Volume 68, Number 31

August II, 2024

Sunday Morning Worship

Announcements	Brandon Fuston
Lead Singing	Leonard Clemons
First Prayer	
Reading	Tim Fisher
Scripture	Mark 11:9-10
Lord's Table	*Larry Flatt
Sermon	Tony Lawrence
Dismiss	Ronnie Hoover

Sunday Evening Worship

Announcements	Brandon Fuston
Lead Singing	Leonard Clemons
First Prayer	Paul Hurst
Reading	Talan Mullican
Scripture	Hebrews 11:4
Lord's Table	*Tucker Gann
	*Tim Gann
Sermon	Barry Mayes
Dismiss	Jeff Flatt

Wednesday Bible Study

Announcements	Dale Bennett
Lead Singing	Herb Rowland
First Prayer	Stanley Graves
Reading	Bruce Pryor
Invitation	
Dismiss	

Record for the Week...

164
121
91
\$6,686

Welcome Committee

Temporarily suspended

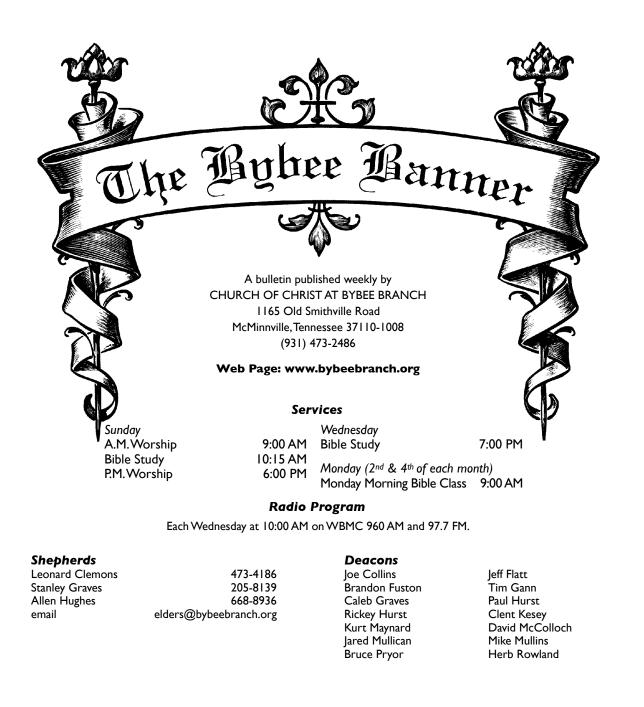
If you can not serve, please contact Mike Mullins (931) 743-8093

Ushers:Joe Maynard, Kurt N	1aynard, Rodney Maynard
Un/Lock Building:	TBA/Danny Duncan
Assist Baptisms:	Kara Fuston
Pantry Item:	Cake Mix
Check Pantry:	Mary Flatt
Check Kitchen:	Denice Rhea
Check Workroom:	Judy Sullivan
Video	Caleb Hughes
Elder Closing Remarks	Allen Hughes

Van Driver

Sunday AM & PM	Allen Hughes
Wednesday PM	Paul Hurst

RCH OF CHRIST AT BYBEE BRANCH PLACE IId Smithville Road STAMP nville, Tennessee 37110-1008 HERE RN SERVICE REQUESTED] HERE		
BEE BRANCH	HERE	[RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED]
	PLACE STAMP	CHURCH OF CHRIST AT BYBEE BRANCH 1165 Old Smithville Road McMinnville, Tennessee 37110-1008



Preachers

Tony Lawrence (Preaching)212-6067emailpreacher@bybeebranch.org

Josue Castorena (Hispanic)

Sick

At Home:

Eva Simons Judy Payne Judy Nussbaum Linda Fults June Crouch Noel Pepper Rusty Rydner (Daniel Schillinger's son-in-law)

Hospital

Helen Morgan - moved to NHC rehab #123 Osborn Huntley - NHC Rehab

Area Events

East End Drive will host a Gospel Meeting on August 11-14 with Eddie Sanders preaching.

West Riverside will host a Friday Night Singing on August 23 from 7-9 PM.

Events at the Warren County Fair

Our annual Monday Morning Bible Class will be on September 9, at 9 AM at the Antioch church building.

Also, our annual Singing at the Fair will be on Tuesday, September 10, from 6 to 7 PM.

Senior Saints Trip

The Senior Saints trip will be this Monday, August 12. The Monday Morning Bible Class will meet at 8:30 that morning followed by a trip to Fall Creek Falls Restaurant afterward. You don't have to be a "senior" to attend. All are invited. Please sign the sheet on the board so we can get an accurate count.

Youth News

August 25, Home Devo, location TBA. August 28 Birthday Wednesday.



