



# LET'S VISIT

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## A NATION THAT FORGOT GOD

On Friday of this week, our nation will celebrate its birthday. The Psalmist would write in Psalm 33:12, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord". Tragically, that statement cannot apply to the United States of America at this point in time. You see, as a nation, have lost our way. Many people have long referred to the United States as a "Christian Nation". In the strictest sense of that term, that the majority of her citizens were baptized believers, we have never been a "Christian Nation". However, in the sense that we had our foundation in Judeo-Christian principles we were a Christian Nation.

Over the past half century (give or take a few years) there has been a systematic effort to remove the influence of the God of Heaven, (referred to in our founding documents as the creator) from our society. Some were "offended" by prayer in schools, so the courts declared it unconstitutional. Some were offended by having either stone tablets or written plaques of "The Ten Commandments" in public places and on public land so the courts declared this to be unconstitutional and they were ordered removed. You could no longer have nativity scenes in the public square, "Merry Christmas" became offensive and you had to say "Happy Holidays". It even became controversial to have a "Christmas Tree" in the public square or public buildings. Every year, it seemed that the list of things that even remotely referenced God which were offensive grew larger and larger. There was no end to the things that some people found "offensive".

Then, there came those who advocated the murder of babies in the womb. They sanitized it by calling it "a woman's right to choose" and calling it "abortion" but it was still taking the life of an unborn child while it was still in the womb. It was still murder. You see,

when you are in the ER and the monitor flat-lines and your heart stops beating, the medical professionals declare you are dead. By that same logic, if you can hear and detect a heartbeat, that must indicate life. Therefore, to "abort" a baby in the womb when you can hear the heartbeat, you have taken a life. I know, some reading this will think I am being oversimplistic. However, I am just a simple country preacher and in my judgment, taking the life of a baby in the womb is still murder, no matter what language or terminology you choose to use in sanitizing it.

Now, over the past few years, perhaps the past 20 years or so, the trend has been to demonize, belittle and ridicule those who have a difference of opinion with you. Did it start with Hillary Clinton? Did it start with Barak Obama? Did it start with Donald Trump? No, it started long before they became prominent national figures. It started in the hearts of the American people many years ago. It started when we began to allow a loud, vocal minority to dictate that we should remove God from our national conscience and become a secular society. It started when we began the process of going away from core values rooted in Judeo-Christian principles. We are now witnessing some of the worst that man is capable of doing to man, and it is coming from both DEMOCRATS and REPUBLICANS.

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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



## *Fill 'er Up!*

**For The Pantry. . .**

**June 29 – Green Beans**

**Offering – June 22, 2025 . . \$ 2,020.00**

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

**A Nation That Forgot God – continued from page 1**

There are thugs and lowlives who support Democratic candidates and the goals of the Democratic Party. Does that mean that all Democrats are thugs and lowlives? No. I have some dear friends, good people, who are Democrats. I think their politics are misguided but I still think they are fundamentally good people and consider them friends. I also have friends that support A & M Football and OU Football but I still love them!

Conversely, there are some thugs and lowlives who support Republican candidates and the goals of the Republican Party. Does that mean that all Republicans are thugs and lowlives? No. Though I am not officially a Republican, the goals and ideals of the Republican Party for the most part align with my personal beliefs more than those of the Democratic Party. However, I don't think anyone would consider me a thug or lowlife.

Well, somehow we must fix the blame for this division in America. The Democrats and Main Stream Media will loudly tell you it's Donald Trump's fault. Republicans and Conservative Media will just as loudly proclaim "It's Barak Obama and Joe Biden's fault". The time has come to stop the finger pointing. The time has come to stop painting all Liberals (progressives) and Conservatives with

such a broad brush and in such derogatory terminology.

The time has come for you and I to realize that WE are the problem. The time has come for us to return to the Judeo-Christian principles our nation was founded upon. The time has come to realize Jesus meant what He said in Matthew 7:12, "Therefore all things, whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them" We need to start that NOW! Truth be told, I haven't seen a lot of that attitude exhibited in recent years in politics, business, the media, on social media or in daily life. It's time for America to return to God, and that means individually, each of us. The time to start is today.

*tp*

## *On The Lighter Side. . .*



*A boy asked a dentist, "Why does a small cavity feel so large to the tongue?" The dentist replied, "Just the natural tendency of your tongue to exaggerate I suppose".*



## 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!

\* \* \* \* \*

**Communion Preparation for June**  
Manny & Brittany Ortiz



### Wednesday FELLOWSHIP MEAL

We had a very enjoyable time sharing a meal together and spending our time in singing gospel songs this past Wednesday night. We would like for you to plan to come and join us for our next Wednesday night fellowship meal on July 30<sup>th</sup>.

We would also like for everyone to join us on Wednesday nights at 7:00 for our regular mid-week Bible Study. We hope you will come and join us.

*The first step toward knowledge is to realize that we are ignorant.*

### 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

If you come to our home and look in the refrigerator for the margarine, you won't find any. You will, however, find real, sweet cream butter in both salted and unsalted varieties. We use butter at our house, lots of butter and I have the waistline to prove it! This morning, as I applied a generous amount of butter to my biscuits, I watched it turn into a beautiful golden liquid as it soaked into that dry biscuit. That beautiful golden liquid made me think of the words of Jesus in Matthew 7:12, you know, the passage we call the "golden rule".

Jesus said, "whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them". Have you ever thought what a difference that would make in our world if we put that into practice in our lives? Some of the luster of that passage has been lost because it is tossed about so glibly and has been used on so many "plaques" that we hang on the wall. Yet, just like generous application of golden butter enriches a biscuit (or anything else!) every relationship in our lives could be improved and enriched by a generous application of Jesus' "golden rule".

If we would take a moment and remember these words of Jesus, it would drastically change our disposition, our words and our actions. Take a look at life from the other person's point of view. Let's make sure we use a portion of the golden rule in our lives as generously as the portion of butter we want on our biscuits!

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

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