

# The Central Christian 411

Volume 14, Issue 13

March 29, 2023



## Matthew 12:31-32

Therefore, I tell you, people will be forgiven for every sin and blasphemy, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. <sup>32</sup> Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.

Some passages in the Gospels leave us wondering what to believe. There are those who believe you never deny Jesus. Jesus was God in the flesh therefore you cannot deny God. This belief comes from the Gospel of John. Yet, here in Matthew we read, "Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven."

These opposing teachings truly leave people wondering which is the correct way to believe. If you believe this teaching from Matthew, the only thing that cannot be forgiven is speaking against the Holy Spirit. After all, Matthew says people will be forgiven for EVERY sin and blasphemy, but blasphemy against the Spirit. The question that comes then is, "What exactly IS blasphemy against the Spirit?"

The Holy Spirit's distinctive role is to fulfill what we may call a floodlight ministry in relation to the God.

I remember walking to church one winter evening to preach on the words, "Let Your Light Shine." Seeing the floodlight's light shining on the church building as I turned a corner I realized it was exactly the illustration my message needed. When floodlighting is well done, the floodlights are placed so you do not see them; in fact, you are not supposed to see where the light is coming from; what you are meant to see is just the building on which the floodlights are trained. The intended effect is to make it visible when otherwise it would not be seen due to the darkness, and to maximize its dignity by throwing all its details into relief so you can see it properly. This perfectly illustrated the Spirit's new covenant role. He is, so to speak, the hidden floodlight shining on God.

Or think of it this way. It is as if the Spirit stands behind us, throwing light over our shoulder on to God who stands facing us. The Spirit's message to us is never, "Look at me; listen to me; come to me; get to know me", but always, "Look at God, and see His glory; listen to Him and hear His word; go to Him and have life; get to know Him and taste His gift of joy and peace." The Spirit, we might say, is the matchmaker, the celestial marriage broker, whose role it is to bring us and God together and ensure we stay together.

Perhaps this is what Jesus is saying in this passage from Matthew. Don't keep the light of the Holy Spirit from shining on God.

May God's light shine on you and your family, always!    Wes



**Beginning**

**Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**

**we will have a Community wide  
Spaghetti Dinner  
in Disciple Hall.**

**Tickets for the dinner will be  
\$15 for adults/\$7.50 for children  
12 and under.**

**Dinner includes: Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert, & Drink  
(Drink not included with takeout.)**

**If you would like tickets  
please contact our Admin. Asst.**

**Tonya**

**at**

**903-792-1915**

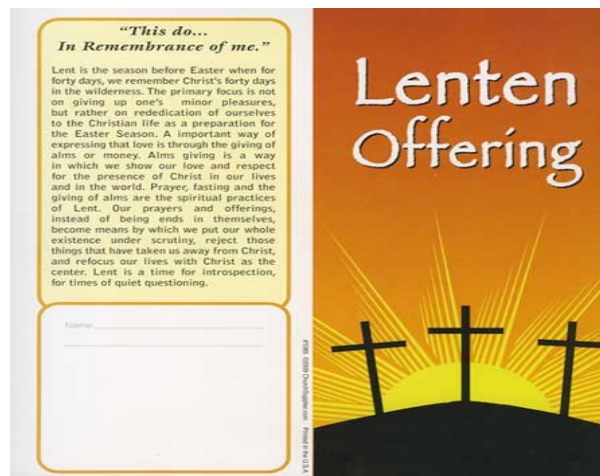


**MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 6<sup>th</sup>**

**IS THE LAST DAY OF**

**LENT**

**PLEASE RETURN YOUR LENTEN FOLDERS**



**ON**

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**DURING THE OFFERTORY.**

**GOD BLESS ONE AND ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

**OF**

**CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH**



# LENT

Don't miss our closing

**Lenten**

**Soup & Scripture**

**Sunday**

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**in HeBrews**

**at 5:30 p.m.**

**This is our last study on**

**the Gospel writers:**

**Matthew, Mark, Luke, & John**

**And what makes them different.**



S E R V I C E

APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup>

Be sure to bring family & friends  
to

**CELEBRATE OUR  
LORD'S ENTRY INTO  
JERUSALEM**

Worship service begins  
at 10:40 a.m.



WEDNESDAY

APRIL 5

WE WILL HAVE A  
PASSION HYMN  
SING-ALONG  
IN THE SANCTUARY

AT

6 p.m.

