Volume 69, Number 20

May 25, 2025

Sunday Morning Worship

Announcements	Larry Flatt
Lead Singing	Steven Hilton
First Prayer	Ronnie Hoover
Reading	Marty Boles
Scripture	2Corinthians 13:11-12
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Lord's Table	*Barry Mayes
	*Barry Mayes Tony Lawrence
Sermon	

Sunday Evening Worship

Larry Flatt
Steven Hilton
Tommy Turner
Nate Turner
Ephesians 6:10-11
*Caleb Graves
*Jacob Graves
Tony Lawrence
Kurt Maynard

Wednesday Bible Study

Announcements	Kelly Thaxton
Lead Singing	Rickey Hurst
First Prayer	Danny Duncan
Reading	Jeff Flatt
Invitation	Tony Lawrence
Dismiss	Čory Prince

Record	for	the	Week
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A.M. Worship	
Bible Study	
P.M. Worship	
Wednesday Bible Study	89
Contribution	\$4,852

Welcome Committee

Temporarily suspended

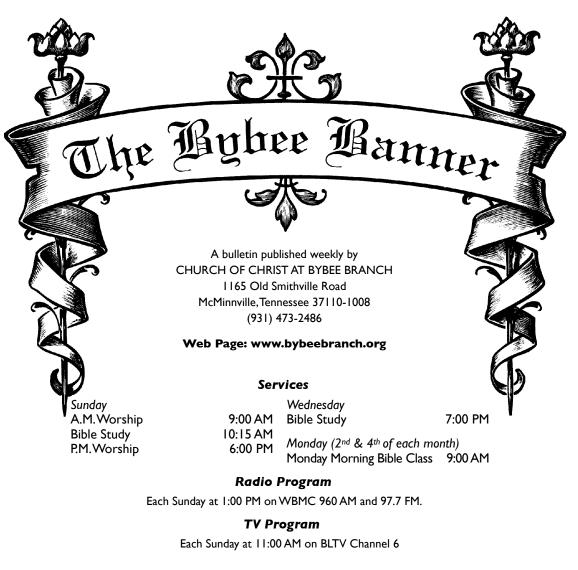
If you can not serve, please contact Mike Mullins (931) 743-8093

Ushers:Eddie Palmer, David N	AcColloch, Bruce Pryor
Un/Lock Building:Herb R	Rowland/Mike Mullins
Assist Baptisms:	Kara Fuston
Pantry Item:	Peaches
Check Pantry:	Marsha Collins
Check Kitchen:	Nancy Mayfield
Check Workroom:	Rebecca Mullican
Video	Clent Kesey
Elder Closing Remarks	Stanley Graves

Van Driver

Sunday AM & PM	Stanley Graves
Wednesday PM	Kelly Thaxton

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



Shepherds Leonard Clemons

Preachers

Tony Lawrence (Preaching)

email

email

Stanley Graves Allen Hughes

473-4186 205-8139 668-8936 elders@bybeebranch.org

preacher@bybeebranch.org

212-6067

Deacons
Joe Collins
Brandon Fuston
Caleb Graves
Rickey Hurst
Barry Mayes
David McColloch
Mike Mullins
Bruce Pryor

Jeff Flatt Tim Gann Paul Hurst Clent Kesey Kurt Maynard Jared Mullican Cory Prince Herb Rowland

Josue Castorena (Hispanic)

580-2477

Sick

At Home:

Kirstie Dixon (following back surgery) Mannie Newby (Willie's brother) Avie Clemons Eugene Womack

Hospital

Glenda Ferrell - River Park ICU Marty York - Willow Branch #502 Mark Fann (Ashley Newby-Fann's father-in-law) -Vanderbilt slowly improving

Area Events

lvy Bluff church of Christ will host their VBS on June I-4.

Rockliff church of Christ will host a Gospel Meeting on June 8-11 with David Lipe preaching.

Morrison church of Christ will host their VBS on June 15-18.

Stiles Welcome Fellowship

There will be a fellowship to welcome Derrick, Heather and Joseph Stiles on Sunday, June 22, following the morning services. Fried chicken will be provided. A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board to bring vegetables and desserts.

Lawrence Retirement Reception

There will be a retirement reception in honor of Tony & Corretta Lawrence on Sunday afternoon, June 8, from 2-4 PM. Light refreshments will be served.

