

The Central Christian 411

Volume 14, Issue 50

December 13, 2023



John 1:6-8, 19-28

6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify to the light, so all might believe through him. 8 He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” 20 He confessed and did not deny it, but he confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” 21 And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” 22 Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” 23 He said,

“I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,
‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’”

as the prophet Isaiah said.

24 Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. 25 They asked him, “Why, then, are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” 26 John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, 27 the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandal.” 28 This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

This passage and John 3:16 are perhaps the most well-known and popular of the Gospel of John. I cannot count the times I have heard the passage above read at funeral services for men who were named John. “There was a man sent from God whose name was John.” This one sentence says a great deal when memorializing a man. Truth be known, we are all sent from God, and we are all given talents to be used to help and improve life for others. We may not be the Messiah, or Elijah, but we are no less an agent of God.

This Christmas and throughout your faith journey please ask yourself, “Do I use my God-given talent to help others?” In spite of being the voice of one crying out in the wilderness we can still make straight the way of the Lord. After all, John did, and he was just a man who believed in the promises of God so much he gave his life to promote our Lord and Savior.

How much do you believe in God?

May the God who fulfills His promises fill you with His spirit,

Wes



November 29, 2023

Dear Church Family,

We are reaching out to you to remind you our church is alive and well but remains in need of your support. We realize these are difficult days but the ministry of our church presses on. In the past few months we have had the ice maker go out in Disciple Hall Kitchen, an air conditioning unit for the sanctuary needing service, large monetary increase in our Insurance for the buildings, and an issue with our a/c unit for HeBrews. As you know, prices are up and we are in need of your support to repair and/or replace the items needed to be repaired or replaced, as well as pay the increase in our insurance.

As a reminder, there are a number of ways in which you may send the needed support:

1. Mail your check via USPS.
2. Online banking, if you use it.
3. Go to the church with money or check in an envelope and drop it in the mail slot located by the entrance to the Admin. Offices.
4. Use Givelify. If you use this method, please be sure to find Central Christian Church, **Texarkana**.

We hope you and your family are well. Thank you for your faithfulness in supporting our church and God bless.

The Stewardship Committee



You are cordially invited
to the
Central Christian Church
Annual Christmas Party
From 6 pm to 8 pm on
Friday, December 15th
in
HeBrews

BRING A WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT

NOT MORE THAN \$15 MAX

And lots of food

(Don't forget your "Change for Christ" can!)



CHRISTMAS BONUSES

Dear Church Family,

It's that time of year again to think of our wonderful staff, Wes, Tonya, Beth and Ariel.

If you would like to contribute to the Christmas Bonuses, please place a check to the church in a separate envelope with my name on it.

I need the checks by December 18th.

Thank you!

Connie Spears



THE
CHRISTIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP
(CMF)

WILL BE MEETING

Friday, DEC. 15TH

at 7:30 A.M. at

Old Tyme Burger Shoppe

Located at 1205 Arkansas Blvd.

Come join us!

A decorative black border with a central floral motif at the top and bottom, and swirling scrollwork on the sides. The border frames the text.

CWF/DWM Blog

CWF will have a Christmas Party on
December 16th at 11:30am in HeBrews.
We will have finger foods and snacks.

Lisa will bring the program.

Our project is Watersprings Ranch.

Please bring a monetary donation.

Bring a \$15.00 gift for our gift exchange.

It will be fun! See you there!



SUNDAY

DECEMBER 17TH

OUR ANNUAL

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

WILL BE PRESENTED BY OUR

CHANCEL CHOIR

IN OUR 10:40 A.M. SERVICE!

COME JOIN US TO CELEBRATE

THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOR

IN SONG!



OUR CHURCH OFFICE

WILL CLOSE AT NOON

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22ND

FOR THE

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

AND

WILL REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26TH.

HAVE A VERY

MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND GOD BLESS!!!



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH,

JOIN US FOR OUR

CHRISTMAS EVE

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE.

SERVICE WILL BEGIN AT

5 P.M.

IN THE SANCTUARY.

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS

CELEBRATION

OF OUR LORD'S BIRTH.



ON THIS CHRISTMAS DAY 2023

God's greatest gift was sent to all
He was born in a lowly manger stall
The gift of Jesus to those who believe
Is a gift of love and life for all.

God's love was shown in his Son
He came that we may live as one
Our thanks and praise cannot express
Our love for God that brings happiness.

So at this Christmas time rejoice
Praise the Lord with your voice
The miracle of that special birth
Shows how much God thinks you're worth.



The membership of Central Christian Church will be providing a Christmas lunch from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. (or until the food is gone) on Christmas day.

The meal will consist of turkey, dressing, gravy, green beans, mashed potatoes, rolls, cake and pie for dessert.