COME JOIN IN!!!



***A DRAMATIC SERVICE OF  
HOLY COMMUNION  
WILL OCCUR ON MAUNDY THURSDAY.***

*Don't miss this very special communion service where you will hear certain disciples of Jesus speak not only to you, but to the Lord.*

*Their stories are compelling and the words of Jesus will resonate with you.....forever.*

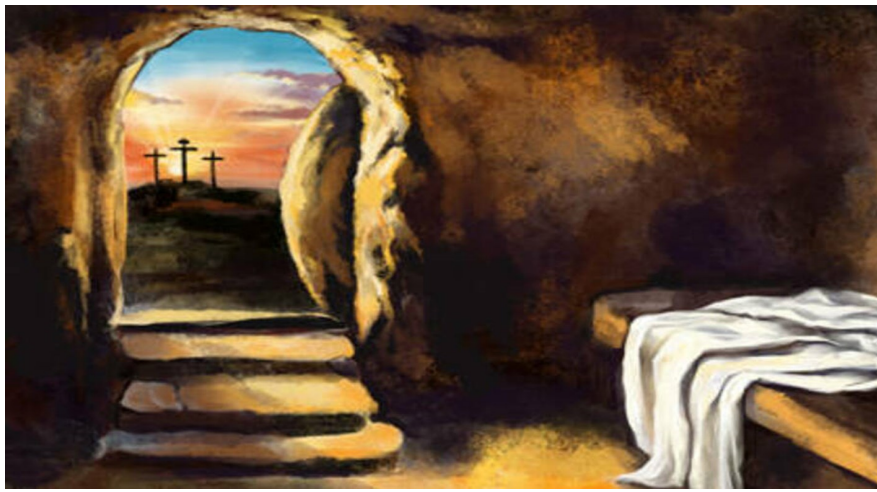
*That's Maundy Thursday at 7:00 p.m.,  
April 6<sup>th</sup>, in the sanctuary.*

***SEE YOU THERE!***



OUR SANCTUARY  
WILL BE OPEN  
FROM  
10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.  
FOR PRAYER &  
MEDITATION  
ON GOOD FRIDAY  
APRIL 7, 2023





EASTER SUNDAY

is

APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup>

Bring family and friends as we

CELEBRATE

the resurrection of our

Lord & Savior!!!

Worship service begins

at

10:40 a.m.



## Why “Maundy” Thursday?

The Thursday before Easter is known as either Maundy Thursday, or Holy Thursday.

Maundy is derived from the Latin word for "command," and refers to Jesus' commandment to the disciples to

"Love one another as I have loved you."



WHAT MAKES GOOD FRIDAY, **GOOD**?

**Good Friday** comes from the sense 'pious', 'holy' of the word "good". Less common examples of expressions based on this obsolete sense of "good" include "the **good book**" for the Bible, "**good tide**" for "Christmas" and "**Good Wednesday**" for the Wednesday in Holy Week.



WE ANNOUNCED IN OUR SERVICE A  
FEW WEEKS AGO

WE WILL NO LONGER LEAVE THE  
ALLEY DOOR TO THE SANCTUARY  
BUILDING UNLOCKED

DUE TO UNWANTED GUESTS WHO  
MAKE THEIR HOME UPSTAIRS.

IF YOU ARE A KEY HOLDER,  
PLEASE DO NOT  
UNLOCK THE ALLEY DOOR.



**NOW AVAILABLE!!!**

**OUR BEAUTIFUL**

**CCC BALL CAP**

**AND**

**T-SHIRT**

**CAN BE YOURS FOR**

**ONLY \$20 EACH!!!**

**To purchase your**

**CCC Ball Cap**

**and**

**T-Shirt**

**Call or come by the**

**Admin. Office today!!!**



In our Sanctuary/Education building we have three areas where we try to maintain an energy efficient temperature; that can be adjusted as needed. These areas are the sanctuary, the parlor, and HeBrews. Each area has their own controls.

In an attempt to help us control the cost of heating and cooling our Sanctuary/Education building we are asking everyone to help keep doors in these areas shut at all times. When doors are left open, the heat goes up the staircases to the hallway and upper rooms and the A/C goes into rooms we are not using downstairs.

The parlor has two doors we need to keep closed, HeBrews has two doors into hallway we need to keep closed, and the kitchen door to the hallway we need to keep closed. In the area where the water fountain and women's restroom are, the door going up the steps into back of the sanctuary and the door in the hallway leading to HeBrews need to be kept closed.

