

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SEP 11, 2016**

**HOME:** Fred & Romaine Elliott, Henry McDonald, Chuck Windham, Gene McDonald

**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, Donna Laratta, Kathy Windham, Arthur Mason, John Pruitt, Madison Banks, Charles Crump, Martha Ann, Margie Thomasson, Micah Earnest, Vonciel Phillips, Wanda Self, Jamie Sanford, Bruce Windham, Raymond Johnson, Joyce Jacobs, Patrick Parker, Gene McDonald, Sabrina Handley, Mike Miles, Terry Galloway, Jon Sanford, Marvin White, Jimmy Harrison, Otto Tolbert, Diane Chambers, Angie Jones, Courtney Riddick, Victor Crosby, Brianna Cordell

AM - DARYL CUSTRED

PM - DARYL CUSTRED

**TODAY DARYL CUSTRED IS WITH US FOR "SINGING SUNDAY". HE WILL SPEAK AT BOTH MORNING HOURS, WE WILL EAT LUNCH AT THE BUILDING, HE WILL TEACH SEVERAL SESSIONS, AND AT 5 WE WILL SING TOGETHER**

**MEN'S GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING TONIGHT AFTER SERVICES**

**GOSPEL MEETING AT DOVERTOWN SEP 11-13**

**GOSPEL MEETINGS AT CURRY, CROSSROADS, & PARRISH SEP 11-14**

**OUR 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY CONTRIBUTIONS ARE GOING TO BE GIVEN TO VARIOUS MISSION EFFORTS WE SUPPORT: OCTOBER - MSOP/GBN**

### **BIRTHDAYS:**

Sep 13: Ethan Phillips

# 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

## **Five Part Harmony** **Dan Jenkins**

I was about six years old when I first heard of the words “soprano, alto, tenor and bass.” At the old West Huntsville church building, a brother from Tennessee, A. J. Vetito, conducted the first of several singing schools at the church. By the end of that week, we all knew “do, re, mi, fa, sol, la, ti do.” We all could sing the scale and learned so many new songs. The singing at that congregation vastly improved in these annual schools.

I learned to listen to all the various parts and how they harmonized. There is nothing which sounds more beautiful to me than blending of voices in praising God.

In the sixth grade I began attending Christians schools. The first was in Athens, Alabama, and the second was in Huntsville. I am so thankful for the choruses at both of these schools where I grew in my appreciation for singing in worship. I owe to one of the choral directors, Wayne Hemingway, an even greater debt. He constantly emphasized understanding the words of songs and their meaning. In fact, before we learned a new song we would spend time discussing what we were trying to say to each other as we sang. He even did this for older songs and I soon learned that while I had known the music of those songs, I did not know the songs meaning!

You see, there is another aspect of singing harmoniously that has nothing to do with “do, re, and mi.” Look carefully at Ephesians 5:19. Our use of the music attached to psalms, hymns and spiritual songs is not emphasized. Paul said, “Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.” Look at it carefully. The emphasis is not on the melody made with the voice, but the melody made in the heart!

Now look at the passage again. The verse does not say making melody in your hearts (plural)! It is singular. In the Greek, the word “your” is plural (congregational), but the heart is singular. There is the harmony of every individual heart, as we sing with one heart to the Lord. In Colossians 3:16, the text speaks of hearts, but the emphasis in Ephesians is on the singular heart we bring before God. God does not care how skilled you are in harmonizing “do, re, mi”! We do not just blend our voices, we blend our hearts.

Look at singing as it ascends to heaven and enters the throne room of heaven. Do we really think that God judges our singing based on four part harmony? The melody that sweetens heaven is that fifth part harmony when it comes from the one heart of His people. Let’s learn all we can about four part harmony, but may we never fail to place the right emphasis on the harmony of our souls as we worship our Maker!

## **Singing to the Lord** **Robert Notgrass**

Singing soothes the soul, some say. But, how does it soothe the soul? Well, singing is the expression of the heart. For a Christian, it is the singing to the Lord for saving our souls. What more do we have that we can sing more glorious about? I have seen Christian individuals rocking and rolling down the streets as they sing out loud to Metallica or Britney Spears about lusting, fornicating with others, getting their next high or attempting to deceive others. But, when was the last time those Christians sang for the glory of God? Or have they ever?

Are you singing to your Lord?

We are to glorify God because He is. We are to glorify Him in our voices, raising our voices high enough to lay them before His throne. But, some believe that they do not need to sing out. That, singing praises quietly so no one will hear you, is acceptable. But, is it possible to love Jesus without singing out of how wonderful he really is? Do we show God our greatest potential in our singing? Now for others, I have seen some sing with so much love toward God, that it makes them cry. But, why is it that some songs have us crying before his throne for the love that we have toward him? Perhaps, it is because we love Him so much. Perhaps it is because we realize how hopeless we are without him. Perhaps, it is because of how joyous living with Him in eternity will be. Perhaps, our thoughts are as Moses' feet when he was told to take off his shoes because he was on holy ground.

You know, the book of Psalm says many things. But, it is vital to consider their works as songs and see how the writers depended greatly on God, his love, his faithful love for man and his care for us. For that, they sang out with their heart, understanding what God is and the relationship they are to have with Him. This is important because so many either do not know how to have a relationship with God or have never had one. It is therefore saddening to consider that some Christians have hardened their hearts enough that they have become calloused toward singing out with their heart, not embracing the Christ who died for them.

It amazing me how much God loves our voices. God created them and designed them with such a vast range of notes to use. So let's use them! Let us sing out in worship. Let us sing out to Him as we drive down the road and allow Him to fill us with unspeakable amounts of joy as we live faithfully before Him, as we walk closely next to Him toward the end of this life and into Paradise wherewith we shall be one day in Heaven with the gentle Shepherd who has helped us to find out way. Let us all sing to the Lord.