Singing Is God's Idea

I love to sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs (Ephesians 5.19). Perhaps you do too. I was blessed to grow up in an extended family that loved to sing. We sang at home, at family gatherings, in the car, when alone, and of course, at church assemblies. I was privileged to sing in choirs at a Christian high school, at a Christian college, and on church TV programs with area singers in Springfield, MO and Jonesboro, AR. Our family reunions always feature times to sing together. My wife and I began dating on a college chorus trip to Texas.

You might say singing is a part of my spiritual DNA. That's because singing is God's idea. And what an awesome idea it is!! And for Christians it doesn't matter if you have the ability to sing well or not. There are no conditions or qualifiers or "ifs" regarding the quality of singing in the New Testament. I've often heard jokes from those whose singing abilities were lacking, but their love for singing was not. They loved to say that they were "making a joyful noise to the Lord" (Psalm 95.1; 98.4;100.1). That's because whether singing sounds poor or great, singing can be for us one of God's richest blessings.

Since singing is God's idea, it's not surprising that the Bible is full of references and instructions about it. After the exodus, Miriam sang (Exodus 15.21). Israel sang when God gave them water (Numbers 21.17). Deborah and Barak sang after a victory (ludges 5.1). Israel sang songs about King David (1 Samuel 21.11). And, of course, David and others composed numerous songs (Psalms I -150). It's fascinating that when Jehoshaphat's army faced a fierce enemy, the king appointed singers to go before the army. When they began to sing and praise the Lord, the Lord set an ambush against their foes and defeated them (2 Chronicles 20). It's amazing how many times the encouragement to sing appears in the writings of Isaiah and Ieremiah around the time of the Babylonian captivity. After the captivity, at the dedication of the rebuilt wall around lerusalem, Nehemiah appointed two great choirs to give thanks; one went to the south and the other to the north. The joy of Jerusalem was heard far away (Nehemiah 12.31-43).

In the New Testament we have Mary bursting into a song while visiting Elizabeth (Luke I). The last thing Jesus did with his disciples before heading to the Mount of Olives on the night of his betrayal was to sing a song (Matthew 26.30). Paul and Silas were in the inner prison with their feet in stocks in the city of Philippi, yet had the courage and strength to sing hymns to God at midnight (Acts 16.25). The Apostle Paul instructed the assembled church to both sing from the heart in praise to the Lord (Ephesians 5.19) and to teach and admonish each other through singing (Colossians 3.16).

From these examples it is clear that singing is one of God's ways for us to connect with Him and His Son in praise, remembrance, petition, and humility:

- · "Count your many blessings, see what God hath done"
- $\cdot \ensuremath{``\mathsf{Praise}}\xspace$ God from whom all blessings flow"
- "Be still and know that I am God"
- ·"Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!"
- "All hail the power of Jesus' name"
- •"When I survey the wondrous cross"
- •"Father, hear the prayer we offer" •"Have Thine own way Lord"

Singing is also one of God's ways for us to connect with each other to encourage, teach, motivate and comfort:

- "Be not dismayed whate'er betide" • "Because He lives I can face tomorrow" • "Faith is the victory" • "Safe in the arms of Jesus"
- ·"Nearer, still nearer"
- · "Blessed assurance"
- ·"It is well with my soul"
- ·"I am resolved"
- ·"Trust and obey"

One more thought about singing. Yes, singing is God's idea, but for you to get the most benefit from singing, you must participate with your heart, spirit and mind. Jesus stated God's basic principle for acceptable worship, including singing, in John 4.24: "God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship him in spirit and truth." The Apostle Paul stated it more specifically to the church at Corinth: "I will sing praise with my spirit, but I will sing with my mind also" (I Corinthians 14.15b). I said earlier that I love to sing. Sometimes I sing just for the fun of it. I love four-part harmony. I love different styles of songs. I love learning new songs. I love singing with my family and friends. I love listening to others sing. I love singing alone. But mostly I have learned that there is a spiritual synergy at work when I combine my spirit, my heart and my mind together in song. I believe that this is another blessing from God that you can't explain as well as you can experience.

Did you notice that there is nothing in the above verses about how well you sound when you sing? Of course we want our singing to be pleasing to the ear, but from the above verses, what God is wanting us to learn is to engage our spirits, hearts and minds when we sing. That means we are not singing just for the fun of it, nor singing because it is what we are supposed to do when we gather as a church. We are singing because we understand that the words are meaningful to our hearts and spirits. When we choose not to sing, or when we pay little attention to the words we are singing, we are robbing ourselves of some of God's great blessings.

- \cdot Singing is a way to express gratitude for the blessings God gives us
- · Singing can lift our spirits and bring joy to our hearts
- \cdot Singing can help strengthen our relationship with God
- · Through singing we can find comfort and peace in difficult times
- Singing can connect us with each other, creating a sense of community and belonging.

Remember, singing is God's idea.

~ Joe Chesser ~ Via Bulletin Gold