With everyone's help we can save on the cost of gas and electricity.

Thank You!

Your Property Committee



# ***The Journey Sunday School Class will continue our study of***

## **The Gospel of Matthew**

**We hope you will join us.**

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

The Gospel of Matthew is the first book of the New Testament of the Bible and one of the three synoptic Gospels. It tells how Israel's Messiah, Jesus, comes to his people and forms a community of disciples, of how he taught the people through such events as the Sermon on the Mount and its Beatitudes, and how Israel becomes divided and how Jesus condemns this hostile Israel. This culminates in his departure from the Temple and his execution. At this point many people reject Jesus, and on his resurrection he sends the disciples to the gentiles.

Matthew seems to emphasize that the Jewish tradition should not be lost in a church that was increasingly becoming gentile. The gospel reflects the struggles and conflicts between the evangelist's community and the other Jews, particularly with its sharp criticism of the scribes and Pharisees with the position that through their rejection of Christ, the Kingdom of God has been taken away from them and given instead to the church. The divine nature of Jesus was a major issue for the Matthaean community, the crucial element separating the early Christians from their Jewish neighbors; while Mark begins with Jesus' baptism and temptations, Matthew goes back to Jesus' origins, showing him as the Son of God from his birth, the fulfillment of messianic prophecies of the Old Testament. The title Son of David identifies Jesus as the healing and miracle-working Messiah of Israel (it is used exclusively in relation to miracles), sent to Israel alone. As Son of Man he will return to judge the world, an expectation which his disciples recognize but of which his enemies are unaware. As Son of God, God is revealing himself through his son, and Jesus proving his sonship through his obedience and example. Most scholars believe the gospel was composed between AD 80 and 90, with a range of possibility between AD 70 to 110; a pre-70 date remains a minority view. The work does not identify its author, and the early tradition attributing it to the apostle Matthew is rejected by modern scholars. He was probably a male Jew, standing on the margin between traditional and non-traditional Jewish values, and familiar with technical legal aspects of scripture being debated in his time. Writing in a polished Semitic "synagogue Greek", he drew on the Gospel of Mark as a source, plus a hypothetical collection of sayings known as the Q source (material shared with Luke but not with Mark) and hypothetical material unique to his own community, called the M source or "Special Matthew".



*THE*  
***SEEKERS***  
*SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS*

meets every Sunday morning at  
9:30 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 BOOK OF  
ACTS**

We study various books of the Bible  
and recently completed the  
**GOSPEL OF JOHN.**

If you enjoy a wide range study of scripture, we would  
love to have you join us  
**in class** or **on FACEBOOK.**

We meet every Sunday in the Community Room.



BE SURE TO JOIN US FOR WORSHIP EVERY MONDAY

VIA

OUR CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE.

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE WILL BE POSTED **BY 4:00 P.M.**

AND

YOU WILL BE ABLE TO VIEW IT

EACH AND EVERY MONDAY ON FACEBOOK.

REMEMBER:

WATCH WORSHIP ON MONDAYS **AT 4:00 P.M.**

ON

OUR CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE

**[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CCCTXK/](https://www.facebook.com/ccctxk/)**



## **COMMUNION FOR SHELTER IN PLACE**

**We have communion juice and wafers for all. If you would like to come by the Church Office to get a cup with wafer, just let us know when you're coming.**

**These are single serve like this:**



**Again, we have plenty for all, just call!**

**903-792-1915**



Honorariums/Memorials

JUST A REMINDER

HONORARIUM

&

MEMORIAL

GIFTS ARE WELCOME

ANYTIME.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GIVE AN

HONORARIUM OR MEMORIAL

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK TO CCC

WITH A NOTE STATING WHO YOUR

HONORARIUM OR MEMORIAL

IS IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF.



# FLOWERS!!!!

Be sure to purchase flowers for  
the sanctuary to honor  
Friends or Family or  
in memory of a loved one.

The cost is only  
\$40.

# OFFICE HOURS



JUST A REMINDER TO OUR CONGREGATION

OUR

OFFICE HOURS

ARE

8 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY



If you are looking for a safe way to give to the church, download the “Givelify” app onto your phone.

You can find it at the [App Store](#) or at the [Google Play Store](#) under:

“Givelify Mobile Giving App.”

