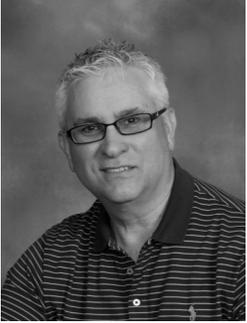


# THE VISION

Exalting Christ . . . Equipping the Church . . . Engaging the Community

VOLUME MMXIX ISSUE NO. 01

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*Bruce Worley*

If I were to ask you, “Where do you want this church to be in 5 years?” what would you say? That is a question I constantly am asking myself. As a pastor and a preacher of the gospel, my desire is to connect as many people as possible to Jesus Christ. I believe that should be the life blood of every church and every individual. This idea does not mean that we do not worship God or study Scripture, but if all we do is worship and study and never engage our community, then I would ask myself do we really know the God we worship and the Scripture we study? You see, the best way to know that we truly worship God and believe his Scripture is to connect as many people as we can to God. Jesus came to seek and to save that which was lost. Jesus said that he did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many. The last thing he told his disciples was “to make disciples.” How are we doing as a church?

At WHBC we have created a vision/mission statement that is basically EC3. In other words, it is **Exalt Christ, Equip the Church, and Engage the Community**. Let me talk briefly about these three statements. First, what does it mean to Exalt Christ? Primarily we are talking about worship. When Jesus confronted the woman at the well with her lifestyle she turned the discussion to worship. She basically said we have worshipped a certain way at a certain place for years. She wanted to know the proper way to worship. Jesus responded by saying that the proper way to worship is in Spirit and in truth. What did he mean? Basically, he says that the place and style are irrelevant because God is Spirit. The Samaritans worshipped God, but they did not accept all the Scripture. They rejected the truth that salvation would come from the Jews. I do not have time to dwell on everything in this verse, but let me say this: if our worship does not lead us to embrace the truth, then we have not truly worshipped. When we Exalt Christ it leads us to accept the challenge to reach other people. Why? Because the truth of God’s Word tells us to reach out to those who are without Jesus. Style does not matter if there is no substance. So the question you must ask yourself is this: “How does my worship of God impact my desire to reach my neighbor?”

The second phrase is **Equip the Church**. The primary way we equip the church is through the preaching and teaching of the word. His Word is truth and here at WHBC we embrace his Word as truth. And ultimately the Word points to Jesus. Our Bible Study classes should not only be about gathering information to build up our spiritual muscles; they should challenge us to use our spiritual muscles. One individual once said if there is no application of the truth we have learned, have we really learned the truth? Is your Bible study simply filling your head with knowledge, or are you putting that knowledge to use? As a church we must be equipping you for the greater task of reaching our community. You need to be taking what you are learning here and applying it out there to a world that desperately needs the truth. I have said it before; people in our community are looking for proof! They want the proof that we believe what we say. Do we believe that Jesus came to seek and to save the lost? Then it should be evident in the way we apply God’s word to our lives.

The final phrase is **Engage the Community**. This last phrase is the result of the first two. When we have truly exalted Christ and seen our responsibility and have been equipped with an understanding of God’s Word, the natural response is that we engage our community with the gospel. Why? Because in the gospel is the salvation of all people. There is no other way for people to be saved except through Jesus Christ. As a result we engage people in a variety of ways so that we can connect them to God. Engaging the community means big organized events, but it also means individual acts of engagement. I am not saying that you pound someone over the head with your big KJV Bible. I also am not asking you to cast judgment on someone’s lifestyle. I am asking you do to love them into the kingdom. God will clean them up when they are connected to Him. What can you do? Love them! Serve them! And do it all in the name of Jesus. Invite them to church. Sit with them in church. Be the one that connects them to the God you worship and obey. Of course that means you will have to take it all seriously. Did Jesus mean what he said? Does the Scripture truly say that everyone who does not know Jesus will spend eternity without him?

