankenship



To the community of the Church of Christ, Thank you so much for the delivery of "post-flood" goods to our family. We are so blessed to be surrounded by giving people. The goods really made a difference with our clean-up. Thank you, again. God is great! We continue to be blessed.

Sincerely,  
The Key Family



Dear Champions Family Thank you for the many cards and kind expressions of sympathy on the loss of my sister, Kathryn—The third of my parents nine children, and oldest daughter—Kathryn was a second mother to us all as well as to her own children. An RN and hospital nursing administrator, she spent a lifetime caring for the sick—She will be greatly missed by many.

Myrtle Malone



Thank you for lending a helping hand to the people who are in need. You really are setting a true Christian example.

Hillcrest Church of Christ Youth Group  
1712 O'Neal St.  
Gainesville, TX 76240

### Champions Baseball League

The church of Christ softball season has started! All are invited to come and watch. All games will be played at the Northland Christian School baseball field located at 14279 Sylvanfield, Houston, TX 77014. Come and enjoy this time of fellowship and cheer on team Champions! For additional questions, please contact Justin Sammons or Eltonio Brown.

Date	7:00	8:00
9/25/17	Spring Creek vs Champions	Spring Creek vs Bammel
10/2/17	Bammel vs Champions	Bammel vs Spring Creek
10/9/17	Champions vs Spring Creek	Champions vs Bammel
10/16/17	Spring Creek vs Champions	Spring Creek vs Bammel
10/23/17	Bammel vs Champions	Bammel vs Spring Creek

#### Wednesday Night Meal

**September 27th**

Menu: Beef Stroganoff, Salad and Dessert

Cost: Adults \$5.00, Children: \$3.00 (Ages 3-6th Grade), Children 2 and under Free.

Meal served from 5:45 - 6:30 p.m.



**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
- Glenn Asher
- Jim Chitwood
- Bill Johnson
- Britt Jones
- Danny Mize
- Don Sammons
- Marvin Trice

**Deacons:**

- Phelan (Al) Allee
- 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
- Kent Phillips
- Bryan Runions
- Justin Sammons
- Hank Sheppard
- Joel Smith
- Wes Smith
- Paul Tews
- Troy Thompson
- James Wyatt

**Ministers:**

- Larry Keele (Pulpit)
- John Qualls (Associate)
- Reid Stafford (Youth)

**PRAYERS & NOTES**

**Prayer Requests:**

**Jackie McKain** and her family in the loss of her aunt, Olga Guardiola, last Saturday night. She lived in Michigan.

**Ron Blankenship** will undergo hernia surgery next Monday.

**Linda Bowles** is recovering from a recent spinal injection. **Sue Trice** as she waits for an appointment at MD Anderson Hospital.

**Pam Shaw** has two separate types of cancer. Sarcoma in her leg and Lung Cancer. She had an MRI of her leg on Friday.

**Julia Shaw's** test results were normal. She will follow up with the cardiologist.

**Charles Boyd** is struggling with severe back pain.

**Lynn Antwine** is recovering from fractures in his back.

**Hurricane Harvey** recovery efforts.

**Glenda Robinson**, grandmother of Andrew Bolin's girlfriend, has a slow growing type of blood cancer.

**Baby Gus**, Byron and Annette Willis' grandson, AML Leukemia may have returned. Additional tests are being run.

**Dorothy Kuehl**, David's Mom, remains in HealthSouth

Cypress, room 220, recovering from a fall.

**Families Who Have Lost**

**Loved Ones:** Myrtle Malone, Brent Killough, Emmett Gaines and Floyd Dunn families

**The Champions Family**

**Members with Cancer:** John Burns, Caella Chappell, Donna Nance and Karen Watson

**Champions Members Ongoing Concerns:**

Willie Birdow, Ronnie and Judy Throneberry, Julia Shaw, McKinley Phillips, Sally Enders, Sharon DeCarlo, Richard Garza, Fay Stephens, Keith and Linda Underwood, B.B. & Dorothy Snell, Pam Woodley, John Hixon, Marcia Chitwood, Carole Blankenship

**Expectant Parents:** Lance & Sarah Kinsey 12-2017

**Hospice Care:** Jan Kelley, Bernice Ponder, Barbara Brown

**Employment Concerns:**

Ernest Harris, Jr, David Kuehl, Ishmael Zarate

**Family and Friends with Cancer Concerns:** Jean Taylor, Bea Augustin, Rocky Harrell, Pat Morrison, Joyce Kidwell-Steersman, Randy McKain, Lynley Martin, Randy Clark

**Friends and Family Members with Ongoing Concerns:**

Tommy Dang, Erwina Moore, Adam & Malyn Murphy, Winona Bullard, Ruth Kyle, Larry & Judy Lee, Sally & Jim Griffin, Ryan Wendt, Ella and Abby Faniel, Bonnie Love, Keith and Pattie Martin

**Missionaries:**

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

**Assisted Living/Rehab/ Nursing Homes:**

Terri Bennett, Margurite Pennington, Nell McDonald, Marie McCall, Jean Simpson, Bernice Ponder, Mike Wright

**Prayers for Military:**

Landon White, Brent Tyler Bowles, Traveon Gaines, William E. Taylor IV, George Marcus Jones, Melanie Adams, Travis Long, Aaron Jean, Charles DuVerney, Ryan Bonham, Phillip Cuccerre, Jr., Darien DuVerney

**Nursery Attendants**

**September 24: Lisa Reed & Christy Smith**

**October 1: Jessica Holt & Karen Casey**

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  
9/17/2017**

Sunday Services.....	357
Sunday Bible Class.....	220
Sunday Night .....	166
Wednesday Night.....	175
Contribution.....	19,192.50
Weekly Budget .....	20,057.69
YTD Contributions.	799,552.86
YTD Budget .....	762,192.22
<b>Over/(Under).....</b>	<b>37,360.64</b>

**Service Times:**

SUNDAY:

8:15 a.m. First Worship Service  
9:30 a.m. Bible Class  
10:30 a.m. Second Worship Service

SUNDAY NIGHT:  
6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:  
Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

**Elder of the Month**

**September**

Danny Mize

**October**

Don Sammons

**Food Coordinator**

Check with your Family Circle Leaders

**Little Champs:  
Mothers Day Out**

Contact: Lisa Killough  
littlechamps@att.net  
281-893-2062