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CENTRAL'S ASSEMBLIES
BRING A FRIEND AND ATTEND
SUNDAY 10:30 A.M. Canceled
WORSHIP A.M. 10:30 A.M.
WORSHIP P.M. Canceled
WEDNESDAY Online
MID-WEEK CLASSES

Happy is he whose hope is in the Lord
his God.

Psalms 146:5 KJV

IN SEARCH
OF THE LORD'S WAY
"These were more noble...
they searched the scriptures daily..."
SEARCH PROGRAMS:
February 7 "God Is at Work in Baptism"
February 14 "What will Love do?"
February 21 "Let Us Pray"
February 28 "The Narrow Way"

Record for February 21, 2021

Bible School No Classes
Worship Service 62
Sunday Evening No Services
Wednesday Evening Online
Contribution \$4,734.40

Cleaning Team for the week of February 28: Team #1

You Can Find Our Worship Service On:

Central's Facebook Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/centralchurchofchristshawneeok/>

Central's YouTube Channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq8ft4soarDDSYork8ol9xpw?>

Central's Webpage:
<http://www.shawneecentralcofc.org/media.php/t=sermons>

If you would like to mail your offering, mail it to:

Central Church of Christ
P.O. Box 1228
Shawnee, OK 74802

If you would like for someone to bring you communion supplies, pick up your contribution, or have any other needs please call the Church office at 405-273-3065, or you can contact one of our Elders or Deacons.

To give through Tithely follow this link:
<https://tithe.ly/give?c=423231>

Our morning worship is now being streamed live on You Tube at 10:30 a.m. Go to the You Tube link noted above. It may also be viewed on our website and Facebook later in the day.



February 28, 2021 Vol. L 25, No. 09

THE GOSPEL GUIDE

In Loving Memory



James "Jim" Pettyjohn

November 8, 1940 – February 16, 2021

Tenth and Bell—P.O. Box 1228—Shawnee, OK 74802-1228

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Steve Kelly
Bob Perry
Bob Stephens

DEACONS:
Dale Beard
Joe Curtis
Tracy Gettle
Keith Lawrence
Ron Taffe

Secretary:
Lois Carter

MISSIONS:
Haiti Children's Home
Hope Harbor Children's Home
Liflyfield Christian & Adoption
Nicaragua
Search
Southern Africa Bible College

Christ in You

Consider the book of Colossians this morning.

Even though the faith and love of the Colossians was visible, Paul still prayed for them (1:3-9). His prayer was that they grow in the knowledge of what God wants for them in their lives. God's will is that they know wisdom and have spiritual understanding. Wisdom is knowing the best way to live, and spiritual understanding is knowing why it is the best way to live. Living this way is pleasing to God, it produces goodness in our lives, and through it we increase in our relationship with God (1:10). Through wisdom and understanding we gain strength, patience, joy, thankfulness, and salvation in a dark world (1:11-14). Having a visible faith and love was just the beginning of their spiritual walk.

To understand the great Old Testament secret of "Christ in you" (1:27), we must understand "Christ". Christ is everything. He created everything, He holds everything together, and He is over everything (1:15-18). This means that He is the most powerful, most reliable, and most important individual that you can ever know. He is the visual depiction of God Himself, thus, it is safe to conclude that He is God Himself. And if God Himself, then this is the one who we are growing in our relationship with. And so yes, it is significant that you are in Christ, but even as significant is that Christ is in you. From this we can truly have complete and full lives (1:28; 2:10). And if Christ is in you, then walk in Him (1:6). This walk is a life of knowing how to live and why to live that way; wisdom and spiritual understanding.

This is the reason that it is not good enough to just stop at living lives of visible love and faith but to grow in the knowledge of what God wants for you in your life. It is Christ that has the answers to wisdom and spiritual understanding. Remember how Paul said that this produced salvation from a dark world. Now it is important not to be drawn back into that dark world. The world is going to try to do this by deceiving you (2:4), trying to take you captive (2:8), judging you (2:16), and condemning you for how you are living (2:18). So the defense against this spiritual assault is to grow in conviction of understanding and wisdom (2:2-3), become established in the faith (2:7), and become complete in Christ (2:10).

