

WELCOME TO CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

We exist here as a simple New Testament church, pointing people to the Christ and God of the Bible. The doors are open to those who from the quiet depths of their hearts, would reach out to God in simple worship and obedient living.

It is not our aim to amuse or entertain those who attend. It is not our purpose to feed vanity or pride. It is our intent to worship the sovereign God in spirit and truth. If you enjoy meditating on God's Word and sincerely want to know more about it, appreciate honoring Him through spiritual worship, and want warm, genuine love and fellowship, you will be pleased with the services of the Central Church of Christ.

**Men to Serve:**

**Sunday, December 25, 2022**

**Morning Worship**

Welcome/Announcements:	Larry Merrifield
Scripture:	<b>Philippians 2:12-18</b>
Song Leader:	Britt Price
Opening Prayer:	John Vie
Communion:	
	Bob Hadley, Michael Berry, Bob Vie

Sermon:	<b>SHINE AS LIGHTS IN THE WORLD</b>
Closing Prayer:	Jerry Kidd

**Afternoon Worship 4:00 pm**

Welcome/Announcements:	Larry Merrifield
Scripture:	<b>TBA</b>
Song Leader:	Britt Price
Opening Prayer:	Britt Price
Sermon:	<b>CASEY CLARK</b>
Communion:	Michael Berry
Closing Prayer:	David Adkins

**Wednesday (6:00pm)**

Song Leader:	Britt Price
Opening Prayer:	TBA
Closing Prayer:	Larry Merrifield



# Central Church of Christ

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*...Encourage one another daily... Hebrews 3:13*

**Sunday, December 25, 2022**

**Minister**

Kerry Clark

(903) 804-0559

<b>Sundays:</b>	Bible Class	<b>9:00 am</b>
	Worship	<b>10:00 am</b>
	Worship	<b>4:00 pm</b> (This month there will be no potluck. We will follow our regular schedule today).

**Wednesdays:**

Bible Class **6:00 pm**

**Special Studies:**

**Tuesdays:**

Men's Bible Study **4:00 pm**

**Thursdays:**

Ladies Bible Study **10:00 am**

## MARRIAGE

Last week we began a study of marriage. We mentioned that a new law had been passed in America called the “Respect for Marriage Act.” The law was lauded as a protection of marriage, but in reality, it was designed to give protection to those who are perverting what Jesus taught about marriage (see Mark 10:6-9).

### Key Principles and Scriptures

- God’s Law for Marriage (Genesis 2:15-25),
- Marriage is Permanent (Romans 7:1-3),
- Fornication is the Only Reason for Divorce (Matthew 19:9),
- God Hates Divorce (Malachi 2:16),
- The High Cost of Divorce (1 Timothy 5:8),
- Protecting Your Marriage (Hebrew 13:4).

***God’s Law for Marriage.*** Please see last week’s bulletin for a fuller discussion on this point. **Death was to be the only occurrence that would sever this permanent bond (Rom. 7:1-3).**

***Marriage is Permanent.*** We live in a society where it seems that everything is disposable. Sadly, this attitude has been adopted by many concerning marriage as well. Beginning with the first marriage in Genesis 2 and continuing throughout every age, God has demanded that marriage is a covenant between a man and a woman and God which is to last a lifetime (Rom. 7:1-3). Jesus affirmed this repeatedly (Matt. 5:31-32; 19:3-12; Mark 10:2-12; Luke 16:18). The apostles, following the teachings of their Master Jesus, reiterated what He taught (Rom. 7:1-3; 1 Cor. 7). The Bible is crystal clear that God’s ideal will for humans is that one man should marry one woman and that they should remain married until death severs that sacred bond.

***Fornication is the Only Reason for Divorce.*** The Greek word that Jesus used, which is translated fornication, means, “...sexual intercourse...it stands for, or includes adultery...”<sup>2</sup> Divorce, then, is acceptable to God only when one spouse has committed fornication against his/her spouse (Matt. 5:32; 19:9).

To be continued, Kerry Clark

**Attendance: 12-18-22**

**AM: 69 PM: 26 Wednesday: 29**

**Contribution: \$2,024**

**Weekly Budget: \$2,455**

**Don Bentley** is now recovering at home.

**Britt Price** is doing well.

**Mary Lou Betts**, Jim McCain’s sister, is down to 67 pounds.

**Carl Adams**, Mary’s brother-in-law, was taken to the hospital last Sunday.

**Cathy Garrett** has been exposed to the flu. She will remain home until all is clear.

### Continue Praying for The Following:

Anna Thiede; Don Bentley; Britt Price; Cathy Garrett; Lisa & Lloyd Flud; Nelda Danforth; Doyle & Laura Avant; Cheryl Jennings; Pat & Brenda Tolbert; Sandra Tankersley; Martha Sullivan; Tavenner Family; Janet Skipworth; Gail Kirchling; Dude Hemphill; Denise Fuentes; Mary Lou Betts

**Service Members:** Reece Hudson; Kris Fleming; Casey Clark; Trevor Garcia; Ryan Dallas; Adam Dallas; Alexandria Dallas; Colby Kelley; Gabe Baker

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**NO POTLUCK LUNCHEON THIS MONTH!**

12/31 – New Year’s Eve Party – 6 p.m. at the building

1/8 – Men’s Business Meeting – 5 p.m.

1/15 – Review of Men’s Business Meeting – 5 p.m.

1/29 – Potluck Lunch

Services are now available online: Please take advantage of our online services. <https://www.youtube.com>  
(Search for Central church of Christ Athens, TX).

**Visitors Welcomed, Members Expected,  
Everyone Loved!**



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