Volume 51, Number 11

Sunday Morning Worship

Announcements	(815-3033) Caleb Graves
Lead Singing	Leonard Clemons
	Charles Gillies
Reading	
	*Noel Pepper
(S)	*Shannon Griffin
(N)	Billy Pinegar
	Ben Biles
	Dustin Rhea
	Eugene Wilcher
(S)	Kane Maynard
	Bob Cantrell
	Joshua Richardson
	Bruce Pryor

Sunday Evening Worship

	(815-3033) Caleb Graves
Lead Singing	Leonard Clemons
First Prayer	David Keele
Reading	Steve Hilton
Scripture	TBA
	*Mike Driver
	*Ken Martin
Sermon	Joshua Richardson
Dismiss	Ronnie Hoover

Wednesday Bible Study

Announcements	(668-7078) Danny Duncan		
Lead Singing	Tim Fisher		
First Prayer	Doug Hendrixson		
Reading	Čaleb Hughes		
Invitation	Tony Lawrence		
Dismiss	Winfrey Hennessee		
Welcome Committee			
A.M	Don & Susie Griffith		
P.M	Kevin Judkins Family		

Bus Driver:....Rodney Reynolds (473-3570)

Iviarch 16, 2008		
Ushers:Barry Hendrixson & Kurt Maynard		
Attend Nursery: Regina Templeton		
Lock Building: Clent Kesey		
Prepare Communion:		
Rodney & Patsy Reynolds		
Assist with Baptisms:		
Maggie Hurst & Elaine Hoover		
Pantry Item: Cake Mix / Icing		
Record For The Week		
A.M. Worship276		
Bible Study229		
P.M. Worship233		
Wednesday Bible Study230		

Contribution\$5,540

March 16 2000

[RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED]	McMinnville, Tennessee 37111-0147	CHURCH OF CHRIST AT BYBEE BRANCH
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668-9123

Missionaries

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(731) 885-6897

Roberto Garibaldi 474-4600 email roberto@bybeebranch.org

At Home:

NOTICE, in addition to the many listed here, the flu and stomach viruses have many sick at home. Georgia Brooks Preslie Slatton Debbie Fittro (Rickey Hurst's sister) Grady Hurst (Rickey's father) Brenda Smith (Jennifer Maynard's aunt) Sherry Killian (Elaine Hoover's neice) Joletta Reynolds (Rodney & Patsy's sister-in-law) Clyde Paris (Nona Martin & Nelma Chilton's brother-in-law) Helen McGinness (Harold's mother) Georgia Brown Jerry Ashford (Bobby's brother) Flossie Warren Jim Slatton Doug Hendrixson

In The Hospital:

News & N

Dorothy Holloway (aunt of Mary Flatt)-Skyline Medical Center Christine Gribble - knee surgery Wednesday morning at River Park.

Gospel Meetings & VBS

The *East End church of Christ* will host a Gospel Meeting with Randy Kea on March 9-13, with services at 7:00 pm.

The *Morrison church of Christ* will host a Gospel Meeting with James Watkins on March 16-20, with services at 7:00 pm.

The *Unity church of Christ* will host a Spring Break VBS March 16-20, services at 7 pm nightly with a guest teacher for both the adult and high school classes.

5th Sunday Contribution

March 30th will be a "Fifth Sunday" and the elders have set aside this contribution to pay on the debt of the Nonie Grizzell property. The elders kindly ask that those who can give generously.

Notes From Steve

If the Lord grants us a few more days, our youth will assemble at Hy-Lake Christian Camp this Friday for the 8th straight year. SYR has become arguably the most anticipated event the B.B.Y.G. participates in. I never envisioned back in 2001 that our dream would turn in to such a blessing. I request from Bybee Branch that you petition God on our behalf for a safe and prosperous retreat. We want to provide for each student the opportunity for a spiritual birth, renewal, and/or growth through lessons they will hear. Parents, talk to your kids before we leave for Hy-Lake. The real possibility exists that they may be thinking about obeying the gospel and a certain lesson will provide the incentive for your son or daughter to do just that. If that is the case, talk about the Ethiopian Treasurer (Acts 8) and how he did not wait, but was baptized the moment he knew he needed to. Help us by reminding your kids and checking that they do not bring a cell phone, IPOD, or any other outside hindrance, but do bring their Bible. We have several things planned, but our central responsibility is to teach the word of God. Please help us in this endeavor by keeping unnecessary distractions away from camp.

Additionally, we will have with us this weekend, Joshua Richardson. Joshua will be interviewing for the youth minister's position at Bybee Branch. He is 23 years old and originally from Wetumpka, Alabama. Joshua graduates from Memphis School of Preaching in June. He will be teaching a class for us at Hy-Lake and will preach the morning and evening services at Bybee Branch on Sunday. Let's all make Joshua feel at home.

TABS

Bybee Branch will host TeenAge Bible Study on Sunday, March 23rd. Our topic is "Why Don't We Tithe?" Several kids, parents, and chaperones from sister congregations will be in attendance.

PROM ALTERNATIVE TRIP

Our 14th annual edition of PAT is April 24th - 27th. We will be traveling to Charlotte, N.C. The trip is for students in high school, plus any parents or chaperones who would like to attend. The cost will be around \$160.00 for students or individuals. Others will need to see me for a price list.

The Sky Isn't Falling

Last weekend, I had the opportunity to attend a presentation on the campus of Freed-Hardeman University. The Christian Higher Education Foundation, representing colleges and universities affiliated with Churches of Christ, commissioned Dr. Flavil Yeakley to study the post-high school years of our young people related to their spiritual growth. (Dr. Yeakley's presentation, along with his PowerPoint slides will be made available for download on Freed-Hardeman's website in the near future).

Dr.Yeakley presented several interesting facts that I wish to share with you. Not only did he share information about our young people, but about churches of Christ in general. Here are some of the statistics that he shared:

- Churches of Christ constitute the 12th largest religious group in America.
- · Churches of Christ are the 6th fastest growing church in America.
- Churches of Christ rank 4th in the nation in total number of congregations.
- Churches of Christ rank 5th in the nation in number of counties in which there is a congregation.
- Churches of Christ rank 1st in the nation in distribution of congregations.
- · Churches of Christ rank 1st in the nation in weekly attendance among its membership.

That's a far cry from the gloom and doom propaganda that some have been preaching. So much for the talk that we must embrace certain innovations if we want to grow and be remain relevant.

Another interesting tid-bit from Dr.Yeakley's research was that the greatest retention rate of young people following graduation from high school comes from congregations who are described as "middle of the road," whereas the worst retention rate of young people comes from congregations who are described as "much more liberal."

Friends, while we certainly have room for improvement, these statistics prove that we're doing some things right. While we need to be warned and sometimes criticized, we also need to be encouraged, strengthened, and patted on the back. Take a child from the time he is old enough to understand words, and give him constant criticism. Tell him how he is no good, and how other children are better than him. Tell him that he is worthless, and that he has not and cannot achieve anything worthwhile. What impact do you think this would have on the self-image and productivity of that child?

Likewise, take a church, and for an extended period of time, do nothing but criticize it. Tell it how it is no good. Tell it how other "churches" are better than it. Tell it that it is irrelevant, legalistic, and graceless. Tell it that it cannot achieve anything worthwhile. Now what kind of impact do you think this would have on the self-image and productivity of that church? I would suggest the same.

These statistics aren't given so that you will have something about which to brag, but rather are given to encourage you to "keep your hand to the plow" and help you to realize that you are making a positive impact in the world.

~Steve Higginbotham~

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