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Volume 9, Issue 48
December 19, 2018



Hebrews 10:5-10

⁵ Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;

⁶ in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

⁷ Then I said, ‘See, God, I have come to do your will, O God’
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).”

⁸ When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), ⁹ then he added, “See, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰ And it is by God’s will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Advent season is the perfect time for reflection. Reflection on our Christian faith, on our Christian mission, and on our own belief system, which we all have apart from faith and mission.

The Pharisees, Sadducees, Scribes, and others had their own belief system apart from the faith and mission. This passage from Hebrews gives us a glimpse of what “part” of their belief system was.

Pay particular attention to verse 8: When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law),...” One of Jesus’s frustrations, I believe, was how the Jewish leaders clung to the law and not to God’s word. They seemed to be so ingrained in the “law” of man, they had forgotten the law of God. You know: Love, Compassion, Forgiveness?

Also in this passage we read: “See, I have come to do YOUR will,” which is a wholly different thing than doing the will of the law. Jesus preached knowing God, loving God, doing God’s will. It’s what he wants for us and tells us it is what his Father in Heaven wants for us. In this Advent season do you reflect on doing God’s will or following the law of man? God sent His only son that we may know His will. That’s the expectation of the season: God, Son & Holy Spirit in a manger.

Grace, Peace & Mercy to all, Wes

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Christmas Bonuses

Dear Church Family,

It's the time of year again to think of our wonderful staff, Wes, Tonya, Beth, Brenda, Beverly and Kelley. If you would like to contribute to a Christmas bonus, please place a check to the church in a separate envelope with my name on it. I need the checks in by December 23rd.

Connie Spears

Advent

*A Season of Hope
& Expectation*

ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23RD,
WE ENTER THE FOURTH 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".



*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.

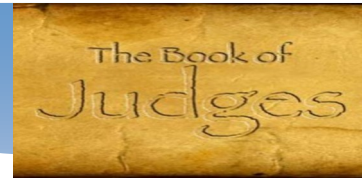
We are located in the Education Building next to HeBrews.



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 Journey Sunday School Class will continue our study of

The Book of Judges

on

Sunday, December 23rd,

We hope you will join us.

Please read chapters 10 & 11 and be prepared to discuss it.

The Journey class meets in the Library in the Community Center.

The Book of Judges is the seventh book of the Hebrew Bible and the Christian Old Testament. In the narrative of the Hebrew Bible, it covers the time between the conquest described in the Book of Joshua and the establishment of a kingdom in the Books of Samuel, during which Biblical judges served as temporary leaders. The stories follow a consistent pattern: the people are unfaithful to Yahweh and he therefore delivers them into the hands of their enemies; the people repent and entreat Yahweh for mercy, which he sends in the form of a leader or champion; the judge delivers the Israelites from oppression and they prosper, but soon they fall again into unfaithfulness and the cycle is repeated. Scholars consider many of the stories in Judges to be the oldest in the Deuteronomistic history, with their major redaction dated to the 8th century BCE and with materials such as the Song of Deborah dating from much earlier.



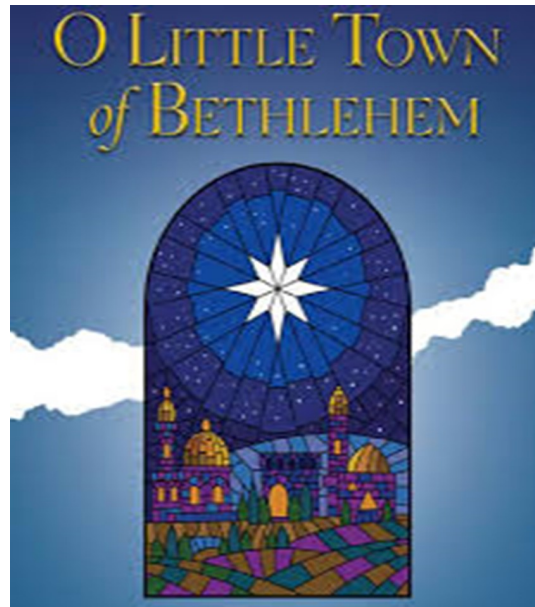
*THE FELLOWSHIP
SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS*

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.



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.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH,

JOIN US FOR OUR

CHRISTMAS EVE

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE.

SERVICE WILL BEGIN AT

6 P.M.

IN THE SANCTUARY.

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS

CELEBRATION

OF OUR LORD'S BIRTH.

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

**The Outreach Committee needs
volunteers to make pans of dressing for our
Christmas Dinner for the Homeless and
Needy.**

**If you are willing to make a pan of
dressing, please call the church office.**



I want to thank everyone for the prayers, food, cards and phone calls during my surgery and recovery.

I feel so blessed to have such a wonderful church family. I appreciate your care and concern so

very much.

Thank you all for everything.

Love,

Janet Bennett



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30th, IS OUR
5TH SUNDAY BREAKFAST!

Sunday School Classes, please bring:

Seekers: Continental breakfast food of choice.

Fellowship: Continental breakfast food of choice.

TNT: Continental breakfast food of choice.

Journey: Continental breakfast food of choice.

COME JOIN US IN **BREAKING BREAD**
AS WE CONTINUE TO CELEBRATE
THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD.

Installation of Officers

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6TH, 2019

WE WILL HAVE

THE

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

AND

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

during our 10:40 service.

