



PRESS RELEASE

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Woodland Christian Camp Executive Director Retiring

Temple, Georgia—Joey Westbrook, longtime executive director of Woodland Christian Camp and Retreat Center, will retire at the end of 2020, the camp announced today. The camp's board will immediately begin the process of searching for his successor.

Westbrook, who was a camper at the first summer camp held at Woodland in 1969, has served on the camp's staff since 1981. During his tenure as executive director, Woodland has seen tremendous growth. Westbrook has led the expansion of the camp to include more acreage, additional camp facilities, and a challenge ropes course, among other amenities.

"How do you replace someone who has been an intricate part of a ministry for almost the entire life of that ministry? The answer is, you don't," said Ron Lewis, pastor of Spring Road Christian Church and chair of the Woodland board of directors. "You prayerfully look for someone who will, in their unique way, build upon the foundation."

After his retirement, Westbrook will continue to serve at the camp for two years, with his responsibilities slowly tapering down to a consulting role.

"God has always been faithful to raise up women and men to push forward the vision established five decades ago," said Lewis. "The board believes God will continue to be loyal to Woodland. We ask for prayers of wisdom and patience in the coming months."

The board's succession team is meeting to create a process for selecting a new executive director, as well as evaluating other processes to ensure that Woodland has the right team in place for future growth.

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Woodland Christian Camp & Retreat Center exists to provide opportunities for Christian growth in a natural setting. The camp was established in 1969 as a nonprofit ministry of Christian camping and is sponsored by a group of Christian Churches in Georgia and Alabama. From that beginning, Woodland has grown into a multifaceted ministry, with four camps on one 120-acre site, a challenge ropes course, and a popular retreat location for many different types of groups. More than 11,000 people a year enjoy the unique facilities of Woodland. To find out more visit www.woodlandcamp.org.