

Sunday Morning Worship

Announcements(668-9537) Larry Flatt
 Lead SingingJeff McVey
 First PrayerEddie Palmer
 Reading.....Jared Mullican
 ScriptureAmos 1:1; 7:14
 Lord's Table (N)*Don Griffith
 (S).....*Jeff Flatt
 (N)Eugene Wilcher
 (N)Ezra Dixon
 (N).....Kelly Thaxton
 (S).....Marty Boles
 (S).....Mike Mullins
 (S)Randy Griffith
 SermonTony Lawrence
 DismissJacob Griffin

Sunday Evening Worship

Announcements(668-9537) Larry Flatt
 Lead SingingJeff McVey
 First PrayerCory Prince
 Reading.....Clent Kesey
 Scripture.....John 1:1
 Lord's Table*Ronnie Hoover
*Harold McGinness
 SermonTony Lawrence
 DismissSteve Hillis

Wednesday Bible Study

Announcements.....Joe Collins
 Lead SingingHerb Rowland
 First PrayerJamie Brock
 Reading.....Darron Dixon
 InvitationTony Lawrence
 Dismiss.....Bruce Pryor

Welcome Committee

A.M.Rodney Maynard Family
 P.M.Kurt Maynard Family

Bus Driver:.....Kelly Thaxton (607-9169)

Ushers:David Chilton & David McColloch
Attend Nursery:.....Becky Maynard
Un/Lock Building:.....Jeff Templeton/Don Griffith
Prepare Communion:Michael Andrews Family
Assist Baptisms: Doris Smith & Missy Biles

Pantry Item:Marshmallows

Elder Closing Remarks:Doug Hendrixson

Record For The Week...

A.M. Worship.....298
 Bible Study224
 P.M. Worship217
 Wednesday Bible Study.....168
 Contribution.....\$6,279

CHURCH OF CHRIST AT BYBEE BRANCH
 1165 Old Smithville Road
 McMinnville, Tennessee 37110-1008
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Services

<i>Sunday</i>		<i>Wednesday</i>	
A.M. Worship	9:00 AM	Bible Study	7:00 PM
Bible Study	10:15 AM		
P.M. Worship	6:00 PM	<i>Monday (2nd & 4th of each month)</i>	
		Monday Morning Bible Class	9:00 AM

Elders

Steve Boyd	668-2115
Leonard Clemons	473-4186
Stanley Graves	473-6418
Don Griffith	668-9006
Douglas Hendrixson	668-3115
Rodney Reynolds	473-3570
Don Sullivan	668-2184
email	elders@bybeebranch.org

Ministers

Tony Lawrence	668-9123
email	preacher@bybeebranch.org
Steve Hillis	668-2632
email	steve@bybeebranch.org

Deacons

Jamie Brock	W.C. Chilton
Joe Collins	Jeff Flatt
Shannon Griffin	Allen Hughes
Rickey Hurst	David Keele
Ken Martin	Kurt Maynard
Gordon Mayfield	Jeff McVey
Bruce Pryor	Jim Slatton

Missionary

Robert Garibaldi	314-9556
email	robert@bybeebranch.org
Iglesia de Cristo building	668-6808

Sick

At Home:

Joan Hillis
Christine Cantrell - at her daughter's home
Brent Cantrell (son of Linda Cantrell)
Noel Pepper
Ricky & Maggie Hurst
Larry Flatt
Buell Warren

In The Hospital:

Wilma Rogers - River Park #217

Sermons For Sunday

AMAmos, A Country Preacher
PMFavorite Passages: John 1:1

Children

Maybe you've heard the story about the school teacher who was helping one of her kindergarten students put on his snow boots. Even with her pulling and him pushing, the little boots just didn't want to go on. Finally, after much struggling, she got both boots on only to hear the little boy say, "They're on the wrong feet."

She looked, and sure enough, they were. It wasn't any easier pulling the boots off than it was putting them on but she managed to keep her cool as together they worked to get the boots on the right feet.

He then announced, "These aren't my boots." She bit her tongue rather than scream, "Why didn't you say so?" Once again, she struggled to help him pull the ill-fitting boots off his little feet.

No sooner had they gotten the boots off when he said, "They're my brother's boots. My Mom made me wear 'em." Now she didn't know if she should laugh or cry. She mustered up what grace and courage she had left to wrestle the boots on his feet again.

Helping him into his coat, she asked, "Now, where are your mittens?" He said, "I stuffed 'em in the toes of my boots." - (Biblical Parenting)

(Psalm 127:3,5) – "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord...Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them..."

