

Sunday Morning Worship

Announcements (939-3797) Ronnie Rogers
 Lead Singing Leonard Clemons
 First Prayer Dale Bennett
 Reading Don Sullivan
 Scripture Acts 2:1-4
 Lord's Table (N) *Eddie Palmer
 (S) *Rodney Reynolds
 (N) Jeff Rhea
 (N) Rodney Maynard
 (S) Derek Vinson
 (S) J.B. Gribble
 (S) Kelly Hillis
 (S) Billy Pinegar
 Sermon Tony Lawrence
 Dismiss John Biddle

Sunday Evening Worship

Announcements (939-3797) Ronnie Rogers
 Lead Singing Leonard Clemons
 First Prayer Jewel White
 Reading Johnny Anderson
 Scripture Hebrews 11:32-40
 Lord's Table *Jim Slatton
 *W.C. Chilton
 Sermon Tony Lawrence
 Dismiss Ken Martin

Wednesday Bible Study

Announcements (668-8936) Allen Hughes
 Lead Singing Steve Hillis
 First Prayer Chip Cantrell
 Reading Marty Boles
 Invitation Paul Hurst
 Dismiss Daniel Boyd

Welcome Committee

A.M. Marty & Sharon Boles
 P.M. Ken & Glyn Lee

Bus Driver: Rodney Reynolds (473-3570)

Ushers: Calvin Rogers & David Roberts

Attend Nursery: Lynette Kesey

Lock Building: Clent Kesey

Prepare Communion:
 Steve Hillis & W.C. Chilton

Assist with Baptisms:
 Mary Flatt & Janie Griffin

Pantry Item: Breakfast Cereal

Record For The Week...

A.M. Worship..... 323
 Bible Study 235
 P.M. Worship 223
 Wednesday Bible Study..... 219
 Contribution..... \$4,233

CHURCH OF CHRIST AT BYBEE BRANCH
 1165 Old Smithville Road • P.O. Box 147
 McMinnville, Tennessee 37111-0147
 [RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED]

Non-Profit
 Organization
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 McMinnville, TN
 Permit # 261



A bulletin published weekly by
 CHURCH OF CHRIST AT BYBEE BRANCH
 P.O. Box 147
 1165 Old Smithville Road
 McMinnville, Tennessee 37111-0147
 (931) 473-2486 or 473-7021 FAX

Web Page: www.bybeebranch.org

Services

<i>Sunday</i>		<i>Radio Programs</i>	91.3 FM WCPI
A.M. Worship	9:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday</i>	
Bible Study	10:15 a.m.	Tony Lawrence	8:00 a.m.
P.M. Worship	6:00 p.m.	David Sain	8:30 a.m.
<i>Wednesday</i>			
Bible Study	7:00 p.m.		

Elders

Bob Bonner 473-6992
 Don Griffith 668-9006
 Douglas Hendrixson 668-3115
 Rodney Reynolds 473-3570
 email elders@bybeebranch.org

Ministers

Tony Lawrence 668-9123
 email preacher@bybeebranch.org

Steve Hillis 668-2632
 email steve@bybeebranch.org

Deacons

Steve Boyd W.C. Chilton
 Leonard Clemons Joe Collins
 Jeff Flatt Billy Gilbert
 Stanley Graves Willie Newby
 Jim Slatton

Missionaries

Daniel Hamm (731) 885-6897
 email daniel@bybeebranch.org

Roberto Garibaldi 474-4600
 email roberto@bybeebranch.org

Sick

At Home:

Ruby Glenn
Vivian Ferrell
Asa Kell
Clifford Reynolds (brother of Rodney)
Bruce Pryor
David Chilton
Clara Roller

In The Hospital:

Mike Brashier (Mary Flatt's father)-Skyline Medical Center
Randel Whiteaker-St. Thomas
Wanda Mayfield (Becky Crawford's mother-in-law)-Centennial
Helen McGinness (Harold's mother)-St. Thomas
Chris Perry (preacher at Hebron)-Vanderbilt
Shirley Parker-Riverpark
Winfrey Hennessee-Riverpark

Sunday's Sermons

A.M..... Miracles With A Message
P.M..... Lessons Learned from Gideon #2

Holiday Party

The annual Holiday party will be following the PM services on December 18. If your last name begins with:

A-F, bring 2 dozen sandwiches

G-S desserts

T-Z chips AND dip.

Those in charge this year: Sherry Graves, Glyna Lee, Corretta Lawrence, Gaye Hillis & Susie Griffith.

