

# The Central Christian 411

Volume 14, Issue 49

December 6, 2023



## 2 Peter 3:8-15a

<sup>8</sup> But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. <sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead, he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

<sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

<sup>11</sup> Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives <sup>12</sup> as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. <sup>13</sup> But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

<sup>14</sup> So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him. <sup>15</sup> Bear in mind our Lord's patience means salvation.

During the Spanish-American War, Clara Barton was overseeing the work of the Red Cross in Cuba. One day Colonel Theodore Roosevelt came to her, wanting to buy food for his sick and wounded Rough Riders. But she refused to sell him any.

Roosevelt was perplexed. His men needed the help, and he was prepared to pay out of his own funds. When he asked someone why he could not buy the supplies, he was told, "Colonel, just ask for it!" A smile broke over Roosevelt's face. Now he understood--the provisions were not for sale. All he had to do was simply ask and they would be given freely.

We cannot buy Salvation. God's grace is freely given. The Lord's patience means Salvation. God keeps His promises. May we keep ours to Him.

May the God of love and forgiveness abide with always, 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*



## ***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 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

**Thank you!**

**Connie Spears**



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

**BRING A WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT**

**NOT MORE THAN \$15 MAX**

***And lots of food***

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



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>

IS

HANGING **OF THE** GREENS!

THIS IS A VERY SPECIAL SERVICE

WHERE

WE DECORATE OUR

SANCTUARY FOR

**CHRISTMAS**

PLEASE COME JOIN IN

ON THIS FESTIVE OCCASION

AT THE 10:40 SERVICE.



It has been said, “We never truly get over a loss, but we can move forward and evolve from it.” While this is true, it is a process many of us never fully move through, especially if we experience the loss of a child. So often, we get “stuck” in a stage of grief and remain there. This is the reason groups that deal with grief are so important; they help us move through the stages so we can move forward and evolve. Sadly, such groups are often not advertised, promoted, or supported by local organizations.

Here at Central Christian Church, we are very blessed to have such a group and we want to promote this organizations work. The *Hope Remains* Chapter of Texarkana meets in the Community Room on the **2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m.** The focus is for parents and grandparents grieving the loss of a child or grandchild.

**Tuesday, December 12, 2023, Hope Remains will have a Candlelight Memorial Service in the Parlor of Central Christian church and invite you to be a part of this special time if you have lost a child you wish to honor and memorialize.**

The mission of Hope Remains is to offer a safe place where any and all emotions may be freely expressed. There may be tears shed at the meetings. There may be laughter and smiles shared as precious memories of a child, grandchild, or sibling is recalled. And there will always be acceptance, friendship and hope offered at the meetings.

If you have suffered the loss of a child or grandchild and wish to join this greatly needed organization, please contact Cindy Sanford at (903) 280-4130.



THE  
*CHRISTIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP*  
*(CMF)*

WILL BE MEETING

**Friday, DEC. 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**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 text is centered within this border.

## 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.

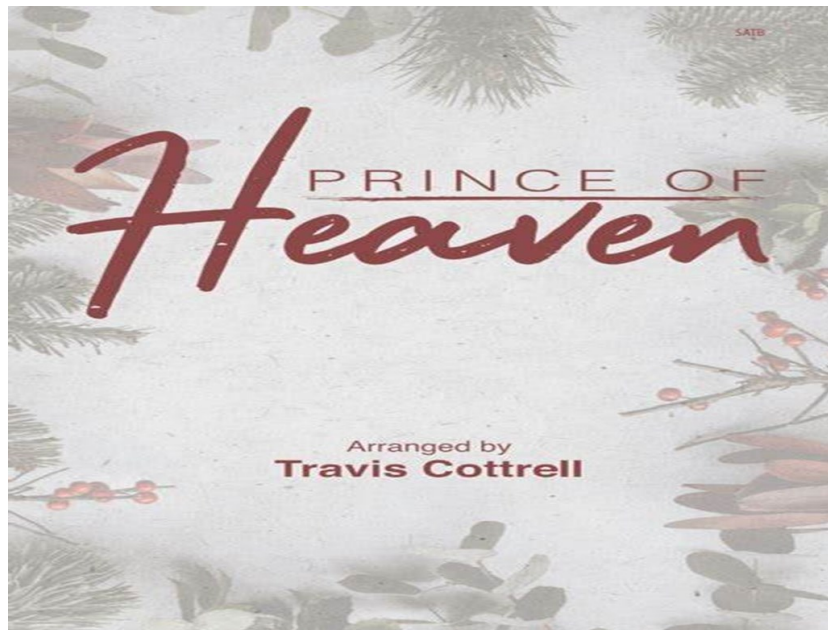
Our project is Watersprings Ranch.

Please bring a monetary donation.

Bring a \$15.00 gift for our gift exchange.

It will be fun! See you there!





**SUNDAY**  
DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>  
**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 22<sup>ND</sup>**

**FOR THE**

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS**

**AND**

**WILL REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup>.**

**HAVE A VERY**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

**AND GOD BLESS!!!**



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>,

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 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

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 31<sup>ST</sup>, 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. <sup>17</sup> **So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!** <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> 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. <sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> 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 continue our study of***  
**1 & 2 Thessalonians**

We hope you will join us.

