

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, Brandi Preston, Allie Roden, Kristi McDonald, Gene & Linda McDonald, Leta Phillips

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, Jerry Wright, Kelly Tittle

AM - BEN WRIGHT - "THE SECT EVERYWHERE SPOKEN AGAINST"

PM - BEN WRIGHT - "GOD MADE GOOD CHOICES"

SYMPATHY EXTENDED TO HOYT SIMS AND FAMILY DUE TO THE DEATH OF HIS SISTER-IN-LAW, BARBARA DEDONE. SERVICES WERE THURSDAY.

MEN'S DAY AT WINFIELD JAN 25 AT 9 AM

BIRTHDAYS:

Jan 5: Willie Nelson

8: Henry McDonald

10: Jimmie Nell Brown

11: Bessie Files

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

THE SECT EVERYWHERE SPOKEN AGAINST
(Acts 28:22)

I. For _____ change.

- A. _____ and _____ ruled the day.
- B. The Jews charged early Christians with _____ of the Old Law.
- C. The pagans of the day also stood _____ the truth as well
- D. The early church was persecuted for not worshiping the _____ of the Roman Emperor.
 - 1. They were _____ citizens of the Roman Empire but many refused to worship Caesar.
 - 2. Because of that, the church was persecuted _____ times in the 1st-3rd centuries.

II. For _____ ways with the world.

- A. Persecution is _____ of the Christian life (2 Timothy 3:12).
 - 1. _____ had let the Thessalonians know that persecution would come (1 Thessalonians 3:1-4).
 - 2. They had _____ some already (2:14).
- B. Peter let his _____ know the same thing (1 Peter 4:12).
- C. _____ let the church at Smyrna know persecution was coming (Revelation 2:10).
- D. The _____ for the persecution oftentimes was told by Peter (1 Peter 4:3-4).
 - 1. His readers _____ to live just as those around them were then living.
 - 2. They fulfilled the desires of the flesh however they _____.
- E. Christians then and now are called to a different _____ (1 Peter 4:1-2).

III. For _____ of the Lord's Supper.

- A. No doubt that early Christians thought _____ of partaking of the Lord's Supper.
- B. Jesus told that unless we _____ of His body and His blood we cannot enter the kingdom of heaven (John 6:51-57).
- C. The early church understood this so they partook of the Lord's Supper _____ Lord's Day.

- D. Because of talk about eating the body and drinking the blood of Christ, there were many that charged Christians with practicing _____.

DID ALEXANDER CAMPBELL START THE CHURCH OF CHRIST?

Mark Lindley

It is not uncommon for someone to affirm that Alexander Campbell started the church of Christ. Recently, a preacher on television taught this and, as a member of the church of Christ, I feel obligated to address this matter.

Alexander Campbell was a prominent man who lived and worked during the days of the Restoration Movement. This was a movement that began in the early part of the 19th century. Campbell, along with Barton Stone and others began working to bring unity to a religious world that was divided. The plea of the movement was to “speak where the Bible speaks, and to be silent where the Bible is silent.” Those of the movement believed that religious unity would be possible only by rejecting man-made creeds and returning to the Bible. Because Campbell was a key figure of the movement some believe that he started a church called “the church of Christ.”

The truth is that Campbell never intended to start a Church. Rather, it was his intention to return to the pattern of the original New Testament church. He understood that denominationalism is unscriptural and causes division in the religious world. Campbell promoted unity by returning to the Bible as the only proper standard of religious authority.

Members of the church of Christ who are aware of this history appreciate the efforts of men such as Campbell. However, neither Campbell nor any other man started the church of Christ. The Bible teaches that Jesus is the founder of His church. He said, “Upon this rock, I will build my church” (Matthew 16:18). Jesus loved the church and gave Himself for it (Ephesians 5:25). Jesus shed His blood to purchase the church (Acts 20:28). Jesus is the Head of His church (Colossians 1:18). It is clear from all these passages that, in the first century, the Lord Jesus Christ started His church (Acts 2:1-47). His church was not and is not a denomination.

In view of these facts, the question we should ask is this: Is it possible to be a member of Jesus’ church, without joining a denomination? Some who desire membership in Jesus’ church are not aware that there is an alternative to denominationalism. The alternative is membership in the church of the New Testament. None of the Protestant denominations of our day are in the Bible, but the church started by Jesus is in the Bible. Early Christians were part of that one body (Ephesians 4:4), and it is still possible to be part of that body without denominationalism.

The term “church of Christ” is not a proper name; rather, it is a designation which shows ownership. It is the church “of” Christ (belonging to Christ). This is what we mean by “church of Christ.” It is not a denomination. Paul wrote: “The churches of Christ salute you” (Romans 16:16). This was written long before the birth of Alexander Campbell!