

THE PROCLAIMER



WILLOW AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST VOL. XXXVII ISSUE #14 APRIL 5, 2017

What If You Don't Like It?

Are there times when you don't like what the Bible says? Are there times you wish it would say more? Are there times when you just have to admit that from your point of view the pages of Scripture seem unfair? If that is the case, how do your feelings translate to how you deal with your reading?

I get asked questions about Biblical doctrine on a regular basis. People call me, text me or email me to see if my understanding of a text they are wrestling with is the same as what they have understood it to mean. Sometimes these questions are simply for clarification. Sometimes they are asked because they are hoping that they are wrong about what they have just read...they are wishing that the text was saying something else.

The Bible is no fairy tale. It's not Disney. It's not absolutely permissive. Its truths are striking and transforming. The law of the Lord challenges us to be holy. The love of God motivates us to be holy. Christianity is not a pie in the sky experience all the time. If you are going to take God at His word then there are going to be some moments when you will not initially like what the Bible is calling you to do.

When we read something that troubles us our respect for the authority of God's inspiration is going to matter a great deal. Biblical exploration takes on a great journey towards truth. It's a never ending voyage which turns and twists throughout our lives down roads we have not yet travelled. God's revelation happens with time and exposure. As we walk in it day after day we are being blessed in a greater measure by His perfect will. He expects us to take His hand on that journey and let Him lead. This means trusting when we can't see where the road leads. This means letting Him guide when we want to take a different path. This means keeping the commandments that are often difficult to keep.

Sometimes I take my dogs for a walk. Sometimes it seems as if they are trying to take me on that walk! They fight the leash. They try to pull. They choke themselves on their collar when they are determined to go a way that is different than the way I am guiding them. But when they calmly walk and trust there is slack in the leash. They do not struggle. They do not frustrate me. They simply walk by my side and we enjoy the journey that goes through our neighborhood and eventually leads home. One thing I have noticed over the years: Puppies fight the leash more than mature dogs. Puppies are excitable and have no experience being led. They think they know what's up. They think they can win by fighting. Mature dogs are just happy to be getting to go for a walk with their master. They've fought the leash enough to know who the Master is.

I am pretty sure that God wants us to trust Him. I am confident that he knows exactly what He is doing. When I read His word I admit it is not always easy to obey it. But in time I believe I will see that His path is the only path that leads me safely and peacefully home.

I see a lot of young Christians these days fighting with the pages of Scripture. For them and for all – including myself, I am praying. We are not supposed to read God's word like a puppy on a walk.

"Hold me up, that I may be safe and have regard for your statutes continually!" – Psalm 119:117

Jeremiah Tatum

Sermon Topics April 9, 2017

9:00 a.m. – Jeremiah Tatum
"What If You Were Raised From The Dead?"
John 5:28-29
6:00 p.m. – Jeremiah Tatum
"Will He Really Find Faith On The Earth?"
Luke 18:1-8

FOR THE RECORD – APRIL 2, 2017

9:00 a.m.	479
10:15 a.m.	372
6:00 p.m.	328
Wed 3/29	346



A Special Happy Birthday to Mildred Palk who will celebrate her 91st birthday on April 8.

CENTURION OF SCRIPTURE

April 2 - 9 Walk In Love
Ephesians 5:1-2

- 1) "Therefore, be imitators of God as dear children."
- 2) "And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma."



We want to welcome John & Miranda Ford to the family at Willow Avenue. They met with our elders and expressed their desire to be a part of this congregation. Be sure to meet them and

give them a warm Willow Avenue welcome.
Contact Info: 120 Joy Lane, Algood, TN 38506
John: 931-261-3019 Miranda: 931-267-6412

We have received "Thank You" cards from:

*Edith Stewart
The Family of Doris Haile
Jerry & Brenda Williams
Helen Burgess*



Brian, Holly, Garrett & Ella Dudney have a new address.
2135 Buck Mountain Road, Cookeville, TN 38506.



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 – 4th grade. There is a signup 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.

LADIES DAY



Willow Avenue is hosting a Ladies Day on Saturday, April 29th from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. here at the building. All ladies are encouraged to attend. The theme is "So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" with Becky Honeycutt. Please sign up on the Ladies bulletin board if you plan to attend. Also there is a signup sheet if you can help with food that day.



There will be a "Baby Boy Shower" for Lindsey Phillips on Sunday afternoon, April 9th from 4:30 to 5:30 in the multipurpose room. Both men and women are invited. Lindsey is registered at Walmart.



Congratulations to Brendan & Vanessa Johnson on the birth of Bo Asher Johnson on Friday, March 31. Bo weighed 7 pounds 4 ounces and was 20 inches long. Proud big brother is Max, proud grandparents are Roy & Donna Johnson, and proud great-grandmother is Mary Burgess.



The April Ladies Activity will be Tuesday, April 18, at 6:00 p.m. in the multipurpose room. Please bring a finger food or dessert and join us for a Greeting Card Making class. Please sign up on the ladies bulletin board so we know how many supplies we need.

VBS



Coming Saturday, June 17th. Reserve your "Ticket to Adventure", Mark your calendar, Pack your bags, Grab your passport, Be ready to travel. This is a day for both Kids and Adults. Think about how you want to assist the travelers: teaching, props, crafts, transportation or meals. There is a place for everyone to help. Signup will be coming soon.



Short Mountain Bible Camp

Registration will be Sunday afternoon, April 23 from 2:30 – 4:30 at Jefferson Avenue. There is a sheet posted on the youth board with all the details. We will also need sponsors to help kids with the cost of camp. Please see Chase if you have any questions.



