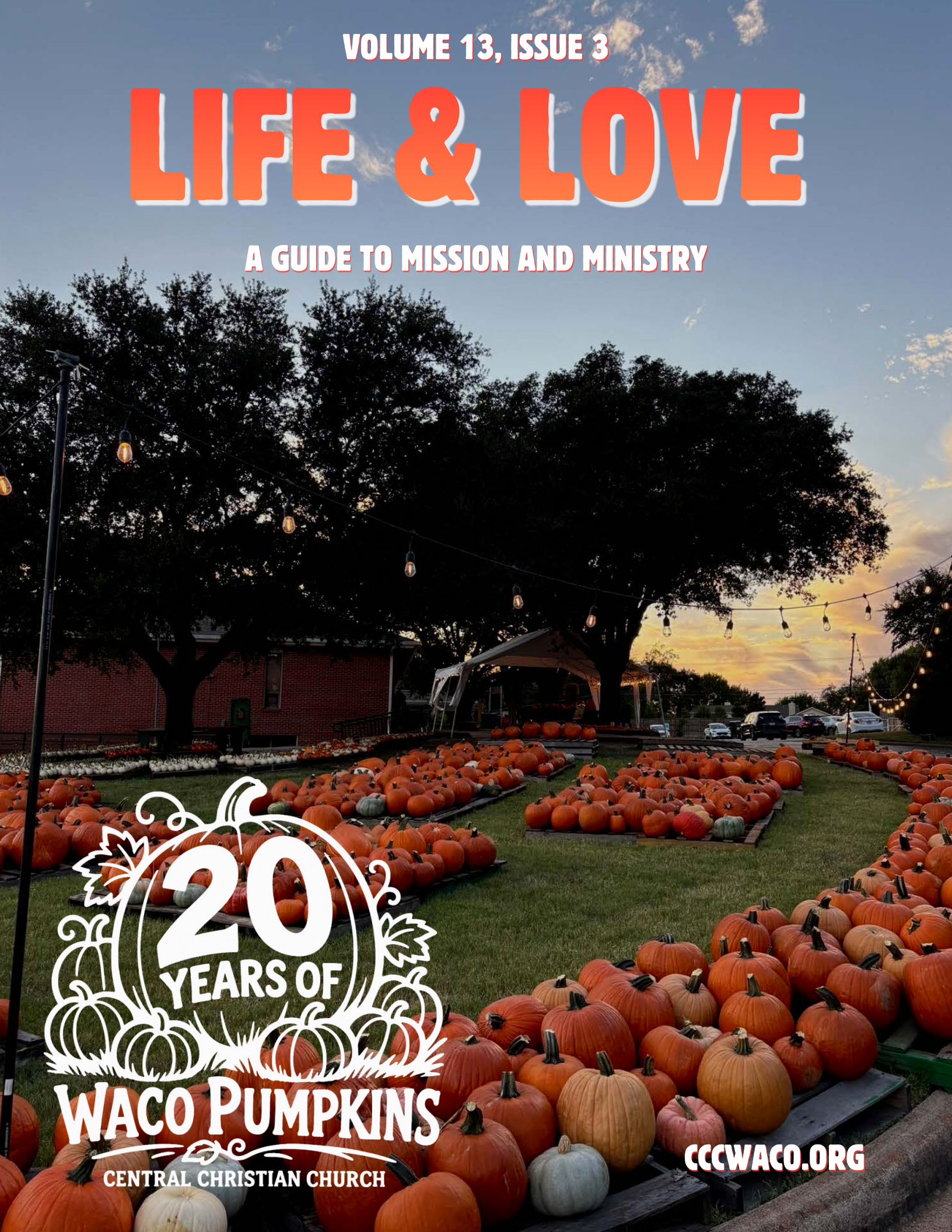


VOLUME 13, ISSUE 3

LIFE & LOVE

A GUIDE TO MISSION AND MINISTRY



20
YEARS OF
WACO PUMPKINS
CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

CCCWACO.ORG

About This Time in 2006 ...

... someone had a crazy thought. "People seem to like pumpkins. Why don't we put a bunch of them on the lawn out in front of the church?". Twenty years later, if you say "I go to the Pumpkin Patch church" everyone in the greater Waco area knows it's Central Christian that you're talking about.

