

Periodical
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CENTRAL'S ASSEMBLIES
BRING A FRIEND AND ATTEND
SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.
WORSHIP A.M. 10:30 A.M.
WORSHIP P.M. Canceled

WEDNESDAY
MID-WEEK CLASSES Online

With God all things are possible.
Matthew 19:26

IN SEARCH
OF THE LORD'S WAY
"These were more noble... they searched the scriptures daily..."

SEARCH PROGRAMS:

- May 2 "Authentic Christianity"
- May 9 "A Good Conscience"
- May 16 "Heaven Rejoices"
- May 23 "Worship with the Church"
- May 30 "Why We Evangelize"

Record for April 25, 2021

Bible School	59
Worship Service	92
Sunday Evening	No Services
Wednesday Evening	Online
Contribution	\$3,215.65

Cleaning Team for the week of May 02: Team #5

SERVING THE CONGREGATION
WEEK OF SUNDAY: May 02, 2021
WORSHIP SERVICE
Announcements: Bob Stephens
Scripture Reader: Dale Beard
Opening Prayer: Dwayne Dennis
Song Director: Austin Beard
Closing Prayer: Roger Farris
Lord Supper: Dalton Path
North: Eric Park/Colt Goodman
South: Beau Carter/Don Mack
Projection: Ken Whittington
Audio Controls: Clavin Norwood

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/UCq8ft4soarDDSyok8ol9xpw?>

Central's Webpage:
[http://www.shawneecentralcofc.org/media.php/t=sermons](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.

Our morning worship is now being streamed live on YouTube 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.



May 02, 2021 Vol. L 25, No. 18

THE GOSPEL GUIDE

ELDERS:
Paul Harris
Steve Kelly
Bob Stephens

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

Minister:
Logan Edmison

Secretary:
Lois Carter

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



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Paycheck Theology

Romans 4:1-4

There are many in the world that have a “paycheck” theology. In other words, the good things that they do in life earn them what I like to call “spiritual currency”. All you must do to get into heaven is have earned enough spiritual currency to pay the door fee. If you ask someone if they are going to heaven, listen to their answer? Many times, the answer is, “I think I am a good person” or “I hope so” (almost implying, “I hope I have done enough”). This type of “good person” and “done enough” language is “paycheck” theology. They hope that they have been good enough to earn enough spiritual currency to get into heaven. The only thing paycheck theology accomplishes is a life that is bankrupt and an eternity of “indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish” (Romans 2:8-9).

Where did the idea of “good actions balance out bad actions” even come from? Many people honestly believe that our lives are written on a ledger sheet where our bad actions are listed on the left, and our good actions are listed on the right, and if we have more good actions than bad, then we can go to “The Good Place”. As a matter of fact, an entire TV series was based on this premise. Sorry to spoil the show (because it does have some interesting secular philosophy in it), their conclusion is that it is impossible to be good enough to get into the Good Place. As a matter of fact, they find that no one has been allowed into the Good Place for hundreds if not thousands of years. As I am watching, I am practically yelling at the TV screen, “Exactly! That is what Christians have been saying for thousands of years!”

But have they? Sad to say that much of Christian theology in the church and denominations have been influenced by “paycheck theology”. One of the reasons Martin Luther wanted to reform Catholicism was because Catholicism was rooted in salvation by merit. Martin Luther went so far in this direction that he threw baptism clear out the window (something that the apostle Paul evidently is not willing to do as we will see).

But even if salvation by merit was even possible, it would still be a flawed system. The reason is because if you deserve to go to heaven, then God owes heaven to you (i.e., debt). Life is all about waiting to receive your ultimate paycheck, because that is how “good” of a person you are. Many get to Romans chapter 4, and

still have not understood the point: “There is none who does good, no, not one” (Romans 3:12; which is an Old Testament reference). And even if God did owe you blessing, what kind of relationship is that? Answer: the kind of broken, impersonal relationship that Jesus addressed and came to heal in His ministry on earth. If you get to chapter 4 and still do not get it, go back to chapter 1, and try again. This is healthy advice for all of us.

The only logical way for salvation to even be a possibility is to throw “paycheck” theology out the window and replace it with “gift” theology. In other words, you do not deserve it, but God gives it to you because you trust in Him (i.e., grace). Good works do not earn salvation, and good works do not negate bad works. If I am not humble enough to admit that my sin makes me deserve death, then I may have trouble understanding the book of Romans, a book that demands humility.

Logan Edmison



Joe & Amber Curtis are both scheduled to have surgery on Friday April 30. Please keep Joe and Amber in your prayers.

Maggie Prater's dad **John Rampey** is in St. Francis Muskogee ICU. Please keep **Maggie Prater** and the **Rampey Family** in prayer. He continues to have complications after having covid.

Join us for a Wednesday Night study.
Logan Edmison will continue a study on the book of James entitled “Wisdom from Above.”

This will be on Facebook live at 5:00 pm.



Central's Burnt Cabin session is June 13-19. Our theme this year is “Lego, Let God”. We will be studying all week about letting God be our boss, our protector, our peace giver, and that He is enough. Camp applications are in the foyer and everywhere you find the weekly bulletin throughout the building. Applications will also be on the church and camp websites.



If you have any questions regarding camp, or would like to contribute to help send a child, please see Bob or Janet Stephens. In addition, please be praying that our camp session will be fruitful in teaching our kids and kids across the state the importance of Letting God into their lives.



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|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 01– Jason Perry | 19– Kaci Shadaram |
| 03– Lysa Park | 22– Louise Perry |
| 07– Janet Stephens | 24– Andrew Harmon |
| 13– Alex Beard | 26– Jeff Lawerance |
| 13– Geraldine Outlaw | 29– Jennifer Harmon |
| 13– Rita Romberg | 29– Lindsey Borcharding |
| 19– Clavin Norwood | 30– Amanda Edmison |
| 22– Boyd & Joann Cheney | |
| 30– Bill & Diane Lawerance | |

The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.
James 3:18 KJV

Executive Desk Needs A New Home

We have an executive desk that is no longer needed. It is wood, has a 3' X 5' top, and has three drawers. This is free to any member. Call the office if you are interested.

Reading the Bible in a Year Together

- May 03, 2021
2 Chronicles Chapters 19-21
- May 04, 2021
2 Chronicles Chapters 22-25
- May 05, 2021
2 Chronicles Chapters 26-28
- May 06, 2021
2 Chronicles Chapters 29-31
- May 07, 2021
2 Chronicles Chapters 32-35
- May 08, 2021
2 Chronicles Chapters 36, Ezra 1-2
- May 09, 2021
Ezra Chapters 3-5

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 | Blake Carter |
| Chad Beard | John Sullivan | Selene Williams |
| Carla Dame | Thelma Divine | Dorothy Strickland |
| Carl Weeks | Diane Lawrence | Thearlene Morris |
| Emma White | Frank Romberg | John Rampey |
| Boyd Cheney | Sandra Pollard | Sandon Hilditch |
| Debbie Taffe | Debra Campbell | David Perry |

TIPTON HOME



Our Tipton Home collection for the month of **May is Toilet Tissue.**

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

LOOKING AHEAD

- Bible Class in auditorium at 9:30 am**
- Sunday morning worship service 10:30 am**
- Wednesday Night service will be online.**
- May 16 at 2:00 pm Elders/Deacons meeting**
- Burnt Cabin - June 13th - 16th**