

# *THE PROCLAIMER*



WILLOW AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST VOL. XXXVII ISSUE #17 APRIL 26, 2017

## **Serving God but not Obeying Him**

**Several years ago I drove my good friend William Woodson to a luncheon at Freed-Hardeman University. Brother Woodson had been called to speak on the topic of the Restoration Movement. He spoke without notes and I remember being fascinated by his knowledge of the subject. On the drive over we talked about many spiritual and Biblical ideas. But there is one part of that conversation in particular that I will never forget.**

**He referred to an article written by David Lipscomb in the Gospel Advocate entitled, "Serving God, not Obeying Him." This article was published on November 11, 1897. Originally the question in the article Lipscomb was addressing had to do with the issue of fellowship. But the underlying principle he wanted to convey was that he had discovered an attitude among believers at that time that there were many individuals who wanted to offer God service but few who actually wanted to obey His will.**

**Over the years I have thought about this remarkable insight from Lipscomb. How correct he was! As a person who spends the majority of his time trying to interact with people on a spiritual level, I have found that what Lipscomb understood about human nature was right on target. And I have gathered that this truth he found is probably replete in every generation of people who have ever recognized God and attempted to approach His throne.**

**You see it is not enough to offer service to God. God is not some community project. He is not sitting around waiting for us to perform what we would consider to be good deeds. The Apostle Paul said God doesn't "dwell in temples made with hands nor is He worshiped with men's hands as though He needed anything, since He gives life and breath to all things" (Acts 17:24-25).**

**Yet many people treat God as if He is subject to our whims or wishes concerning how we might define love and devotion. Many sincerely believe that whatever we offer to God with our hearts God is ready and willing to accept. Many believe that acts of service are enough for God to think that we are inherently good and therefore worthy of a place in the heavenly kingdom. But in reality, we are all unworthy. And no deed we do will ever be good enough.**

**Jesus defined love this way, "If you love Me, keep My commandments" (John 14:15) To the Lord, service and obedience are the same thing. The reason why confusion exists within the Christian system is because some people love serving more than obeying. Somehow subconsciously they have made a distinction. Lack of obedience begins with a lack of knowledge, but it is enhanced by an attitude that says as long as I bring some kind of gift to the altar then God is going to be pleased.**

**God doesn't need our service. But He does want our love. He has defined our love to Him as obedience. In the end, it will be the ones who obeyed God who truly served as Jesus served. It will be the ones who obeyed God who truly loved as Jesus loved.**

**"Behold, to obey God is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams." – 1 Samuel 15:22**

*Jeremiah Tatum*

**Sermon Topics April 30, 2017**

9:00 a.m. – Jeremiah Tatum  
Why Were You Baptized?  
Colossians 2:11-14  
6:00 p.m. – Jeremiah Tatum  
The Whole Armor Of God  
Ephesians 6:10-17

**FOR THE RECORD – APRIL 23, 2017**

9:00 a.m. 436  
10:15 a.m. 342  
6:00 p.m. 316  
Wed 4/19 348

**CENTURION OF SCRIPTURE  
April 23 - 30 Walk In The Light  
Ephesians 5:10, 11**

- 10) "finding out what is acceptable to the Lord."
- 11) "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them."

*We have received "Thank You" cards from:  
Donna Kinnaird  
Tammy Wilson*

**REQUESTING PRAYERS**

On Sunday, Letha Gaw came before her church family asking for forgiveness, prayers and support. Please keep Letha in your prayers in the coming weeks and encourage her whenever we can.



**BRIDAL SHOWER**

Ladies – you are invited to a Bridal Shower for Kimberly Miller and Bradley Bynum on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 to 2:30 in the afternoon here in the multipurpose room.

They are registered at Khols, Belk, Walmart, Bordens, and Bed, Bath & Beyond.

**LADIES DAY**



Remember the Ladies Day this Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> 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.

**VBS**



Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. 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.



**PRE-TEEN ADOPTION**

There will be a pre-teen adoption for the 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade after school on May 10<sup>th</sup>. We will be going to The SK8 behind Arby's and the cost will be \$10.00. There is a sign-up sheet on the youth bulletin board.

**GRADUATION BANQUET**



Our annual graduation banquet will be on Sunday night, May 7, after evening services. Please bring a finger food as we honor our graduates.

**PANTRY ITEMS**

**April 30 - May 6**

**#14 - Dewight Stamps' Class**

Canned Peaches

**#15 - College Class**

Spam

**#16 - Mike Dyer's Class**

Oatmeal

**#17/18 - Jeremiah's Class**

Canned Salmon

**Auditorium Class**

Jelly



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



If you have brought food to the building recently for Willow Meals, a funeral meal or other event - please check the shelves by the kitchen and pick up any dishes that belong to you.