The Church will provide the turkey, green beans, potatoes, gravy, and rolls with the dressing, with the pie and cake being provided by our membership or vendors.

We will be needing help to prepare meals. We plan to begin preparing the meal on the 23rd and 24th.

If you can volunteer some time to help prepare and serve, I will have a sign-up sheet in the foyer of the Sanctuary this Sunday. If you prefer, you can call the Church Office to let Tonya know you would like to volunteer.

Many thanks to all, Jim Spears



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31ST, IS

NEW YEAR'S EVE!

LET US RENEW

OUR

COMMITMENT TO GOD,

SET NEW

GOALS FOR SERVING HIM

AND FOR SERVING

OUR

NEIGHBOR (COMMUNITY).

HAVE A

BLESSED & PROSPEROUS

2024!!



2 Corinthians 5:16-21

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ **So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!** ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

**MAY 2024 NOT ONLY BE A NEW YEAR,
BUT A NEW LIFE FOR US ALL!**



The Journey Sunday School Class will begin our study of

1 Timothy

We hope you will join us.

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

The First Epistle to Timothy is one of three letters in the New Testament of the Bible often grouped together as the pastoral epistles, along with Second Timothy and Titus. The letter, traditionally attributed to the Apostle Paul, consists mainly of counsels to his younger colleague and delegate Timothy regarding his ministry in Ephesus (1:3). These counsels include instructions on the organization of the Church and the responsibilities resting on certain groups of leaders therein as well as exhortations to faithfulness in maintaining the truth amid surrounding errors.

Most modern scholars consider the pastoral epistles to have been written after Paul's death, although "a small and declining number of scholars still argue for Pauline authorship".



The **TNT** Sunday School Class
is continuing its study of

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

We study various books of the Bible
and recently completed the
BOOK OF DANIEL.

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.



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



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, please email or call the church office at (903) 792-1915 and let Tonya know.

Upcoming Events & Services

December 13	5pm	Choir
December 15	7:30am	CMF @ Old Tyme Burger
December 15	6pm	Annual Christmas party in HeBrews
December 16	11:30am	CWF General Meeting
December 16	1:30pm	Cantata Rehearsal
December 17	10:40am	Christmas offering
December 17	10:40am	Christmas Cantata w/Parade of Poinsettias
December 20	5pm	Choir
December 22	12pm	office closes
December 24	10:40am	Christmas offering
December 24	5pm	Candlelight Service
December 25	all day	Christmas Day/office closed
December 25	11am	Christmas Dinner for the Homeless & Needy
December 31	9:30am	5th Sunday Breakfast
January 1	all day	office closed



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

By visiting

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.

December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 10am Decorating the sanctuary
3 1st Sunday of Advent 9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am Sunday School 10:40am Worship Service 11:45am Advent potluck	4	5	6 12pm-3pm Southern Caregivers using Disciple Hall 5pm Choir	7	8	9
10 2nd Sunday of Advent 9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am Sunday School 10:40am Worship Service w/ Hanging of the Greens	11 1pm Book Club	12 6pm Hope Remains Grief Support Group	13 5pm Choir	14	15 7:30am CMF @ Old Tyme Burger 6pm Christmas party in HeBrews	16 11:30am CWF General Meeting 1:30pm Cantata Rehearsal
17 Christmas offering 3rd Sunday of Advent 9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am Sunday School 10:40am Christmas Cantata w/Parade of Poinsettias	18	19	20 5pm Choir	21	22 Office closes at noon	23
24 Christmas Offering 4th Sunday of Advent 9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am Sunday School 10:40am Worship Service 5pm Candlelight Service	25 Office closed 11am Christmas Dinner for the Homeless and Needy	26	27	28	29	30
31 9am Elders in Prayer 9:30am 5th Sunday Breakfast 10:40am Worship Service						Potluck Luncheon: Last name beginning with: A-H: Meat I-Z: Vegetable or salad

December Birthdays

Pat Brummal	12-1
Kayden Bennett	12-5
Martha Clinton	12-6
Mike Lamb	12-9
Sheri Thomas	12-14
Neldajo Mathison	12-15

December Anniversaries

John & Margie Beeson	12-11
Philip & Teri Stover	12-19
Mike & Sondra Crain	12-21



Servers for the Weeks Ahead

December 3, 2023

Greeters: Robert & Alice Kern
Worship Leader: Lee Nailling
Hospital Elder: Jim Spears
Flower Elder: Connie Spears
Deacons: Harold Taylor & Jerry Thomas

December 10, 2023

Greeters: Cowboy & Neldajo Mathison
Worship Leader: Sondra Bedwell
Hospital Elder: Tom Crow
Flower Elder: Teresa Crow
Deacons: Mae Kidd & Lois Moore

