

# Eisenhower Church of Christ

## The Unity of the Church

The book of Psalms has been appropriately called “the hymn book of the Bible.” There are more than twenty-five hundred verses in its one hundred and fifty chapters, and doubtless that many songs have been composed from them through the centuries and millenniums since their sentiments swelled the bosom of Israel’s sweet singer. Many of these verses were chanted in the worship of early Christians, and they will be sung in every generation wherever people are found worshipping God until we learn the “new song” in Heaven, “when all the redeemed singers get home.”

To rob our modern productions of the sentiments and psalms of David would be, indeed, to impoverish our worship of praise.

**A SONG OF UNITY.** Psalm 133 is a song of unity, “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!” There is nothing more stifling and stultifying to the emotions of the soul than strife and division. There is nothing more soothing and beneficent to the spirit than peace and unity.

Unity among brethren is like “the precious ointment upon the head,” in the psalmist’s refrain. The Easterners perfumed with fragrant oil. Unity perfumes the church and sweetens the atmosphere like the precious oil “that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron’s beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments.”

**THE UNITY OF THE SPIRIT.** Exhorting the brethren to “keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” Paul outlines, in Ephesians 4:4-6, the basis of unity. “There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.” The “unity of the spirit” is the unity the Spirit teaches, or that results when the Spirit’s Word is obeyed.

There is one God—unity in worship. A divided worship cannot be rendered” in spirit and in truth.” Wherever and whenever rendered, true worship must have the two elements—the right spirit and the right act; for God is one, and “seeketh such to worship Him.”

There is one Lord—unity in authority. Human authority in religion is wrong. Christ is Lord and His Word only is authority.

There is one faith—unity in message. The Spirit, which guided “into all truth,” does not impart conflicting messages. The Gospel promotes unity; and where there is division, something else has been preached.

There is one baptism—unity in practice. Modes of baptism! We might as well talk about shades of white. There is no such thing.

There is one body—unity in organization. The church is one body. It is impossible to have “spiritual unity” and “organic” division. Unity is both spiritual and organic.

There is one Spirit and one hope—unity in life, in desire and expectation.

Thus, Paul outlines the only basis of unity. Let the world cease their efforts toward amalgamations, federations, alliances, and unions, and adopt the divine standard and basis of unity—oneness in Christ.

**THE PRAYER FOR UNITY.** The Lord’s prayer in John 17:1-21 was an ardent petition for unity. “May they all be one.” Jesus praying for the unity of believers! Yet, it has not touched the heart of those who are promoting denominationalism in the world, nor even of brethren who sow discord and stir factions in the church. Denominationalism is the misrepresentation of Christianity—a horrid caricature—and the authors of perversions in religion are enemies of Christ, professing and even honestly thinking themselves to be His friends.

“Charity begins at home.” We cannot with good grace preach unity and practice division. “I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, 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” (I Corinthians 1:10). Paul’s beseechment should not only be our preaching, but also our practice. The unity of Christians is the only hope of bringing the world to Christ. Jesus knew it and therefore prayed that “they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in us.”

—Foy E. Wallace, Jr.

### ***Sympathy***

Our sympathy goes out to Julia York and her family in the loss of her grandmother, **Maria Carreon**. Maria passed from this life on Wednesday, October 4th in ICU at Medical Center Hospital. Her services were conducted last week.

### ***Prayer Requests***

**David Ryan** had to get a shot in his back to help relieve the pain he has been having. He is feeling better. Keep David in your prayers that his pain goes away completely.

Julia York has requested prayers for her uncle **Walter** is on medication for pains he is having in his head. Please keep him in your prayers that he can get a cause for the pain.

**Doris Everett** (wife of Dub Everett, who is an elder at Fort Stockton Church of Christ) is out of ICU and in Room #535 at MCH. She is being treated for a breathing problem. Prayers were requested for her.

### ***Concerns Update***

We need to keep **LaDonna Chism** in our daily prayers. She is going through a rough time right now.

