



## VANNA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*A VOICE IN THE VANNA COMMUNITY*

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### Vanna United Methodist Church

### Homecoming and Bicentennial 2020

Due to the Coronavirus outbreak and the safety of our members and visitors, Vanna UMC has made the tough decision to postpone our 2020 Homecoming. We pray that everyone stays healthy and safe!

**We will reschedule for a later date!**

Please follow us on our Facebook Page and website for updates.

**Website:** <http://www.vannamethodistchurch.com>

**Facebook:** Vanna United Methodist Church

# BLESSED

*are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

Matthew 5:3 | [www.believers4ever.com](http://www.believers4ever.com)

# AN OLD-FASHIONED CHRISTIAN

## **Text: Acts 11:26**

I'm afraid that the 21<sup>st</sup> century definition of a Christian that some people proclaim just won't fit into the Biblical description of what a true child of God is like. A true believer, according to the Word of God, is no less than a bond-slave of Jesus Christ. Christ rules and reigns in the true disciple's heart. Today, it seems, some have the idea that you can be a "Christian" and live any way you choose. In their view, if you go to some church, and profess faith, you are a child of God. But, nothing Pastor, don't do ministry alone could be further from the truth. I would like for us to acknowledge some of the behaviors of the true Christian in this message.

### **I. First AN OLD-FASHIONED CHRISTIAN IS ONE**

WHO HAS BEEN BORN AGAIN OF THE SPIRIT OF GOD? John 3:3-"Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

There is a natural birth, and there is a spiritual birth. By natural birth, we are descendent of Adam, members of a condemned race. By spiritual birth, we become sons of God, adopted into His family.

We cannot manufacture a Christian. Only God can birth a believer. Only God can save a soul. All the goodness we profess, or good deeds that we do could not move us one inch closer to the gates of Heaven. It takes the blood of Christ to cleanse us from sin, and when we believe in Him and obey His will, the blood is applied to our hearts, and we become children of God by faith in Jesus Christ.

This "easy believes" stuff of just walking an isle or signing a card, or raising a hand is a bunch of bull. If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature.

### **II. Second, AN OLD-FASHIONED CHRISTIAN IS ONE WHO LOVES GOD AND OTHERS.**

"Behold how those Christians love one another!" That was the impression that the early disciples left upon the world. If they had not loved Christ, they would not have been willing to suffer and die for Him. If they had not loved each other they would not have shared of their possessions with one another as the early Christians did.

They ate together. They worshipped together. They fellowshiped together. They suffered together[O1]. They died together.

Even the worst of unbelievers noticed their love. Where is this love among Christians today?

### **III. Third, AN OLD-FASHIONED CHRISTIAN IS ONE WHO WITNESSED FOR CHRIST.**

They were unashamed to tell others about their Saviors and Lord. I once heard Billy Graham say that there were over 2 1/2 billion people in the world who have never even heard the Gospel.

There are an estimated 150-60+ million people in the United States who do not profess to be Christians, yet, our witnessing is so scarce and so minimal that we barely make any impact on our own generation.

What ever happened to boldness?

### **IV. Fourth, AN OLD-FASHIONED CHRISTIAN IS ONE WHO LIVED A HOLY, GODLY LIFE.**

Many professing believers today act no different to those who don't even claim to know God. They go to the same shows, they talk the same talk. They dress the same way. They engage in the same immorality. Where is the holiness difference in the people who know God today?

If there is one thing that offends this world about Christianity it is the demand for holiness. The world wants to live ungodly, party, and live it up. They don't want God interfering with their lives. But, if you really know Christ, you want to do right, and with the help of God, you can live victoriously, and overcome the world.

### **V. Fifth, AN OLD-FASHIONED CHRISTIAN IS ONE WHO WORSHIPS AND PRAYS SINCERELY AND FAITHFULLY.**

We don't seem to have the time to do that today. If some folks want to take off a month or two or three from church, and do their worldly things, then they think that is permissible. The Bible says to not forsake the assembling of yourselves together. Look at the names on our church rolls, and look at the attendance in our pews, and you will see that we aren't all that we profess to be.

Some never seem to witness, support the church with their tithes and offerings, or serve on needed committees or positions in the church. When we pray and live like the early disciples did, the world will see a difference in us.

### **VI. Sixth, AN OLD-FASHIONED CHRISTIAN IS ONE WHO HAD A STRONG FAITH.**

**-3-** They knew what they believed, and why they believed it. They knew who Jesus was-the Divine Son of God, and they shared it with the world. When I think of strong faith today, I think about great men and women of God who have taken a stand for God in our own generation, and who have been true to Him, and faithful to their calling.

We need such a faith, and such men and women today who can help us to return to being old-fashioned Christians who live for Christ and glorify Him. I encourage you to live for Christ, to believe in Him, accept Him, and follow Him today.

GOD BLESS, PASTOR CLAUDE

- **Sunday's Morning Worship: 9:30am**
- **Sunday School: 10:30am**
- **Every Wednesday: Morning Gathering: 9:30am**
- **Every 2nd Thursday of each month: Pot Luck Supper: 6:30pm.**



Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

Psalm 19:14 | [www.believers4ever.com](http://www.believers4ever.com)

**The Annual Conference, originally scheduled for June 18-June 20 in Athens has been rescheduled to August 28-August 30 at the Classic Center in Athens.**

Mr. Charles Dickerson  
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Mrs. Frances Osley  
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12 Cobb Memorial St.  
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Mrs. Jane Jordan and  
Mr. Phil McGarity  
399 Jordan Street  
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**Longtime VUMC members who would love to hear from you! Please take some time & send them a card or letter.**

Mr. Cohen Royston  
2785 Hwy 17S  
Royston, GA 30662

Mrs. Nita Jennings  
3117 Old Elbert Road  
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Our job is to

**LOVE OTHERS**

without stopping  
to inquire whether  
or not they are

**WORTHY.**

