

Unity in Christ Means... Agree in Christ

Philippians 4:1-3 (ESV) *"Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved. I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life."*

I've often glanced over the names of the people the Apostle Paul mentions in Philippians 4:1-3. They've seemed arbitrary in the past; as if they didn't matter. I used to think, "Whoa, what did they do to be called out by name? Must've been pretty bad." And then I'd move on to verses in Chapter 4 that are more popular like, "be anxious for nothing..." or "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

I didn't give much thought to the fact that Paul plainly and openly called these women out. Euodia and Syntyche must have been well-known by the Philippian Church. They are noted as leaders and "co-laborers" in the Gospel. What has to happen for two leaders within a Church to be openly rebuked by an overseeing authority?

It's simple, they didn't agree on something. More importantly, that disagreement was causing division between them as God's family and in the greater body of Christ.

Here's what we know based on these three verses. First, the two women are recognized as Christians by Paul. They both believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. So we can assume they agree on the essential things of the Christian faith. Next, they are disagreeing on something badly enough that it bears mentioning. Paul feels the need to intervene, so he must be trying to bring healing to a situation that is out of control. Third, Paul's begging them to agree. He profoundly cares for them. He cares for the Church and that the Gospel would be represented well by their unity. He's standing in the gap so that division doesn't win the day.

These facts tell us what is really important in the situation. While we might want to know the juicy details of their disagreement, it's obvious that whatever divides them falls deeply short of what unifies them. So why divide over it?

And that's the lesson.

Think about the magnitude of the division in our country and world right now. Aren't you sick of it? I know I am. Wouldn't you like to talk more about what we agree on rather than what divides us? I know I really do. This national division is blasphemously creeping into Churches. Nevertheless in Christianity, Christ is supreme. Our opinions on issues subordinate to the essentials of faith in Jesus fall far down the list compared to representing the Gospel well and loving one another.

I wonder if Euodia and Syntyche 'buried the hatchet'. Did they heed Paul's plea and see how their differences were hurting themselves, the Church and the mission? Again, we don't know. Maybe, like the lesson, those details are unimportant compared to the fact that this happened then and continues to happen now. The question is when we disagree over subordinate things, will we hear and heed the plea of the Apostle Paul?

Love to You All,
Pastor Jason

RCC Gatherings in July

RCC Big Tent Gatherings



AS YOU ATTEND THIS GATHERING, READ THIS! Social Distancing Goals:

- Parking attendants will guide vehicles where to park.
- We ask that each family please bring enough chairs or seating for your family.
- **Please make every effort to keep your children with you in your family group, no running around. (There will be no Children's Church)**
- Be kind and courteous using the 'etiquette of permission' for social interaction. (Ask before you do)
- To be safest, Communion for this gathering is B.Y.O.C. (Bring Your Own Communion) We will be taking the Lord's Supper as a large group in unison during the service.

Sundays in July @9:45am

**On the RCC Church Grounds
717 East Adams Street, Rushville**



Rescheduled!

Quarterly

CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

Coming in August!

Return Your PRC Baby Bottles!
This is a great way to help our local PRC

**Please Return your PRC Baby Bottles
to RCC or the PRC by August 2nd**
Center Address: 213 W. Washington St. Rushville



**Pregnancy
Resource Center**

rightnow MEDIA

Our church's Bible study library is now digital...

AND GIGANTIC.

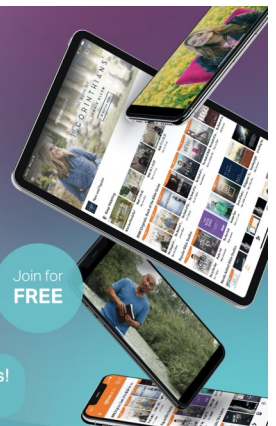
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Prayers & Praises

Updated: 06/30/2020

As churches reopen

Thelma - Praise - no more chemo!

Rose Crook - Praise - negative test results!

Aaron Trone - is home!

Still need: Nursery Point Person

Still need: Financial Point Person

Dave Nicholson (Jason's stepfather) Passed

Nathan Ralston - back pain

Lenny Easley - job at Co Market pharmacy

Jeryl & Jim Ploeger (Alisha's grandparents) health

Henry Wright - possible Corpus Callosum

Greg & Dawniele - motorcycle accident

Ryan Combest - deployed to Afghanistan

JBS Employees - Covid

Donovan Anderson - Rehab after surgery to remove benign brain tumor

Jan Anderson - (Donovan's mom)

Jane Wright - heart/lungs

Marvin - deliveries to Chicago

Congratulations to Drew & Loren Ralston on the arrival of Cooper James on April 21!

Carolyn Wiggins - nursing home/moving

Shannon Hughes (cancer)

Brian Wallace

H.S. & M.S. ministries

Associate Pastor search

Church Building Need

Abigail Norton - deployed

Tony - ICU cancer

Jessica (Paul's niece) - Cancer

Liz Wood - cancer

Rick Ashcraft - chemo

Charles Slaughter - cancer

Dan Norton - stroke recovery

CHURCH OFFERINGS:

June 7 - \$2429.10

June 14 - \$1675.30

June 21 - \$1911.05

June 28 - \$3077.05

Prayer Requests can be submitted and updated through the online Prayer card. Find it at rushvillechurchofchrist.com

