

**Central Christian Church
8:30am Worship
11:00am Worship**

December 22, 2013



**Growing our faith...
Living our faith...
Sharing our faith...
Together**



[/CentralChristianWeatherford](#)



[@CCCDisciples](#)

www.welcometothetable.us

8:30 Worship

Joy to the World Red Hymnal 143

Angels We Have Heard on High Red Hymnal 155, v. 1, 3, 4

Lighting of the Advent Candle (Joy)
Invitation to Children's Church—Molly Goodrich

Special Music—Choir

Time of Prayer

Prayer—Danny Couch

Sharing of Ourselves: All Church Christmas Project

Scripture: I John 3:1, 16-18

Come, O Long-expected Jesus—Red Hymnal 125

Sermon—Shannon Moore

Emmanuel, Emmanuel Red Hymnal 134

Invitation to Communion—Molly Goodrich

The Circle of Faith

11:00 Worship

The First Noel Red Hymnal 151, v. 1, 2, 3

Call to Worship

God is love!

God's love was revealed to us in Christ.

God sent the Son into world to give us life.

We are God's children, and we worship our God with joy!

Angels We Have Heard on High Red Hymnal 155, v. 1, 3, 4

Lighting of the Advent Candle (Joy)
Invitation to Children's Church—Molly Goodrich

Come See the Baby—Choir

Time of Prayer

Prayer—Molly Goodrich

Sharing of Ourselves: All Church Christmas Project

Scripture: I John 3:1, 16-18

Come, O Long-expected Jesus Red Hymnal 125

Sermon—Shannon Moore

Angels, from the Realms of Glory Red Hymnal 149

Invitation to Communion—Robert Goodrich

Joy the World Red Hymnal 143

Upcoming Events...

Participate in Christmas Project by donating today!

Give a blessing to a local family!

- ◆ *Place check or cash using envelope in offering plate.*

Designate it Christmas Project.

- ◆ *Mail or drop check or cash by church office.*

- ◆ *Use online giving through Vanco. Go to our website: www.welcometothetable.net*

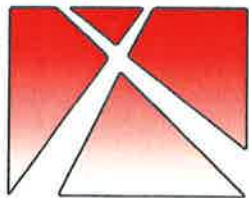
Gifts can be given as Honorariums or Memorials.

Cards available for Honorarium Acknowledgement.

Christmas Worship Services

Candlelight Service
Christmas Eve at 7pm & 11pm

Christmas Day Service at 10am



Crossroads Calendars
created with beautiful art work
by the Crossroads Kids
\$10.00 each

Available in the narthex
or in the Church Office!

*All proceeds go to
the Crossroads Ministry.*

Memorials for Christmas Project...

Given in memory of Trenton Potter
by Tony & Claudia Brancato

Honorariums for Christmas Project...

Given in honor of

Robert & Molly Goodrich
by Jay & Rosalind Larmer

Given in honor of their grandchildren
by Don & Sara Quy

Given in honor of Steve & Linda Salmon
Given in honor of her siblings & families
by Cathy Simonds

Given in honor of Kendle & Brian
Butterworth, Kristyn Wade
by Don & Betty Wade

Given in honor of Tom & Barbara Vastine
by Patty & Randy Ellis

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 22, 4th Sunday of Advent, Joy

7:45 am – Early Choir Rehearsal
8:30 am – Worship
9:30 am – Coffee Fellowship
10:00 am – Sunday School
11:00 am – Worship

Tuesday, December 24

7:00 pm—Candlelight Worship
11:00 pm—Candlelight Worship

Wednesday, December 25

10:00 am—Christmas Worship

Sunday, December 29

BOG RIDER SUNDAY

8:30 am – Worship
9:30 am – Coffee Fellowship
10:00 am – Sunday School
11:00 am – Worship

**The Church Office will not keeping regular office hours
this week due to Christmas & Vacation time.**

**Please call office ahead at 817-594-3053 & leave
Message. Messages will be checked often.
Call 817-304-5069 for immediate assistance.**

Wishing each of you a blessed Christmas!

**Wednesday Evening Activities
will resume on January 8.
See you then!**

Prayer Updates...

