

THE PROCLAIMER



WILLOW AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST VOL. XXXVII ISSUE #25 JUNE 21, 2017

What the Church Needs Most

I recently held a meeting in another congregation where at the end of one of the services several people responded to the invitation. Some were restored while others were baptized. When the local preacher was expressing to the church the spiritual decisions that were being made by those who responded, he got very emotional. This was a natural reaction to a very important moment in the lives of those who had been touched by God's word. Watching this preacher in action reminded me of what the church needs most.

The church needs preachers who cry. A man who speaks the message must also be moved by it inwardly. This involves an awareness of his own sinfulness as well as appreciation for God's love and grace. The preacher needs to cry over people who are hurting physically or spiritually. The preacher needs to cry for joy when others are motivated to obey the gospel or make spiritual changes that will result in eternal rewards.

The church needs elders who shepherd. Unfortunately most churches don't really follow the shepherding model of leadership. Elders were not put in place by God to do what most of them do – which is make business meeting decisions. They were not given their position to run the church like a factory. Souls need counsel and support and spiritual guidance. The church needs elders who primarily function over the spiritual direction of the flock.

The church needs members who work. One of the reasons the preachers and elders and their families are discouraged is because the members sometimes hire out church work. The contribution, though supportive of ministry, is not to be treated as a collection that takes responsibility away from individual members. We don't give into the treasury in order to not have to give in other areas. Growing churches that are pleasing to God are churches in which each one of the members is constantly ministering. Who wouldn't want to be a part of a congregation with dedicated members who love the Lord and want to serve?

The church needs a God who is patient and forgives. There may be preachers out there who have lost their way and who have forgotten why they preach. There may be elders out there who have turned into rule makers and lords over the flock. There may be members out there who have simply become bench warmers who bear no fruit for Christ. But one thing is for certain, the church ALWAYS has what it needs when it comes to a loving and longsuffering Father.

We have a long way to go as people. Churches will always go through strong and weak periods because of the inconsistencies and sins of people. We can be thankful that God is patient with us when we as Christians sometimes forget our roles and responsibilities. The church may be lacking in human areas, but it is never short of what it needs when it comes to God.

What the church needs most is pretty simple. It needs most to be more like One who created it.

"...leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps" – 1 Peter 2:21

Jeremiah Tatum

Sermon Topics June 25, 2017

9:00 a.m. – Jeremiah Tatum
"The Key To Unlocking Patience"
Romans 15:1-7 & 13
6:00 p.m. – Summer Series
Randy Duke
"What About Marriage And Divorce?"

FOR THE RECORD – JUNE 18, 2017	
9:00 a.m.	484
10:15 a.m.	382
6:00 p.m.	233
Wed 6/14	345

CENTURION OF SCRIPTURE

June 18 - 25 Be Joyful and In Prayer
Philippians 4:6,7

- 6) "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving; let your requests be made known to God;"
- 7) "and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

We extend our sympathy to the family of our Mildred Palk. Her funeral services were this past Saturday.

We extend our sympathy also to the family of Joy Carter. Her memorial services were Wednesday. She was the cousin of Pat Grimes.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Hugh Myers. His funeral services were this past Monday. He was the uncle of Ron Johnson.

And we extend our sympathy to Ray Stalnakar in the death of his grandmother on Tuesday.

Summer Series

Our Summer Series has begun and will continue through August 13. Our speaker this Sunday night will be Randy Duke speaking on the subject "What About Marriage and Divorce?" We hope everyone plans to be here.



APPRECIATION LUNCH

Remember this Sunday, June 25, we will have a congregational pot luck meal in appreciation of Mike Dyer and all the work he has done with Willow Avenue. Everyone bring a dish and join us as we wish Mike the best.

We have received "Thank You" cards from:
Anna & Andy Yoder
Rose Keith

Celebrate 100 years!

