

# *THE PROCLAIMER*



WILLOW AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST VOL. XXXVII ISSUE #12 MARCH 22, 2017

## **Tearing the Church Down one Word at a Time**

One of the fastest ways to tear a local body of Christ apart is with your mouth. If you want to split the church, use harsh words. Negativity is one of the worst things that can come upon a family of believers. If you engage in negative talk about a brother or sister in Christ, you should be ashamed.

I have been guilty of this sin myself. It is easy to get pulled into this pit by your closest friends in Christ. It starts innocently, with just the remarks about a person's habits or weaknesses. But before you know it, you stop looking for the good in people and you accentuate the bad.

Consider how negative communication affects:

1. The elders. They have the most difficult position in the church. They usually only get to hear the bad stuff. People don't as often come to them to say "Great job!" or "What can I do to make your job easier?" Instead they usually say, "Why did you do that?" or "I don't like it when..." or "You all need to do something about..." And what about what might be said to others, in disagreement with their decisions that the elders never get to hear? Negative talk about the eldership is hurtful to the ones who serve, and it discourages younger men from ever desiring the position. A constant critique of the eldership will eventually cause division in the church.

2. The preachers. If you want to get a new preacher or youth minister every 2-5 years, then be highly critical of their activity. Try not to understand the anxiety and stress of their job. Spread a rumor about them. Pick them apart. Correct them whenever you get a chance. Challenge their work ethic. Preachers are involved with the members at a high level. When they are the objects of negativity, it always gets back to them. They begin to lose confidence, feeling that they are ineffective or unwanted. Negative talk about the preacher will do more than pack his bags, it will take him out of the pulpit for good.

3. The members. In order for families to be healthy, every member needs to find their place and purpose. When members of the body of Christ feel unloved, judged, or inadequate, the whole family will be in turmoil. On a daily basis, members of the family of God gossip, complain, note weaknesses in brethren, and dismiss the viability of certain people within the body of Christ. Not only is this sinful, but it contributes to Satan's most important work - the attempt to destroy the work of Christ. The church is often in more danger from within than from without. Every child of God must take responsibility for how they treat fellow Christians.

May God help us to avoid tearing the church down one word at a time! The world is watching. Let the reputation of the church be love not hate. Let it be peace not war. Let it be kind words, not hate speech. Let it be a gentle and quiet spirit that is precious in the eyes of the Lord.

"Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers." ~ Ephesians 4:29

*Jeremiah Tatum*

**Sermon Topics March 26, 2017**

9:00 a.m. – Jeremiah Tatum

“How Do You Know If You Are Truly Alive?”

1 John 3:11-14

6:00 p.m. – Jeremiah Tatum

“Knowing The Difference Between The Covenants”

Hebrews 8:10-13

*We have received “Thank You” cards from:*

*Estelle Pippin*

*Carl & Aileen Alred*

*Terry & Linda (Judd) Nabors*

*Johnny & Patsy Judd*

*Bev Buras & Family*

*Sherry & Roger Nixon*

*Dora Freed*

*Rick & Georgia McCurdy*

*Dot Tomberlin*

**FOR THE RECORD – MARCH 19, 2017**

9:00 a.m.	446
10:15 a.m.	358
6:00 p.m.	309
Wed 3/15	304



All ladies are invited to a Bridal Shower honoring Elissa Longfellow, bride-elect of Brandon Marks, this Sunday afternoon, March 26 from 1:00 - 2:30 in the multipurpose room. They are registered at Target, Kohls, and Amazon.



A Special Happy Birthday to Gertrude Stewart who will celebrate her 96<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 26.

And a Special Happy Birthday to Zina Mitchell who will celebrate his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 29.



An Egg Hunt and Breakfast with the Easter Bunny will be Saturday, April 8 at 10:00 a.m. in the multipurpose room. This is for children ages 0 – 4<sup>th</sup> grade. There is a sign up sheet for food on the youth board. We also need hide-able eggs or candy to stuff into plastic eggs. Please bring eggs and candy and place them in the tote near the youth board.

**CENTURION OF SCRIPTURE**

**March 19-26 Be Kind To One Another**

Ephesians 4:29

29) “Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.”



**LADIES DAY**

The ladies day committee members will meet Sunday afternoon, March 26 at 5:30 in room #14. Please have your budgets prepared and any receipts ready to turn in to Vickie. Please see Martha Dyer if you have any questions.

**NEW MEMBERS**

Tara Stephens recently met with our elders and expressed her desire to be identified with the Willow Avenue congregation. Be sure to meet Tara and her children Wade & Addison and let them know we are glad they are here.

Contact information: 5548 Willow Oak Drive, Baxter, TN 38544. Phone: 931-397-2270

**Contact elder for March is  
Jeff Gaw 931-260-2397**

**BIBLE BOWL 2017 BOOKS  
MARK – PHILIPPIANS – COLOSSIANS**



**PANTRY ITEMS**

**March 26-April 1**

#14 - Dewight Stamps' Class

Spaghetti Sauce

#15 - College Class

Canned Sweet Peas

#16 - Mike Dyer's Class

Salmon

#17/18 - Jeremiah's Class

Spaghetti Sauce

Auditorium Class

Canned Black-Eyed Peas

### LADS TO LEADERS

Practice for Sunday, March 26: 4:30 – Speech, 5:15 Song Leading, 5:30 Bible Reading. Please join us on April 2 for a potluck meal after morning services and then the participants will be demonstrating their talents and skills that they have been working on. Bring a dish and join us. There will be no practice on April 2.



