

# Church of Christ

# . Walk and Work Together in the Light

# Is Christianity Relevant?

By Spencer Clark

It can be frustrating when we try to share the good news about Jesus, especially when it seems that Christianity has no relevance in people's lives. They may believe in God, but committing to a religious practice often feels like a barrier. This can leave us feeling dejected and powerless, as if our efforts are in vain.

The reality is that the Gospel is relevant: "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom 3:23), and the Gospel is the "power of God for salvation" (1:16). The challenge lies in persuading their hearts about what they truly need. This is not something we can accomplish alone. God's Word pierces the heart and soul. But how do we reach the point where we can proclaim the good news to them?

Unfortunately, many churches, even within our own fellowship, have tried to address the relevance issue through methods other than evangelism: entertainment, emotionalism, consumer-oriented religion, or "seeker-sensitive" approaches that prioritize the desires of seekers over truth and faithfulness. While these may appeal to our fleshly desires, they do not satisfy the longings of the soul.

For someone to see the Gospel as relevant, they need to recognize that it addresses their needs. Consider the different ways people came to Jesus. Some sought a Messianic King, others wanted food, and some sought healing. In their pursuit of physical needs, they discovered something much greater: the Word of God in the flesh. Jesus cared for their physical needs, but not at the expense of the truth. Not everyone realized they were eternally lost, but they did recognize their physical needs, such as hunger, illness, poverty, loneliness, and suffering. This doesn't mean we should prioritize physical needs first (e.g., entertainment), but we must be aware of real needs and address them with compassion.

For someone to see the Gospel as relevant, they need to observe that our lives are transformed rather than conformed (Rom 12:2). Do people see us as those who are made new in Christ, or would they be surprised to learn we follow Jesus? If there is no difference between our lives in the world and in the church, why would people see the value in being a Christian? Many churches attempt to be relevant by conforming to secular culture rather than being transformed. Jesus stood out in first-century Judea because he was different, not because he fit in.

For someone to see the Gospel as relevant, they need to understand that the Gospel is truly for them. Through God's Word, we must help them ask, "Why does this matter for me?" They need to recognize their own state of sinfulness, as well as God's loving response to their plight and His offer of redemption. They must see that the Gospel is still relevant today because, without it, no one would be saved.

Sunday: Worship 10:30am & Class 5:00pm
Tuesday: Benevolence 9:00–10:00am & Young at Heart Class 10:30am
Wednesday: Class 6:30pm

Address: 3400 W Hwy 22, Corsicana, TX 75110 • Phone: 903-872-5696 Email: office@westhillchurchofchrist.org • Website: westhillchurchofchrist.org

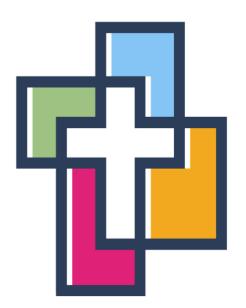
"Like-Minded - The Setting"	"Same Love - Our Challenge"
Steve Orbison (North Beaton)	Alton Albert (Eastside)
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# **UNITY SUNDAY**

**N**OVEMBER 16. 2025

**Welcome to our Unity Sunday with the Blooming** Grove, Eastside, North Beaton, and Westhill **Churches of Christ!** 

> Worship - 10:30 am Potluck - 12:00 pm Afternoon Worship - 1:00 pm No Evening Class



# **Church Leadership & Westhill Works**

#### Deacons

David Baumgartner - 903.654.4057 Zach Drain - 903.521.6055 Joshua Haden - 903.602.9645 Casey Hendrix - 817.307.2127 Michael Jones - 430.236.2244 Matt Newman - 972.935.5789 Greg Olsen - 903.654.1406 Billy Roughton - 903.654.4032 Dickie Russell - 903.874.4457 David Shastid - 903.257.6464 Jose Sosa - 903.872.0535 Brent Stewart - 903.641.9052 Mike Wylie - 214.837.3848 Justin Williams - 903.875.8288

#### **Shepherds**

Scott Barham - 903.641.0133 Percell Milton - 214.803.2644 Rusty Owens - 903.229.3650 Paul Stewart - 903.872.3464