December 17, 2023

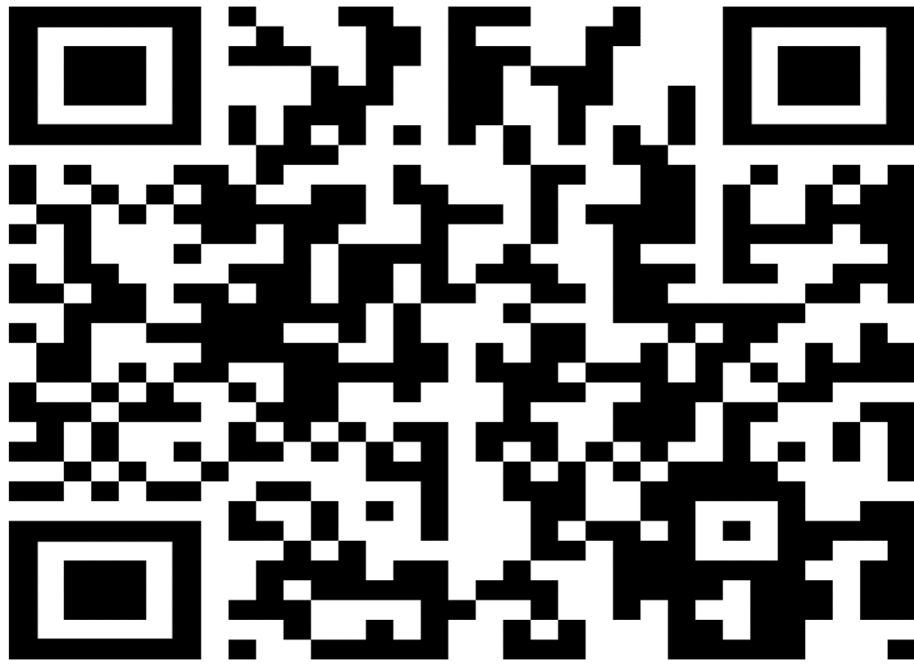
Greeters: Harold & Pat Taylor
Worship Leader:
Hospital Elder: George Carpenter, Jr.
Flower Elder: Julia Carpenter
Deacons: Lois Moore

December 24, 2023

Greeters: Ethan Cole & Alice Coleman
Worship Leader: Jim Spears
Hospital Elder: Jack Carter
Flower Elder: Joan Carter
Deacons: Sheri Thomas & Jerry Thomas

December 31, 2023

Greeters: Jerry & Sher Thomas
Worship Leader: Mike Martin
Hospital Elder: Robert Kern
Flower Elder: Alice Kern
Deacons: Ethan Cole & Harold Taylor



SCAN THIS
QR CODE
TO SEE
OUR
CHURCH VIDEO!

SHOW
FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

Weekly Info

Prayer Need

Our Church
Wes Byas
Keith Williams, friend of Tom Crow
Elizabeth Leah, friend of Lee Nailling
Family of Coretha Loughridge
Lynn Groening, Julia Carpenter's cousin
Bill Sellke, Sheri Thomas' brother-in-law
Blaire Hamilton, Jerry & Sheri Thomas' granddaughter
Judy Mason, Sheri Thomas' sister
B.J. Adams, Glenda Burkhart's brother
Brittney Matthews, Jerry & Sheri Thomas' granddaughter
Haley Dorn, Jerry & Sheri Thomas' niece
Mitch Anderson, friend of George & Julia Carpenter

Ongoing Concerns

Ed Shilling, Judy Van Hooser Shilling's husband
Kathy Bearden, friend of Julia Carpenter
Bill Griffin, Glenda Burkhart's son-in-law
Aubrey Fulcher, Connie Spears' brother-in-law
Jeane Duren, Beth Brine's aunt

Homebound

Joe Frost, Sr., home
Herb Hamilton, The Oaks room 34
Elaine Hamilton, son's home
Elizabeth Cooney, home
Jane Watson
Nancy Bair, home
James Thompson, home
Susie Howdeshell, home
Bobbie Roberts, Pat Taylor's mom, The Villa room 302B
Jeffrey Turner, Abundant Life



Serving this Sunday
December 17, 2023

Greeters: Harold & Pat Taylor
Worship Leader:
Hospital Elder: George Carpenter, Jr.
Flower Elder: Julia Carpenter
Deacons: Lois Moore

December 10, 2023

Attendance: 35
Offering: \$ 1,230.86
Weekly Needs: \$ 4,379.46
Difference: \$ -3,148.60

YTD Collected: \$157,535.32
YTD Needed: \$218,973.00
Difference: \$-61,437.68

This Sunday:

Christmas Cantata

LECTIONARY FOR DECEMBER 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28