Upcoming Youth Events

May 25th - Home Devo @ Civic Center May 25-30 - White/Warren Week at SMBC



My Time Is Up

There will always be a "last" in every area of life a last word, a last meal, a last day on a job... and for me this coming Sunday will be my "last" as the preacher at Bybee Branch.

Saying "thank you" seems in so many ways inadequate. Over the past few months I have been greatly humbled by the many kind words and acts of generosity. I have told others of how lovingly supportive this congregation has been! As Paul said, "You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men;" (2 Corinthians 3:2).

While some have credited me with the ability to stay for forty years it is the congregation and the eldership that deserve the credit. As brother Curtis Cates used to say "if you see a turtle on a fence post you know one thing, he didn't get there by himself." I'm that turtle. I most certainly did not get where I am by myself. I had the strong support of a godly wife. Corretta served as the church secretary for ten years, taught many children in the in the kindergarten class while she also helped rear our family. She made it possible for me frequently to be away preaching, teaching and ministering to those in need. There are so many who made our tenure possible. I cannot fail to mention the sixteen men who have served as shepherds while I served under them (Noel Foster, Lee Flatt, Kenneth Woods, Rodney Reynolds, Bill Biles, Thurman Bennett, Doug Hendrixson, Bob Bonner, Don Griffith, Steve Boyd, Leonard Clemons, Harold Cook Stanley Graves, Don Sullivan, Allen Hughes and lamie Brock). Over the years several former preachers ended up worshipping at Bybee Branch. I cannot fail to mention Stanley McInery and John Biddle as two great encouragers who have already departed this life. Even today I still enjoy a close friendship with numerous members. Thanks to everyone who has made this journey delightful.

"What will I leave behind?" has been on my mind a lot recently. Has my ministry been successful? Have I represented the Lord and this church well? What could I have done better? My hope is that first it has been pleasing to the Lord. After that, I hope that I have been able to leave the right impression on the people of the community.

Starting June I, brother Derrick Stiles will be the new preacher. He is a good, godly man as well as being a faithful preacher. He has a good family. I pray for him and I hope you will too. He deserves the time to establish himself in *his* work. Work with him, support him, encourage him as you have done for me these many years. As we "pass the baton" for the work of the pulpit it will be a transition but one that can be done successfully if we all have the right attitude. I am confident we will!

If I had one thing for which I would prefer to be remembered it would be that I was a faithful preacher of the Gospel. Brother Dowell Flatt recited the poem "The Bible Man" in chapel one day at Freed-Hardeman. The words of that wonderful poem has stayed with me these many years:

The Bible Man

He stands behind the sacred desk, A book held in his hand; And as he speaks his brethren know He is a Bible man.

Upon the Scriptures, right and truth He ever takes his stand To make the gospel clear and plain— He is the Bible man.

He loves the grand old Book divine, He loves to preach the plan; He loves the lost its message saves— He is the Bible man.

Let skeptics doubt and heathen rage, And build their hopes on sand, He loves, and lives, and teaches God's Book— He is the Bible man.

When worlds shall end and stars shall fall, and at the throne we stand; How sweet to hear the King's command, Come home you Bible man.

~ Carl H. Bates ~

As this Sunday morning arrives I have a lesson prepared especially for the occasion. It will be taken from 2Corinthians 13:11-12. It is my desire that I can deliver it passionately without being overly emotional. I would make a request to each of you: please invite your family and friends to be at services Sunday. Give me one last opportunity to present a plea for their souls.

What does the future hold for us? Only the Lord knows for sure. Many have asked what I plan to do. I do have several speaking engagements scheduled for this Summer and Fall. I will be teaching a class for the Middle Tennessee School of Preaching on the Journeys of Jesus (August 28 to November 20), Thursday evenings at 6:00 PM. I will also teach a class in the new graduate program for Memphis School of Preaching (August 14 to October 31) on Logic and Epistemology. The MSOP class will be taught remotely from our house, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. And, who knows, I may even find time to fish occasionally (something I haven't done but once in at least 20 years).

"do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:" Ephesians 1:16

"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy," Philippians 1:3-4

~ Tony Lawrence ~

"Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; And His greatness is unsearchable." Psalm 145:3