I will ask you again, “Where do you want this church to be in 5 years?” Now, “What are you going to do about it?” As for me and my house we will serve the Lord and do all that we can to connect as many people to the God we serve. It is my hope and prayer that 2019 will be the best year ever for WHBC. I look forward to what God is going to do in us, for us and through us.

# CHILDREN & EDUCATION



*Marcy Smith*

If you serve on a standing committee you are asked to attend the Annual Committee Workshop. This meeting is for all committee members: new members and returning members. The workshop will be Sunday, January 20 from 3:30-5:00. We will begin by meeting all together, then the individual committees will meet to begin working on ministry projects for 2019. Each year this meeting proves to be a valuable time as we kick off a new year of ministry.

The Annual Care Net Baby Bottle Campaign will begin Sunday, January 20. Pick up a Baby Bottle from around the church. Fill it with money or a check made out to Care Net. Turn it back in by Sunday, February 24. All money collected goes to the ministry of Care Net Pregnancy Center in Waco! Thanks, and if you have any questions, contact Cynthia Ellison.

Parents, we would love for your children to be a part of our Sunday and Wednesday evening activities. Every week kids are learning Bible stories, working on Bible skills, singing praises to God, learning about missions and doing missions! Here is a quick look at what is going on for kids:

## **Sunday nights, 5:30-7:30 (beginning January 6)**

- Mission Preschool - children ages 3-K will learn Bible stories, sing Bible-verse songs, apply Bible truths to their daily lives, learn about missionaries, pray, experience a variety of art activities, play Bible-related games, and . . . have FUN!
- Bible Buddies - children in grades 1-3 use games and other activities to memorize Bible verses and improve Bible skills.
- Bible Drill - children in grades 4-6 participate in fun and challenging activities to memorize Bible verses, key Bible passages, and much more.

## **Wednesday nights, 6:00-7:30 (beginning January 9)**

- Mission Preschool - we continue the learning from Sunday night (see above).
- Children's Choir (6:00-6:45) - children in grades 1-6 will sing praises together and rehearse a musical to share with our church family on Sunday, May 19.
- Team Kid (6:45-7:30) - children in grades 1-6 will enjoy an interactive Bible Study and fun review and application games each week.

# YOUTH MINISTRY

## Reminders

- Youth, please bring a new pair of white adult-size crew socks for the care bags we are making as a ministry project.
- The next Time Out date is January 27
- Sunday night activities resume on January 6 and Wednesday night activities resume on January 9.

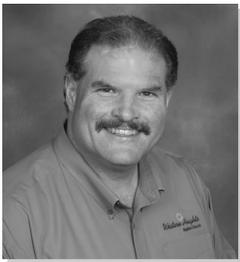
## Upcoming

The annual Chili Cook-Off Fundraiser will be February 10 at 5:30 pm. We will also have a dessert auction during the event to support our students' cost for camp. Church family, you can help us raise money by donating chili, donating a dessert, and by joining us for the event! Sign up sheets will be in the Bible Study classrooms. Let's make this the best chili cook-off ever!

Youth camp will be July 8-12 at Highland Lakes encampment in Spicewood, Texas. We are going to M3 Camp and the camp pastor is Chad Poe (who was our camp pastor this past year at Generate Camp). Put this date on your calendar now so you don't miss it!

## Opportunity for students to serve

The children's ministry is preparing to start another after-school kids' club. This club will meet on Monday afternoons. This is a great opportunity for students to get involved serving in the ministry of our church. We also have our Colonial Kids' Club which meets on Tuesday afternoons. If you would like to learn more about how you can be a part of our Kids' Club ministry, contact Marcy.



*Kip Osborne*

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE & MUSIC MINISTRY

I would like to invite you to join me in thanking all the various members of the music ministry here at Western Heights for their faithful service in leading us in worship. Our Sanctuary Choir is so faithful to rehearse and to lead us in weekly worship as well as Christmas and Easter musical programs. Our Handbell Choir, Men's Quartet, and accompanists lead us to worship in very special ways. In addition, so many faithful musicians have volunteered to help us provide a weekly worship service at Providence Park Chapel that the residents appreciate greatly. Let's encourage and appreciate these worship leaders in their service to God!

