

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ TODAY OUR EVENING SERVICE WILL BE AT 1 PM IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING A FELLOWSHIP MEAL TOGETHER
- ◆ OUR GOSPEL MEETING IS AUG 6-9 WITH MARK LINDLEY SPEAKING
- ◆ GOSPEL MEETING @ BARN CREEK JULY 23-27
- ◆ VBS @ CORDOVA JULY 16-19
- ◆ VBS @ CURRY JULY 23-27

BIRTHDAYS

JULY:

- 1: Danny Busby
- 5: Karen Griggs
- 15: Danny Rushing
- 24: Allie Roden
- 25: Ann Myers
- 27: Adyson Preston

SERMONS

July 16, 2017

AM: THE WORK OF AN ELDER

PM: SINGING

PRAYER LIST

April Lazenby, Sue Hinds, Joshua Jackson, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, Patsy Tucker, Debbie Odom, Robert Turner, Ricky McDonald, David Brown, Kim Elliott, J.D. Dailey, Donna Laratta, Kathy Windham, John Pruitt, Madison Banks, Martha Ann, Margie Thomasson, Micah Earnest, Vonciel Phillips, Wanda Self, Jamie Sanford, Bruce Windham, Raymond Johnson, Joyce Jacobs, Gene McDonald, Mike Miles, Jon Sanford, Marvin White, Jimmy Harrison, Diane Chambers, Angie Jones, Victor Crosby, Brianna Cordell, Michael Griggs, Bud Howell, Margaret Henson, Judith Homer, Mason Chambers, Danielle Dodd, Mark Barker, Mike Myers, Amy Suddeth, Renea Lawson, Chuck Peltz, John Aldridge

SICK LIST

Fred & Romaine Elliott, Gene McDonald, Bobbie Dailey (WBMC, Rm 2230), Travis Richardson

THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

westwalkerchurchofchrist.org

Times of service:

Sunday:

Bible Class:

9:30 AM

Worship:

10:20 AM & 5 PM

Wednesday Bible Study:

7 PM

Elders:

Eugene McDonald
924-4827

Carl 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
471-3747

Preacher:

Ben Wright
522-8004

Eastern Airlines Flight 401

Steve Higginbotham

On the evening of December 29, 1972, Eastern Airlines flight 401 crashed into the Florida Everglades, killing 101 people. Any time a passenger plane crashes, it grabs our attention because so many lives are affected by the tragedy. But what makes this crash even more tragic is that it was completely avoidable.

While preparing to land in Miami, FL, the co-pilot noticed that a light bulb on the instrument panel wasn't working, and he tried to replace it. Unsuccessful at his attempts to remove the burnt out bulb, the airplane was placed on auto-pilot and the pilot, himself, left his seat to assist him. However, somehow in the process, the auto-pilot was accidentally disengaged and while the pilot and co-pilot worked at replacing a burnt out light bulb, the plane slowly descended, and crashed.

Think of it. 101 people died because more attention was given to a burnt out light bulb than flying and landing the airplane. Sad indeed, but every day, mistakes more monumental than this take place. In fact, someone reading this article right now may unwittingly be in a "descent" that will lead to his destruction if he continues to devote his attention to things of lesser importance.

Do you think people will someday meet God unprepared because they gave their attention to lesser things? Jobs, family, entertainment, social status, schooling, pleasure, wealth, etc. all have their place, but not at the expense of a "safe landing."

Friends, don't get so caught up with the distractions of this world (Matthew 13:22), that you fail to "land safely." Give it some thought.

THE HUMAN CHAIN AND SALVATION

Neal Pollard

Incredibly, nine people in one family were in serious danger of drowning as they were swept into a riptide in Panama City Beach, Florida. It started with some little boys, but soon included would-be rescuers that included their mother and some other relatives. All of them were floundering in about 15 feet of water. The USA Today story seems to indicate that Jessica Simmons and her family thought of the idea of creating a human chain out to the imperiled family and towing them back to shore. About 80 people “started a football field-sized human chain to help bring them back to shore” (Mary Bowerman, 7/11/17, online ed.). The mother, Roberta Ursrey, summed it up well when she said, “I owe my life and my family’s life to them. Without them, we wouldn’t be here” (ibid.).

What a great story! It reveals the possibility of unity for profound purpose. It shows the power of working together. It says something about the best part of the human heart. It also illustrates the power of rescue and salvation.

The Bible makes it clear that God is the one who saves (Titus 2:11). His Word is His power to save (Romans 1:16). His divine plan is the means of salvation (Acts 16:30-31; Romans 10:9-10,13; Ephesians 2:8; 1 Peter 3:21). But, the Bible makes it just as clear that He does His saving through the preaching, teaching, influence, and efforts of His people, sharing the good news with those who are languishing in the waters of iniquity. That’s suggested in “The Great Commission” (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16; Luke 24:46-47). It’s demonstrated in the constant efforts of New Testament Christians, taking the message of Christ with them throughout the world to those lost in sin (cf. Acts).

Think of the church as the God-given human chain, reaching out to the struggling, needy soul. They are drowning in sin and in desperate need of help. Unreached, they will drown (see the imagery of 1 Timothy 6:9). God wants you and me, as those who ourselves have been saved, to join hands and help others who need to be helped onto the shores of safety! We cannot delay! We must act while there’s time. Lives—souls!—depend on it.

SERMON ADVANTAGE

THE WORK OF ELDERS

(1 Timothy 3:1)

I. Elders are to _____ the flock.

- A. This word literally means “to _____ over”.
- B. Thayer says it means, “a man charged with the duty of seeing that things to be done are done _____.”
- C. Another term used of elders is “_____” (Titus 1:7).

II. Elders are to _____ for souls.

- A. Thayer says it means, “to be _____, keep awake”.
- B. This duty is first shown in their _____ (1 Timothy 3:4-5).
- C. The elder is shown to be over the local congregation and _____ every member.
- D. They will one day give _____ of how well they watched (Hebrews 13:17).

III. Elders are to _____ the flock.

- A. Thayer says it means, “to _____ the requisites for the soul’s need”.
- B. There are several _____ that are part of this role:
 1. They must _____ their sheep (John 10:2-3).
 2. They are to _____ their sheep (John 10:3).
 3. They _____ the flock (1 Peter 5:2).
 4. They are to _____ the lost sheep (Luke 15:4).
 5. They are to _____ the flock (Titus 1:9).

IV. Elders are to _____ in word and doctrine.

- A. Thayer says it means, “to labor with _____ effort”.
- B. They must be _____ of the Word.

V. Elders are to be _____.

- A. 1 Peter 5:3; Hebrews 13:7.
- B. We should be able to _____ our lives after them.