

THE Challenger

The Monthly Voice of Central Baptist Church | September 2019

FAMILY *Worship*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 ♦ 10A

Plus...

- *Sundaes on Sunday*
- *Why Church Membership?*
- *Disc Golf Family Fun*

Why Church Membership?

by Rev. Stephen Byrd, Lead Pastor
& Rev. Drew Heurion, Assoc. Pastor,
Discipleship & Evangelism

This summer Pastor Stephen has been walking us through all the different covenants from the Old and New Testaments, finishing up with the new covenant instituted by King Jesus Himself. In this covenant, God's purpose is to reconcile lost sinners to Himself through the finished work of Christ on the cross. We respond to this covenant by turning from our sin (repentance) and trusting in Christ (faith). And when we do, we become a part of God's covenant people who look forward to one day dwelling with God in the place of the new heavens and new earth! Wow!

But we're not there yet. Right now, we live in this sort of middle state, where Christ has already come and secured our salvation, but we are waiting for Him to return and gather His Church to Himself. So, what do we do in the meantime? Well, when we look closely at the New Testament we find that we are to intentionally join a local church where we can follow Jesus with other believers.

In his blog, Tim Challies shares five reasons why we should hold church membership in high esteem.

1. For Assurance.

While a person should not feel he needs to join a church in order to be saved, he ought to join a church to be certain that he has been saved. Christians, those who are indwelt by the Holy Spirit, will naturally gravitate towards other Christians and will desire to be with them, to learn from them, and to serve them. A person who professes Christ but feels no desire to be among his believing brothers and sisters is not a healthy Christian. Thus, eager participation in a local church and heartfelt attempts to measure our enthusiasm for that group of believers is a God-given way for us to assure ourselves that we are truly saved.

2. To Evangelize the World.

The gospel can best be spread through combined and collaborative efforts. Throughout the history of the church great men and women have attempted great things on their own and have often been successful. But more often, great things have been accomplished through the collaborate efforts of Christians working

together. If we are to reach this world with the gospel message of Jesus Christ, we must share our efforts with other believers.

3. To Expose False Gospels.

As we interact with other believers, we will see what true Christianity is, which ought to expose the common belief that Christians are self-righteous, selfish individuals. As we labor, fellowship, and serve alongside other Christians, and as we observe the lives of other Christ-followers, we will see what biblical Christianity looks like. The more we see of genuine Christianity, the more the counterfeits will be exposed.

4. To Edify the Church.

Joining a church will help Christians counter their sinful individualism and teach them the importance of seeking to serve and edify others. The benefit of being a member of a local church is not primarily inward, but outward. Christians attend a local church so they might have opportunities to serve others and thus to serve God. Every Christian should be eager to serve within the church and to edify others through teaching, serving, and exercising the spiritual gifts.

5. To Glorify God

We can bring God glory through the way we live our lives. God is honored when we are obedient to him. He is glorified when his people come together in unity and harmony to find assurance, to evangelize the world, to expose false gospels, and to edify one another. God is glorified in and through the local church.

The Church matters because Jesus is the one who brought her into existence and reigns in sovereignty over her as her head (Matthew 16:18, Colossians 1:15-20). On September 15th and 22nd both sermons will be aimed at helping us explore these ideas together in greater depth by taking a careful look at what God's Word has to say about the nature and character of the local church. I hope you'll be able to join us!

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Rehearsal | September 7
9a-12p (lunch included)
worshipministry@centralwr.com

September 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 BAPTISM SUNDAY • 10:00a Combined Family Worship • 4:00-6:00p DivorceCare & DC4K	2 LABOR DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	3 • 9:00a-12:00p Int'l English Classes Begin • 5:30-7:30p Upward Football/Cheer/Vball Practice • 6:30p Prayer Ministry • 7:00p JoyBells	4 • 9:00a-12:00p Int'l Bible Study Begins • 4:45-8:30 pm MidWeek at Central	5 • 5:30-7:30p Upward Football/Cheer/Vball Practice	6 • 6:00p Disc Golf at Rozar Park	7 • 9:00a-12:00p Music Ministry Christmas Rehearsal • 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Upward Games
8 • 4:00-6:00p DivorceCare & DC4K • 4:30p Deacons Meeting • 6:00p Sunday Night at Central: Worship & Ice Cream Fellowship	9 • 1:00p Helping Hands • 5:30-7:30p Upward Football/Cheer/Vball Practice	10 • 9:00a-12:00p Int'l English Classes • 5:30-7:30p Upward Football/Cheer/Vball Practice • 6:30p Prayer Ministry • 7:00p JoyBells	11 • 9:00a-12:00p Int'l Bible Study • 4:45-8:30 pm MidWeek at Central / Conference	12 • 10:00 am Women on Mission	13 • 6:00p Disc Golf at Rozar Park	14 • 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Upward Games
ISRAEL TRIP (9 / 10 - 9 / 20)						
15 • 4:00-6:00p DivorceCare & DC4K	16 • 9:00a Upward Basketball Online Registration Opens • 5:30-7:30p Upward Football/Cheer/Vball Practice	17 • 9:00a-12:00p Int'l English Classes • 5:30-7:30p Upward Football/Cheer/Vball Practice • 6:30p Prayer Ministry • 7:00p JoyBells	18 • 9:00a-12:00p Int'l Bible Study • 4:45-8:30 pm MidWeek at Central	19	20 • 6:00p Disc Golf at Rozar Park	21 • 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Upward Games
ISRAEL TRIP (9 / 10 - 9 / 20)						
22 BAPTISM SUNDAY • 4:00-6:00p DivorceCare & DC4K	23 • 5:30-7:30p Upward Football/Cheer/Vball Practice	24 • 9:00a-12:00p Int'l English Classes • 5:30-7:30p Upward Football/Cheer/Vball Practice • 6:30p Prayer Ministry • 7:00p JoyBells	25 • 9:00a-12:00p Int'l Bible Study • 4:45-8:30 pm MidWeek at Central	26 • 11:00 am Central 5-0	27 • 6:00p Disc Golf at Rozar Park	28 • 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Upward Games
29 DEACON INFORMATION SUNDAY • 4:00-6:00 pm DivorceCare & DC4K	30 • 6:00-7:30 pm Upward Celebration					
						Online Registration Opens Monday, September 16 9:00a

- Regular Activities**
- SUNDAY ACTIVITIES**
- 9:00 am..... Sunday School / Life Groups Worship
 - 10:30 am Sunday School / Life Groups Worship
 - 4:00-6:00 pm DivorceCare & DC4K
- WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES**
- 4:45-6:00 pm Fellowship Meal
 - 5:30 pm Prayer Time
 - 6:00 pm M&Ms (Kids)
 - 6:15 pm Tethered (Students) Mid-Week Worship Central Equip Classes
 - 7:15 pm Choir & Orchestra Rehearsal

- New Central Family Members**
- Baptized:**
- 16.) Damion Brooks
- Profession of Faith:**
- 9.) Damion Brooks
- By Statement:**
- 12.) Robert "Bob" Spears
 - 13.) Elizabeth "Betty" Spears
 - 14.) Ben Griffith
 - 15.) Jessica Griffith



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DISC GOLF Family Fun Nights!



Friday Nights in September
9/6-9/27 | 6:00p
ROZAR PARK in Perry
For more information:
marty@centralwr.com



SAVE THE DATE! HARVEST FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26
12:00-3:00 PM

STUDENT FALL RETREAT

October 11-13



Register NOW!



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