

Sunday Morning Worship

AnnouncementsWillie Newby
 Lead SingingLarry Cook
 First PrayerBobby Ashford
 Reading.....Robert Elam
 ScriptureTBA
 Lord's Table (N).....*Paul Hurst
 (S).....*TBA
 (N)TBA
 (N)TBA
 (N)TBA
 (S).....TBA
 (S).....TBA
 (S).....TBA
 Sermon.....TBA
 DismissLeonard Clemons

Sunday Evening Worship

AnnouncementsWillie Newby
 Lead SingingLarry Cook
 First PrayerKurt Maynard
 ReadingCaleb Graves
 ScriptureTBA
 Lord's Table*Eddie Palmer
*Kelly Thaxton
 Sermon.....TBA
 DismissRay Weddington

Wednesday Bible Study

AnnouncementsMatthew Woodside
 Lead Singing.....Ryan McColloch
 First PrayerStanley Graves
 Reading.....Conner Nunley
 Invitation.....Tony Lawrence
 DismissNorman Sain

Welcome Committee

A.M.....temporarily suspended
 P.M.temporarily suspended

*If you can not serve, please contact
 Brandon Fuston at (931) 235-3248*

Ushers:Jason Vandagriff, David Chilton, Herb Rowland
 Un/Lock Building:.....Tony Lawrence/Stanley Graves
 Prepare Communion: TBD
 Assist Baptisms:Cindy Fisher & Sherry Graves
 Pantry Item:Jelly
 VideoTommy Turner

Elder Closing RemarksDon Griffith

Record for the Week...

A.M.Worship 100
 Bible Study80
 P.M.Worship.....NC
 Wednesday Bible Study.....90
 Contribution.....\$will be listed next week

CHURCH OF CHRIST AT BYBEE BRANCH
 1165 Old Smithville Road
 McMinnville, Tennessee 37110-1008
 [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
 1165 Old Smithville Road
 McMinnville, Tennessee 37110-1008
 (931) 473-2486

Web Page: www.bybeebranch.org

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

Radio Program

Each Wednesday at 12:45 on WBMC 960 AM and 97.7 FM.

Shepherds

Jamie Brock	668-3537
Leonard Clemons	473-4186
Stanley Graves	473-6418
Don Griffith	668-9006
Allen Hughes	668-8936
email	elders@bybeebranch.org

Preachers

Tony Lawrence (Pulpit)	668-9123
email	preacher@bybeebranch.org

Jason Adams (Youth)	743-0495
email	jason@bybeebranch.org

Deacons

Joe Collins	Jeff Flatt
Brandon Fuston	Tim Gann
Caleb Graves	Paul Hurst
Rickey Hurst	Clent Kesey
Micah Lawrence	Kurt Maynard
Gordon Mayfield	David McColloch
Jeff McVey	Jared Mullican
Mike Mullins	Bruce Pryor
Herb Rowland	

Robert Garibaldi (Hispanic)	409-7328
email	robert@bybeebranch.org

Sick

At Home:

June Crouch
Iva Cunningham
Jane Flatt
Bruce & Susan Pryor
Chester Sullivan (Chancy Woodside's father)
Flossie Warren
Jean Ware
Clent Kesey
Brown Woodlee
Stanley & Sherry Graves
Jason Adams
Leonard Clemons
Jeff Flatt

In The Hospital

none known

Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Gwen Bristow, mother of Corretta Lawrence. She died early Saturday morning from complications of the COVID virus. There will be a private service for the family on Tuesday in Minden, Louisiana.

Service Survey Forms

Please remember to fill out the service forms. Once you have done this, please give them to Brandon Fuston, Mike Mullins or Jared Mullican.

Announcement From Elders

The elders have decided that due to the dramatic rise of COVID cases in Warren County along with the fact that several members have tested positive that classes this Wednesday night (Dec. 23) and next Sunday morning (Dec. 27) will be canceled at the building. Also there will be no Sunday evening service at the building on Dec. 27. The Sunday morning worship at 9 AM will be as normal. Please look for a posting of recorded lessons this Wednesday evening and this coming Sunday evening on Facebook and Youtube. Wearing of masks and social distancing is encouraged.

