

Central Church of Christ

Schedule of Services

SUNDAY

Bible Class 9:30 A.M.

Worship 10:30 A.M.
6:00 P.M.

1st & 3rd Sundays each
month potluck lunch &
afternoon service.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Class 9:30 A.M.

Bible Study 7:00 P.M.

SHEPHERDS

Mike Allison
Toby Brown
Larry Stewart
Daryl Tucker

DEACONS

Richard Combest
Ross James
Kevin Leatherman
Bobby Moudy
Danny Tucker

MINISTERS

Tim Johnson
Delphine Ruiz

3rd & Donley
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January 1, 2017

Magician Raise Thyself!

At a recent charity event in England, magician Anthony Britton—in an attempt to mimic Harry Houdini's failed "Buried Alive" stunt—allowed himself to be buried beneath 6 feet of dirt. Before the buckets of dirt began to shower down on him, he was handcuffed and shackled. But just like Houdini, Britton was unable to dig his way out. He almost died, needing to be extricated from the grave and revived by paramedics. Lucky to be alive, Britton told the following story of his harrowing experience to NPR's Arun Rath:

To start off with, it's painful. There's no coffin there, there's no casket — nothing there to protect your body. I remember the first bucket of soil hit me — it was a bit of a shock. Each bucket that went on to me — obviously the crushing that is coming from the front, you know, underneath me. It's coming from the sides of me. It's going on top of me.

For some reason, I think the soil shifted and I got my right arm trapped. It was trapped between my body and the actual soil itself. So, at that point, it was, "Crikey, I can't move my right arm."

Anyway, I felt myself going unconscious, and I was just trying to focus on, "You've got to do this, you've got to escape the grave." To keep myself calm, believe it or not, I was actually, in my head, singing the song of "Great Balls of Fire," by the wonderful Jerry Lee Lewis ...

But you know, it just got to the point where I'd given it my entire best shot. I had nothing left in my body. ... I could feel myself going under. At that point, everyone knew exactly what to do — and they got to me as quickly as they could.

Fortunately, Britton would walk away from his near death experience with just a few scrapes and bruises and a cracked rib. If it's so difficult to release one's self from a tomb after being buried "alive," try doing it after being buried dead!

That was the challenge facing Jesus as they laid his lifeless body in the tomb. Yet He rose from the grave without the aid of an extrication team or paramedics. Despite the increased difficulty, Jesus accomplished what no one, not even Houdini, could—the resurrection from death to life!

"For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive" 1 Corinthians 15:21-22.

I love you all,

Tim

WELCOME TO CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST!!!

If you are visiting us today, we are honored you have chosen us. We hope that today's time together will help deepen your relationship with God and widen your circle of friends. We are a church family who seek to follow Jesus and be true to the Bible.

Please stay around after our assembly so that we might get to know you better. Thank you again for worshipping with us today.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

226

227

Prayer

606

647

Message

909

334

LORD'S SUPPER

Announcements
Shepherd's Prayer

NEWS AND NOTES

- ❖ **Lanelle Dovell** is home and doing well while she recovers from a stroke.
- ❖ **J.D. James**, father of **Ross James**, passed away Thursday the 29th. Funeral services for Mr. James were last Friday, December 30th, at Northwest Church of Christ in Plainview. Please keep the James family in your prayers.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

3rd - Irita Colson, 4th - George Morgan, 6th - Joann Hayhurst, Carolyn Stewart, 7th - Melody Jennings

Please check the activity table for details on upcoming events.

- ❖ Today our study of **The Story** is over Chapter 27. Next week we will be studying Chapter 28 in class and in morning worship. Handouts for the lessons are on the activity table in the auditorium. If you need a prior lesson that is not on the table, let us know and we will get you a copy.
- ❖ Please join us for **Potluck** and early service today.
- ❖ **Wednesday Morning Bible Class** will resume this week, January 4th, at 9:30.
- ❖ **Family Night** is this Wednesday, January 4th, at 6:00.
- ❖ Next Sunday, January 8th, is the **Men's Business Meeting** following evening service. All men of the congregation are encouraged to attend.
- ❖ Saturday, January 14th, is the **Men's Breakfast** at 7:00 a.m.
- ❖ A new group of **AIMers** will be coming this month. We still need volunteers to furnish lunch for them on February 12th and 26th. Please check the sign-up sheet on the activity table. Thank you to everyone who has helped this year!
- ❖ Please check the activity table for a schedule of **Camp Adventure 2017** and opportunities in AIM.

Supported Missions

Bible Chair
High Plains
Children's Home
AIM
Sunset School of
Preaching

Please keep the following people in your hearts and prayers:

Our service men and women	AIM Mission Teams
Russell Treider	Jay Weddel
Darla Young	David George
Linda Hodges	Jimmie Scott
Dwight McCrary	Ann Thompson
Elmer Weddel	Cierra Perkins
Gaye Young	Darlene Riley
Eugene Ray	Peggy Stevens
Kim Hays	Our college students

Records for 12/25/16

Bible Class: 66
Worship: 127
Contribution: \$2,938
Budgeted
Contribution: \$3,955

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