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

The First Epistle to the Thessalonians is a Pauline epistle of the New Testament of the Christian Bible. The epistle is attributed to Paul the Apostle, and is addressed to the church in Thessalonica, in modern-day Greece. It is likely among the first of Paul's letters, probably written by the end of AD 52, though some scholars believe the Epistle to the Galatians may have been written by AD 48.

Thessalonica is a city on the Thermaic Gulf, which at the time of Paul was within the Roman Empire. Paul visited Thessalonica and preached to the local population, winning converts who became a Christian community. There is debate as to whether or not Paul's converts were originally Jewish. The Acts of the Apostles describes Paul preaching in a Jewish synagogue and persuaded people who were already Jewish that Jesus was the Messiah, but in 1 Thessalonians itself Paul says the converts had turned from idols, suggesting they were not Jewish before Paul arrived.

The Second Epistle to the Thessalonians is a book from the New Testament of the Christian Bible. It is traditionally attributed to Paul the Apostle, with Timothy as a co-author. Modern biblical scholarship is divided on whether the epistle was written by Paul; some scholars believe Paul wrote this epistle, but others reject 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 original text was written in Koine Greek.





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**

<b>December 6</b>	5pm	Choir
<b>December 10</b>	all day	2nd Sunday of Advent
<b>December 10</b>	10:40am	Hanging of the Greens service
<b>December 11</b>	1pm	Book Club
<b>December 12</b>	6pm	Hope Remains Candlelight Service
<b>December 13</b>	5pm	Choir
<b>December 14</b>	4pm	Church Growth/Evangelism
<b>December 15</b>	7:30am	CMF @ Old Tyme Burger
<b>December 15</b>	6pm	Annual Christmas party in HeBrews
<b>December 16</b>	11:30am	CWF General Meeting
<b>December 16</b>	5pm	Cantata Rehearsal
<b>December 17</b>	10:40am	Christmas offering
<b>December 17</b>	10:40am	Parade of Poinsettias
<b>December 20</b>	5pm	Choir
<b>December 22</b>	12pm	office closes
<b>December 24</b>	10:40am	Christmas offering



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.

# 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 4pm Church Growth/ Evangelism	15 7:30am CMF @ Old Tyme Burger 6pm Christmas party in HeBrews	16 11:30am CWF General Meeting 5pm 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

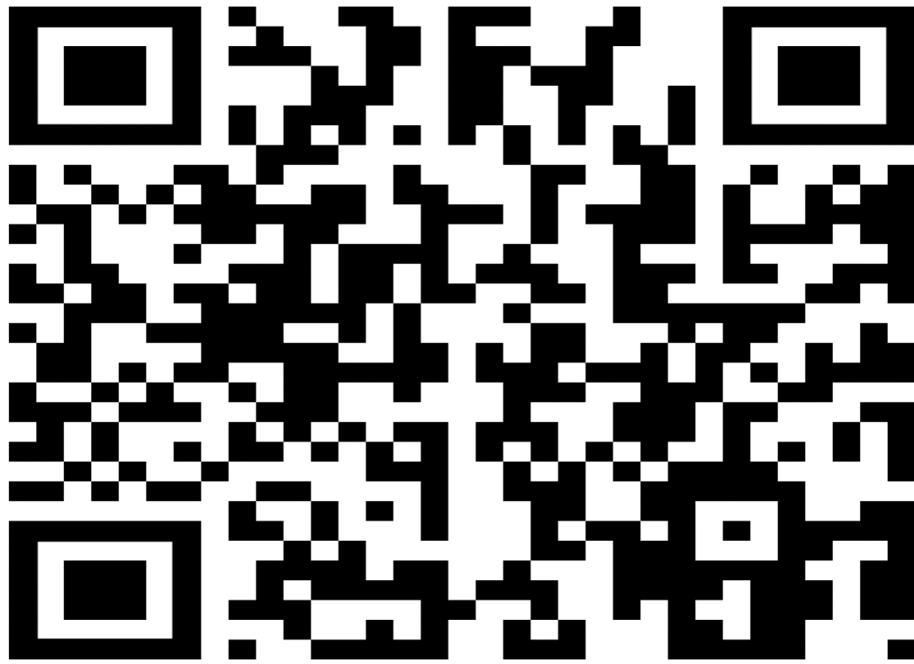
Greeters: Harold & Pat Taylor  
Worship Leader: Jerry Thomas  
Hospital Elder: George Carpenter, Jr.  
Flower Elder: Julia Carpenter  
Deacons: Glenda Burkhart & Sondra Bedwell

### 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

Family of Phyllis MacNeil, friend of Julia Carpenter

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 10, 2023**

**Greeters:** Cowboy & Neldajo Mathison

**Worship Leader:** Sondra Bedwell

**Hospital Elder:** Tom Crow

**Flower Elder:** Teresa Crow

**Deacons:** Mae Kidd & Lois Moore

**December 3, 2023**

**Attendance:** 42

**Offering:** \$ 3,376.54

**Weekly Needs:** \$ 4,379.46

**Difference:** \$ -1,002.92

**YTD Collected:** \$156,304.46

**YTD Needed:** \$214,593.54

**Difference:** \$-58,289.08

**This Sunday:**

***"The Power of Forgiveness"***

**Scripture:**

**Mark 1:1-8**

**LECTIONARY FOR DECEMBER 10, 2023**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**Isaiah 40:1-11**

**Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13**

**2 Peter 3:8-15a**

**Mark 1:1-8**