



# LET'S VISIT

**A Publication of the Center Church of Christ  
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## THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Have you ever thought about “Famous Neighbors?” You know, maybe like Mr. Rogers and his “neighborhood”. That conjures up images of a sweater, sneakers and “It’s a beautiful day in the neighborhood, won’t you be my neighbor?” Then there is Dennis the Menace and Helloooo Mr. Wilson. There are the Ricardo’s and the Mertzes, Tim the tool man and Wilson, and perhaps others you might think of from the small screen.

There is a story recorded in Luke chapter 10 that we commonly refer to as the story of the Good Samaritan. This story has all the elements of a great movie. It has violence, crime, racial discrimination, hatred, neglect, unconcern, love and mercy. Who says the Bible isn’t relevant to our modern world.

The essential facts of the story are familiar to all Bible readers. A man was on his way from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell among thieves and robbers. They beat him, robbed him, stripped him and left him for dead. By and by a priest and Levite came along and they passed by on the other side of the road. A man from Samaria came along and Jesus says he had compassion on the man. He bound up his wounds and took him to an inn for him to be cared for. Jesus then asks the question as to which of the three was a neighbor to the man.

Well, you see, the story was prompted because a lawyer had asked Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life. It was a good question, however, it was prompted by an evil motive. Jesus made him answer his own question and he said he was to love his neighbor as himself. Then he asked Jesus who his neighbor was and Jesus gave us this story.

The Jericho road was a rugged, robber infested road. Travelers were often attacked on this road and it actually became known as the “bloody way”. All

along the highway of life there are thieves and robbers. They live by the “iron rule” as opposed to the “golden rule”. Every lock on every door and window throughout the world is testimony to the iron rule. Every corrupt political official who manipulates his power for personal advantage lives by this system. They are not concerned about others. They do not care for their character, their physical well being or anything else about them.

Tragically, the world is also full of people like this unfortunate man in the story. They are the folks who are stripped of righteousness. The ones who are robbed of life’s necessities, broken in body and wounded in spirit.

Yet, notice the priest and the Levite. They selfishly passed him by because they were unmoved by the pain and sorrow of a fellow human being. How heartwarming to see the compassionate Samaritan who stops to help the victim of this horrible crime. He is a man of another race and of another religion. In him we find a tender heart and a helping hand. We find an open purse and an assuring voice. He is a man who is Christ’s ideal man.

The lawyer who was trying to trap Jesus is forced to answer his own question. He says the neighbor is the one that showed mercy to his fellowman. Jesus says, “go thou and do likewise”. Jesus expects no less from us.

*tp*

### In Search of the Lord’s Way



Tune in to this Television Ministry  
KSHV 45 – Shreveport – 7:30 a.m. Sunday  
DISH channel 239 – 6:00 a.m. Sunday  
DIRECT TV channel 307 – 6:00 a.m. Sunday

# Gathered Here and There

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## *A Life Changing Experience*

**For The Pantry. . .**

**May 3 – Jelly**



**April 26, 2026  
\$ 2,584.00**

**The Lord's plan of giving ... "as ye have prospered"**



**SAVE THE DATE!  
May 31, 2026**

Trent Davidson from High Plains Children's Home will be here to deliver a presentation on the work that we help support at High Plains Children's Home during the Bible Class Hour. PLEASE! PLEASE! make your plans to attend Bible Class that Sunday to hear the presentation and find out more about this good work that the Center Church of Christ helps to support.

## **Our Area-Wide Singing. . .**

On Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, we hosted our annual "Area-Wide Singing" and it was by any way measured a tremendous success. We had a good audience and we had 14 different song leaders to lead songs. Normally, at these singings, every leader leads their two songs and then we go through them again and they each have the opportunity to lead another song. However, we had so many

leaders that we were only able to go around the room once and we were out of time. We didn't have time for each leader to lead another song. That is a wonderful thing to experience.

After the singing it was time for refreshments and we actually had more people stay for refreshments than we had places to sit in the fellowship hall. Talk about a good problem to have. Since some people never sat down and the ladies working in the kitchen never sat down, it worked out.