Hospice

Bonnie Jackson—Santa Fe Nursing Center

Jerry Wood—**Maya Wood's** husband, Florida

Hospitalized

Jack Tedder – **Carol Gauntt's** 'proxy dad', 84 yrs old, kidney issues, Eugene, OR

Riley Sprowl and Family—friends of **Carol Gauntt**, sledding accident, Dallas,
paralysis, improvement has slowed

Recovering from Surgery

Melissa Moorman—other knee surgery on Thursday, December 19

In Need of Prayer:

Eloise Barham – **Mike Barham's** aunt, COPD, pneumonia

Craig Atherton – fall resulting in broken ribs

Visit our new website at www.welcometothetable.us

Christmas Greetings

John Paul Carter

Unfortunately, the Christmas season is no stranger to controversy and bickering. For years Christians have complained about the commercialization of the season and worried that Santa Claus was becoming more important than the baby Jesus. Numerous legal battles have been fought over whether nativity scenes on courthouse lawns violate the constitution. And the use of "X-mas" has often been condemned for taking Christ out of Christmas.

The current debate seems to be centered symbolically around whether or not it's always fitting to use the familiar greeting, "Merry Christmas" at this time of year. Because of the growing diversity among our population, some believe that "Happy Holidays" or "Seasons Greetings" are a more respectful way of expressing our warm wishes in the larger public arena.

Because a few have complained to the courts that the separation of church and state is being violated and others have made efforts to be more inclusive in Christmas celebrations, some have voiced the opinion that Christians in the United States are being discriminated against and even persecuted. They fear that, if we remove references to Christ from any of our greetings or celebrations, the meaning of the season will soon be lost.

Ironically, it has become fashionable for some Christians to turn their "Merry Christmas" into an in-your-face, defiant gesture of protest, instead of a warm wish and blessing.

On closer examination, it may be that our fear of the changing Christmas customs is triggered, not because Christians are being persecuted or discriminated against, but because our questionable "preferred" status is being challenged. In the past, because we were in the majority by such a large margin, we grew accustomed to ignoring the sensibilities of people who are different from us. Maybe what others find offensive is the arrogant way our faith is sometimes practiced, rather than the faith itself.

Perhaps, rather than either/or, the most loving course might be both/and - choosing the appropriate Christmas greeting, according to the context and respect for the people involved.

Even through his most eloquent servants, God could not fully tell us about his abiding love for the world. The Word had to become flesh in Jesus of Nazareth and live among us. And if our world is to hear the good news of God's love in our "Merry Christmas," we must cease "insisting on our own way" and humbly love each and all - the way Christ has loved us.

Lord, help us to say "Merry Christmas" with our actions. Amen.

7 Elements of Our Faith

1. Sharing Our Spiritual Gifts
2. Creating a Meditative Life
3. Participating in Worship
4. Understanding Scripture
5. Building Relationships within the Church Family
6. Sharing Our Faith
7. Sharing Our Resources

church staff

Senior Pastor—Danny Couch
Worship/Faith Development —Shannon Moore
Children—Molly Goodrich
Youth—Robert Goodrich
Pianist/Assistant Choir Director—Steve Lent
Organist—Nancy DeWees
Guitarist—Tony Brancato
Nursery Workers—Christy Butler, Tessa Moore, Bethni Kirby
Administrative Assistant—Joy Ellis

Serving Schedule

For the Month of December

Elders: 8:30 Worship: Prissy Neely & Leo Neely
Deacons: 11:00 Worship: Team Three: *Missy Alexander,
Bob & Bev Bartholomew, Natalie Couch, Carol Gauntt, Jarrett
Freeman, Terri Freeman, Beth Potter

Sunday, December 22

Elders: 11:00 Service: Billy Bruce & Cynthia Bergman
Communion Prep:

8:30 Service: Warner & Martha Killough

11:00 Service: Deacon Team Three

Greeters: 8:30 Service: Cathy Simonds

11:00 Service: Mack & Gloria Young

Coffee Fellowship: Friendship Class

Sunday, December 29—Bog Rider Sunday

Elders: 11:00 Service: Earl Gauntt & Stewart deSteiguer

Communion Prep:

8:30 Service: Warner & Martha Killough

11:00 Service: Deacon Team Three

Greeters: 8:30 Service: Bill & Jill Mitchell

11:00 Service: Craig & Judy Atherton

December 22, 2013



Visit our website @
www.welcometothetable.net
or call 817-594-3053
for more information.

Attendance

December 15, 2013

8:30 Worship — 109
Sunday School — 94
11:00 Worship — 103
Total in Worship — 212

GENEROUS GIVING

December 15, 2013

Weekly Budget	10,014.46
General Offering	14,162.75
Plate Offering	12,577.75
Electronic Giving (Vanco)	1,585.00
Ecuador-Bridging Cultures (Includes Vanco)	1,000.00
Crossroads (Includes Vanco)	450.00
Feed the Kids - Philippines	670.00
Discretionary	10.00
Habitat for Humanity	2,000.00
Christmas Project (Includes Vanco)	13,075.00
Building (Includes Vanco)	770.00

Return Service Requested
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