Volume 9, Issue 42 November 7, 2018

Mark 12:38-44

³⁸ As he taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, ³⁹ and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! ⁴⁰ They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

FROM THE

⁴¹ He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴² A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. ⁴³ Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. ⁴⁴ For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

Jesus spoke a great deal about giving our all to God. Not only financially, but spiritually and physically. The question has always been: How do I do that? From the wealthy young man who asked Jesus what he needed to do to Nicodemus. Remember this conversation:

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." ³ Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.'⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?"

Nicodemus was a highly intelligent individual. A Pharisee, a leader of the Jews yet he was lost as to HOW he was to give God his all. What does it mean to be "born from above"? Or, even "born of the Spirit"? Frankly, each of us, individually, has to figure it out on our own. That is why in trying to derive the meaning of Jesus' words, we call it a "Faith Journey."

Where are you on your faith journey? Have you figured it out?

Grace, Peace & Mercy to all, Wes

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THE SEEKERS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

meets every Sunday morning at 9:40 a.m. to discuss the Bible.

We have spirited discussions along with great class participation on lessons from *The Present Word* study book

You are invited to join with us each Sunday. We are located in the Education Building next to HeBrews. 1THESSALONIANS

The Journey Sunday School Class will Begin our study of 2 Thessalonians

on

Sunday, November 11th,

We hope you will join us.

Please read chapters 1 & 2

and be prepared to discuss it.

The Journey class meets in the Library in the

Community Center.

The Second Epistle to the Thessalonians, often referred to as Second Thessalonians or Two Thessalonians (and written 2 Thessalonians) is a book in the New Testament. It is traditionally attributed to Paul the Apostle, as it begins, "Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians" and ends, "I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand, which is the distinguishing mark in all my letters." Modern biblical scholarship is divided on whether Paul was the author or not; many scholars question its authenticity based on what they see as differences in style and theology between this and the First Epistle to the Thessalonians.

Scholars who support its authenticity view it as having been written around 51–52 AD, shortly after the First Epistle. Those who see it as a later composition, assign a date of around 80–115 AD.



The TNT Sunday School Class Is continuing its study of THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE PHILIPPIANS.

We study various books of the Bible and recently completed the book of Ruth.

If you enjoy a wide range study of scripture, we would love to have you join us. We meet every Sunday in the Community Room.



THE FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Meets every Sunday morning at 9:40 a.m. to study the Bible chapter by chapter.

Presently, we are studying the Book of Genesis. You are invited to join us as we proceed thru the Bible. We meet in the "Parlor" adjacent to HeBrews, in the Education Building.

We have stimulating discussions that really help us understand the Bible on a deeper level.

Remember, we meet in the "Parlor" adjacent to HeBrews at 9:40 a.m.



Veterans Day is Sunday, November 11th.

We will be honoring our men and women of the Armed Forces on this special day through music and recognition of their service.

Please come join in for this very special time.

CWF/DWF Blog

CWF will meet on Tuesday, November 13th at 10:30am in the Community Room. Our service project this month will be the Angel Tree. Connie will present the study for us. Our lunch that day will be our Thanksgiving luncheon. You don't want to miss that. Hope to see everyone there!



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH We will have a **Bake Sale** during our Thanksgiving Luncheon, after worship.



THANKSGIVING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH, IS THANKSGIVING SUNDAY. THEREFORE, WE WILL SHARE IN A THANKGIVING MEAL AFTER OUR WORSHIP SERVICE AND HAVE A BAKE SALE!

PLEASE PLAN NOW TO ATTEND.



IT HAS BEEN A PRIVILEGE FOR CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH TO SERVE THE PEOPLE AT RANDY SAM'S. HERE IS OUR SCHEDULE FOR

2018

November 25th Journey

December 23rd CMF

LET US CONTINUE THIS MINISTRY IN THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST



THERE WILL BE A GENERAL BOARD MEETING MONDAY NOVEMBER 26TH. AT 6 P.M. IN THF COMMUNITY ROOM.



ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2ND, WE ENTER THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT.

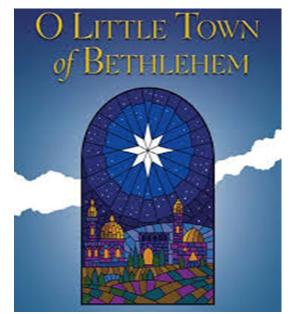


Advent is a season observed as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas as well as the return of Jesus at the second coming. The term is a version of the Latin word meaning "coming".