Youth News and Updates

Holiday Gift Giving

On Tuesday, December 29th, beginning at 10:00 AM, the youth will be delivering gifts to the shut-ins. We want to thank everyone who donated to help out with this effort.

Locked In in 2021

There will be an all night lock in here at the building on Friday, January 15th. We will begin at 8:00 PM that night and go through 7:00 AM the next morning. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

Challenge Youth Conference

There is still time to join the group that is going to CYC in February. So far there are 20 going (including six chaperones). Please see Jason for further details about this trip. We will be going to the early sessions and they have sold 60% of the tickets available. Please make a decision and let Jason know as soon as possible.

Spring Youth Retreat

It is a few months out, but please mark your calendar for our SYR. It will take place from March 12th - March 14th, 2021. There is a sign-up sheet on the youth board (shirt size is needed also).

S.Y.R. Friday Night Meal

There is a sign up sheet on the yellow bulletin board for the S.Y.R. Friday night meal. If you are willing to provide food/items for this meal, please sign the sheet.

S.Y.R. Extra Meals

There is a sign up sheet on the yellow bulletin board for those joining us for meals at S.Y.R. but will not be staying overnight. If you will be joining us, please sign the sheet for each meal you will be needing.

*"For You are my hope, O Lord GOD;
You are my trust from my youth."*

Psalm 71:5

Fact versus Fiction on the Birth of Christ

This time of year there is a heightened focus on the birth of Christ. Nativity scenes appear in numerous places while some churches go all out with plays, performances and religious services. In this case it would be much better if people would just "read the book," the Bible. However, those reading the Bible often bring their "traditions" with them as they read.

A searching soul called the other day and wanted to discuss the Bible teaching on the birth of Christ. He had read the Bible accounts and was baffled by what he read when it did not agree with what he saw being portrayed by religious groups. I mentioned one must separate fact from fiction regarding the birth of Christ. We do know there have always been those willing to construct "cunningly devised fables" (2Pet 1:16). I ask you to consider some Facts versus Fiction regarding the birth of Christ.

Facts:

1. His birth was the subject of prophecy - Isaiah 7:14; Micah 5:2
2. It happened when God intended for it to happen, at the right time - Galatians 4:4
3. It was announced prior to His birth - Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38
4. The time was during the reign of the Roman Emperor Augustus (nephew of Julius Caesar). It was also dated during the time that Quirinius was governor of Syria - Luke 2:1-2
5. Joseph and Mary went to Bethlehem (his ancestral home) to pay tax at census - Luke 2:3-5
6. The large number produced a room shortage so they had to stay in an animal stable. It was here that Mary's time came due to deliver - Luke 2:6
7. Jesus was wrapped in "swaddling clothes" (common term to describe medical strips used) and he was placed in a feeding trough (which almost certainly would have been made of stone) - Luke 2:7
8. The great event was announced to the shepherds in the field. - Luke 2:8-20.
9. It was eight days later when he was brought to Jerusalem (about 5 miles north of Bethlehem) when Jesus was circumcised - Luke 2:21.
10. It was 40 days afterward when he was presented at the Temple - Luke 2:22

Fiction:

1. That Jesus was born on December 25, 1 BC/AD. There are no indications in Scripture regarding the date. History records it was not celebrated on the date until the 4th century and that date was chosen to counter the pagan rituals.
2. That three wise men visited Jesus at His birth. Matthew 2:1 explicitly says, "after Jesus was born." There was necessarily time needed for them to travel to where the Lord was having seen the Star. This further confirmed the fact that when Herod sought to kill all the males 2 years old based on when the Star appeared (Matthew 2:16). Additionally, the text says they visited Him in a "house" rather than a stable (Matthew 2:11). Likewise the text simply says, "wise men" and does not indicate their number. That hasn't stopped some from even making up their names as "Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar."
3. That we should celebrate this as a religious day. New Testament Christians were warned to do only that which God has authorized (Colossians 3:17). There simply are no instructions for celebrating the Lord's birth as there is for His death. Consider, should one have chosen to have their young boys circumcised for hygienic reasons or even as a national custom there was problem with such. However, if they did so as a religious activity it would have been sinful (Galatians 5:2). Paul was concerned with the Galatians participating in such customs (Galatians 4:10-11).

~ Tony Lawrence ~
