



LET'S VISIT

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TO WHOM SHALL WE GO?

As we read the sixth chapter of the Gospel according to John, we realize that it contains an eventful few days for Jesus. Multitudes of people have been following Him, and this was common during His ministry.

We have here Jesus feeding the five thousand (and that's just the men). He was riding such a tide of popularity that the people were going to try and make Him a king. The disciples got into a ship to go to Capernaum.

It was while they were in the ship that Jesus came walking to them on the water. You remember that story, because it was when Peter decided he wanted to walk on the water and ended up going swimming.

Well, when Jesus gets to Capernaum, he tells them He is the Bread of Life. That's when the murmuring started. They said, "is this not the son of Joseph?" So, what we see is the same crowd that had eaten the loaves and fishes leaves in disgust when they learn that Jesus is not a political Messiah.

When the crowds have left, Jesus turns to Peter and asks a very poignant question. He says, "will ye also go away?" Yet, look at the answer of Peter in John 6:8. Peter says, "Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life."

We all need someone to whom we can go. God has not made man to be alone. Remember, in the early morning of time, at creation, God said, "it is not good for man to be alone". So God created a helpmate for man. When we are sad, we need someone to share our sorrows. When we are glad, we need someone to share our joys.

Often we gather as a family. It may be at holidays such as Thanksgiving or Christmas. It may be at other special events such as a birthday or sadly at a funeral of a loved one. It might be a family reunion.

No matter, when family gets together, it will usually involve a trip down memory lane. A time when we can reminisce about days past and gone. A time when we can tell stories and special memories of loved ones no longer in our presence.

Human friendships and relationships are an important part of our lives. It is important that we all have a "go to friend". Someone we can share the high points and low points of our life with. Someone who will listen, who will understand. Someone we know will care about the most minor of our difficulties. Someone who will genuinely rejoice in our victories.

More importantly, we all need someone to whom we can go with a word from eternity. Peter said of Jesus, "Thou hast the words of eternal life". Friends and family are important, we need them. But we come to times in life when we are beyond the power of earthly friends to help. The wound is so deep we need a word from eternity. It is then we go to Jesus. In times of sickness and pain, in times of temptation, when we lose a loved one, we go to Jesus.

We can come to Jesus and find all the answers. Jesus can provide forgiveness of our sins. Jesus can give purpose and plan to our life. Jesus can give us peace of mind and access to the throne of God. Jesus promises us a home in heaven, if we are faithful to Him. In Jesus Christ we find everything we need.

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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



*“Living The
Abundant Life”
Restoring Joy
In Our Lives*

For The Pantry. . .
June 15 – Sugar

Offering – June 1, 2025 . . \$ 3,014.00

The Lord’s plan of giving ...”as ye have prospered”



Notes From The Business Meeting

This past Sunday (June 8, 2025) we had our regular men’s business meeting in the church offices following the morning worship. We wanted to pass along what we discussed and what was decided.

As we mentioned in January when we discussed the budget for the current year, the parking lot is in need of repair and replacement. So far we have only received one bid and it is in excess of \$100,000.00 to replace the parking lot. Obviously, we do not have that amount of money on hand. We decided in our business meeting that we will set aside the entire offering on Friends and Family day, September 7, 2025 to be the beginning of our “Parking Lot Fund”. This will be a separate fund from our building fund. What we are proposing and asking is that each and every member of this congregation look for a way to give a little extra that Sunday if possible. Maybe try and set aside just a dollar or two a week extra for the offering on that day. Perhaps collect spare change in a bowl

prior to that Sunday. Whatever method you might choose, we are asking that we do our best to have an offering that Sunday just a little larger than normal so that we can have the beginnings of a Parking Lot Fund and make our plans to find a way to replace and repair the parking lot within the next few years.

Another change of significance was with the calendar of church activities for 2026. As you know, we have a covered dish luncheon on the First Sunday in March, June, September and December. We have had special names for these as we used them for “Event Evangelism” inviting our friends and neighbors to come and join us for Worship. Next year’s schedule of luncheons will be as follows:

March 1, 2026 – “Pack-A-Pew Sunday”

June 7, 2025 – “Friends And Family Day”

