

# PRAYER LIST

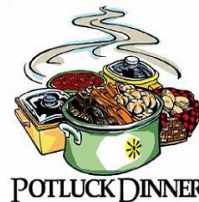
**CHERYL BARRON**, Stan Raley's sister, breast cancer  
**TED BROWN**, Sherri Clopton's dad  
**AMBER BUTLER family**, 29 year old sister, Ashley Sanders, passed away recently, leaving 2 young children. Amber is preacher's wife – Philadelphia church of Christ.  
**SHERRI CLOPTON**, health issues  
**MIKE CUMBERLAND**, out-patient therapy  
**DAVE DAVIS**  
**MICHAEL DONOVAN**, Sherri Clopton's brother-in-law. Small aneurysm on base of brain  
**ODELL GURLEY**, Jeremy's (Elizabeth Fair Gurley) granddad; lung cancer treatment  
**EVELYN GUY**, health related issues  
**JUDY JENNINGS**, former member; rare form cancer 2027 Green Gate PL ~ Grayson, GA 30017-1857  
**BETTY JOHNSON**, home-bound; fell but doing well  
**SAILOR RAE JONES & her mother Melyna**, friend of Jennifer Guy. Infant Sailor heart surgery recovery  
**ZANE LaBELLE**, teen son of Lamar King's cousin  
**MIKE McCRARY**, Josh McCrary's dad  
**MICHAEL NAMEY family**, 18-yr old great-nephew of Cindy Harper, and cousin of Renée Cumberland – passed away Tuesday, 9/22 due to heart attack following seizure-like episode in college class. Funeral 9/26, Jacksonville, FL.  
**REATHA RAINER**  
**MRS GENE RALEY**, Stan's mom – health issues  
**STAN RALEY**  
**FAYE RARICKS**, friend of Dewey Wall  
**ALETHA RAY**, Moriah McCrary's mom – cancer 10218 US Hwy 98 ~ Fairhope, AL 36532  
**TED RIVES**, hospice care  
**DAVID ROBINSON**, Lona Moffett's dad  
**AL ST. CLAIR**  
**ROB WARREN**  
**VELMA "DUCK" YATES**  
**MEMBERS of our ARMED SERVICES CHURCH MISSION WORK WORLDWIDE**

# ANNIVERSARY & BIRTHDAY

October 1 : Mike & Renée Cumberland  
October 2 : Dalton Guy

Note: If you are new to our family, or have changes to your info, please see Renée Cumberland.

Fourth Sunday  
Fellowship today...  
...following morning service.  
Evening worship service to  
follow at 12:30.



As always, our visitors are our most honored guests. Please join us!

## Welcoming Sabrina Collins

All ladies of the congregation  
are invited to brunch on  
Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>  
at 10 am  
at the Callens' home  
4396 Old Homestead RD  
RSVP 601-527-7222

## Gospel Meeting

September 27 – 30, 2015

Christian Living in a  
Sinful World!

Meeting Times:  
Sunday 9:30am, 10:30am, 6:00pm  
Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday 7 pm



Speaker: Bro. John Pigg

Union church of Christ  
919 E Jackson Rd, Union MS 39365  
Phone: 601-774-2730

# "An Open Letter to the Church of Christ"

~ continued from cover ~

What I'm trying to say is, I know it's been a while since you last saw Him. But don't give up trying to be what He wants you to be. And the only way you can be what He wants is by continuing to mimic everything He says in His New Testament, and only His New Testament. Don't try to be like all the other girls.

Really, that's all He wants. Christ loved you even when you were unlovable. He has patiently endured your shortcomings. And even during the times you have been unfaithful to Him, He has begged you to come back (Revelation 2:5, 21, cf. Malachi 3:7; Hosea).

Keep the faith. Remain loyal to Him. Pursue fidelity to the pattern of the New Testament. And don't settle for anything less, no matter how alluring it may be.

Don't try to be something you're not.

To put it bluntly, you look kind of silly when you try. When you try to look like all the other girls, you don't do it very well. You're like the boy who ran away from home and drank a few bottles of liquor for the first time; when all the other reprobates in the bar at least know how to handle their drinks, you just look like a stammering fool.

When it comes to "doing what seems right to man" (Proverbs 14:12), other churches simply do it better than you. If you try to do things that are not authorized in His New Testament – if your worship becomes about what you want – if you bow to political correctness – if your members stop trying to be holy – if you stop holding on to His Word – at best you are just second-rate.

Even when you try to be like them, other churches will still be bigger, have more entertaining services, offer more programs, be more organized, have more influence, and tickle more ears. When you try to be like the world, you're not very good at it. And you lose all the reasons for people to stick around.

Hold fast to the New Testament (2 Thessalonians 2:15). Keep doing what you do best. Continue being what Christ loves so much about you.

Don't forget how much Christ loves you.

Don't forget what He gave up for you. He died for you (John 3:16). He made Himself submissive to the Father for you (1 Corinthians 15:28).

And if you still love him in return, make sure you show it (John 14:15). If you aren't remaining true to Him out of love, you aren't doing it by faith (Galatians 5:6).

Remember this: Christ loves you for you. Not the old you, but the new you. Because you have been baptized in Him (Galatians 2:20), the old you is gone. The new you finds identity in Your Husband (2 Corinthians 5:17). Therefore, to be you is to resemble Christ's wishes for you in His New Testament.

Because He's coming back! And you want Him to recognize you.

Your loving brother, Ben

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