

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**JAN 31, 2016**

**SICK LIST:**

**HEALTHCARE CENTERS:**

Ruby Harrison

**HOME:** Fred & Romaine Elliott, Betty Henderson, Wilma Brown, Allie Roden, Vercie Griffin

**PRAYER LIST:** April Lazenby, Sue Hinds, Joshua Jackson, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, Patsy Tucker, Debbie Odom, Robert Turner, Bobby Holloway, Ricky McDonald, David Brown, Kim Elliott, J.D. Dailey, James Horsley, Donna Laratta, Kathy Windham, Arthur Mason, John Pruitt, Madison Banks, Charles Crump, Martha Ann, Elesia Wright, Margie Thomasson, Micah Earnest, Vonciel Phillips, Wanda Self, Katie Griffies, Bruce Windham, Raymond Johnson, Joyce Jacobs, Morgan Calhoun, Patrick Parker, Robert Nelems, Gene McDonald, Sabrina Handley, Mike Miles

AM - BEN WRIGHT - "A GREAT NEED THAT IS HARD TO MAINTAIN"

PM - DEREK PORTER

**BABY SHOWER FOR KATHERINE PHILLIPS WILL BE TODAY AT 2 PM. IT'S A BOY!**

**REMEMBER TO GIVE THE ELDERS YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE INSTALLATION OF A POWERPOINT SYSTEM IN THE AUDITORIUM**

**MEN'S DAY AT WINFIELD FEB 6 FROM 9:30-12 WITH LUNCH PROVIDED**

**BIRTHDAYS:**

Feb 3: Kristi Busby

4: Barbara Wright

5: J.P. Whitfield

**ANNIVERSARY:**

Feb 5: Jason & Charity Chambers

# THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

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

**A GREAT NEED THAT IS HARD TO MAINTAIN**  
**(John 17:21-23)**

**I. Unity \_\_\_\_\_ (John 17:21-22).**

- A. He prayed for us that we might be \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1. Jesus prayed for \_\_\_\_\_ among those who profess to believe in Him.
  - 2. The Godhead has always \_\_\_\_\_ division (Proverbs 6:16-19).
- B. "As thou, Father, art \_\_\_\_\_ me, and I \_\_\_\_\_ thee."
- C. Jesus described this unity among believers in Him as the unity and \_\_\_\_\_ that exists between God the Father and God the Son.
- D. It is a type of unity that is attuned to one another and entirely about doing the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Father.
- E. We aren't striving for unity with one another, we are striving for unity with \_\_\_\_\_.

**II. Unity \_\_\_\_\_ (John 17:21-23).**

- A. The \_\_\_\_\_ is watching.
- B. Jesus said unity like that between Him and the Father is important because it allows the world to have a \_\_\_\_\_ for belief that He was sent here by God.
- C. Jesus also desired unity because we can head towards \_\_\_\_\_.
- D. Jesus also desired unity because it shows the world God \_\_\_\_\_ us just like He did the Son.

**III. Unity \_\_\_\_\_ (Ephesians 4:4-6).**

- A. Paul, by inspiration, laid out seven \_\_\_\_\_ on which we must stand together for their to be unity.
- B. None of these are in need of me or you \_\_\_\_\_ our two cents to them.
- C. The basis for our unity is found here and any infighting or deviation from these is a \_\_\_\_\_ of unity.

**IV. Unity \_\_\_\_\_ (Ephesians 4:1-3).**

- A. When we are united, we are living a life that is \_\_\_\_\_ of the gospel call that has been extended to us (2 Thessalonians 2:14).
- B. We do it with all \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1. This is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. Humility allows us to do the Lord's \_\_\_\_\_ and not our own.
- C. We do it with \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1. This has to do with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. We must be \_\_\_\_\_ with one another.
- D. We are \_\_\_\_\_ one another in love.
- E. "Endeavouring" - This word has in its meaning the idea of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1. It also has the idea of hard work combined with \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2. You and I are to hastily work hard with devotion to \_\_\_\_\_ unity in a congregation.

## RECIPE FOR UNITY

David Ray

Although religious groups differ on many things, on one thing we can agree—religious division exists. Regardless of why it exists, it needs to be destroyed. Many have attempted to address it simply by accepting it. This is often called unity in diversity, and is an oxymoron in the religious world. True unity cannot exist through a multiplicity of religious beliefs, as evidenced by “Christendem” today.

Religious division is sin. Jesus earnestly prayed for unity among His believers (John 17:11, 20-23). The New Testament is replete with commands to be like-minded (Philippians 2:2-4; 3:16; I Peter 3:8, et al.). Paul made it crystal clear in I Corinthians 1:10: “I beseech you... that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.”

Is this unity even possible? Is there really any way to mend the religious discord? God would not give us these commands if they were impossible to obey. All things are possible with God, but this requires complete reliance on and obedience to Him. So, how do we achieve this unity?

The first step might be the hardest—try! We must be willing to study God’s Word together. Until we drop opinions and rely on the Bible, we will never get anywhere. Second, we must have the “right” attitude. If we stop trying to be “right” and let God be right, we will see progress. Third, recognize the Bible for what it is—our complete and only authority in matters of life and godliness (II Peter 1:3; II Timothy 3:16-17). God has promised us that His Scriptures will thoroughly equip the man of God for every good work. Finally, understanding this, we absolutely must recognize the truth of I Peter 4:11: “If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God.” If everyone who wants to follow God would do this, not only would religious unity be possible, it is guaranteed. “If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another...” (I John 1:7).

What are the dangers of ignoring this biblical recipe? First, those who claim to be Christians, yet have never obeyed the gospel plan of salvation, will remain lost. Second, all other lost souls will remain lost. Finally, Christians who refuse to evangelize will be lost (James 4:17).

This is a very simple recipe. Some might even call it “Pollyanna-ish.” But I challenge all those who claim the name of Christ to try it and see. Take a moment and imagine the effects true Christianity could have on this nation, if all those who claim to be Christ’s followers would unite on the Bible only. This is the restoration plea!