

# The Church of Christ Bulletin

**"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."  
-Ecclesiastes 12:13**

**VOLUME 25  
NUMBER 5**

**FEBRUARY 4, 2018**

## **SHEPHERDS**

*Boyce Edwards  
Lee Fisher  
Zachary Petties*

## **DEACONS**

*Jacob Bryant  
Rey Cruz  
Roger Deem  
Gaylen Williams*

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## **PREACHERS**

*Dan Carter  
Boyce Edwards*

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## **TREASURER**

*Trevor Heilman*

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## **MONTHLY SUPPORT:**

*Cherokee Home  
For Children  
Cherokee, TX*

*Christian Homes &  
Family Services  
Abilene, TX*

*Foster's Home  
For Children  
Stephenville, TX*

*Sunny Glen  
Children's Home  
San Benito, TX*

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## **SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

### **SUNDAY**

BIBLE CLASSES \_\_\_\_\_ 9:30 A.M.

WORSHIP \_\_\_\_\_ 10:30 A.M.

EVENING WORSHIP \_\_\_\_\_ 5:00 P.M.

### **WEDNESDAY**

CLASSES/WORSHIP \_\_\_\_\_ 7:00 P.M.

## *Missions of the Church*

**Shepherds Notes by Lee Fisher**

"Jesus made a man out of mud and the man walked. I used to make men out of mud – mine wouldn't walk. God did something man couldn't do. Men try to save themselves-can't do it no more than my mud men could walk. But God can do what man can't do-SAVE." (Marshall Keeble)

Some would say that the Church is like any social body which requires a level of organization that sets the conditions for how it operates in terms of scheduling, personnel, finances, and leadership. But what is the mission of the church? What is its purpose for being in the world? Just as the church had a divine beginning, even so it has a divine mission. The mission of the church is a spiritual one and is the same as the mission of Christ which is to preach the Gospel (Matt 25:31-46). By the church God is glorified in the world, and when it ceases to function as the New Testament church, it ceases to glorify God. Christ came into the world that He might save the world, so likewise it is the chief objective of the church to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10). Therefore it is through the church that this is accomplished and those of us in the church must do all we can to fulfill this purpose individually and collectively.

Benevolence is also our Mission (Matt 25:31-46). Sometimes people say: "What about the poor and the unfortunate? Doesn't the church have an obligation to them?" Yes, it is necessary to do good and relieve the afflicted, the needy and poor; but that is not the primary mission of the church. As Peter explained: "If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen" (1 Peter 4:11).

Another Mission of the Church is to keep Christians faithful. Paul said, "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:" (Eph. 4:11-12). Who would question the importance of edifying and building unity in the body of Christ? God wants every Christian to grow and be at peace with every other Christian (Phil 2:1-4). He wants us to use our unique talents and skills for the work of the Ministry. Everyone has something to offer, but far too many congregations of the Lord's people have been wrecked by division and discord which stalls or prevents the work of the Ministry.

As stated by Matthew in (28:20), Jesus said, "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." The "them" are the ones who are baptized! When the Lord adds to the church such as should be saved, then it is the mission of the church to teach them what Jesus wants them to know. It is not enough to teach them the first principles and then leave them to their own devices - they must be taught to observe all things that Jesus commanded.

The goal of every church is to produce the likeness of Christ in the lives of its members. Its goal in all its work and worship is to reproduce in every member the character of Jesus Christ. Brethren may all of us in the church realize that our purpose is to reproduce the character of Jesus in every member! May it be said of all of us, as it was once said, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus"-(Phil 2:5). Let's work towards growth so that we can have the mind of Christ! When we do this, our outlook on life will change, and we will be spiritually focused.

God Bless!  
Lee

*From the Desk*

## LIFe BeYOND

*of Dan Carter*

Back when I was much younger I remember older folks talking about Heaven. As a child I thought that it sounded good but could not realize how important it was to have a faith that looked beyond the veil of tears. I was just a kid, what did I know about the hurts of life that would lay ahead!