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, April 9 is David Lancaster (931-644-0467) and Wednesday, April 12 is: Todd Hudson (931-319-0359).

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

FROM THE ELDER'S

We want to express our thanks to Chase and the youth group for their leading our worship services last Sunday evening. All of these young men did a wonderful job with each of their roles. We are blessed with fine young people here at Willow and want each of you to know you are very appreciated. We also want to thank all of our Lads to Leader participants and wish you well at the convention. We are so proud of you all!



PANTRY ITEMS

April 9 - 5

#14 - Dewight Stamps' Class

Salmon

#15 - College Class

Peaches

#16 - Mike Dyer's Class

Canned Pinto Beans

#17/18 - Jeremiah's Class

Spaghetti Sauce

Auditorium Class

Canned Green Beans or Green Peas

LADS TO LEADERS

Sunday is the last practice for Lads to Leaders: Speech at 4:30, Song Leading (girls and boys) at 5:15, and Bible Reading at 5:30. If any of the participants that have art they would like to enter, please have it at church Wednesday evening before services. There is a signup sheet on the YOUTH bulletin board for anyone who would like to help provide food and snacks for convention. Those items will need to be left at church on Wednesday evening.

Kids...if you have learned all your 25 Bible verses for the first quarter (Jan-Mar), there will be a popsicle party for you after evening services on Sunday to celebrate.



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 at the end of the hall next to the kitchen.

APRIL MENUS ARE POSTED

PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP

**Contact elder for April is
Gary Risley 931-265-5549**



Join the Kindred Spirits this Sunday afternoon, April 9, at 1:00 at Morningside to sing with the residents.

Disaster Relief Trip

We will be going on Tuesday, April 11th. We will leave the building at 8:30 a.m. Our group will be working from 10:00 till 2:00 with a lunch break. We will be arriving back here at the building between 3:30 to 4:00. If you have any questions, call Phil Philips

PRAYER LIST

It was good to see Melba Bryant, Bettie DeLuca, Vonda Graham, Willie Mae Reeves, Clara Reitenour Hollis Walker and Brenda Williams all back at worship.

> *Aileen Alred is sick at home.*

> *Angie Bilbrey is confined at home.*

> *Mildred Jernigan is in the nursing home in Chattanooga and not doing well. (mother of Linda Baker)*

> *Harold Kinnaird is in CRMC and under hospice care.*

> *Mildred Palk was in CRMC but was moved to NHC on Tuesday.*

> *Sherri Webb is home following hip replacement surgery.*

> *Tammy Wilson is recovering from surgery.*

> *Daniel Hood is now at home following his surgery. (son of Dennis & Susan Hood)*

> *Harold Mayberry is battling leukemia. (father of friend of Sharon Womack)*

> *Debbie Sparks has been diagnosed with Hashimoto, Sciatica. (daughter of Lester & Peggy Sparks)*

> *Pat West has been moved to Centennial Hospital. Will probably be there another week or so. (mother of Lisa Bumbalough)*

Sick or Recuperating at Home: Cynthia Tate, Margaret Way

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, Angie Bilbrey, 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, Clara McDonald (no visits), Sue Clack

Heritage Point Assisted Living: Bud Scott

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

Livingston Rehab Center: Pat Grimes

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, Edith Stewart

NHC: Ann McWaters

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 10:00 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

Email willowcofc@twlakes.net

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP - APRIL 9

Lead Singing - Jacob Howard
Read Scripture - Buddy King
First Prayer - Reed Wilson
Last Prayer - Lindon Carwile
Announcements - Tom Spohnholtz
Give Thanks - Jeff Gaw

Prepare Communion in April:

Jim & Betty Briggs with Phil & Carol Phillips

Serve the Congregation -

<u>South Side</u>	<u>North Side</u>
Danny Phillips	Chuck Wilson
Dan Miller	Travis Tate
L.B. Johnson	Chad Crouch
Matt Garrett	Ty Briggs

Take Communion to the Shut-ins - Mike Smith
Denny Richardson

Usher in the Auditorium - Ron Johnson & Carver Moore

Usher in the Vestibule and Assist with Outside Doors

(Please be here by 8:30 am)

North Door - Ralph Bryant South Door - Tim Richardson

Sound Booth: Sunday & Wednesday

Songs - Glenn Stockton Sound - Dennis Hood

Parking Lot Patrol - Barry Chaffin

Keep Nursery - Leigh Caldwell & Leda Lancaster

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 - Dewight Stamps
Door #2 - Buddy & Peggy King
Door #3 - Todd & Amanda Hudson
Door #4 - John & Elizabeth Hudson
Door #5 - Hubert Qualls

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP - APRIL 9

Lead Singing - Gary Risley
Read Scripture - Jim Briggs
First Prayer - John Hudson
Last Prayer - Paul Pippin
Announcements - Tom Spohnholtz
Serve The Lord's Table - David Ray Smith & Bo Briggs

Keep Nursery - Lindsey Ford & DeAnne Evans

If you cannot serve call Lisa Bumbalough at 931-260-8817.

Parking Lot Patrol - Barry Chaffin

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - APRIL 12

Lead Singing - Tyler Carr
Invitation - Mike Dyer
Announcements - Tom Spohnholtz
Prayer - Tim Woodward
Parking Lot Patrol - Barry Chaffin

Pens-Pencils-Pews - Week of April 9-15

Jim & Linda Loftis

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE CALL:

Charles Cobb 526-4337 or Lewis Coomer 252-2051