

April
2021



Central church of Christ

SERVING AS GOD'S HEART AND HANDS IN THIS COMMUNITY

Mission

Statement

To be God's heart and God's hands in this community and beyond.

Vision Statement

As followers of Christ, our vision is to be a God-centered, relationship-driven, small-group church committed to equipping all people to live out the life of Christ.

Contact Information

Address

801 E. Airline
Victoria, Tx 77901

Phone

361-573-9133

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday
8:30-5:00
Friday
8:30-12:00

Good Morning Church!

It is hard to believe it is already April! Time really does fly. For many of us, this is the time of year that we set aside to remember the sacrifice of our Lord and Savior Jesus. That He, the very Son of God, took on human form, and shed His blood, on the cross, on behalf of sinful humanity. It is by His blood that we are forgiven. That forgiveness (which is a release, pardon or dismissal of charges) is itself a wonderful gift; especially considering the righteous and fair punishment we all deserve before our holy, perfect and righteous God.

That being said, forgiveness is not the only gift we receive through the blood of Christ. The Scriptures also tie in other gifts that reveal just how astonishing the blood of Christ truly is. One of these gifts is justification. Unlike forgiveness, justification means that we have been found not-guilty. So between forgiveness and justification the Scriptures teach that even though we as people are guilty of sin, through the blood of Christ we receive both the dismissal of any and all charges and at the same time a not-guilty verdict from the Judge Himself.

It gets even better! The Scriptures also teach that it is through the blood of Christ that we receive redemption. Redemption means that we have been bought back, restored or ransomed. We have been restored from the evil that this world, and things in the world, represents. We have been clothed with Christ, made into a new creation, and set to walk the paths of this life with Christ, rather than abandoned to the world and its pain, hopelessness, shame and guilt. All of this, because of the

gift of redemption through Christ's blood.

Moreover, His blood gives us peace. Contrary to worldly peace, which can still mean conflict, the peace we have because of Christ is two-fold. First, this peace is with God, and expresses a mutual love and desire to have, not only the best relationship possible between God and the Christian, but also expresses a desire to act in the best interests of the other party. This action, in our best interest, was seen on God's part by the sacrifice of His Son for people who were evil, unjust and ungodly. Christ shed His blood on the cross, and gave us all these gifts while we were still enemies! That is the type of peace that God offers.

The second part of this established peace is the unity of all believers. The basis of our unity and peace is on Christ and His blood shed on the cross. It is only through His blood that traditional enemies, whether that be political enemies, cultural enemies, or societal enemies can now become united, and experience the same type of peace we have with God.

These are only a few of the gifts that we have through Christ's blood. Forgiveness, redemption, justification, and peace are all remarkable gifts we receive from the Father, through the blood of Christ. Additionally, holding onto these gifts is vital for the disciple of Christ to be both effective and useful in the Church and in the community at large.

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Bible Hour

4/4 - Cook Family

4/11 - Paul & DaLissa Spaeth

4/18 - Vahrenkamp/Quirey

4/25 - Mealer Family

We need 8 Teams to volunteer. Each team will be responsible for 6 Sundays spread out over the year.

To Volunteer Sign up at the Info Desk or Contact
Mandy Vahrenkamp.
mev031012@gmail.com

Nursery

If you would like to help out with the nursery please contact Pam Taylor at pam@churchofvictoria.com

Up Coming Events

- ◆ 4/4 Easter Sunday!!
 - ◆ 4/5 6:00pm - Prime Timers Meeting, annex
 - ◆ 4/12 6:30am - Men's Breakfast, annex
 - ◆ 4/25 6:00pm Church Fellowship, singing & finger foods, annex
 - ◆ Men's Retreat April 30-May 1, 2021
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As we continue to pursue Christ, and seek to be His heart and His hands in this community and beyond, remember that God did not give us these gifts because we are amazing or special people, but because He loved us and was patient with us. As we go out into the world remember that God loves, not just His Church, but all people. Let us remember that God greatly desires all people turn from their own ways to follow Him. With that in mind, let's look to serve our community, be a blessing to our neighbors, and there by remind our community of the love God has for them, and His desire that all people deny themselves and follow Him.

Your Brother in Christ,
Cole Mealer

Scripture References: Rom. 3.25, 5.9; Eph. 1.7; Col. 1.20; Heb. 9.14, 10.19, 13.20; 1 Jn. 1.7; Rev. 1.5, 5.9



Central will be covering the cost of any child who wants to go to camp this year. We would like all our members to participate in this vital youth ministry. Please consider supporting sending children to camp.

Ways that you can help support our youth are as follows:

- ◆ May 30th special Sunday contribution
- ◆ Sponsor an individual children
- ◆ Talk to James Coburn, Adam Stevens, or Mandy Vahrenkamp about various volunteering opportunities at Central