Then as I continued to grow and mature, I began to realize, more and more, what the older folks were talking about. I had been near the dead on many occasions. I had seen a number die. I will never forget that my dad helped dig graves for many of the folks out in the country in those days.

Life and death. Actually, you cannot separate the two. Everywhere you look is life and death. It is just as simple as the green leaves in the Spring and the dead ones in the Fall. Everything has a purpose. Life is a period of learning and preparing for things to come.

Now, to my point: Life Beyond. It is true! There is another life! There is a place the spirit returns at death. We are informed that God is the Father of spirits and that at death, the spirit returns to God who gave it (Hebrews 12:9; Eccl.12:7).

Every soul should be aware that life does not end at death. We are eternal beings just occupying a material body. The physical body dies, but the spirit lives on. We are here for a purpose and the sooner we realize it the happier we will be. So many look for a purpose in life, when it is right before them. Some seek for worldly pleasures;

others, seek fame; then, we have some who chase the almighty dollar. No wonder Jesus gave so much teachings on the life beyond. Men need to set their affections on things above, rather than things of earth (Col.3:1, 2). If we pursue things of earth, we will miss the things above. Jesus said: "What shall a man gain, if he gain the whole world, and lose his own soul" (Matthew 16:26)?

We must "*Seek the things that are above*" (Matthew 6:33). We must look at life as a preparation for eternity with God. To remain unprepared, or to pursue after the world, is to miss the beauty of heaven. Our souls live on. We are given an eternal spirit. The spirit will live on. We want to live on with God, not the devil. So we must prepare. To come into Christ; live in Christ; and, die in Christ, must be our goal. Sad thing is that a number who come into Christ are taken back into the world by the advances of the evil one (1 Peter 5:8). We are in a war. The devil is ever ready to get us back. Those who live evil, think evil and speak evil, are already with the devil. But, when we turn to Christ, our only hope (John 14:6), the devil becomes mad and like a roaring lion he pursues us.

Listen to this verse: "*Finally, brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. Put on the whole amour of God that you may be able to fight against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places*" (Eph. 6:11,12).

Hang in there! Never give up! We are on our way to a home in heaven.

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

**OUR SICK:** James Garner's stepdaughter's, mother is in organ failure. His wife Tammy, is to have a procedure for her neck on February 13. Please keep this family in your prayers.

-Visiting member, Jack Tinker, has asked for prayers on behalf of his daughter who has stage 4 cancer and started chemotherapy and radiation last Tuesday. Please keep her in your prayers.

-Donna Hines' sister, Rhonda, fractured her ankle recently and is unable to work. Please keep her in your prayers.

-Gary & Shirl Foster are traveling and became ill. Please keep them in your prayers.

-John Llewellyn is to have surgery on his hand on February 13. Please keep him in your prayers.

**CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR OUR SICK & HOMEBOUND:** Traelyan Griffith, Angela Thomas' mother (Onia Stephens), Trudy Perrault's daughters, (Trudy & Carol), Dan's friend (Patsy Cathey), Zack Petties' co-worker, Linda Moore's brother (Carl Britton), James & Tammy Garner & family members (Christel Algozer & Mary Mosley), Dora Ray Chanslor, Dennis & Sandra Marler's daughter (Shanna Cuba), Connie Cruz and her friends (Juanita Cardenas & Yolanda Perez) & Rey & Connie's family, Willard Dunn, Linda Walts, Tina Pallo, Jim Dukes, Kyle Pocanowski's mother, Scott Davis, David Shilling, Brett Lingle, Brenda Sellers' mother, stepmother, & her sister (Jesse), Al & Gayle Wilson's sister-in-law (Regina Farmer), Alice Saffor, John Llewellyn's sister (Janet Schleyer), Nelda Cox, Mary Culp, Sybil Cason, Jonathan Simmons Sr., Janet Simmons, Jonathan Simmons Jr., Garnie & Nada Miller, Gail Mende's son (Eric), Shirl Foster, Zack & Amanda Petties' son-in-law's stepmother (Vivian), Amanda's nephew. Please keep these members and loved ones in your prayers as they battle health problems.