We've learned plenty of things over those 20 years...

- Pumpkins last longer if you get them up off the ground.
- The patch is a great place for new members to meet other church members.
- There's only certain amount of wind a tent can handle before it blows away (no matter how well you anchor it down).
- Put children in a trough full of dried corn and toy dump trucks and they'll stay happy until it's time to go.
- If you get the word out that community service hours can be fun, you'll end up with a giant group of high school kids from all the over the county that will give you great hope for the future.
- Friendships built in the patch tend to last.

With the hard work of many, we've turned the patch into a:

- Gathering space for the whole community
- Safe place for families and friends to make memories together
- Field trip destination for local daycares, preschools, schools and Friends for Life
- Place for Noah's Ark parents to spend time together with their kids
- Fun night for residents of Compassion Ministries and the families of students at Talitha Koum Institute

Of course, it's always been "More than a Pumpkin"...proceeds from the patch have been used to:

- Help hundreds of kids enjoy the often life-changing experience of going to camp
- Send youth and adults on Mission trips all over the country
- Buy toys for the Mission Waco Christmas Toy Store
- Support our regular programming for children and youth
- Host our annual community-wide Vacation Bible School
- Provide scholarships for college students
- Buy supplies to pack many thousands of meals for Kids Against Hunger

Finally, do you know where our pumpkins come from? The company that grows them works in cooperation with the Navajo Nation near Farmington, New Mexico to plant approximately 1,200 acres — nearly two square miles — of pumpkins. Each September and October, more than 700 Native Americans are employed during harvest season. Their full-time New Mexico staff is entirely Native American as well. In a region facing significant unemployment, this partnership provides meaningful work and lasting economic impact.

*Brandon Gilliam
Marketing Chair, 2026 PP*



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

**JOIN US FOR A JOYFUL DAY
OF CELEBRATION!!**

PUMPKIN PATCH CARNIVAL

4-6 PM



**CRAFTS, GAMES, FOOD,
BOUNCE HOUSES
AND MORE!**



Contact Cosie Newton or Maggie Parmer for more info

PUMPKIN PATCH 2026 LEADERSHIP TEAM

We TRULY are the Pumpkin Patch Church!



- PUMPKIN PATCH PRAYERS: STEVE WILSON, GEORGIA GREEN
- PATCH APPEAL: BARBARA POWELL, VICKI FULTON
- STORY TIMES/FIELD TRIPS: MAGGIE PARMER, FREDDIE MARTINKA, JOHN EDWARDS
- WORKSHIPS: CAREY FURNISH, BRIAN COATS
- CARNIVAL: COSIE NEWTON, MAGGIE PARMER
- OUTREACH IN THE PATCH: BECKY PARKER, STEVE WILSON
- MARKETING/SOCIAL MEDIA: BRANDON GILLIAM
- FINANCES: BETTILU CHARLTON, BRENDA DEBERRY
- T-SHIRTS/SWAG: NICK TEIXEIRA, VICKI FULTON, BRENDA DEBERRY
- WORSHIP/PATCH BLESSING: LEANN LENOIR



CO-CHAIRS: VICKI FULTON, BRENDA DEBERRY

***"The Lord has done great things for us,
and we are filled with joy." - Psalm 126:3***

PUMPKIN PATCH

Important Dates



Wednesday, September 23
Tent Set Up and Pallet Placement at 6:30 PM



Saturday, September 26
Patch Set-Up at 9:00 AM (lights, patch appeal, photo ops, kid's korner, community tables)



Sunday, September 27
First Delivery & Ribbon Cutting. Patch opens as soon as the truck is unloaded



Sunday, October 4
Patch Blessing & Worship Service in the sanctuary



Saturday, October 10
Second Unload at 9:30 AM



Saturday, October 17
20th Anniversary Celebration Carnival



Saturday, October 31
Last Day of the Patch



Sunday, November 1
Patch break-down



FOLLOW THE PATCH ON SOCIAL MEDIA: @WACOPUMPKINS

BELIEVE



**A sermon series
about kindness,
curiosity, faith
and forgiveness**

**Sundays in
October**



**CENTRAL
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**



NEW CCC FAMILY MINISTRIES LEADER!