### 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 next to the shelf with the returned dishes in the hallway.

### WE NEED PEOPLE TO SIGN UP TO COOK FOR THE MEALS!



We are getting ready to put together a list of volunteers to take care of the pens, pencils and pews for the year. Please consider volunteering to help keep our auditorium looking its best. When it is your turn, make sure that each pew has pens, sharpened pencils, cards, 3 song books and a Bible. Our goal is to get enough volunteers that you would only have to do this one week a year. This is a great opportunity to get children involved. Please sign up on the bulletin board near the bus driver schedule. If you have any questions, please see Rick Ramsey.



If anyone has work that the youth could do to raise money for the Mexico Mission Trip, please contact Chase.



### BUS DRIVER

Bus driver for Sunday, March 26 and Wednesday, March 29 is: George Dudney (931-979-550).

## **CARE LINE: 931-432-6333**

Happy Haven Home will have their 52<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Banquet on Thursday, March 30 at 6:30 at the Leslie Town Centre. See the bulletin board at church for more details or call Happy Haven at 931-526-2052.



We have accumulated several jackets, umbrellas and Bibles that have been left at the building. Please check the coat rack and table at the end of the hallway by the kitchen and pick up anything that belongs to you.

### PRAYER LIST

*It was good to see Margaret Chaffin & Estelle Pippin able to be back at worship Sunday.*

- > Joe Buras is home with the flu.
- > Belle Butts is now at the CRMC Rehab Center.
- > Harold Kinnaird has been transferred from CRMC to St. Thomas West in Nashville for surgery on Thursday.
- > Clara McDonald is in ICU at CRMC. Prayers please but no calls or visits.
- > Sherri Webb will have hip replacement surgery March 30 at Centennial in Nashville.
- > Ashley Chessor (granddaughter of Denny & Ann Walker) is scheduled for full body spinal cord surgery On March 30 at Centennial in Nashville.
- > Sue Clack (mother of Susan Melton) is now at the CRMC Rehab Center.
- > Glen Webb (father of Susan Ashburn) is sick.
- > Pat West (mother of Lisa Bumbalough) is in the hospital in Nashville.
- > Adam Witt (son-in-law of Sara Blaylock) is now at home.

**Sick or Recuperating at Home:** Melba Bryant, Bettie DeLuca, Katherine Gaw, Vonda Graham, Ricky Sherrell, Cynthia Tate, Hollis Walker, Margaret Way, Brenda Williams

**Our Members dealing with cancer:** Rosemary Andrews, Harold Kinnaird, Bud Scott, Tammy Wilson

**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

**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:** Irene McBroom, Jimmy Sitto

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

**CRMC Rehab Center:** Belle Butts

**Heritage Point Assisted Living:** Bud Scott

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

**Senior Lifestyles:** Shelby & Bonnie Forkum

**Signature Healthcare:** Bud Bartlett, 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

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 Philips - 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 10:00 AM  
WHUB - AM 1400  
WHUB - FM 107.7  
WHUB.com

**"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](http://www.willowcofc.net)  
Email [willowcofc@twlakes.net](mailto:willowcofc@twlakes.net)

**PRIVILEGED TO SERVE**

**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP - MARCH 26**

Lead Singing - Jacob Howard  
Read Scripture - Tyler Gaw  
First Prayer - John Hudson  
Last Prayer - Tom Spohnholtz  
Announcements - Ryan Smith  
Give Thanks - Barry Allison

**Serve the Congregation -**

<u>South Side</u>	<u>North Side</u>
Tim Richardson	Hollis Walker
Randy Mann	Kevin Smith
Jim Loftis	Barry Chaffin
Johnny Goodwin	Bo Briggs

Take Communion to the Shut-ins - Paul Bybee  
Don Wagnon

Usher in the Auditorium - Ralph Bryant & Joe Don West

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

North Door - Greg Loftis  
South Door - Paul Pippin

Sound Booth: Sunday & Wednesday  
Songs - Todd Hudson  
Sound - Brian Dudley

Parking Lot Patrol - Glenn Stockton

Keep Nursery - Trish Parker & Gina Shockey  
(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 - Jake Harrington  
Door #2 - Larry & Gina Harp  
Door #3 - Ed & Monica Mayer  
Door #4 - Gina Key & Rhonda Leonard  
Door #5 - Jere Hawkins

**SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP - MARCH 26**

Lead Singing - Gary Risley  
Read Scripture - Dewight Stamps  
First Prayer - Jeff Gaw  
Last Prayer - J.P. Key  
Announcements - Ryan Smith

Serve The Lord's Table - Carver Moore & Buddy King

Keep Nursery - Susan Dudley & Brenda Williams  
(If you cannot serve call Lisa Bumbalough at 931-260-8817.

Parking Lot Patrol - Glenn Stockton

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - MARCH 29**

Lead Singing - Jared West  
Invitation - Reed Wilson  
Announcements - Ryan Smith  
Prayer - David Ray Smith  
Parking Lot Patrol - Glenn Stockton

Pens-Pencils-Pews - Week of March 26 - April 1  
George & Susan Dudley

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