



LET'S VISIT

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NO EXCUSE SUNDAY

Let's be very honest. Making excuses is something that most of us have achieved some degree of proficiency in through the years. To be quite honest, there are some folks who never seem to grow tired of making excuses. You name the activity and we can find some excuse why we are unable to participate. I like the old story of a man who asked his neighbor if he could borrow his axe. The neighbor replied, "I'm sorry, I can't let you borrow my axe, I am planning on eating soup for supper." The man said, "I don't understand, what does me borrowing your axe have to do with you eating soup for supper?" The neighbor said, "Absolutely nothing. However, if I don't want to lend you my axe, one excuse is just as good as another." We laugh, and yet sometimes our excuses are just about that absurd. Especially our excuses for not attending the services of the church.

With that thought in mind, we are planning our annual "NO EXCUSE SUNDAY" at the Center Church of Christ. We will be having a covered dish luncheon following the morning worship and in order to make things as convenient as possible we are planning to make the following available:

Cots and hammocks will be available for those who say, "Sunday is my only day to sleep in".

Eye drops and extra coffee will be provided for those with tired eyes from watching television or partying late on Saturday night.

There will be a special section with padded recliner chairs for those who feel our pews are too uncomfortable.

Doctors and nurses will be in attendance for those who feel ill.

We will have steel hard hats for those who say, "The roof would cave in if I ever came to worship."

Fire retardant suits will be available for those who say, "I would spontaneously combust if I ever set foot in a church building."

There will be one section of the building decorated with trees and grass for those who like to see God in nature.

There will be blankets furnished for those who say the building is too cold and portable fans for those who say the building is too hot.

Scorecards and pens will be provided for those who wish to list the hypocrites present.

We will distribute "stamp out stewardship" buttons for those who feel that the church is always asking for money.

There will be extra relatives in attendance for those who like to go visiting on Sunday.

Finally, we will have the auditorium decorated with Poinsettias and Lilies for those who have never seen a church building without them.

Obviously, this is written "tongue in cheek". Seriously, let's make our plans to be here that day to worship the God of heaven and let that be the end of our excuse making. We hope to see every member of this congregation present that day, and we hope that everyone will put forth their best effort to bring a guest with them to worship with us and have a time of fellowship with 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



A Prescription From The Great Physician

For The Pantry. . .

November 9 – Canned Pasta

Offering – November 2, 2025 . . \$ 3,137.00

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

Friendship

To have a good friend is one of the highest delights of life. To be a good friend is one of the noblest and most difficult undertakings in life. Friendship depends not upon fancy imagination or sentiment, but upon character. There is no man so poor that he is not rich if he has a friend.

But friendship is a word made to cover many kindly impermanent relationships. Real friendship is abiding. Like charity, it suffereth long and is kind. Like love, it vaunteth not itself, but pursues the even tenor of its way unaffected by ill report. Friendship is loyal in adversity and the shining jewel of happy days. Friendship does not have the iridescent joys of love, though it is closer than is often known to the highest and truest love. Its heights are ever serene and its valleys know few clouds.

To aspire to friendship one must cultivate a capacity for faithful affection, a beautiful disinterestedness, and a clear discernment. Friendship is a gift, but it is also an acquirement. It is like the rope which climbers in the high mountains bind themselves together with for safety, and only a coward cuts the rope when a comrade is in danger.

From Cicero to Emerson, and long before Cicero, and forever after Emerson, the praises of friendship have been set forth. Even fragments of friendship are precious and to be treasured. But to have a whole, real friend is a worthy, high endeavor; for faith, truth, courage and loyalty bring one close to the kingdom of God.

tp

Something to ponder. . . .

A baby starts off crawling, then toddling and finally walking.

A recession or a period of prosperity does not happen overnight, but it is a gradual thing leading into one or the other.