New Arrival

Congratulations to Josh and Sara Beth King on the birth of a baby girl, Anna Grace, she was born Monday afternoon and weighed 7 lbs 14 oz., and 20 3/8 inches long.

Lessons From Steve

BIBLE BOWL WRAPUP

Congratulations to our Bible Bowl team on another outstanding finish. The team missed only two questions and pulled in a strong second place showing. Those congregations that also placed in the top four were: Woodbury (1st), Rock Island & West Sparta (3rd), and Arlington, Bluff Springs, & New Hope (4th.)

EVANGELISM UNIVERSITY

The final cut-off for this trip is December 25th. The cost is \$40.00.

RIVERVIEW TERRACE DEVOTIONAL

The youth have been invited to hold a devotional at this facility on Monday, December 19th, beginning at 6:00 PM. Our young men will be leading the singing and prayers. Shane Fisher will be the speaker.

NHC SERVICE PROJECT

NHC has invited the youth to help with their Holiday Party as we have done for the last several years. The party is Friday, December 23rd, beginning at 1:30 PM.

NOTE OF THANKS

Thanks to our wonderful congregation! The support you show our youth is tremendous and we really appreciate the money you gave so we could buy gifts for those less fortunate than us. Your generous support came in the amount of **\$1161.00!** We have already bought, wrapped, and delivered gifts for three children and look forward to helping many others.

Also, I would like to personally thank the Senior Saints Class for the nice gift I received last Monday at our breakfast. I am truly blessed in my life and I count each of you a dear friend, but most importantly I thank you for the great example and inspiration you are to me. My spiritual life is made stronger by being associated with each of you.

Would It Be OK To Cancel Services for "Christmas?"

In the Tennessean last Thursday there was an article regarding how many churches were going to cancel their services on Sunday, December 25, for their families to celebrate "Christmas." It astounded even the non-religious person how blatantly contradictory was this decision. While this article will not address the fact that there is no Scriptural authority to religiously observe "Christmas," it will look at the idea that is being advanced by many, namely that one may cancel or alter the worship on the Lord's day in order to make it more convenient for the members."

How did some come to this decision? In an article in *CHRISTIANITY TODAY*, it was stated that several of the mega-churches got together and decided they would make a "family friendly" decision. Many of these churches have experienced a growth explosion because they have made their churches, x-friendly (where you fill in the X). This is just another attempt to accommodate the desires of the members of their churches. One church was just going to give their members a DVD so they could enjoy their services at home.

Perhaps one of the most telling comments was made by David Foster, pastor of the Bellevue Community church, "We're not legalists," "Most people will be there Saturday so why do they have to come back on Sunday? We do not think it is a sin to make church convenient to go to. An awful lot of people would go if they could." I would like for you to take notice of two things he said. "We're not legalists." What does that mean? The word "legalist" has been bantered around in the Lord's church for several years as if it were a bad term. Simply it means one who is legal and follows the law. However, it has come to characterize those who think it is not essential to obey God's law. Then he says, "we do not think it is a sin to make church convenient..." The question is: what does he mean by convenient? If one is discussing areas where God has allowed man to make his own choice then that would be acceptable, however, man does not have the choice to make things convenient contrary to God's law! To disobey is sin!

In the Old Testament, King Jeroboam sought to make worship "convenient" for the northern tribes by setting up centers of worship at Dan and Bethel. "Therefore the king asked advice, made two calves of gold, and said to the people, "It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Here are your gods, O Israel, which brought you up from the land of Egypt!" (1 Kings 12:28). God's response was, "Ephraim is oppressed and broken in judgment, Because he willingly walked by human precept." (Hosea 5:11). "And He will give Israel up because of the sins of Jeroboam, *who sinned and who made Israel sin.*" (1 Kings 14:16).

The Bible is abundantly clear that the church came together on the first day of the week (Sunday) to worship God (Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2). For people to willingly miss this service when they are capable of attending is *forsaking*. Scripture says, "not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:25). The writer of the book of Hebrews was concerned about this "sin." "but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin." (Hebrews 3:13).

The choice of canceling services on Sunday, December 25, to celebrate a holiday only illustrates how far some religious people have gone. This does not shock me too much about the denominational world. They have been modifying and adapting the Bible to suit their own sinful desires for many years, but those of us to claim to serve the Lord must never follow their selfish example. Many forget, worship is not about us, but about God. He wants us to be in services that day and, Lord willing, that is where I will be!

~Tony Lawrence~