### **GOLDENAIRES**

Remember your monthly luncheon this Tuesday, May 2, at 12:00 noon here in the multipurpose room. Guest speaker will be Lynn Parker from the Putnam County Sherriff's Department. Bring a covered dish and join us.

### **BUS DRIVER**



Bus driver for Sunday, April 30 and Wednesday, May 3 is:  
David Lancaster (931-644-0467).



### **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.

**MAY MENUS ARE NOW POSTED**

**PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP**

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

### **HAPPY HAVEN HOME**

There is an opening for house parents at Happy Haven. This would be a wonderful opportunity for a Christian couple: the wife would be salaried as the house mother and the husband could either work off campus or preach locally. Please contact Houston Bynum, Administrator. Office: 931-526-2052 Email: [hhbynum@yahoo.com](mailto:hhbynum@yahoo.com)  
Employment applications are available at the web site: <http://www.happyhaven.org/> (click on "media" then click on "forms")

### **IF...**

If you are impatient, sit down quietly and talk with Job.  
If you are strong headed, go and see Moses.  
If you are getting weak-kneed, take a good look at Elijah.  
If you are a get-along, go-along man, read the book of Daniel.  
If there is no song in your heart, listen to David.  
If you are getting sordid, spend a while with Isaiah.  
If you are getting cold and heartless, get the beloved disciple, John, to put his arms around you.  
If your faith is low, read the great words of Paul.  
If you are getting lazy, listen to James.  
If you are losing sight of the future, climb the stairs of Revelation and get a glimpse of the Promised Land!  
- Bulletin Digest

### **PRAYER LIST**

- > *Michael Allison is at home and scheduled for surgery on May 8.*
- > *Katherine Gaw has been diagnosed with heart problems.*
- > *Billie Watson is back at Life Care in Sparta.*
- > *Carol Allison fell and broke her leg and ankle. She is in Life Care in Sparta for therapy. (mother of Amanda Hudson and Sylinia Oakes.*
- > *Brenda Shanks is in CRMC. (sister of Doug Stewart)*

**Sick or Recuperating at Home:** Aileen Alred, Pat Grimes, Cynthia Tate, Margaret Way, Sherri Webb

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

**Those dealing with ongoing health problems:** Michael Allison, Carl Alred, Susan Ashburn, Angie Bilbrey, 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

**Our Shut-Ins:** Dib Anderson, Bud Bartlett, Patti Boyd, 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

**Those in Nursing Homes or Assisted Living:**

**Bethesda:** Belle Butts, 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:** Juanita Nation

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

**Morningside:** Pearl Cockrum, Edith Stewart

**NHC:** Ann McWaters, Mildred Palk

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

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

## **PRIVILEGED TO SERVE**

### **SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP – APRIL 30**

Lead Singing – Jacob Howard  
Read Scripture – Tom Spohnholtz  
First Prayer – Mike Dyer  
Last Prayer – Dan Miller  
Announcements – Mark Caldwell  
Give Thanks – Reed Wilson

#### **Prepare Communion in April:**

Jim & Betty Briggs with Phil & Carol Phillips

#### **Serve the Congregation –**

<u>South Side</u>	<u>North Side</u>
Rick Ramsey	Denny Walker
Kris Mann	Chris Sparks
Buck Parsons	Alex Delk
George Dudney	Neil Ashburn

Take Communion to the Shut-ins – Ronnie Brown  
Danny Phillips

Usher in the Auditorium – Ron Johnson & Jim Loftis

Usher in the Vestibule and Assist with Outside Doors

(Please be here by 8:30 am)

North Door – Jim Briggs South Door – Don West

Sound Booth: Sunday & Wednesday

Songs – Ethan Hammond Sound – Bryan Kirby

Parking Lot Patrol – Tom Stafford

Keep Nursery – Debbie Gaw & Frances Walker  
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 – Tammy Wilson  
Door #2 – Mark & Ladelle Randolph  
Door #3 – Ryan & Traci Smith  
Door #4 – Randy & Myra Walker  
Door #5 – Reba Barr

### **SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP – APRIL 30**

Lead Singing – Roy Johnson  
Read Scripture – Dan Evans  
First Prayer – Gary Risley  
Last Prayer – Mike Briggs  
Announcements – Mark Caldwell  
Serve The Lord's Table – Robert Oakes & Derek Gaw

Keep Nursery – Sylinia & Laney Oakes  
If you cannot serve call Lisa Bumbalough at 931-260-8817.

Parking Lot Patrol – Tom Stafford

### **WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – MAY 3**

Lead Singing – Dan Huffines  
Invitation – Dennis Hood  
Announcements – Mark Caldwell  
Prayer – Ethan Hammond  
Parking Lot Patrol – Tom Stafford

Pens-Pencils-Pews – Week of April 30 – May 6  
Barry & Mary Chaffin

**IF YOU CANNOT SERVE CALL:**

**Charles Cobb 526-4337 or Lewis Coomer 252-2051**

#### **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  
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)

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