WELCOME
Maggie!



**MAGGIE PARMER WILL BE LEADING
ALL OUR MINISTRIES TO YOUTH,
CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES!**

BE WATCHING LIFTED UP, THE BULLETIN AND SOCIAL MEDIA FOR MORE!

**Children,
Youth and
Adults**

CCC FAMILY MINISTRIES

There are all kinds of exciting plans this fall ... Children will be moving downstairs to the new "Sunshine Room" for Sunday School, and **Youth Group** will be meeting on Wednesday nights at **6:30 pm, starting September 9!**

Be sure and sign up for the Youth or Children's GroupMe for the most up-to-date news and notifications!



**Sign up for Snack
Suppers here!**



**Glorify the Lord
with me; let us
exalt his name
together - Psalm
34:3**

CCC WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Fall Meetings

LOL (Ladies of the Lord)

- September 17 - Dinner out at Slow Rise Woodway at 6 PM ... Join us for faith, fellowship, pizza and lots of laughs!
- October 6 - Work the Pumpkin Patch and Potluck ... 5 PM to close ... All ladies and children welcome!

Eat, Pray, Love

- Thursday, Sept 17 at 6 pm hosted by Alice Renner at her home
- Tuesday, Oct 13 in the Pumpkin Patch hosted by Brenda DeBerry
- November gathering date and location to be determined
- December gathering hosted by Debbie Mann, TBD

Timeless Treasures

- Thursday, Sept 3 at the church at 10:30am
Program: Made for Loving God's Creation/Visiting Scotland | Guest Speaker: Anita Selters ... Covered dish lunch to follow
- Thursday, Oct 1 at the church at 10:30am
Program: Made for Mission
Guest Speakers: Michael and Leslie Nicosia; special music by the Nicosia children ... Covered dish lunch to follow
- Thursday, Nov 5 at the church at 10:30am
Program: Pictures of God's Love and Porch Flowers Podcast | Guest Speaker: Cindy Janecka ... Covered dish lunch to follow



**Contact Becky Parker (Honeybbparker@gmail.com)
for more info about all Womens Ministries**

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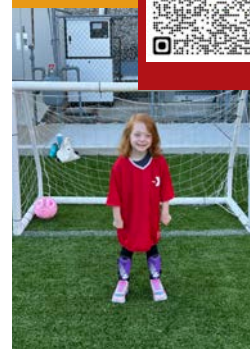
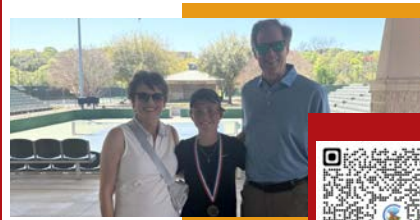
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CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

STACK THE STANDS



EVENT CALENDAR

**USE THE QR CODE TO ACCESS
THE CALENDAR**

**SUBMIT YOUR EVENTS TO:
STACKTHESTANDSCCC@
GMAIL.COM**

**SHOW YOUR SUPPORT! ATTEND
THE SPORTING EVENTS, PLAYS,
RECITALS, AND OTHER EVENTS OF
THE YOUTH AND CHILDREN OF CCC!**

Fall RETREATS 2026

Chi-Rho(6th-8th Grade)-December 4-6

CYF(9th-12th Grade)-December 4-6

Young Adult(Ages 18-25 Completed High School)-January 1-3

DISCIPLES CROSSING

3693 State Hwy. 31 E. Athens,TX 75752

REGISTRATION OPENS SEPT. 1ST

📞 903-677-2182 🌐 disciplescrossing.org 📧 programming@disciplescrossing.org



Faith in **ACTION** AT CCC



Thank you for supporting the Adult Mission Trip, Youth Mission Trip, Creekside Community Village Special Offering, Church Under the Bridge and so much more!