**SPRING JUBILEE CONFERENCE IN BRANSON, MISSOURI** - If you would like to attend this "Singing, Laughing, and Preaching" conference from April 10th through April 12th, please call the church office to sign up. We must have a large enough group to attend, so your commitment is vital. The cost is \$189 per person and includes all concerts, programs, and two nights lodging (double occupancy). You may stay single in a room, however it will increase your trip cost. The Gaither Vocal Band, Dino, Pastor Johnny Hunt, and many others will be ministering to us during this great event. Sign up ASAP. Dutch Treat on all meals and a gas donation. Now is the time to sign up by paying your \$25 deposit to the church office designated for the Branson trip.

**WASHINGTON PRAYER WALKERS' TRIP MEETING** has been moved to **SUNDAY, January 13th at 4 PM** in the **Partner's Room**. WE HAVE IMPORTANT ITEMS TO DISCUSS; PLEASE MAKE YOUR PLANS TO BE IN ATTENDANCE.

**WHBC BUSINESS MEETING – JANUARY 16**  
There will be a proposal from the Personnel Committee.

## COLLEGE & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Christmas was a whirlwind for the CYA Group. We had multiple parties and get-togethers during the Christmas season. I'm still enjoying my "white elephant" gift from Hunter Long and get a lot of smiles and snickers about it as well.

We had a great study on Advent during the Christmas season that brought us closer to God and closer to one another. We truly serve an amazing God who in his incarnation embraced sinful humanity with his overwhelming love. We too must embrace our fellow man with the love of Christ as we live our lives in such a way to impact others.

We will be getting back in our GROW Group in a couple of weeks when the students return from Christmas break. We will be going through the book of Mark on Tuesday nights as we learn more about Jesus and the demands he places on us as his followers. The GROW group on Tuesdays is at the Pastor's house and we always enjoy a home cooked meal, fellowship around the table, a great time of worship, study of God's word and a time of prayer. Of course after these things we enjoy more fellowship. We are becoming a strong spiritual family as we are constantly meeting together outside the formal times we have. We are doing life together and it is truly a blessing to me to be a part of this group of young men and women.

With the new year there is an opportunity to renew our commitment to one another and to His church. I look forward to sharing more with you in the future as to what God is doing in our group, but more importantly what God is doing in the lives of others. We are doing our best to Exalt Christ, Equip the Saints and Engage the Community. I pray God's blessings on you this new year as we seek to serve Him.