Throughout the biblical narrative we encounter a God who reminds His people to show hospitality to others, especially those who are the most vulnerable in society – the widow, the orphan and the alien (or stranger).

God reminds his people they too were once vulnerable – strangers in a distant land, enslaved and oppressed. And yet, through a generous act of hospitality itself, God saves them from these conditions and reminds his people to likewise be hospitable toward others who might be foreigners, vulnerable, enslaved or oppressed. This message is apt in today's world of rising nationalisms, self-interest and self-preservation, all of which fly in the face of God's reminder to be open to and welcome the stranger.



On a quiet, calm night in Bethlehem heaven's light broke through the darkness with the birth of Christ. Shepherds and wise men joined a host of angels to rejoice in this divine arrival on earth. 2,000 years later, we reflect on how this single event in a humble stable would change the rest of history.

Join us as we take a journey back in time to this incredible story with our Christmas Cantata. The arrangements by Russell Mauldin and narration by Sue C. Smith unfold the wonder of the events that took place in Bethlehem and move our hearts to songs of celebration of the greatest gift we know.

Come and lift up the name of Jesus as we fill the room with the vibrant songs of the season! CHRISTMAS CANTATA SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2018 AT 10:40 A.M. IN THE SANCTUARY.



Disciple's Crossing New Beginnings Capital Campaign

Disciple's Crossing in Athens, Texas is near and dear to many of our hearts. Several church members have served on the Board there, many of us have given countless hours directing camps, sponsoring groups, funding campers, and much more. It is a special place where many of us have encountered God in a new and different way.

At our last Board of Directors meeting, each of us were challenged with encouraging our members to help support our on-going campaign- New Beginnings Capital Campaign. Our goals are to build new facilities, repair current buildings, and renovate others so that more people can encounter this Holy place. This would further equip Disciples Crossing to empower individuals through spiritual formation, faith renewal, and Sabbath rest.

As of May, we had raised \$398,800. Our goal is to raise a total of \$1,500,000. The estimate includes building a gathering space that would allow groups larger than 150 people to meet, giving them a public venue for gatherings. It would also allow the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) denominational a gathering space for assemblies, church events, retreats, etc. We have also figured in a smaller venue that could serve as a spiritual retreat center. Parking lot repair, Technology upgrades, and a maintenance endowment have been figured in as well.

With the additions mentioned above, Disciples Crossing estimates that it will increase the total number of guest per year by 1,000. You can help us do this by donating through the website or sending a check to Disciples Crossing (with Capital Campaign in the memo line) to Disciples Crossing. We, along with the other Disciples of Christ congregations across the tri-area, have been asked as a congregation to raise at least \$2,500.00, and I KNOW we can do it! Here is the web address and camp address:

http://www.disciplescrossing.org/newbeginnings

Disciples Crossing, 3693 St Hwy 31 East, Athens, TX 75752

Thank you so much for your prayers and support.

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NEWSLETTER AND 411 REMINDER

Just a reminder that any articles you would like to submit for publication in the Newsletter or 411 must be submitted to the office no later than noon on Tuesdays.

> After that time, we cannot guarantee your article will be published.

Day & Time may vary during holidays

CHURCH BULLETIN

Any information you will like in the Church Bulletin must be submitted to the office no later than 10am on Fridays.

Day & Time may vary during holidays



DO YOU PREFER RECEIVING TEXT MESSAGE OR PHONE CALL REMINDERS FOR MEETINGS?

Central Christian will be sending out text messages and phone calls to remind members of upcoming meetings and inform every one of prayer needs.

If you would like to receive text messages, please text ccctxk to 292929, as shown above, to have your number put on our list.

If you do not receive text messages but would like to be added to our call list, please email or call the church office at (903) 792-1915 and let Tonya know.

Opcoming Events & services			
	November 7	5:30pm	Choir
	November 8	6:30pm	CWF Night Group
	November 11	all day	Veterans Day
	November 11	12pm	Budget Committee
	November 14	5:30pm	Choir
	November 18	12pm	Thanksgiving Luncheon
	November 18	12pm	Bake Sale
	November 22	all day	Thanksgiving / office closed
	November 23	all day	office closed
	November 25	4pm	Randy Sam's Prep
	November 25	5pm	Soup and Scripture
	November 25	6pm	Randy Sam's serving
	November 26	6pm	General Board Meeting

Upcoming Events & Services



THE NEW CCC WEB SITE

Our web site has been renovated! Be sure to visit <u>www.ccctxk.com</u> to see what's new! Our site is easy to navigate and there is lots of information.