*Please join us to celebrate
Mrs. Olga Szalay's
100th birthday
Friday, July 7th, 2017
4:00 p.m.*

*Mabry Healthcare
1340 North Grundy Quarles Highway
Gainesboro, TN 38562*

RSVP

Sophia Birdwell 931-349-0207

*Please join us in wearing her favorite color
PURPLE!*



Congratulations to Alex & Ashby Woodward on the birth of Ainsley Layne Woodward on June 15. Ainsley weighed 8 pounds 10 ounces and was 20 3/4 inches long. Proud grandparents are Tim & Janet Woodward.



***A Special Happy Anniversary to:
Hollis & Frances Walker - 58 years
on June 27***



PANTRY ITEMS

June 25 - July 1

#14 - Dewight Stamps' Class

Peanut Butter

#15 - College Class

Canned Pinto Beans

#16 - Mike Dyer's Class

Canned Corn

#17/18 - Jeremiah's Class

Pork & Beans

Auditorium Class

Applesauce

TWEEN-AGERS...

For your June activity – plan to meet in the parking lot at Fall Creek Falls State Park Inn and Restaurant at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 24. We plan to stroll the pathway at the lake then have dinner at the restaurant. If you have any questions, and if you plan on attending, please contact Gina Shockey via text or phone call at 931-319-6700.

**Contact elder for June is
Roy Johnson (931-252-0049)
royjohnson23@gmail.com**



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.

PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP

BIBLE BOWL

Bible Bowl 2017 signups are going well! If you have not signed up yet, please do so as soon as possible so that we can begin preparing our materials and study groups. As we have announced this year's books are Mark, Philippians and Colossians. Lots of wonderful material to learn in these books!

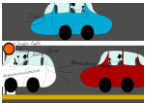
For anyone new who is unfamiliar with Bible Bowl...it is a study of different books of the Bible each year. We divide up into study groups by age and each group has a coach(s). We meet on Sunday afternoons at 4:30 before services and on Wednesday during Bible class. This year our practices will begin with our Kickoff Party on Thursday, June 29th at 6 p.m. and continue until Bible Bowl Day on September 9th. We will have the Calendar of Events to give out at the kickoff party!

Bible Bowl is at the Hooper Eblen Center where we will join around 2000 other kids age 4 to Seniors in high school to answer 100 multiple choice style questions over our study material. We try to make the learning fun for the kids while teaching them God's Word. It is always amazing how much they all learn. Even though the day of Bible Bowl is a competition-style event, we focus more on the learning here at Willow and no pressure is ever placed on the students about their "score". We just ask for them to study some at home, come to practices and have a good attitude about learning the scriptures. The friendships they make and keep through Bible Bowl are priceless!

Suzanne Woods will be coordinating Bible Bowl Pals again this year so please see her to begin signing up if you will be a "pal" to one of the students. We will ask you to encourage the kids by mailing cards to them each week and then to only bring a "gift" 3 times throughout Bible Bowl. Once at the first Sunday practice – next on Super Sunday – and then their last gift on the Sunday after Bible Bowl. Suzanne will give you an information sheet on your pal! We began this program years ago as a way to involve more adults with Bible Bowl and let them get to know our Willow kids better!

Willow Avenue has set a tradition of having the largest group of kids for several years running...let's keep this tradition going...SIGN UP NOW!

ATTENTION MEMBERS



Work has begun on the parking lot. Please remember to avoid driving over the areas as they are roped off. Thank you for your cooperation in this effort.



BUS DRIVER

Sunday, June 25 and Wednesday, June 28 is Ralph Bryant (931-252-2025).

The Mexico Mission Team is in need of items such as lotion, nail polish, body wash, etc. to make gift bags for the Mommas at the orphanage.

PRAYER LIST

It was good to see Dean Cobb, Clara McDonald, and Ann Walker at worship Sunday.