If you have accepted one of these positions, please
plan to attend on this special day.

TRAINING



Officer & Committee Chair Training

will occur on

Saturday, January 12th,

10 a.m.

Current AND New Officers & Chairs MUST attend.

If leaving an Officer post or Chair, you will need to pass your binder & key to the Church to your successor.

This is required training

whether you have Chaired

a committee in the past, present or will be in the upcoming year.

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED



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.

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 cctxk 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.

Upcoming Events & Services

December 19	5:30pm	Choir
December 23	all day	4th Sunday of Advent
December 23	10:40am	Christmas Cantata
December 24	12pm	office closes
December 24	6pm	Candlelight Service
December 25	all day	office closed
December 25	11am-1pm	Christmas Dinner for the Needy
December 30	9:30am	5th Sunday Breakfast
January 1	all day	office closed
January 5	10am	Un-decorating sanctuary



THE NEW CCC WEB SITE

Our web site has been renovated!

Be sure to visit www.ccctxk.com

to see what's new!

Our site is easy to navigate and
there is lots of information.



LOOKING FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE THE LORD?

Matthew 25:40

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.

PRAYER LIST

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.

JANUARY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 office closed	2	3	4	5 10am Un-decorating sanctuary
6 9am Elders in Prayer 9:40am Sunday School 10:40am Traditional Worship w/Installation Service	7	8 10:30am CWF Day Group	9 5:30pm Choir	10 6:30pm CWF Night Group	11	12 10am Chair Training
13 9am Elders in Prayer 9:40am Sunday School 10:40am Traditional Worship 12pm Potluck Luncheon w/ Committee Recruiting	14	15	16 5:30pm Choir	17	18	19 9am CWF
20 9am Elders in Prayer 9:40am Sunday School 10:40am Traditional Worship	21	22	23 5:30pm Choir	24	25	26
27 9am Elders in Prayer 9:40am Sunday School 10:40am Traditional Worship 4pm Randy Sami's prep 6pm Randy Sami's serving	28 6pm General Board	29	30 5:30pm Choir	31		

January Birthdays

Jim Spears 01-01
Mary Cobb 01-04
Taylor Monday 01-04
Will Launius 01-04
Seth Byas 01-04
Leighton Bennett 01-09
Laura Byas 01-10
Glen Hudspeth 01-16
Sydney Fowler 01-27
Janet Bennett 01-28
Hayden Stover 01-31

January Anniversaries

Mike & Glenda Worley 01-02
Anthony & Teresa Johnson 01-09
Justin & Cara Fowler 01-16
Darel & Nancy Bair 01-20



Servers for the Weeks Ahead

January 6, 2019

Greeters: Herb & Elaine Hamilton
Worship Leader: John Beeson
Hospital Elder: Lisa Kern
Flower Elder: Julia Carpenter
Deacons: George Carpenter, Jr., Diane Pope-King, Randy King, Jack Fisher

January 13, 2019

Greeters: Harold & Pat Taylor
Worship Leader: Donna Nash
Hospital Elder: Alice Kern
Flower Elder: Teri Stover
Homebound Elder: Tami Hudspeth
Homebound Deacon: Lynn Wilmoth
Deacons: Cameron Lumpkin, Jack Duncan, Pat Taylor, Claudine Brown

January 20, 2019

Greeters: Alan & Janet Bennett
Worship Leader: Jim Spears
Hospital Elder: Joan Carter
Flower Elder: Jack Carter
Deacons: Jack Fisher, Martha Clinton, George Carpenter, Jr., Tamara Campbell

January 27, 2019

Greeters: Philip & Teri Stover
Worship Leader: Troy Kern
Hospital Elder: Connie Spears
Flower Elder: Jim Spears
Homebound Elder: Glen Hudspeth
Homebound Deacon: Randy King
Deacons: Tom Crow, Teresa Crow, Lynn Wilmoth, Bob Wilmoth

Weekly Info

Prayer Need

Our Church
 Wes Byas
 Family of Carolyn Dawson
 Shirley Bynam, friend of Alice Coleman
 Neldajo Mathison
 Teresa Johnson
 Evelyn Tallent
 Jane Sefcik
 Steve Langford, friend of Tom Crow
 Susie Howdeshell
 James Thompson
 Jimmy Poindexter, Mary Chittenden's daughter-in-law's son
 Shirley Werst, Tamara Campbell's mom

Ongoing Concerns

Dorothy Alves
 John Cunningham
 Roger Spencer
 Jenny Norton, Martha Clinton's niece
 Craig Bivins, friend of Randy King
 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
 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

December 23, 2018

Greeters: Mike & Martha Clinton
Hospital Elder: Joan Carter
Flower Elder: Jack Carter
Homebound Elder: Julia Carpenter
Homebound Deacon: Bob Wilmoth
Deacons: Tom Crow, Teresa Crow, George Carpenter, Jr., Hayden Stover

December 16, 2018

Attendance: 61
Offering: \$ 1,942.50
Weekly Needs: \$ 4,276.04
Difference: \$ -2,333.54

YTD Collected: \$209,548.51
YTD Needed: \$213,822.21
Difference: \$ -4,273.70

*LECTIONARY FOR
 DECEMBER 23, 2018*
 Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:2-5a
 Psalm 80:1-7
 Hebrews 10:5-10
 Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)