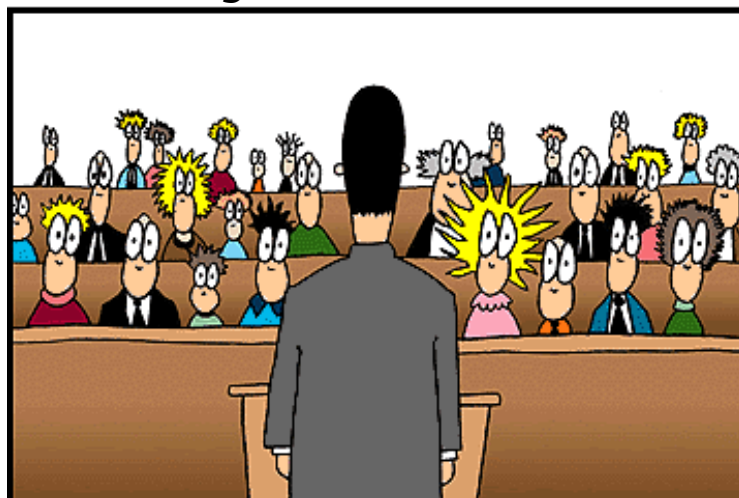
September 13, 2025 - “Back-To-Church Sunday”

December 6, 2025- “No Excuse Sunday”

We want every member of the congregation to mark these dates on their calendar and make plans to be a part of the events and invite others to come and join us.

As always, if you would like a copy of the minutes of a business meeting or a copy of the financial report, just ask and we will be happy to provide you with one.

On The Lighter Side. . .



**Perhaps, thought Brother Smith, my
congregation is not quite ready for a
sermon like this.**



September 7, 2025

Put this date on your calendar, make your plans to be here and invite ALL your family and friends to come and join us for worship and lunch!

Let's make this the greatest "Friends and Family Day" in the history of the Center Church of Christ!

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Communion Preparation for June
Mike & Jana O'Brien



We would love for you to join us on Wednesday Nights for our Mid-Week Bible Study and plan to join us for our next Wednesday Night Meal on June 25, 2025.

We hope you will make your plans to join us not only for this but for our Wednesday night Bible Study every week.

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THE TRUCK FROM SUNNY GLEN came this past Wednesday and gathered up the items in our pantry. They expressed their deep appreciation for our generosity and will be planning a return trip in February 2026.

OUR "CHURCH FAMILY"

Cissy Amos, LaJuan Baugh, Martha Jean Golden, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, LaResa Livingston, Mike Lout, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Wayne Sims, Betty Willis

"EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Tami Abernathy (friend of Isaiah & Amanda Molloy hospitalized) Richard Barbee (Gene Bradshaw's nephew) David Bissett (Mike O'Brien's brother in law, cancer) Dwayne Brister (Cissy Amos' cousin) Jane Adams Burkhalter (Diedra Hughes' cousin) Debra Clifton (friend of LaResa Livingston) Coleen Dickerson (friend of Cissy Amos with leukemia) Leta Dozier (Ryan Perkins' grandmother) Hugh and Pat Fletcher (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) Joyce Fontenot (Debra Pate's mother) Emily Heflin (Mike Bostick's niece recovering from surgery) Suzi Hogan (Mike Bostick's sister-in-law) Ted Holt (former member of this congregation) Wynell Lawson (Diedra Hughes' aunt) Debbie Lynn (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing with memory issues) Norma Magby (Melonie Bradshaw's mother) Lamar McCormick (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) Lane O'Brien (Mike and Jana's son) 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) Norman Turner (Norma Perkins' father)

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

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

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER!

Make a note of the dates of these activities on the Calendar for 2025.

December 7, 2025 – No Excuse Sunday
December 21, 2025 – Annual Christmas Party

PUT THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!



Across The Preacher's Desk

I well remember some years ago, a well meaning lady telling me, "Tim, you are so tied up with rules and commandments, you just miss the whole point of loving the Lord." Her statement reflects a popular idea in our culture. There is the idea that we just need to love the Lord and not worry about keeping any commandments. Yet, often you hear me say or write that we need to live our lives within the will of God and live according to what God has commanded us.

It must be remembered that Jesus said in John 14:15, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments". You see, living God's kind of life, living the way Jesus wants us to live, doing what the Lord tells us to do is important. When Jesus turned the water into wine at the marriage feast in Cana of Galilee, Mary told the servants, "whatsoever he saith unto you, do it" (John 2:5)

If we want to go to heaven it is imperative that we do the will of God. Remember the words of Jesus in Matthew 7:21, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." That simple statement from the lips of Jesus should forever impress upon all of us the importance of living God's kind of life, living as God has commanded.

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

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