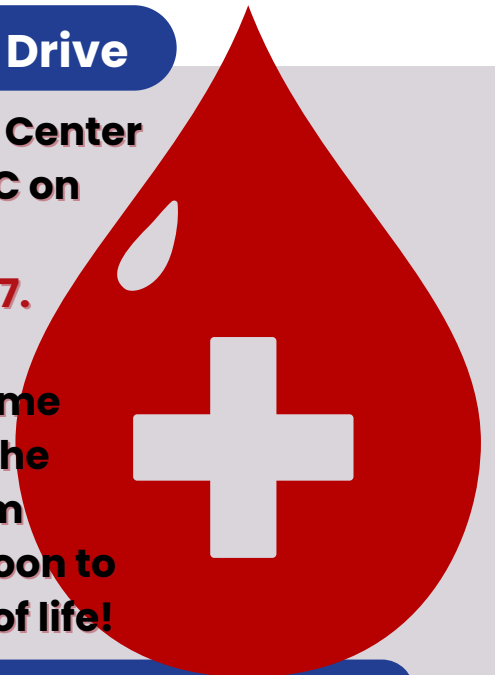


"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world ..."



CCC Blood Drive

Carter Blood Center will be at CCC on Sunday, September 27. Visit the Teel Center anytime throughout the morning from 9:00 AM to Noon to give the gift of life!



... For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' – Matthew 34–36

Adult Discipleship Opportunities at CCC

Serendipity

Class is composed mostly of parents of youth and children, but all are welcome. Meeting in the **Library**, they are currently engaging in conversation generated from Rev. Brian Coats' Substack **devotionals**. Contact **Ashley Leger** at ashley@freudlaw.com for more information.



Seekers

Meeting in the **Conference Room**, this group of all ages has just started a series on **Philippians**. Contact **Linda Fisseler** (lindalefisseler@sbcglobal.net) or **Georgetta Duncan** (geordunc@gmail.com) for more information.

Bible Discovery

Led by **Brad Toben** (brad_toben@baylor.edu), this group studies the Bible chapter-by-chapter, and sometimes verse-by-verse. Adults of all ages are always welcome. Currently studying **Exodus**, meets downstairs in the **Friendship Room**.



**ALL CLASSES
START AT 9:15 AM**

ALSO ...



**REV. BRIAN COATS PUBLISHES
DEVOTIONALS EVERY WEEK.
SUBSCRIBE TODAY TO RECEIVE
THESE DEVOTIONALS SENT
DIRECTLY TO YOUR EMAIL.**

[SUBSTACK.COM/@BRIANCOATS](https://substack.com/@briancoats)



Meet at CCC at 10:15 AM



CHURCH HAS LEFT THE BUILDING 2026

Sunday,
September 20

Projects:

- Friends For Life
- The Cove
- Noah's Ark Preschool
- Keep Waco Beautiful
- Habitat for Humanity
- Mountainview Elementary
- Things from the Heart
- Woodway Fire and Police
- Creekside Community Village
- Lunch Preparation Crew



Sign up today cccwaco.org or in the Narthex



2026 CCC STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN



AUGUST 30: THE ROCK

SEPT 7: A LIFE BUILT ON THE ROCK



SEPT 27: A CHURCH BUILT ON THE ROCK



**ALL CHURCH MAILER IN
EARLY SEPTEMBER!**

**SPECIAL MUSIC
THROUGHOUT THE SERIES!**

SHARING LIFE AND LOVE

IN SO MANY WAYS ...

Fireside Fellowship

- Every Sunday morning at 10 AM
- Coffee, juice and breakfast foods
- Intergenerational fellowship
- Great way to get connected to CCC!



Youth Special Project

- Throughout the fall, the youth are making a dog house to be auctioned off for Fuzzy Friends at their annual Barkin' Ball.
- Contact Reggie Parmer for more information or to get involved!



Agape Quilters

- Meets every other Monday at 2 PM
- Food and refreshments always on-hand
- Compassion-in-action: Quilts made for members with special needs, CareNet and more
- Contact Eulaila Young for more information



Elders at Prayer

- Once a month, our Elders - the Spiritual leaders of the church - meet to pray for the congregation





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cccwaco.org

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**RETURN
SERVICE
REQUESTED**

FIND US ONLINE



#knownandnamed



You can find our livestream every Sunday on both Facebook and YouTube. Search cccwaco.