#### **Ministers**

Anthony Warnes - 430.775.0196 (Pulpit) Brandon Watson - 903.771.6359 (Family) Samuel Ramirez 325.436.1051 (Spanish)

Jay Mahoney - 903.467.9093 (Office)

#### **Community Outreach**

Addiction Recovery Counseling Benevolence Program

Food for Fitness Forever His Wed. Night Focus Groups Spanish ESL Classes

#### **Local Missions**

Apologetics Press - Jeremy Pate Bear Valley - Wayne Jones Cherokee Children's Home Disaster Relief The Jenkins Institute Memphis School of Preaching WVBS school.wvbs.org

#### **U.S. Mission Points** Tilton, NH & Mesa, AZ **Foreign Missions Cameroon Preacher Training**

**India Preacher Training** 

# **Prayer Needs:**

**Joseph Haden** - Recovering from a broken collar bone.

**Patty Williams** – Improving from pneumonia, and has returned home from the hospital.

**Ruth Ann Watson** – Hospitalized for port placement; will begin dialysis.

**Tanya Rowden** – Preparing for upcoming knee replacement surgery 12/3.

Martha Dowdle - Continuing infusion treatments.

**Judi Olsen** (sister-in-law of Darrell & James Olsen) – Diagnosed with lymphoma; further testing for possible cancer.

Our love and prayers to The Bennett Family in the passing of **Carl Max Bennett.** 

Continue to remember: Bronny & Ruth Watson, Dan & Rita Dominy, Eula Henry, John Braly, Louie & Patty Williams, Nick Tooley, Bill & Beverly Abercrombie, Alan Stewart, Larry Hartsell, Beverly Heathcote, David Mahoney, Steve Gaines, Courtney Murphy, Millard Dowdle, & Carol Barham

## **Announcements:**

**Unity Service** - Today we are blessed to be joined by our sister congregations as we come together in fellowship and worship. Following the morning service, everyone is invited to gather in the Outreach Center for a potluck lunch. We will reconvene immediately afterward for our second service.

"How good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell together in

"How good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell together in unity." — Psalm 133:1

Cherokee Christmas Kids gifts are due by 11/30.

**Save the Date!** Join us for the WOW Ladies' Retreat — Jan. 30–31, 2026! Theme: "You Can Do Hard Things" with our own Lindsay Olsen. Registration Open.

Wed Night Prayer Service - 11/26

5th Sunday Format - 11/30

English Second Language Classes (ESL)-3rd & 4th Wed. Nights of each month @6:30pm.

Spanish Bible Classes Sun & Wed. Night.

Young at Heart Class meets on Tues. @ 10:30am.

Westhill ARC (Addiction Recovery Counseling) meets weekly-contact Jay Mahoney

**Staffed nursery** available for babies up to 2 yr old. **Nursery Attendant** this week: **Korri Nicholson** 

#### This Week's Birthdays

November 16 - Ken Green

November 18 - Audra Jennings

November 19 - Barry Heathcote & Martha Olsen

November 21 - Glyn Philips & Kathi Pruitt

November 22 - Micah Haden

#### Records for November 9, 2025

AM Worship	213
Contribution\$9	,060

### **Visitor Form**

Thank you for joining us for worship! We would love to follow-up with you...



## **Unity Sunday**

#### **AM Worship**

Introduction	Paul Stewart
2 Songs	Brandon Watson
Prayer	Thomas Smith
2 Songs	Brandon Watson
Sermon 1	Steve Orbison
1 Song	Kenny Ballard
Sermon 2	Alton Albert
Invitation Song	Kenny Ballard
Lord's Supper Song	Kenny Ballard
Lord's Supper	Shawn Smith
Communion Servers	

Paul Ballard Eli Haden
Larry Joe Ballard Joel Haden
John Brown Isaac Haden
Kenneth Brown Eddie Orbison
Listan Ellis Willie Robinson

Closing SongKenny BallardClosing PrayerGreg Olsen

#### **PM Worship**

1 Song	Danny Smith
Prayer	Sammy Smith
1 Song	Danny Smith
Sermon 3	Tim Cooke
1 Song	Danny Smith
Sermon 4	Anthony Warnes
Invitation Song	Jay Mahoney
Closing Song	Jay Mahoney
Closing Prayer	Darwin Thomas