Our church is listed, and this is a safe and fast way to give. Please

be sure you find

Central Christian Church [Texarkana](#).

**411 REMINDER**

Just a reminder that any articles you would like to submit for publication in the 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,

**Upcoming Events & Services**

<b>March 29</b>	5:30pm	Choir
<b>March 31</b>	4:30pm-6pm	Spaghetti Dinner
<b>April 2</b>	10:40am	Palm Sunday Service
<b>April 2</b>	10:40am	Easter Offering
<b>April 2</b>	5:30pm	Soup & Scripture
<b>April 5</b>	6pm	Passion Hymn Sing-a-long
<b>April 6</b>	7pm	Maundy Thursday service
<b>April 7</b>	10am-2pm	Prayer Vigil
<b>April 9</b>	all day	Easter Sunday
<b>April 9</b>	10:40am	Easter offering
<b>April 10</b>	all day	office closed
<b>April 11</b>	11:30am	CWF Day Group
<b>April 11</b>	6pm	Hope Remains Grief Support Group
<b>April 12</b>	5:30pm	Choir
<b>April 15</b>	9am	CMF
<b>April 16</b>	11:45am	Potluck Luncheon





Be sure to keep up-to-date  
with Church Activities

By visiting

[www.ccctxk.com](http://www.ccctxk.com)

to see what's new!

Our site is easy to navigate and  
there is a lot of information.

# PRAYER LIST

## IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT PRAYER LIST

In recent discussions with the Southwest Region, it has come to our attention “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.

# APRIL 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Potluck Luncheon: Last name beginning with: A-H: Meat I-Z: Vegetable or salad						1
<b>2 Palm Sunday</b> Easter offering 9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am Sunday School 10:40am Traditional Worship 5:30pm Soup & Scripture	3	4	5 6pm Passion Hymn Sing-a-long	6 7pm Maundy Thursday service	7 10am-2pm Prayer Vigil	8
<b>9 Easter Sunday</b> Easter offering 9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am Sunday School 10:40am Traditional Worship	10 office closed	11 11:30am CWF Day Group 6pm Hope Remains	12 5:30pm Choir	13	14	15 9am CWF
<b>16</b> 9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am Sunday School 10:40am Traditional Worship 11:45am Potluck Luncheon	17 10:30am Worship Committee	18	19 5:30pm Choir	20	21	22
<b>23</b> 9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am Sunday School 10:40am Traditional Worship 4pm Randy Sams prep 6pm Randy Sams drop off	24 6pm Cabinet Meeting	25	26 5:30pm Choir	27 4pm Church Growth/ Evangelism Comm.	28 10am set up for Fish Fry and auction	29 6pm Fish Fry & Silent Auction
<b>30</b> 9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am 5th Sunday Breakfast 10:40am Traditional Worship						

## April Birthdays

Judy Van Hooser	04-03
Jeffrey Turner	04-07
Lynn Wilmoth	04-13
Tracey Caudle	04-25
Jennifer Watson	04-25
Stan Brummal	04-27
Nancy Thompson	04-28
Sarah Laurus	04-28
Jordan Lumpkin	04-28
Robert Kern	04-29

## April Anniversaries

Wes & Laura Byas	04-07
Chad & Jamie Bennett	04-24

## Servers for the Weeks Ahead

### April 2, 2023

Greeters: Jack & Joan Carter  
Worship Leader: John Beeson  
Hospital Elder: Jim Spears  
Flower Elder: Connie Spears  
Deacons:

### April 9, 2023

Greeters: Mike & Martha Clinton  
Worship Leader: Lee Nailing  
Hospital Elder: Tom Crow  
Flower Elder: Teresa Crow  
Deacons:

### April 16, 2023

Greeters: Tom & Teresa Crow  
Worship Leader: Jim Spears  
Hospital Elder: George Carpenter, Jr.  
Flower Elder: Julia Carpenter  
Deacons: Glenda Burkhart & Sondra Bedwell