~ Steve Higginbotham ~

Shut-ins

Raintree Manor

(415 Pace St., McMinnville, TN 37110)
Winfrey Hennessee #404
Clara Roller #506

NHC

(P.O. Box 528, McMinnville, TN 37111)
Shirlee Young (Helen Morgan's sister) #201
Marion Ward (brother-in-law to Juanita Oliver) - #123

Creekside At Three Rivers

(2744 Ashers Fork Dr., Murfreesboro, TN 37128)
Vivian Ferrell

Home:

Leonard Crouch
Mary Davis
Betty Dixon (Darron's mother)
Dennis Gann
Billy Gilbert
Greg Grizzell
Ronnie Hamilton (Linda's husband)
Essie Hillis
Grady Hurst (Rickey's dad)
Georgia Jones
Willene Kell
Shirley Keith (Vernon's wife)
Kathy Neale (Chris's mother)
Mattie Maxwell
Lucille Newby (at her son's, Carl Douglas)
Barbara Northcutt
Evelyn Northcutt
June Slatton
Cora Stembridge
James Thomison
Fuston Womack (at his son's home)

Middle Tennessee School of Preaching & Biblical Studies

The winter semester for the MTSOP will begin Thursday, January 2. Classes are FREE. Schedule:

6:00 PM The Book of Psalms (Bill Boyd)
7:00 PM Hebrew History III (Alan Adams)
8:00 PM Teachings Of Jesus (Charles Williams)

Youth News

The 4th **BIBLE BOWL** competition is set for this Sunday to be hosted by Mt. Leo. Everyone is asked to meet at Mt. Leo by 1:50 pm. The Templeton's have graciously volunteered to host our **STUDY** on very short notice. We will meet this Saturday at 5 pm and finish up around 8. Kids should have a good knowledge of John chapters 12 – 14 by now.

H.E.Y. (Helping Edify Youth) has been moved to next Wednesday, January 8th, due to all classes meeting in the auditorium this Wednesday night. The investigation has been moved to the fellowship room.

The cut-off for **CHALLENGE YOUTH CONFERENCE** has come and gone, but if you gain an interest in attending please see me.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

Sun. — Jan 12th — Pew Packers Class
Sun. — Jan 12th — Home Devotional
Fri/Sun — Jan 17th/19th — Evangelism University
Wed. — Jan 22nd — Birthday Wednesday
Sun. — Jan 26th — TABS

Two Gardens

Look at the Garden of Eden
See beauty beyond its cost
Yet as you view, remember
It was here that man was lost

See another precious garden
Gethsemane was its name
Decorated with love and submission
Where Jesus felt Calvary's pain

~Benny B. Bristow ~

Restorations

Last Wednesday evening sister Barbara Sain came forward requesting prayers and on Sunday morning Jamie Young asked to be restored. Please pray for these two women.

Can Sins Be Remitted By Men?

Shortly before His ascension, Jesus said to His apostles: "Whosoever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whosoever sins ye retain, they are retained" (John 20:23). The Catholic Church teaches that Christ was actually granting the apostles the authority to forgive sins ("remit" means "forgive" in this verse), and that the apostles passed on to their successors (supposedly the Roman priesthood) the same license to pardon sin, but this is false. The truth is, although Christians are supposed to manifest a forgiving spirit (Eph. 4:32; Mt. 18:21-22), only God can grant pardon (Dan. 9:9; Acts 8:22).

The Greek tenses of John 20:23 make it clear that the apostles were authorized only to announce the terms of forgiveness. The apostles, on the day of Pentecost, did not personally forgive the sins of anyone; instead, they simply announced the conditions of pardon with which men and women must comply. They, and others since then, were only authorized to affirm forgiveness consistent with what the Lord had already determined.

So... To sincere believers who asked: "... what shall we do?" Peter responded, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins" (Acts 2:37-38). In the verses following, we find: "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized" (v. 41). Therefore, we can see from these words that they received the forgiveness of their sins when they responded in obedience, that is, when they received the words preached unto them. The apostles didn't personally forgive anyone's sins, because they couldn't (Isa. 43:25), but by announcing God's conditions of pardon, they – in that way – made it possible for man to obtain forgiveness of sin from God. Again, they didn't have the power to actually remit sins, but only to announce the terms of pardon. Men today "remit" and "retain" sins by declaring the terms on which Christ will grant pardon.

One final point: John 20:23 does not permit the Catholic clergy procedure of granting "absolution" from sin. No one on earth has that power, only the Lord can forgive sin (Ps. 130:4; Mark 2:10). Have you sought the Lord's forgiveness?

~ R.W. McAlister ~