With Christ we died, were buried, and were raised. This was the spiritual circumcision of our hearts.

(continued on the next column)

In other words, what we needed was heart surgery and Christ was the surgeon. When we were dead in sin, God raised us from the dead through the resurrection of Christ. Paul says that this heart surgery and newness of life came at baptism (2:11-15). This was the point at which we received the grace of God and lost the burden of our past sins. And thus, we died to worldly wisdom (2:20-23). Godly wisdom is that which comes from spiritual understanding. Having been raised with Christ, we are to live with godly wisdom and spiritual understanding on this earth (3:1-4). The way of living that harmed our relationship with God (3:5-7) and our relationship with others (3:8-11) are to be removed. The reason for this is because Christ is everything and Christ is in you (3:11). And the rest of the chapter is Paul showing us what this wisdom and spiritual understanding looks like in the church, in the family, and in the workplace (3:12-4:1). Chapter 4 shows many others that are striving to live in this way and teach this way. The purpose is so that everyone will be "perfect and complete in all the will of God" (4:12; and also remember 1:9).

Christ in you is everything because Christ is everything. When you are filled with the knowledge of what God wants for you in your life, you know how to live and why to live that way. When you have wisdom and spiritual understanding, there is no turning away. You are full. Why would anyone want to live an empty life once they have experienced a full life? Only those who have not grown in the fullness of God would want to turn away from Him. Thus, Paul's prayer for the Colossians should be our prayer for ourselves. We have to grow in our desire to please God, do good, and be closer to Him. Then we can have the strength to endure with joy and thanksgiving this dark world. This is a full life. Christ is in you, Christian. Do not let anyone take Him away from you (2:18) and do not keep Him to yourself (1:28).

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Logan Edmison

Preacher at Central church of Christ in Shawnee, OK

In Memory of James "Jim" Pettyjohn

Jim passed from this life Tuesday, February 16, 2021. A beautiful memorial service was held in his honor Saturday, February 20, 2021.

Gentleman, a gentle man, encourager, servant of God...just a few of the descriptors for this good man. At Central Jim was also known as friend, deacon and elder. Jim and Cathy began worshipping at Central in 1996 and quickly became an integral part of the Central fellowship. In 1997 Jim accepted the duties of a deacon and then in 2007 accepted the responsibilities of elder. To all that Jim did and in particular with regard to his efforts for the church, he applied his kind, generous and encouraging nature to each and every task. His interest in people and in programs was coupled with his unpretentious support. He mastered the skill of slipping money as he shook hands with those in need or with those in charge of an important church program. Always supportive in words of encouragement and in deeds.

As we mourn the loss of this good friend and adjust to the void created by his passing, we rejoice that a faithful servant is now home. We extend our deepest condolences to Cathy and to the family during this time of loss.

In the world ye shall have tribulations; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

John 16:33 KJV

Join us for a Wednesday Night study. Logan Edmison will continue a study on the book of Ecclesiastes entitled "A Full Life."

This will be available online.



CONTINUING PRAYER CONCERNS
All these members and friends have continuing health concerns or other special circumstances.
They appreciate your interest and prayers.

Don Mack	Fredith Hanifan	Hayden Leonard
Chad Beard	John Sullivan	Selene Williams
Carla Dame	Thelma Divine	Dorothy Strickland
Carl Weeks	Diane Lawerance	Thearlene Morris
Emma White	Frank Romberg	John Rampey
Boyd Cheney	Sandra Pollard	Sandon Hilditch
Debbie Taffe	Debra Campbell	Blake Carter

Reading the Bible in a Year Together

March 1, 2021
Deuteronomy Chapters 29-31

March 2, 2021
Deuteronomy Chapters 32-34

March 3, 2021
Joshua Chapters 1-4

March 4, 2021
Joshua Chapters 5-7

March 5, 2021
Joshua Chapters 8-10

March 6 2021
Joshua Chapters 11-14

March 7, 2021
Joshua Chapters 15-17

TIPTON HOME



Our Tipton Home collection for the month of **March** is **Dryer sheets**.

Please place these items in the barrel in the foyer. Thank you.

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday morning worship service will be at 10:30a.m.
Wednesday Night service will be online.