

THE PROCLAIMER



WILLOW AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST VOL. XXXVI ISSUE #50 DECEMBER 21, 2016

An Appointment with God

How many appointments do we make in a week's time? How about in a month? Think of all the appointments you make. You make lunch appointments, doctor's appointments, dental appointments, hair appointments, and so on. Between meetings and engagements and services we literally make hundreds of appointments for everything imaginable. Our lives are so busy that for anything to be done it needs to be on a schedule.

What's interesting about all of these appointments is that since they are in such abundance we are not too upset if we break them. Schedules change and things pop up and we have to make adjustments. In fact, if you have ever worked at a dentist's office, you know how lackadaisical people are about keeping their slot (It's not like they are excited about going anyway). They may cancel at the last moment or just be a no-show without saying a word. Then they will want you to reschedule them as soon as possible. Because of the way people treat appointments, businesses that run on appointments have to include penalties for appointment breakers or else they won't be able to keep their businesses financially sound.

This makes me think about my weekly appointments with God. It is one thing for things to come up that change my schedule and make me break a prior engagement with someone in the world – but it is another thing when I allow human events to break my appointments with God. First and foremost, there is the appointment that God Himself has called me to every first day of the week. Secondly and close to it are the appointments the eldership of the church has called me to on Sunday and Wednesday evenings in the local congregation where I worship.

I am thankful for my family for not only teaching me what the Bible says about the forsaking of the assembly, but also for living in such a way as to NEVER miss appointments with God, except for sickness or an absolutely unavoidable circumstance. If God is really first place, we won't fit Him into our schedule at our convenience. If He is really first place, everything else that might be going on in life can take a back seat to the appointments with Him that I never need to break.

In reality, God has given us these appointments for our benefit. It is a bit ironic when you think about it. He doesn't need us to show up at all. He doesn't need us for anything. But we need Him. We need Him every single hour. When we break the appointment we are only hurting ourselves.

With the way the calendar falls this year for the next two Sundays, I know people will be tempted to break God's appointment for the sake of cultural events. But I personally don't care if Christmas, or New Year's, or the Super Bowl, or any other thing happens on Sunday or not. It is not going to affect my appointment with God. I will gather when the saints come together.

The world can wait. Give me Jesus. He is my everything. He is all that matters.

"But seek first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness..." – Matthew 6:33

Jeremiah Tatum

SERMON TOPICS DECEMBER 25, 2016

9:00 a.m. – Jeremiah Tatum
“What Being A Christian Is Really All About”
Galatians 5:13-15
6:00 p.m. – Jeremiah Tatum
“If You Had One Last thing To Say...”
Acts 1:4-9

FOR THE RECORD – DECEMBER 18, 2016

9:00 a.m. 357
10:15 a.m. 296
6:00 p.m. 257
Wed 12/14 353

We extend our sympathy to Ladelle Randolph in the death of her father, Henry Richardson. His funeral services were Tuesday. He was also the uncle of Tom & Karen Dyer and Martha Dyer.

We extend our sympathy also to Jim Loftis in the death of his cousin and to Belle Spurlock in the death of her aunt, Christine Spivey Jones. Her funeral services were last Saturday.

We extend our sympathy to Tara Stephens in the death of her mother, Debra Gentry. Her funeral services were Friday.

And we extend our sympathy to Owen & Maudean Sparks in the death of their sister-in-law, Genova Sparks. Her funeral service was Sunday.

REQUESTING PRAYER

Shirl and Lenora Allen asked for the prayers of their church family on their behalf. They asked for forgiveness of anything they may had said or done that was wrong. Let's keep them in our prayers and let their tender hearts be an example for us.

NEW MEMBERS

Victoria Eschenbacher and Rebekah Bauman have expressed their desire to work and worship under the elders at Willow Avenue. Everyone be sure to meet them and give them a warm Willow Avenue Welcome.

Victoria Eschenbacher and daughter Isabelle Palombo, 165-B Dale Lane, Cookeville, TN 38501. Phone: 931-743-2483

Rebekah Bauman, 801 Winston Drive, Apt. N-7, Cookeville, TN 38506. Phone: 734-417-1163.

