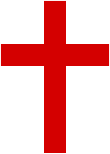
** **West Union Baptist Church**

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*“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me.” John 14:6*

***August 2024 Newsletter***

Dear Members and Friends of West Union Baptist Church,

As we continue to explore the core values encapsulated in the WUBC acronym, this month, we focus on the “U” for Unity. Unity is not merely a pleasant ideal but a divine mandate essential for our church community's health and growth. Our unity reflects God's heart and demonstrates the Gospel's transforming power to the world.

In the book of Nehemiah, we find a powerful example of unity in action. Nehemiah led the people of Israel in rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem. This was not a solo effort but a collective mission where everyone had a role to play. Families and individuals worked together, each contributing to the common goal. Their unity was their strength, and through their collaborative effort, the wall was completed in a remarkable 52 days. This story teaches us the importance of working together in unity. When we row in the same direction, with each person playing their part, we can achieve great things for the Kingdom of God. Like the wall of Jerusalem, our church can stand firm and secure, a testament to what can be accomplished when we move forward together in unison.

The early church exemplified unity in their daily lives. Acts 2:44-47 describes how believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. This was not just about meeting material needs but fostering a deep sense of community and mutual care. Their unity attracted others to the faith, and the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. In our church, we strive to emulate this unity by supporting one another through prayer, encouragement, and practical help. By sharing our resources, time, and talents, we build a community where everyone feels valued and cared for. The Holy Spirit, our guide and supporter, plays a crucial role in fostering unity among believers. It is through the Spirit that we are baptized into one body (1 Corinthians 12:13). The Holy Spirit empowers us to love one another, bear with one another, and strive for peace and harmony. When we walk by the Spirit, we are able to put aside our differences and focus on our shared mission to glorify God and make disciples.

Biblical fellowship is more than just attending church services; it involves active participation and contribution according to our spiritual gifts. As Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 12, the body of Christ comprises many parts, each with its unique function. No part is more important than the other; all are necessary for the body to function correctly. Christ is the head of the body, and we are the parts, each fulfilling our God-given roles. In our fellowship, everyone, without exception, has a place and a purpose. Whether you are gifted in teaching, serving, encouraging, giving, leading, or showing mercy, your contribution is vital to the well-being and growth of our church. As we unite in faith and purpose, we build a healthy, lively community that glorifies God and impacts lives for eternity.

In Christ, Adam