**VISITATION TEAMS:** Visitation Team #4 will meet with their leader, Derrel Heginbotham, today, to get their visitation assignments. Team members are: Derrel & Carla Heginbotham, Lee & Natalie Fisher, Roger & Linda Deem, Dan Carter, Angela Thomas, and Martha Bell.

THOSE TO SERVE THE WEEK OF  
FEBRUARY 4, 2018:

**PARKING LOT DUTY:** BRUCE BROWN

**HALL MONITOR:** TONY SHELTON

**AUDIO/VIDEO SYSTEMS FOR FEBRUARY:**  
PATRICK SELLERS

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** BOYCE EDWARDS

**SONG DIRECTOR:** BRUCE BROWN JR.

**COMMUNION:**

(NORTH) ANDRE PETTAWAY, REGGIE BASS  
CHARLES CULVER, JOHN HOBSON

(SOUTH) GAYLEN WILLIAMS, DENNIS  
MARLER

BRETT LINGLE, GRAHAM TUCKER

**SCRIPTURE READING:** JOHN LLEWELLYN

**PICK UP CARDS:** BO BRYANT  
RANGER SANDERS

**PRAYERS:**

(A.M.) LEE FISHER, AL WILSON  
(P.M.) ZACK PETTIES, ROGER DEEM

**NURSERY ATTENDANTS (A.M.):**

BARBARA SHELTON & DIANE LINGLE

**EVENING SONG DIRECTOR:**

GAYLEN WILLIAMS

**EVENING COMMUNION:**

ZACK PETTIES

**WEDNESDAY SONG LEADER:**

JOHN LLEWELLYN

**WEDNESDAY PRAYER:** BOYCE EDWARDS

**PREPARE COMMUNION FOR FEBRUARY:**

BARBARA HUGHART



OFFICE: 254-634-7373 or leave a message at 254-634-7476 / [kcofc@embarqmail.com](mailto:kcofc@embarqmail.com)  
DAN CARTER: 254-213-8217 / [gospel1killeen@embarqmail.com](mailto:gospel1killeen@embarqmail.com)  
BOYCE EDWARDS: 254-319-5008 / [bkedward@embarqmail.com](mailto:bkedward@embarqmail.com)  
WEBSITE: [www.kcofc.org](http://www.kcofc.org)

## WELCOME TO THE LORD'S CHURCH THAT MEETS HERE!

*Our mission is to share the Good News of our  
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with our  
neighbors for their soul's salvation.  
\*Our speaker today is Dan Carter.*

### WELCOME HOME!

***Rikki Martin's husband, Christopher, is  
home from South Korea. Please keep this  
family in your prayers.***

Join us for our monthly Fellowship Potluck  
Luncheon following the morning service in the  
Fellowship Hall.

Kitchen Group #2 will have kitchen duties: Brenda  
Sellers, Amanda Petties, Angela Thomas, Trudy  
Perrault, and Rey & Connie Cruz.

Save the  
Dates:  
June 2-6!

WE WILL BE HOSTING A MARRIAGE  
RETREAT & GOSPEL MEETING, STARTING  
JUNE 2 (WITH A MARRIAGE RETREAT,  
THEN JUNE 3-6 (OUR ANNUAL GOSPEL  
MEETING), WITH OUR RETURNING GUEST  
SPEAKER, DR. BILL DAVIS, EDITOR OF  
FOCUS PRESS MAGAZINE, AND ELDER AT  
ARLINGTON ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST, IN  
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA.

Warm greetings to all our visitors  
and members!! Dear visitors,  
we invite you to come back and  
visit with us whenever you can!

Please fill out an Attendance  
Card and pass it to the inner  
aisle so we may have a record  
of your attendance.

THANK YOU!

Please turn off or silence your  
phone devices-thank you!

### ☞FEBRUARY☞

4-Fellowship Luncheon following  
morning service (kitchen group  
#2 will have kitchen duty).

7-Singing Night

17-Ladies Breakfast & Workday

18-Ladies Bible Class, 3:30 pm,  
in the fellowship hall.

19-The office will be closed in  
observance of the Presidents'  
Day holiday.