*Jeremy Wilson*

God Bless,  
Jeremy

**WHBC  
MINISTERIAL  
& SUPPORT STAFF**

**2018**

**Bruce Worley**  
*Pastor*  
[bruce@whbcwaco.org](mailto:bruce@whbcwaco.org)

**Kip Osborne**  
*Associate Pastor/ Minister of Music*  
[kip@whbcwaco.org](mailto:kip@whbcwaco.org)

**Marcy Smith**  
*Minister of Children & Education*  
[marcy@whbcwaco.org](mailto:marcy@whbcwaco.org)

**George Livingston**  
*Minister of Administration/ Finance*  
[george@whbcwaco.org](mailto:george@whbcwaco.org)

**Jeremy Wilson**  
*Associate Pastor for College & Young Adults*  
[jeremy@whbcwaco.org](mailto:jeremy@whbcwaco.org)

**Ann Albers**  
*Church/ Pastor's Secretary*  
[whbc@whbcwaco.org](mailto:whbc@whbcwaco.org)

**MaryAnn Bailey**  
*Church/ Pastor's Secretary*  
[maryann@whbcwaco.org](mailto:maryann@whbcwaco.org)

**Rachel Ellison**  
*Children's Ministry Assistant*  
[rachel@whbcwaco.org](mailto:rachel@whbcwaco.org)

**Don Deatherage**  
*Building Superintendent/ Custodian*  
[don.deatherage@yahoo.com](mailto:don.deatherage@yahoo.com)

	<b>Dec. 23</b>	<b>Dec. 30</b>
Weekly Budget Goal.....	\$9,588.00	\$9,588.00
Weekly Budget Receipts.....	\$16,989.90	\$11,479.19
Budget Receipts..... Month to Date.....	\$56,516.94	\$67,996.13
Budget Expenses..... Month to Date.....	\$31,686.21	\$35,594.20
Designated Receipts..... Month to Date.....	\$8,067.23	\$8,950.20
Budget Goal..... Year to Date.....	\$488,988.00	\$500,848.36
Budget Receipts..... Year to Date.....	\$471,288.56	\$482,767.75
Budget Expenses..... Year to Date.....	\$490,853.61	\$494,761.60
Designated Receipts..... Year to Date.....	\$106,021.17	\$106,904.17

**Designated Mission Contributions**

**Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**

<b>Goal</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
<b>Receipts To Date</b>	<b>\$2,837.22</b>

**FAMILY FELLOWSHIP  
MEALS**  
The meals are on hold until  
further notice.

**OFFICE HOURS**  
Monday through Friday  
8:00 am-12:00 noon  
1:00 pm-4:30 pm  
The offices are closed  
and telephones are not answered  
between 12:00 noon and 1:00 pm, and  
after 4:30 pm.



**AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY**  
**01/06/2019 thru 01/19/2019**

Kip Osborne	254-717-6020
Mike Ogas	315-4648
Phillip Fields	405-1464
Church Phone	254-776-2524

**WESTERN HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH  
VISION CALENDAR OF OPPORTUNITIES**  
January 06, 2019 through January 19, 2019

**Sunday, January 06, 2019**

8:45 am Traditional Worship Service  
10:00 am Bible Study  
10:30 am Church Library Open  
11:15 am Contemporary Worship Service  
4:00 pm Deacons' Meeting  
5:30 pm Bible Study with the Pastor  
5:30 pm Mission Preschool  
5:30 pm Bible Buddies/Bible Drill  
5:30 pm Youth Sunday Night Live

**Monday, January 07**

8:00 am ECA Final Exams  
9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall  
9:30 am With God's Help  
5:30 pm BSF Class Meetings

**Tuesday, January 08**

8:00 am ECA Final Exams  
9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall  
11:00 am Men's Weekly Fellowship Lunch  
1:30 pm Ministry Choir  
4:00 pm Colonial Kids' Club  
6:30 pm College Grow Group  
6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

**Wednesday, January 09**

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall  
9:00 am Financial Review  
9:30 am Women On Mission  
6:00 pm Mission Preschool  
6:00 pm Children's Choir  
6:00 pm Youth Fuel  
6:30 pm Prayer Meeting  
6:45 pm TeamKid  
7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir

**Thursday, January 10**

8:00 am ECA Final Exams  
9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall  
11:00 am Merry Widows and Friends  
6:00 pm Women on Misison Craft Projects  
7:00 pm Contemporary Worship Rehearsal

**Friday, January 11**

5:30 am BSF Leaders Meeting  
9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall  
9:30 am With God's Help

**Saturday, January 12**

8:00 am Prayer Group Meeting

**Sunday, January 13, 2019**

8:45 am Traditional Worship Service  
10:00 am Bible Study  
10:30 am Church Library Open  
11:15 am Contemporary Worship Service  
4:00 pm DC Prayer Walkers' Planning Meeting  
5:30 pm Bible Study with the Pastor  
5:30 pm Mission Preschool  
5:30 pm Bible Buddies/Bible Drill  
5:30 pm Youth Sunday Night Live

