

# **Four key points from “In Christ, in the Body of Christ”**

**By Bishop John Rodgers, June 21, 2013**

1. Whoever is in Christ is in the body of Christ. Therefore all in Christ are to be in the body of Christ through a local, visible Church.
2. All in the local visible Church are not necessarily truly in the Body of Christ. God alone knows those who are His in Christ. We are to take people at their profession and encourage them and hold them to biblical standards of Christian profession and living.
3. Visible Churches that bear the marks of biblical Faith and worship are spiritually one, and are to express that by mutual recognition and in such joint fellowship and cooperation in ministry as is wise and practical.
4. Each member in Christ in the visible Church is a minister in Christ and will have gifts to minister in life apart from the gathered Church and in life in the congregation. The depth of love for one another and ministry to one another in Christ called for in the visible congregation is far deeper than many who “attend church” today, in our culture, understand or exhibit.