



The Hard Work of Christian Unity

Church Family,

Why is unity in the church sometimes so difficult?

We might assume that unity should come naturally among Christians. After all, we share the same Savior, believe the same gospel, possess the same Spirit, and belong to the same family of God. Surely unity should be easy.

And yet, from the earliest days of the church, it has not been.

The New Testament repeatedly addresses disagreements, divisions, selfish ambition, hurt feelings, and strained relationships among believers. Even the church at Philippi—a church Paul dearly loved—was not immune. That helps us understand why Paul's words in Philippians 2 are so important:

“Make my joy complete by thinking the same way, having the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves.”

— **Philippians 2:2–3 (CSB)**

Christian unity is difficult because genuine unity requires something from us. It requires humility. It requires patience. It requires forgiveness. It requires us to lay aside selfish ambition and the desire to have our own way. In other words, unity requires us to become more like Jesus.

Jon Bloom makes the insightful observation that **“our pursuit of unity is designed to give us many opportunities to die to our own sin and bear with the sin of others.”**

Perhaps that is one reason God uses life together in the church to shape us. Biblical unity does not mean that we will always agree on everything or never disappoint one another. Rather, it means that because Christ has united us, we continually choose to love one another, forgive one another, serve one another, and place the interests of others ahead of our own.

September 1, 2026

And when a church lives this way, something beautiful happens: **our unity puts Christ on display.**

Jesus said, “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another” (John 13:35, CSB). In a world increasingly marked by division, hostility, and self-interest, a church characterized by humility, sacrificial love, and genuine unity becomes a powerful witness to the transforming grace of Jesus Christ.

This Sunday, as we continue **“Unpacking the True Joy in Philippians,”** we will turn to **Philippians 2:1–4** and discover that true Christian unity is not built around getting everyone else to think like us or getting our own way. It begins when the gospel changes the way we see ourselves—and the way we see one another.

What might God do in His church when His people begin to consider others as more important than themselves?

I look forward to worshiping and opening God’s Word with you this Sunday!

Join Us in Prayer

Sunday Prayer Gathering

Sundays • 8:00–8:15 a.m. • Prayer Room

Begin each Lord’s Day by joining us as we seek God’s presence, power, and blessing upon every aspect of our worship and ministry.

Intercessory Prayer Ministry

Sundays • 10:15–11:15 a.m. • Prayer Room

Each Sunday, faithful intercessors gather to pray throughout our worship service. If you would like to participate in this important ministry, a sign-up sheet is available in the Prayer Room.

Prayer Needs

Wednesday Evening Mid-Week Ministries

September 1, 2026

As our fall semester approaches, please pray for each area of our Wednesday evening ministry:

- **Awana** — Pray for our leaders, volunteers, and children as the fall semester begins this Wednesday, September 2. Pray that the Lord will use every lesson, conversation, Scripture memory verse, and relationship to point our children to Christ and establish them firmly in His Word.
- **Student Discipleship Training**
- **Student Mid-Week Ministry**
- **Choir Rehearsal & Devotional Time**
- **Wednesday Bible Study**

Nominating Committee & Deacon Selection

North American Mission Vision Trip — Phoenix, Arizona (September 13-16)

Wednesday Evening Family Meal – Leader & team needed

Lifewise Ministry – Begins meeting this week.

Servant Leaders: Wednesday Family Fellowship Mealtime; Nursery Workers; Welcoming Team; A/V Workers

In Christ,

Bro. Todd

Senior Pastor

todd.henson@bentonfbc.org



September 1, 2026

Music Ministry

Ever thought
about joining
the choir?

Christmas CHOIR

We'd love to have you join us as we begin our Christmas Cantata. Join us on Wednesdays, 6:15 pm in the choir room!

Hope you have a great week!
See you Sunday, ready to Worship!