**Rhona Lyne** was put in Room #416 at MCH.

### ***Prayer List***

Mary Anchondo; Maria Baeza; Irene Balerio; Ameer Blumenauer; Betty Branson; Mary Brown; Naomi and Adelynn Bustillos; Glenna Callendar; Arthur Campos; Sylvia Campos; LaDonna Chism; James Drake; Jon Easley; Cathy Eastwood; Daniel Eastwood; Hattie Gilmore; Paul Gunn; Doug Guynn; Lon & Lana Howard; Charles Lewis; Ronda Lyne; Leigh Ann McFarland; Keith Mitchell; Juan & Estella Morolez; Inocencio Munoz, Sr; Julie Munoz; Bruce Plyler; Linda Straw; Marilyn Upshaw; Terresia Weaver; Carolyn Wilkerson; John Wood; Wilene & David Wright.

### ***Eisenhower’s Homebound...***

Betty Branson; Glenna Callendar; James & Joyce Drake; Ronda Lyne; Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley & Marilyn Upshaw.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military and the spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

### ***Events***

Watch “***In Search of the Lord’s Way***” Sunday mornings at 7:30 am on KWES TV 9

### ***Office News...***

**Brandon Aguilar** will be here October 29th to present our morning Bible Class and Worship. He is a student that we support from the Southwest School of Bible Studies in Austin, TX.

Our **“Fall Festival”** is next Saturday, October 21st from 6pm—8pm in the church’s parking lot. Please join us for fun, games, food & fellowship. Also, we will have trunk or treat.

We will have a **“Potluck Luncheon”** on Sunday, October 29th following our morning service followed by our PM service. Our visitors are welcome to join us.

**“October Attended Nursery”**

10/15 Courtney & Julie 10/22 Terresia & Virgie 10/29 Linda & Devida

**Food for Thought...**

The only lasting things we can give our children are love, root and wings.

**Ashamed to Be Ashamed**

Recently some gospel preachers were discussing problems plaguing our brotherhood. Much of the discussion centered on the fact that there is a concerted effort on the part of some to change the face of the church.

Some would alter the role of women in the church so that the ladies can have any role that the men do. Some would make the day of the week for taking the Lord’s Supper to be optional. One “prison minister” serves communion to prisoners on Tuesday evenings. Still others regard the use of instrumental music to accompany our singing to be a matter of opinion and not a matter of faith.

Questions were asked regarding why these views were being spawned. Those professing the views claim they are the result of a new approach to understanding the scriptures. Someone suggested it was more likely that men decided what they wanted to do then found an approach to the scriptures which they believe would allow their practices.

It was suggested that these views may be held due to a combination of factors. One suggestion seemed more significant to me than the others. Someone said that these brethren advocating a “new hermeneutic” have found our “traditional views” to be an embarrassment to them. They are embarrassed in the presence of the “pious un-immersed” when we preach that sinners who are not baptized are lost. They are embarrassed when we preach it is wrong to use instrumental music when singing in worship to God. ad infinitum.

I fear that the word “embarrassment” is not quite the proper word. It seems more to me that these people are ashamed. And Jesus said, “Whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when He shall come in His own glory and in the Father’s and of the Holy Angels.” (Luke 9:26)

Some long ago put it aptly, “I’d be ashamed to be ashamed.” (Deceased)

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.” (Romans 1:16)

—Lewis Hale

**October 15, 2023**

Announcements

Song Leader

Sermon

Opening Prayer

Scripture Reading

Second Prayer

Closing Prayer

**A.M.**

Jeff Wesson

Steve Easlon

Allen Weakland

Jeff Wesson

David Baldwin

Scot Straw

Jon Roemisch

**P.M.**

Jeff Wesson

Oliver Hernandez

Allen Weakland

Jeff Wesson

David Ryan

Trini Wood

Craig Wesson

**Lord's Supper**

Craig Wesson  
Larry May  
Jr. Munoz  
David Ryan

Richard Siler  
Communion  
(In Library)

**Other Responsibilities:** *Elder:* Jeff Wesson –556-5547 *Deacon:* Bill Ryan 272-5507—*Pulpit:* John Wood 413-7444—*Table:* Richard Siler 556-2151 — *Song Leaders:* Cody Wesson 934-4646 — *Recording Sermons:* Tommy Garcia 312-5332 — *Contributions:* Tommy Garcia

**Sunday AM**

*“Hunger & Thirst for Righteousness” (Matthew 5:6)*

**Sunday PM**

*“Implanted Word” (James 1:21-25)*

**Our Records**

*Bible Class... 74*

*Morning Worship...102*

*Evening Worship ... 65*

*Wednesday...65*

*Contribution...\$4.651.67*