LOOKING FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THE LORD?

<u> Matthew 25:40</u>

And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, **as you did it to one of the least of these** my brethren, you did it to me.'

COME JOIN US THE 4TH SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH AS WE "SERVE" THE HOMELESS AT THE RANDY SAM'S SHELTER. WE MEET IN DISCIPLE HALL AT 4 PM TO PREPARE THE MEAL, THEN SERVE AT RANDY SAM'S AT 6 PM.

AGAIN, COME JOIN US IN SERVING THE LORD AND OUR COMMUNITY.



UNABLE TO ATTEND SUNDAY SERVICE?

If you are unable to attend Sunday service and desire to have communion brought to you, please call the church office at (903) 792-1915 with your request.

This communion is normally served on the 2nd and 4th Sundays but CAN be served most anytime, if prior arrangements are made.



IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT PRAYER LIST

In recent discussions with the Southwest Region, it has come to our attention that "The Prayer List" may be cause for litigation if we place people on it that have not given their personal consent to be placed on it. It is a violation of HIPAA Law to release information about anyone without their personal consent. Therefore, we ask that you not call requesting that a "friend" be placed on the list unless you have their consent. THANK YOU.

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

Please designate on the form below the number of plants you wish to order this year. We also ask that you specify how you would like the Sunday Bulletin Insert to read when it is published. In addition, please take the time to let us know whether or not you will be picking up your Poinsettia following our Christmas Eve service, or if you would prefer to have it delivered to one of our shut-ins, a homebound member, or to one of the local hospitals or nursing homes. May God bless you every day, and especially this Christmas season!



The cost of each Plant is \$13.00 Please pay in advance with you order.

NUMBER OF PLANTS:

PAYMENT AMOUNT ENCLOSED:

(Please print) IN MEMORY OF:

IN HONOR OF:

NAME (S) OF DONOR (S) AS IT SHOULD APPEAR IN THE CHRISTMAS BULLETIN:

You may pick up your poinsettia Christmas Eve following the service.

ORDER DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH.

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Weekly Info

Prayer Need

Our Church Wes Byas Evelyn Tallent Jane Sefcik Amy Fisher Janet Bennett Steve Langford, friend of Tom Crow Susie Howdeshell James Thompson Jimmy Poindexter, Mary Chittenden's daughter-in-law's son Annabelle Hudspeth, Glen & Tami's granddaughter Herb Hamilton Wilma Milidge, Elaine Hamilton's cousin Mike Oates Shirley Werst, Tamara Campbell's mom

Ongoing Concerns

Dorothy Alves John Cunningham Jenny Norton, Martha Clinton's niece Craig Bivins, friend of Randy King Julie Bray, friend of Elaine Hamilton Matt Lowe, Robert and Alice Kern's son-in-law Melvin Moore, friend of Beth Brine Annetta, friend of Laura Byas Rita Cooksey Bobby Tallent Paul Wayson, Evelyn Tallent's brother Debbie Duren, Beth Brine's cousin Frank Vidrik, Alice Kern's nephew Vickie Oliver

Homebound

Bob Benbow, The Retreat, room 410 Jeffrey Turner, Abundant Life Susan DeFoy, MRC Cornerstone, Rm. 505 A Central Christian Church Decals \$5.00

Church office or Hebrews



Serving this Sunday November 11, 2018

Greeters: Claudine Brown & Midge

Cooney Worship Leader: Jean Nailling Hospital Elder: Frank Caudle Flower Elder: Teri Stover Homebound Elder: Alice Kern Homebound Deacon: Tom Crow Deacons: Tamara Campbell, George Carpenter, Jr., Jack Duncan, Jack Fisher

November 4, 2018

 Attendance:
 61

 Offering:
 \$ 6,257.69

 Weekly Needs:
 \$ 4,276.04

 Difference:
 \$ 1,981.65

 YTD Collected:
 \$174,330.06

 YTD Needed:
 \$183,869.72

 Difference:
 \$ -9,539.66

LECTIONARY FOR NOVEMBER 11, 2018 Veterans Day

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17 Psalm 127 Hebrews 9:24-28 Mark 12:38-44

Sermon This Sunday:

"Are You Smarter Than

A Donkey?"

Scripture:

Numbers 22:15-35