

SICK LIST:**HEALTHCARE CENTERS:**

Bertharine Burton, Ruby Harrison, Ed Barrett

HOME: Freddie Alexander, Gloria Windham, Jimmie Nell Brown, Fred & Romaine Elliott, Bessie & Michael Files, Cynthia McMeans, Henry McDonald, Willie Nelson, Kenneth Windham

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Sue Hinds, Harold Walton, Louise Alexander, Donnie Bryant, Joshua Jackson, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, Sharon Lawson, James & Wilma Howell, Patsy Tucker, Rhonda Poe, Debbie Odom, Michael Pope, Robert Turner, Wonda Ivie, Bobby Holloway, Ricky McDonald, David Brown, Kim Elliott, James Felton, Tommy Pope, J.D. Dailey, James Horsley, Brenda Holloway, Kathy Pate, Jake & Diane Chambers, Donna Laratta, Robin & Brandon Mullis, Angie Johnson, Kathy Windham, Lane Clark, James Mason, Arthur Mason, Jimmy Barker, Jerry Wright, Kelly Tittle

AM - BEN WRIGHT - "2013: YEAR IN REVIEW"

PM - JORDAN GRAY

THE 5TH SUNDAY CONTRIBUTION WILL GO TO HELP THOSE HARMED BY THE TYPHOON THAT DEVASTATED THE PHILIPPINES. PLEASE REMEMBER THIS AS YOU PLAN YOUR GIVING FOR THAT LORD'S DAY

THERE WILL BE NEW YEAR'S EVE SINGINGS AT ADAMSVILLE AND MT. HARMONY

THE

WEST WALKER WELCOMER

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST
26036 HWY 78
CARBON HILL, AL 35549
(205) 924-9038
westwalkerchurchofchrist.org

TIMES OF SERVICES SUNDAY MORNING

Bible Class 9:30

Worship 10:20

SUNDAY EVENING 5:00

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00

ELDERS:

Gene McDonald 924-4827

Carlton Myers 221-0637

Neil Myers 924-9289

Bruce Windham 221-2348

DEACONS:

Danny Busby 387-0213

David Preston 300-1927

Kevin Richardson 295-8864

Chris Robbins 388-1354

Vince Roden 924-4062

MINISTER:

Ben Wright 522-8004

2013: YEAR IN REVIEW

I. _____ Haiyan hit the Philippines.

- A. At least _____ people were killed and almost 2 million left homeless.
- B. What we should take away spiritually from this is that _____ come and they do damage.
- C. We sin from time to time and cause our own _____.
 1. When we do, we must make sure we limit the damage by _____ as soon as possible.
 2. We never want to get out of the _____ and lose touch with the blood of Christ (1 John 1:7).
- D. Sometimes our storms are caused by _____ or by _____.
- E. Sometimes our storms are caused by _____ (2 Timothy 3:12).

- II. _____ **of Affordable Care Act.**
- A. The _____ have been dominated by the healthcare initiative introduced by President Obama and passed in Congress.
 - B. Whether you agree with the Act or not, we as Christians need to learn to _____ for our rulers to have wisdom to pass laws that continue to enable us to spread the gospel.
 - 1. We may not _____ with every law or decision our rulers make on a local, state or national level.
 - 2. We don't have to, but we do need to _____ for them
 - C. Also, our voting should not be determined by _____ implications or military decisions but by biblical standards of morality.

- III. **Hannah Montana _____ up.**
- A. For several years there was a Disney show that was about a talented girl from the _____ who made it as a teen star.
 - B. We must do our best to ground our children in _____ principles and morals.
 - 1. So many of the stars of today lead lives that need to be out of the _____ of our children.
 - 2. Parents are to bring their children up in the _____ of God's word (Ephesians 6:4).

- IV. _____ **filed for bankruptcy.**
- A. On July 18th, Detroit became the largest U.S. city to declare bankruptcy due to being unable to pay off _____ in debt.
 - B. As Christians, we must learn to be good _____ of the financial blessings given us by God.
 - C. How are we _____ the blessings of God?

- V. **The _____ shutdown for a while.**
- A. On October 1, the government partially shut down for _____ days.
 - B. During that time, however, _____ did not shutdown.
 - 1. God was still in His heaven.
 - 2. The Son was still on the throne.
 - C. Christians could still enter the _____ room of God through prayer (Hebrews 4:16).
 - D. While we are to obey them that have the rule over us and honor the king as Peter commanded, we are _____ of God first and foremost.
 - 1. Our _____ is to God, His Son and His church.
 - 2. When we obey Him, we will be good _____ of the nation in which we physically live.

**"Don't Fence Me In"
Dave Rogers**

One of my ewes "escaped" last week. She didn't actually set out to run away, she was just following her nose in search of fresh green things to eat. Since there are several other sheep in the pasture, competition for anything fresh is pretty fierce, so when she spotted something tasty just outside the fence, she stuck her head between the wires for a snack. Unfortunately for me, what she was trying to reach was where two fence panels meet, and as she pushed, they parted and she was able to squeeze through. "Freedom!" She was free to gorge to her heart's content in the deep grass of my neighbor's back pasture! When she heard the rattle of the feed bucket, however, she decided it was time to come home. Unable to find her "escape" hole, she paced up and down the back fence, bleating continuously as the rest of the sheep ate. When I walked around the outside of the pasture to lead her "home," however, she took off into the brush, only to return every time I stepped away from the fence. When I herded her into a wire enclosure, she jumped the fence rather than be "trapped." After several hours of alternately trying to lure her back or capture her, I finally gave up; if the coyotes caught her, well, "Bon appetit!" (After several days, I was able to lure her back under the fence, and she is once again safely penned with her flock.)

How like that silly ewe many people are! For want of a little something green, they put their lives at risk. When the "shepherd" tries to bring them back to safety, they flee farther into the "wilderness of sin." They want both the "freedom" to roam at will and the security of a regular meal; no wonder Isaiah compares us to sheep (Isaiah 53:6). Like sheep, they are certain that the grass is always greener on the other side of God's "fence," and so they constantly seek ways through it. John wrote in 1 John 3:4 that,

"Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law."

The expression "transgresseth ... the law" expresses the idea of crossing over a boundary. John goes on to indicate that the very definition of sin is "violating God's boundary," or (in other words) escaping the fence God made for us. Outside His "fence" are the seasonal pleasures of sin (Hebrews 11:25); inside is safety (Hebrews 11:7). Outside is danger, inside is security. Outside is isolation and want, inside is companionship and plenty (Matthew 25:1-12). Still, multitudes cry "don't fence me in!" We want "No restrictions!" "No limits!" "No boundaries!" and we want this with "No consequences!" as well, but we can't have one without the other. This is not a new problem; Jesus lamented over the stony-hearted city of Jerusalem,

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! 38 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate" (Matthew 23:37-38).

The fact of the matter is that God's "fence" exists for our benefit. When we live within the boundary He prescribes, we have safety, security, sustenance, society, and certainty; therefore, "Fence me in, Lord, fence me in! Shut the gate and never let me out again!"