CENTURION OF SCRIPTURE

December 21 - 28

One In Christ

Galatians 3:27-28

27) “For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”

28) “There is neither Jews nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

Walking In The Spirit

Galatians 5:16

“I say then; Walk in the spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”

Happy Anniversary

A Special Happy Anniversary to: Amos & Belle Spurlock celebrating 63 years on December 26.



Congratulations to Karl & Hannah Nye on the birth of Marlee Elizabeth Nye on December 17. Marlee weighed 7 pounds 13 ounces and was 20 ¼ inches long.



PANTRY ITEMS

December 25 - 31

#14 - Dewight Stamps' Class

Canned Salmon

#15 - College Class

Canned Tuna

#16 - Mike Dyer's Class

Crackers

#17/18 - Jeremiah's Class

Vegetable Beef Soup

#19 - Roy Johnson's Class

Peanut Butter

Auditorium Class

Oatmeal



BUS DRIVER

Bus driver for Sunday, December 25 and Wednesday, December 28 is: Buddy King (931-510-1281).

Ladies

Concert

Your activity for February will be attending the Dailey and Vincent concert here in Cookeville. We need to purchase the tickets by Jan. 1st. If you would like to go please sign up on the bulletin board and see Susan Moores or Martha Dyer to pay your \$20.00. More details later.



WILLOW MEALS

Make a difference in someone's life – sign up to prepare a dish to help with Willow Meals. The menus are posted on the bulletin board by the kitchen. **WE NEED COOKS!**

**Contact elder for December is Roy Johnson
931-252-0049**

**DEACONS – REMEMBER TO CHECK YOUR
MAILBOX IN THE TEACHERS' WORKROOM.**

IMMEDIATE NEED FOR HOUSEPARENTS

Do you have a heart of service for helping children? Happy Haven Children's Home, sponsored by Churches of Christ and individuals has a need for additional houseparents. We provide residential child care for girls. For additional information, see the flyer on the bulletin board or contact Houston Bynum at 931-526-2052 or happyhaven@frontiernet.net. Applications are available at the web site: <http://www.happyhaven.org/>

PRAYER LIST

- > Robert Cowan is scheduled for surgery Thursday, Dec. 22 at Vanderbilt.
- > Dora Freed is at home. She will have surgery December 21 at Vanderbilt.
- > Polly Ragland (mother of Patty Dyer) is home from the hospital.
- > Carson Vaughn (brother of Charlie Vaughn) is back at Overton County Nursing Home after being in the hospital for a few days.

Ricky & Tammy Sherrell should be home. Ricky will still have to be in isolation for another 70 days. Let's flood them with cards during this time. Their address is: 3035 Fowler Montgomery Road, Cookeville, TN 38506

Sick or Recuperating at Home: Pam Miller

Those dealing with cancer: Rosemary Andrews, Harold Kinnaird, Bud Scott, Sandra Sitto, Brenda Carroll (taking treatments), Joy Carter (taking treatments), Janet Craighead, Larry Cyphers (taking treatments), Julie Denny, Darlana Robichaud, Alexis Szymczak (taking treatments)

Those dealing with ongoing health problems: Michael Allison, Carl & Aileen Alred, Susan Ashburn, Helen Burgess, Kelly Fletcher, Pat Goodpasture, Sherree Hawkins, Judy Hix, Rose Keith, Donna Kinnaird, George Reitenour, Billy Sliger, Owen & Maudean Sparks, Peggy Sparks, Amos Spurlock, Jimmy Sitto

Shut-Ins at Home: Dib Anderson, Bud Bartlett, Patti Boyd, Belle Butts, Robert Cowan, Florene Davis, Ruth Gentry, Ben Gore, Rick Grimes, Mamie Henry, Marie Jackson, Reda Judd, Doug & Pearlene McCulley, Virginia McGee, Ressie Pharris, Jean Pitts, Rachel Stafford, Betty Tinch

Bethesda: Nola Judd, Wilma Lambert, Irene McBroom, Jimmy Sitto,

Cedar Hills Senior Living: Phyllis Julian, Sara Lewis, Zina Mitchell

Heritage Point Assisted Living: Bud Scott

Life Care Center Sparta: Leslie Cole, Eddie DeLoach, Billie Watson

Senior Lifestyles: Shelby & Bonnie Forkum

Signature Healthcare: Doris Haile, Juanita Nation,

Mabry Healthcare Gainesboro: Olga Szalay, Kathleen Ragland, Betty Richardson, Glenn Webb