- > Reda Judd is in the Cookeville Hospital
- > Gertrude Stewart is at home recovering from a fall.
- > Maudine Flatt's daughter is doing better.
- > George Reitenour is at NHC for rehab after being in the hospital.
- > Bobby Harp has been diagnosed with colon cancer. (father of Larry Harp).
- > Anna Lee Smith is back at her assisted living residence in Jackson, TN. (grandmother of Ryan Smith)
- > Aubrey Stockton is back at Bethesda Healthcare (father of Elizabeth Hudson)
- > Elizabeth Stone is in Signature Healthcare with pneumonia. (sister of Lester Sparks)
- > Barbara Watts is still at Rehab. (grandmother of Jeremiah Tatum)
- > Clarence Wolaver had surgery but they were not able to remove the cancer. He will go home for chemo. (brother-in-law of Reba Barr)
- > Tammy Young is now at home. (daughter of Doyle & Margaret Way)

Sick or Recuperating at Home: Michael Allison, Estelle Pippin, Margaret Way

Those dealing with cancer or ongoing health problems:

Michael Allison, Carl & Aileen Alred, Susan Ashburn, Angie Bilbrey, Helen Burgess, Kelly Fletcher, Pat Goodpasture, Sherree Hawkins, Judy Hix, Rose Keith, Donna Kinnaird, George Reitenour, Bud Scott, Billy Sliger, Owen & Maudean Sparks, Peggy Sparks, Amos Spurlock, Tammy Wilson

Our Shut-Ins: Dib Anderson, Bud Bartlett, Patti Boyd, Belle Butts, Robert Cowan, Florene Davis, Ruth Gentry, Ben Gore, Rick Grimes, 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: Jimmy Sitto

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

CRMC Rehab Center: Danny Fox

Heritage Point Assisted Living: Bud Scott

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

Senior Lifestyles: Shelby & Bonnie Forkum

Signature Healthcare: Marie Jackson, Juanita Nation, Dixie Helms, Glenn Webb

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

Morningside: Pearl Cockrum, Edith Stewart

NHC: Mamie Henry

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
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 931-432-6338

Website www.willowcofc.net

Email willowcofc@twlakes.net

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP - JUNE 25

Lead Singing - Jacob Howard
Read Scripture - Mark Caldwell
First Prayer - Dewight Stamps
Last Prayer - Neil Ashburn
Announcements - Roy Johnson
Give Thanks - Ryan Smith

Prepare Communion for the month of June:

Dennis & Susan Hood and Jim & Linda Loftis

Serve the Congregation -

<u>South Side</u>	<u>North Side</u>
Tim Richardson	Don West
David Mayberry	Ray Stalnaker
Todd Hudson	Dominic DeLuca
Dennis Hood	Mike Briggs

Take Communion to the Shut-ins - Buddy King
Danny Phillips

Usher in the Auditorium Herb Baugh & Justin Pace

Usher in the Vestibule and Assist with Outside Doors

(Please be here by 8:30 am)

North Door - L.B. Johnson South Door - Denny Richardson

Sound Booth: Sunday & Wednesday

Songs - Ethan Hammond Sound - Russell Moss

Parking Lot Patrol - Tom Stafford

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 - Frank Webb
Door #2 - Cathy Whiteaker & Kylie Richards
Door #3 - Tammy Wilson & Suzanne Woods
Door #4 - Julie & Jessica Aikens
Door #5 - Lisa West

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP - JUNE 25

Lead Singing - Gary Risley
Read Scripture - Toby Russell
First Prayer - David Ray Smith
Last Prayer - Jim Briggs
Announcements - Roy Johnson
Serve The Lord's Table - Hubert Qualls & Johnny Goodwin

Keep Nursery - Susan Dudney & Beth Qualls

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

Parking Lot Patrol - Tom Stafford

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - JUNE 28

Lead Singing - Reed Wilson
Invitation - Jared West
Announcements - Roy Johnson
Prayer - Rick Ramsey
Parking Lot Patrol - Tom Stafford

Pens-Pencils-Pews - Week of June 25 - July 1
Rick Ramsey

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