

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 6, 2020**

Morning Worship

Welcome/Announcements: Larry Merrifield
Scripture: **Matthew 17:1-5**
Song Leader: Rick Hull
Opening Prayer: Britt Price
Communion:

Bob Hadley, Larry Merrifield, Alan Hill

Sermon: **IT IS GOOD TO BE HERE**
Closing Prayer: Rodney Holton

Afternoon Worship (12:30 pm)

Welcome/Announcements: Larry Merrifield
Scripture: **Psalms 31:1-24**
Song Leader: Rick Hull
Opening Prayer: John Goodroe
Sermon: **THE LORD PRESERVES THE RIGHTEOUS**
Communion: Bob Hadley
Closing Prayer: Pat Tolbert

Wednesday (6:00pm)

Song Leader: Rick Hull
Opening Prayer: Larry Merrifield
Closing Prayer: David Adkins



Central Church of Christ

**1408 Cream Level Road (CR 3720)
Athens, Texas 75752
(903) 675-0291**

E-mail: centralchurchathens@gmail.com
Webpage: centralchurchathens.com

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

Sunday, December 6, 2020

Minister

Kerry Clark
(903) 804-0559

Sundays: Bible Class **9:00 am**
Worship **10:00 am**
Worship **6:00 pm** (On the last Sunday of each month, we have potluck followed by a 12:30 afternoon worship and no evening services)

Wednesdays: Bible Class **6:00 pm**

Special Studies:

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

Thursdays: Ladies Bible Study **10:00 am**

THE POWER OF PRAYER

by Kerry Clark

"I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time" (1 Tim. 2:1-6).

There is no doubt that we are today living in perilous times. As we look around us it seems that there is only bad news. You cannot watch the news on television, or listen to the news on the radio, or read the newspaper without being bombarded with negative statements. You read headlines like this constantly: "COVID-19 PANDEMIC WORSENS." "Humans are destroying the planet." "It is probably too late to save our planet." "Another innocent child murdered." On and on it seems to go. What does the Christian do under these circumstances? How does the Christian respond? What does a Christian do?

First of all, we need to remember that times really haven't changed much in the last 2,000 years or even 4,000 years. All we have to do is read the Bible to understand that there have always been perilous times, especially for God's people. Peter wrote to Christians in the First Century with these words, "Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ" (1 Pet. 1:6-7).

When you study the history of our nation, as well as other nations, you will see that there have always been difficult times. You see this especially during times of war. But, again to our question, what does the Christian do in perilous times? I think Paul provided the answer, at least partially in our opening text. "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority." Paul encourages us first of all to offer supplications for leaders. The word supplication means a petition. In other words, we are to petition God in behalf of our leaders. Next Paul says we are to pray for them. The word translated "pray" means an earnest prayer. We should pray earnestly for our leaders. Next Paul says we are to offer intercessions in their behalf. The idea of intercessions is that we are to intervene in their behalf. Synonyms for this word would be mediate, plead, ask on somebody's behalf, negotiate, arbitrate, or to act as a mediator. Finally Paul said that we are to give thanks for our leaders.

Paul indicated that we are to do all of these so that we might lead a quiet, peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. In all of these statements we ought to see the power of prayer. One of the first things that a Christian ought to do in times of trouble is to pray. Jesus, our greatest example was a man of prayer. "And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed" (Mark 1:35). Brethren, we need to never forget the power of prayer. May God help us all to be more prayerful, especially in these times of trouble.

Attendance: 11-22-2020

AM – 28 PM – Wednesday –

Contribution: \$670 (\$400 building loan)

Weekly Budget: \$2,416

PRAYER REQUESTS AND UPDATES:

Kerry Clark and Olivia Cantu are out of quarantine! **Teri** remains in quarantine for another few days.

Bob Walden, Sarah Dyer's brother-in-law, is in the hospital following a mowing accident.

Colby Kelley graduated from Navy Boot Camp! He is now a sailor! Congrats, Colby! **Sharon Fleming** was released from the hip doctor on the same day! All is well except for taking it slow for a while!

Nicole Kirkpatrick (the Gilliam's daughter) will need a pacemaker placed in her heart in the next couple of weeks.

CONTINUE PRAYING FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Dub Moore; Candy & Carroll Dyson; Anna Thiede; Mac & Zelma Montgomery; Cheryl Jennings; Don Gilmore; Eleanor Eastep; Brenda Tolbert; Nancy Townsend; Dan Manuel; Amy Tischler; David Tyree; Rick Williams; Lisa & Lloyd Flud; Jordan Herring; Mary Lou Betts; Matt Brazeal; Diane Harris; Rick and Bonnie Pierce; Rex Turner; June Cobb; Janet Brinkmann.

Service members: Reece Hudson; Kris Fleming; Pate Scott; Casey Clark; Trevor Garcia; Ryan Dallas; Alexandria Dallas; Colby Kelley.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

TODAY – Potluck following morning services. No 6 p.m. service at the building. Everyone is invited to stay and enjoy! 12/31 – New Year's Eve Party at the Building starting at 6pm and going until Bring finger foods, drinks, games, and friends.

Services are now available online: Please take advantage of our online services if you are unable to attend!

<https://www.youtube.com> (search for Central church of Christ Athens, TX).

Covid-19 warnings: Please keep in mind the virus is still active and take every precaution necessary. If you are sick, please stay home. If you are concerned with catching this virus, please prayerfully consider whether you are comfortable returning to services at this time.

*Visitors Welcomed, Members Expected,
Everyone Loved!*