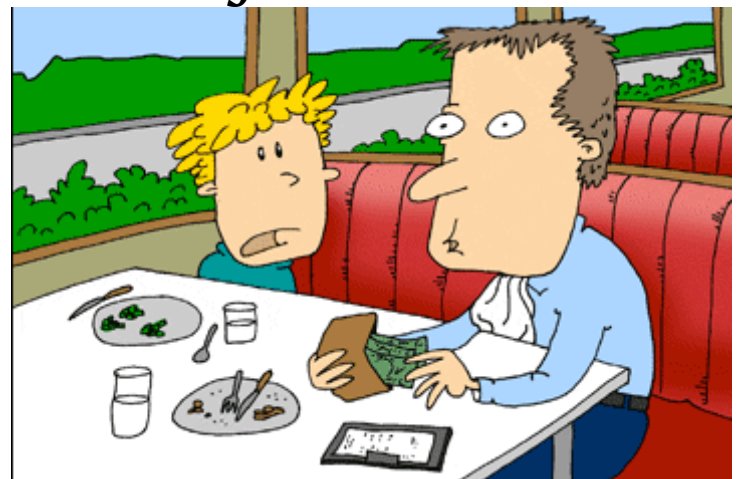
A war does not start overnight, but things begin to happen that finally lead to it.

Likewise, one does not become an alcoholic until they take that first drink, and one day they find themselves far from the pathway of Christian service.

No person ever became a backslider who did not miss his or her first service from the Lord's house. It is very easily discerned by those who have the interest of every member of the church at heart when members "take the first step" by being absent from worship, that it won't be long, too many times before that member has actually fallen away.

-copied

On The Lighter Side. . .



**How come the waitress gets 20%
and God only gets 10%?**



No Excuse Sunday December 7, 2025

Make Your Plans To Be Here
Sunday, December 7, 2025
Our Annual
“NO EXCUSE SUNDAY”

Put this date on your calendar, make sure you plan to be here, invite your friends and neighbors to come and worship with us and stay for our covered dish luncheon. We will celebrate birthdays and anniversaries for the months of December, January and February and enjoy a great time of fellowship together.

Hospitality group 1 is in charge of the luncheon that day. The members of that group are Marsha Bounds, LaResa Livingston, Betty Miller, Lisa Miller and Melonia Molloy.

Communion Preparation - November
Manny & Brittany Ortiz

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER!



Save this Date. . .
December 21, 2025



OUR “CHURCH FAMILY”

Cissy Amos, LaJuan Baugh, Gene Bradshaw,
Martha Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden,
Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, 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; **Stanley Amos** (Cissy Amos' husband) **Krista Andrus** (Tim and Norma Perkins niece) **Richard Barbee** (Gene Bradshaw's nephew) **Peggy Baylor** (Tim Bradshaw's mother) **David Bissett** (Mike O'Brien's brother in law- cancer) **Dwayne Brister** (Cissy Amos' cousin) **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) **Ted Holt** (former member of this congregation) **Debbie Lynn** (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing with memory issues) **Albert Magby** (Melonie Bradshaw's father) **Norma Magby** (Melonie Bradshaw's mother) **Karen McCormick** (friend of Sarah Fletcher) **Calvin Smith** (Debra Pate's uncle); **Heather Simmons Stewart** (Friend of Cissy Amos) cancer; **J. C. Tate & Pat Tate** (Jana O'Brien's father and mother) **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

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2026

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

March 1, 2026 – “Pack-A-Pew Sunday”
April 24, 2026 – Area Wide Singing & Fellowship
June 7, 2026 – “Friends and Family Day”
September 13, 2026 – “Back To Church Sunday”
December 6, 2026 – “No Excuse Sunday”
December 20, 2026 – Annual Christmas Party



Across The Preacher's Desk

According to the teachings of Jesus, every person is going through one of two gates. Either they are choosing to enter the narrow gate and the narrow way that leads to life or they are choosing the broad way which leads through the broad gate to destruction.

These two ideas represent two ways of life. One represents the way of good while the other represents the way of evil. The thought taught by Jesus in Matthew 7 is that more people will follow the easy and popular way of life than the one prescribed in the scriptures.

This teaching is harmonious with another of the teachings of Jesus in Matthew 22:14. Here he says, "for many shall be called, but few chosen". That indicates there will be only a few people comparatively speaking, who are interested in the Lord's way enough to follow it and be saved. Jesus makes his call this way, "Enter ye in at the strait gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction and many there be which go in there at. Because strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

In this Jesus is warning people to be very careful how they live. Too many people, who may think they are on the narrow path, might be surprised to find themselves on the broad way if they carefully analyzed their lives. Jesus wants everyone to be saved, but he must have the cooperation of every person who wants to be saved. They must enter the gate he prescribes and live his kind of life, his way.

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

**The Lord's Plan
For Evangelism –
Each one Bring one!
55 in '25!**