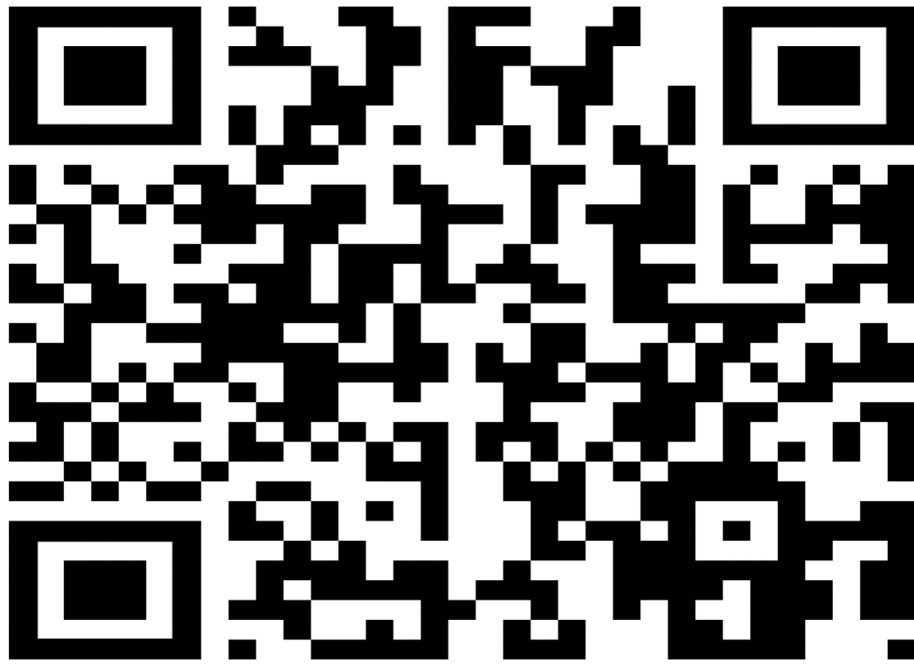
### April 23, 2023

Greeters: Robert & Alice Kern  
Worship Leader: Sondra Bedwell  
Hospital Elder: John Beeson  
Flower Elder: Mike Martin  
Deacons: Mae Kidd & Ethan Cole

### April 30, 2023

Greeters: Randy & Diane King  
Worship Leader: Alice Coleman  
Hospital Elder: Jack Carter  
Flower Elder: Joan Carter  
Deacons: Lois Moore & Sheri Thomas





*SCAN THIS*  
*QR CODE*  
*TO SEE*  
*OUR*  
*CHURCH VIDEO!*

*SHOW*  
*FRIENDS AND FAMILY.*

# Weekly Info

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## Prayer Need

Our Church  
Wes Byas  
Family of David Scurlock  
Mary Chittenden  
Steve Bair, Connie Spears' brother  
Dan Hall, Julia Carpenter's dad  
Jeane Duren, Beth Brine's aunt  
Jeanette Chittenden, Mary Chittenden's daughter-in-law  
Shirley Hawthorn, friend of Mary Chittenden  
Mitch Anderson, friend of George & Julia Carpenter  
Ethan Cole and family  
Tonya Fields, friend of Lynn Wilmoth  
Paula Smith, friend of Martha Clinton  
Bill Griffin, Glenda Burkhart's son-in-law

## Ongoing Concerns

Coretha Loughridge  
Robbin Ridgell, friend of the Mathison's  
David Allard, Glenda Burkhart's brother-in-law  
Terry Love, friend of the Hamiltons  
Suzette Witty, friend of Randy King  
Laroy and Jane Thomas, friend of Jerry Thomas  
Mandi Whisenhunt Smith, Randy King's niece  
Tommy Campbell, friend of Hamilton's

## Homebound

Joe Frost, Sr., home  
Elizabeth Cooney, home  
Nancy Bair, home  
James Thompson, home  
Susie Howdeshell, home  
Bobbie Roberts, Pat Taylor's mom  
Jane Watson, home  
Jeffrey Turner, Abundant Life



**Serving this Sunday**  
**April 2, 2023**

**Greeters:** Jack & Joan Carter

**Worship Leader:** John Beeson

**Hospital Elder:** Jim Spears

**Flower Elder:** Connie Spears

**Deacons:**

**March 26, 2023**

**Attendance:** 33  
**Offering:** \$ 2,506.07  
**Weekly Needs:** \$ 4,379.46  
**Difference:** \$ -1,873.39

**YTD Collected:** \$ 47,566.44  
**YTD Needed:** \$ 56,932.98  
**Difference:** \$ -9,366.54

**This Sunday:**

***"Who Is This?"***

**Scripture:**

**Matthew 21:1-11**

**LECTIONARY FOR APRIL 2, 2023**

**Palm Sunday**

**Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29**  
**Matthew 21:1-11**