Morningside: Pearl Cockrum, Mildred Palk, Edith Stewart

NHC: Ann McWaters, Rebecca Brown

Overton County Nursing Home: Carson Vaughn

CARE LINE: 931-432-6333

Willow Avenue Church of Christ
1150 South Willow Avenue
Cookeville, TN 38506

ELDERS

Jeff Gaw - Larry Harp
Dan Huffines - John Hudson
Roy Johnson - Gary Risley
Reed Wilson

DEACONS

Barry Allison - Ralph Bryant
Tom Bumbalough - Mark Caldwell
Charles Cobb - Tyler Gaw - Dennis Hood
Todd Hudson - Buddy King
David Lancaster - Phil Phillips - Paul Pippin
Steve Qualls - Rick Ramsey
Denny Richardson - Tim Richardson
David Ray Smith - Ryan Smith
Tom Stafford - Glenn Stockton
Don West - Richard Wood

MINISTERS

Jeremiah Tatum - Preacher
Mike Dyer - Involvement Minister
Chase Fletcher - Youth Minister

SECRETARIES

Vickie Stockton & Cathy Whiteaker

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Morning Worship 9:00
Sunday Morning Bible Study 10:15
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00
Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7:00

RADIO BROADCASTS

Sunday Morning Worship 10:15 AM
WHUB - AM1400
"Minutes of Meditation"
Three Times Daily Monday - Friday
WLQK 95.9 FM and WLIV 104.7 FM

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m.
Office Phone 931-432-2333
Fax Line 931-432-2338
Care Line 931-432-6333
Website www.willowcofc.net
Email willowcofc@twlakes.net

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP – DECEMBER 25

Lead Singing – Lindon Carwile
Read Scripture – Danny Phillips
First Prayer – Robert Oakes
Last Prayer – Todd Hudson
Announcements – John Hudson
Give Thanks – Jim Briggs

Serve the Congregation –

<u>South Side</u>	<u>North Side</u>
Tim Richardson	Jared West
Randy Mann	Joe Temples
Patrick Kent	Barry Chaffin
Johnny Goodwin	Bo Briggs

Take Communion to the Shut-ins – George Dudney
Cole Walker

Usher in the Auditorium – Dan Evans & Tom Spohnholtz

Usher in the Vestibule and Assist with Outside Doors
(Please be here by 8:30 am)

North Door – Ronnie Brown
South Door – Carver Moore

Sound Booth: Sunday & Wednesday
Songs – John Hoffmeister
Sound – Dennis Hood

Parking Lot Patrol – Tyler Gaw

Keep Nursery – Debbie Gaw & Jo Ann Herron
(If you cannot serve call Lisa Bumbalough at 931-260-8817)

Greet at Doors before Service & Hand Out Flyers
(Please be here by 8:30 am)

Door #1 – Don Wagnon
Door #2 – Tom & Kim Staffored
Door #3 – Vickie Stockton & Linda Phillips
Door #4 – Greg & Terri Loftis
Door #5 – Susan Moores

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP – DECEMBER 25

Lead Singing – Tom Stafford
Read Scripture – Huber Qualls
First Prayer – Ethan Hammond
Last Prayer – Neil Ashburn
Announcements – John Hudson

Serve At The Lord's Table – David Mayberry & Lewis Coomer

Keep Nursery – Lindsey Ford & Leigh Caldwell
(If you cannot serve call Lisa Bumbalough at 931-260-8817)

Parking Lot Patrol – Tyler Gaw

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – DECEMBER 28

Lead Singing – Tyler Carr
Invitation – Jacob Howard
Announcements – John Hudson
Prayer – Rick Ramsey
Parking Lot Patrol – Tyler Gaw

Pens-Pencils-Pews – Week of December 25-31
Rick & Brenda Ramsey

**IF YOU CANNOT SERVE CALL:
Charles Cobb 526-4337 or Lewis Coomer 252-2051**