Stuart

Minister of Music & Worship

stuart.terry@bentonfbc.org

Student Ministry



In Christ,

Hayden Jaco

Director of Student Ministries

hayden.jaco@bentonfbc.org

Children's Ministry



Business Information

Budget Offering 08/30/26	\$11,187.68
Given to date	\$474,590.65
Budget needs to date	\$481,787.79
Designated Offering	\$783.00
Building Fund This Year	\$2,330.00
Lottie Moon	\$7,130.00
Annie Armstrong	\$1,905.00
Raymond James/Endowment Fund	\$75,997.61

ATTENDANCE

08/30/26	187
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Volunteer Schedules

Nursery Schedule

- 9/6** – Megan Robinson (SS), Amy Northcott, Kia Crouse, Kathy McCurry, Mya Acord, (Worship)
- 9/13** – Rita Hawes, Patsy Doom, Dara Smith, Stacey Malone (SS), Tammy Willie, Mary Jo Sprouse (Worship)
- 9/20** – Vicki Tynes, Vickie Wynn, Lori McGregor, Devan Willoughby (SS), Wendy Rose, Heather Yates (Worship)
- 9/27** – Elizabeth Garrett, Deanna Trammell, Dana Marsteller, Mya Acord (worship), Karen Postma, Karen McKean (SS)

Wednesday Evening

- 9/2** – Ron Welch
- 9/9** – Gary Allen
- 9/16** – Kent Rudd
- 9/23** – David Maddox
- 9/30** – Johnny Collins

Camera Room

- 9/6** – Tim & Heather Yates
- 9/13** – Dara Smith
- 9/20** – Dan Maxberry
- 9/27** – Clayton Crouse

Welcome Center **SS Worship**

- 9/6** – Kent Rudd, Gary Brown
- 9/13** – Mark Harrison, Andy Miller
- 9/20** – Grant Willouby, Jason Trammell
- 9/27** – Mike Donohoo, Austin Beck

Audio – Video

- 9/6** – Joe Jackson & Chase Duncan
- 9/13** – Grant Willoughby & Keagan Owens
- 9/20** - Grant & Devan Willoughby
- 9/27** – Billy & Terri Thorpe

Offertory Prayer

- 9/6** – Mike Donohoo
- 9/13** – David Cassity
- 9/20** – Austin Beck
- 9/27** – Brian Doss

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Our church directory is a great way to keep connected to our church family. If there have been any changes to your information, or if you would like to update your picture, we encourage you to update. <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/> Thank you

Prayer Request

Church Family

Karen Brown
Brent Clark
Kia Crouse
Kathy Harrison
Roy & Joetta Jones
Cheryl McCuiston
Dennis Pierce
Tristen Prange
Wendy Rose
Marisa Smith
Dale Southerd
Jason Trammell
Barb Travis

Shut In/Homebound

Joe & Dianne Dodd
June English
Jan Erickson
Maryde Fullington
Doug Galyen
Margie Greer
Joan Hillen
Betty Holt
Sherry Johnston
Barbara Kinsey
Irma McClain
Tommy & Brooks Meyer
Anna Lou Miller
Dan Oldham
Ronnie & Sylvia Powell
Ann Riley
Edna Riley
Ken Riley
Ann (Anna) Williams

* Indicates new prayer request

Friends & Family

Ed & Jane Alton
Anthony Cain
Veronica Galloway
Shelby Hega
George & Jane Kickhofel
Aaron Peters
Alicia Powell
Sandra Rowley
Dorothy Ryba
Dennis Southerd
Eddy Wild

Deaf Ministry

Kevin & Jessica Cartwright
& Family
15213 W 121st Terrace
Olathe, KS 66062
(Patty Sanders' son & family)

IMB Missionaries, SE Asia

Trevor & Maggie Grant
3806 Monument Ave
Richmond, VA 23230
(Martha Lewis's granddaughter
& husband)

North American Mission Board

Eric & Brittany Gibbs
767 N Castledale Ave
Casa Grande, AZ 85194
(Kaitlin Penn's brother
& family)

September 1, 2026

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

September 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Steve Cary	2	3 Sherry Johnston Ray & Joy Gee	4 Tommy & LeeAnn Sedlock	5 Wanda Jones Ray Gee
6	7	8 Brenda Langlois	9 Stuart Terry Gina Bowers	10	11 Lisa Carter	12 Aaron Clayton Lydia Powell
13 Don Frizzell Mark Heuer Julie York Gary & Barb Travis	14 Crosby Acord Anna Lou Miller Blake Myhand Sylvia Powell Brenda Taylor	15 Valerie Conley Jimmy Don Phillips Tate Jackson	16	17 Keith Anderson	18 Lori Owens Kent Rudd	19 Margaret Siress
20	21 Sherry Adams	22 Clayton Crouse Barb Travis	23 Elijah Jackson	24 Devan Willoughby Madden Lovett	25	26 David Borders Grant & Devan Willoughby
27 Grant Willoughby Sherri Miller Sherrie Penn	28	29	30 Will Locker	ANNIVERSARIES IN RED		