

# Let's Visit

A publication of the Center Church of Christ  
110 Hurst Street Center, Texas 75935

Volume 8

Number 40

November 7, 2021



## "No Excuse Sunday"

Our next "Covered Dish Luncheon" will be on Sunday, December 5, 2021. We will celebrate birthdays and anniversaries for December, January and February. The past almost two years have been truly an unusual time. We have seen the number of people in our county with COVID 19 as high as 200 plus and we have seen them below 10. As of this writing, we are around 15 active cases in Shelby County. We went through a period where we had to meet for multiple services on Sunday morning in order to "socially distance". However, it looks as though we are about to resume life the way it used to be.

These occasions when we have our dinner and fellowship are always an enjoyable time, something we look forward to. We want everyone to participate and bring someone as their guest. However, it seems that sometimes folks can always find an excuse why they cannot do something. That said, we have designated December 5<sup>th</sup> as "**NO EXCUSE SUNDAY**"! In order to make things as convenient as possible, here is what we are planning to make 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  
KSLA 12 – 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



## Today's Sermon

### "Learning To Trust"

Our text comes from Matthew chapter 6. Jesus there tells us to not be anxious about the things of this life. We must learn to trust.

## FOR THE PANTRY....

### Kid's Fruit Drink Pouches

## 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.

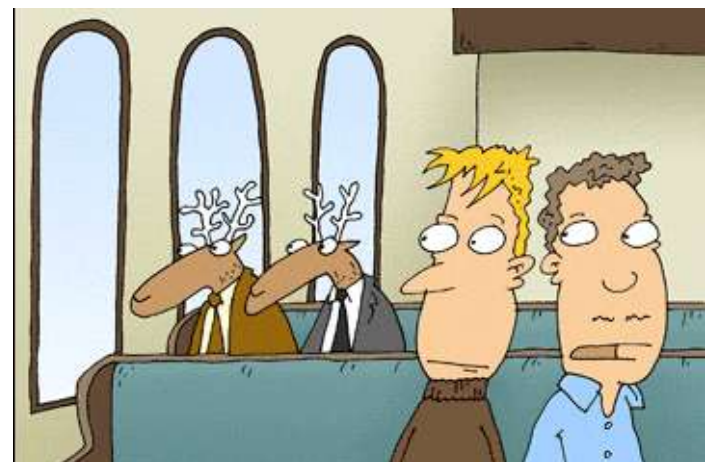
A war does not start overnight, but things begin to happen that finally lead to it.

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....



I DON'T KNOW WHO THEY ARE, BUT THEY SEEM TO SHOW UP AND HANG OUT HERE ABOUT THIS TIME EACH YEAR

## Miscellaneous

### Mark Your Calendar! "No Excuse Sunday"



Sunday  
December 5<sup>th</sup>  
Our Next Covered  
Dish Luncheon

Make Your Plans  
To Be Here!

\* \* \* \* \*

### UPDATED PANTRY ITEMS

The truck from Sunny Glen Children's Home will be here the week of November 15<sup>th</sup> to pick up what we have in our pantry for them. The following is an updated list of pantry items for the next four weeks.

October 24<sup>TH</sup> – Cake Mix  
October 31<sup>st</sup> – Cake Frosting

November 7<sup>th</sup> – Kids Fruit Drink Pouches  
November 14<sup>th</sup> All-purpose liquid cleaners

Let's fill our little red wagon and make sure we collect these items for their grocery pick-up!



## Those To Remember In Prayer

### OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Roxie Bostick, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden, Sue Hagler, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, Ted and Joyce Holt, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Wayne Sims, Melvin Williams

### "EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Mitchell Anthony (LaResa Livingston's brother) Ana Blair (friend of Debra Pate) Donna Boullion (Ted and Joyce Holt's niece) Gil Boullion (Ted and Joyce Holt's nephew) back surgery John Fincher (Dale Fincher's uncle) Gayle Foster (Cancer) Dalton Hendrix (Joyce Holt's great-great nephew) Sandra Hogan (friend of Roxie Bostick) Julia Keffer (Bobbi Holder's mother) Laurie King (Co-worker of Mike O'Brien,) cancer : Liam Martinez (11 months old ) Lamar McCormick (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) Calvin Smith (Debra Pate's uncle) heart and blood pressure issues; Katilyn Tate (Roxie Bostick's daughter-in-law) Jared and Natalie Tate (Mike and Roxie's son and daughter-in-law) Pat Tate (Jana O'Brien's mother)

### THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Amanda Bradshaw, Leland Bradshaw, Michele Bradshaw  
Jeremiah Soape and Lucas Tate

If you want someone added to the prayer list, please fill out a card and put it in the offering plate.

\* \* \* \* \*

## What Is My Role In The Church?

**PILLARS** – Worship regularly, giving time and money.

**SUPPORTERS** - Give time and money if they like the preacher.

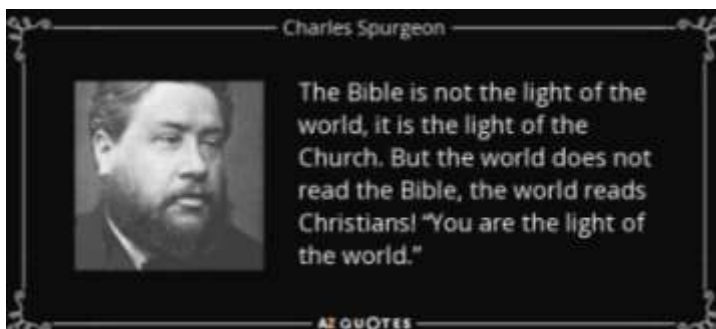
**LEANERS** - Use the church for funerals, baptisms, marriages, but give no time nor money to support the church.

**SPECIALS** - Give occasionally for something that appeals to them.

**SPONGES** - Take all the blessings and benefits but do nothing to support the church.

-selected

*While a bright eye is indicative of curiosity, often a black eye is indicative of too much curiosity.*





## 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. . . .tbp*

**God's Plan of  
Evangelism....**

**Each one bring one!**