I just want to express my personal gratitude to everyone who helped to make the singing the tremendous success that it was. Those who attended, those who brought refreshments, those who brought guests, those ladies and men who stood on their feet to serve, clean the kitchen, take down tables stack chairs and carry out trash, thank you for your labor. We know it was a labor of love for the Lord.

Now we can look forward to our Annual Area Wide Singing on April 23, 2027!

tp

## **On The Lighter Side. . .**



**"WHAT KIND OF PRAYER IS... 'OH, LORD, NOT HIM AGAIN'... MR. WILSON?"**

5-20



Martha Jean Golden is scheduled for a surgical procedure to put stents in her other leg on Monday (May 4<sup>th</sup>) in order to help improve her circulation.

OUR "CHURCH FAMILY"

Cissy Amos, Stanley Amos, LaJuan Baugh, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden, LaResa Livingston, Mike Lout, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Betty Willis

"EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Tami Abernathy (friend of Isaiah & Amanda Molloy hospitalized) Leslie Adams (friend of Diedra Hughes) being treated for brain cancer; Peggy Baylor (Tim Bradshaw's mother) Debra Clifton (friend of LaResa Livingston) Coleen Dickerson (friend of Cissy Amos with leukemia) Hugh and Pat Fletcher (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) Joyce Fontenot (Debra Pate's mother) Dot Grant (Friend of Debra Pate) Suzi Hogan (Mike Bostick's sister-in-law) Debbie Lynn (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing with memory issues) Albert Magby (Melonie Bradshaw's father) Karen McCormick (friend of Sarah Fletcher) Gene Perkins (Tim Perkins aunt) Calvin Smith (Debra Pate's uncle); Heather Simmons Stewart (Friend of Cissy Amos ) cancer; Stephen Wiggins (preacher at San Augustine) Max Windham (Friend of LaResa Livingston) additional cancer treatments.

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Cole Barbee, Adam Bradshaw, Michele Bradshaw, Rosie Tate and Lucas Tate

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**IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2026**

**Reserve these dates for important events in the life of our Church for 2026**

- September 13, 2026 – "Back To Church Sunday"
- December 6, 2026 – "No Excuse Sunday"
- December 20, 2026 – Annual Christmas Party

**Communion Preparation - May**  
Larry & Melonia Molloy

**Friends and Family Day**

**Sunday June 7, 2026**

Make your plans to be here and invite your friends and family to come and join us!



**Covered Dish Lunch**

Following the morning worship!

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We had an enjoyable time of fellowship this past Wednesday. Please make your plans to join us for our next Wednesday night Fellowship meal on May 27<sup>th</sup>!

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**ANNUAL EAST TEXAS ROTATIONAL MEETING**  
May 11<sup>th</sup> through 15<sup>th</sup> – 2026  
Services at 7:00 p.m. each evening

The flyer is on the bulletin board in the foyer with the location and speaker for each evening.



## Across The Preacher's Desk

It was interesting to me that one of the gifts that Queen Camilla received during her recent visit to the White House was a jar of White House Honey, which was an acknowledgment to her interest in Bees. When I heard that, it made me think of that old saying, "you can catch more flies with honey than you can with vinegar". It is something we have heard all of our lives.

If you turn to the book of Genesis, when Jacob sent his sons to Egypt to buy food, they took a lot of gifts, balm, spices, myrrh, nuts, almost all are mentioned and Genesis 43:11 says "a little honey".

All of us have known folks with a lot of ability, a lot of intelligence, but there was no honey in their lives, no sweetness, no joy. Jesus came so that we might have life, and have it more abundantly. Jesus brings sweetness into our lives. Paul would write, "be ye kind one to another" (Ephesians 4:32). Truth be told, most of us have not committed unkind acts deliberately. Yet, how often are we guilty of unintentional unkindness? How often do we forget to speak a word of encouragement?

Kindness should be a positive force in our lives. We should look for opportunities to be kind to one another, to spread joy, to show people Jesus Christ living in our lives.

As Jacob told his sons on their journey to Egypt, "take a little honey". So, we too should take a little with us every day of our lives.

*it's something to think about.....tlp*

**The Lord's Plan  
For Evangelism –  
Each one Bring one!  
Will you?**