**Monday, January 14**

8:00 am ECA Final Exams  
9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall  
9:30 am With God's Help  
5:30 pm BSF Class Meetings

**Tuesday, January 15**

8:00 am ECA Final Exams  
9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall  
11:00 am Men's Weekly Fellowship Lunch  
1:30 pm Ministry Choir  
4:00 pm Colonial Kids' Club  
6:30 pm College Grow Group  
6:30 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

**Wednesday, January 16**

9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall  
9:00 am Financial Review  
1:00 pm Vision Folders  
6:00 pm Mission Preschool  
6:00 pm Children's Choir  
6:00 pm Youth Fuel  
6:30 pm Prayer Meeting  
6:45 pm TeamKid  
7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir

**Thursday, January 17**

8:00 am ECA Final Exams  
9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall  
11:00 am Merry Widows and Friends  
7:00 pm Contemporary Worship Rehearsal

**Friday, January 18**

5:30 am BSF Leaders Meeting  
9:00 am Prayer Walkers/Mall  
9:30 am With God's Help

**Saturday, January 19**

8:00 am Prayer Group Meeting

## WELCOME VISITORS

**Dec. 23, 2018**

Arayan Flores, Dennis Cox

**Dec. 30, 2018**

Annabella Deese, Kyndra Williams, Andy & Brandy Cox, Adrian a& Teresa Griffin.

## CHURCH FAMILY

As you attend church meetings and go about God's work in the church facilities, if you see something that needs attention, please let the office know. You may put a note in the rack next to the office door, or give us a call Monday-Friday at 776-2524. Your suggestions will be considered and addressed so that we may do our best to keep God's house in good working order for His glory. Thank you.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE

**Sunday nights, beginning January 6**

5:30-7:30      Mission Preschool, ages 3-K  
Bible Buddies, grades 1-3  
Bible Drill, grades 4-6

**Wednesday nights, beginning January 9**

6:00-7:30      Mission Preschool, ages 3-K  
6:00-6:45      Children's Choir, grades 1-6  
6:45-7:30      TeamKid, grades 1-6

## ANNUAL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP

If you serve on a standing committee you are asked to attend the Annual Committee Workshop. This meeting is for all committee members: new members and returning members. The workshop will be Sunday, January 20 from 3:30-5:00. We will begin by meeting all together, then the individual committees will meet to begin working on ministry projects for 2019.

## TEXT MESSAGE REMINDERS

We offer text message reminders for our children and youth ministries. It is easy to subscribe! To join the children's remind group text this message: @whbckid to this number: 81010. To join the youth remind group text this message: @whbcyouth to this number: 81010. If you have questions, contact Marcy Smith at 776-2524 or marcy@whbcwaco.org.

## WORSHIP CARE VOLUNTEERS

Worship Care volunteers assist in the preschool classes during the worship services. A volunteer serves about one time every three months. If you enjoy spending time with precious preschoolers this is the opportunity for you! To join our team, contact Marcy at 776-2524 or marcy@whbcwaco.org.

## COLONIAL KIDS' CLUB

Our Colonial Kids' Club will resume Tuesday, January 8. We meet at The Edmond (formerly Colonial Arms Apartments) from 4:00-5:15 every Tuesday. This ministry is reaching children and families who do not go to church on a regular basis. Some of them have even participated in activities here at Western Heights. We have a great team of volunteers, but would love to have a few more. We are also ready to start another kids' club on Monday afternoons. If you would like to help us out on either Mondays or Tuesdays, please give Marcy a call in the office.

## CARENET BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

The Annual Care Net Baby Bottle Campaign will begin Sunday, January 20. Pick up a Baby Bottle from around the church. Fill it with money or a check made out to Care Net. Turn it back in by Sunday, February 24. All money collected goes to the ministry of Care Net Pregnancy Center in Waco! Thanks, and if you have any questions, contact Cynthia Ellison.

## CHILI COOK-OFF FUNDRAISER

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