

WBC NEWSLETTER

April 2023



**WOODLAWN BAPTIST CHURCH EXISTS TO
GLORIFY GOD BY LEADING PEOPLE INTO A
GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CHRIST**

A WORD FROM OUR ELDERS

I Am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. John 14:1 ESV

Each year as the Easter season comes around, the thoughts of Jesus’ interactions with the disciples come to the forefront of my mind. Each year I seem to gain a bit more insight of the impact from the events which occurred during the final few days of Christ’s physical life on Earth. Each year I come to the same conclusions: Jesus loved His followers and was concerned about the well-being of those followers who were going to go through some extremely difficult times ahead.

Jesus recognized, for just reasons, the heavy hearts among His followers gathered in the Upper Room. Just within a few hours, they had watched as Jesus humbled himself by washing their feet, and advised them that He would be going away and they could not go with Him. They had heard that one of those in the room partaking of the Last Supper would betray Him, and that He would be denied by perhaps the strongest and most formidable of the twelve disciples. These were a series of events that we might describe as “taking the air out of the room.”

Following the departure of the betrayer (Judas Iscariot), Jesus gave an imperative command to those remaining: “Believe in God; believe also in me”. Believing would be easy enough when someone spent every day observing the works and miracles Jesus performed, but those conditions were about to change. He would be leaving them and temporarily going to a place they couldn’t go so they needed the reminder to keep on believing in the Father and the Son. He was delivering a command similar to the language written in Isaiah 41: 9b-10 “You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off”; ¹⁰ fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Do we find ourselves at times in similar situations where our hearts are broken or weighted down by the cares and strife of today? I’m afraid we as a society have significant “heart troubles” similar to the disciples, brought on by a steady flow of disturbing images and words. We are guilty of contributing to those heart ailments by what we consume, not necessarily through our mouth but also by what we consume through our eyes and ears. The visual and auditable stream of information available to us is unlimited. However, it would help our ailing hearts if we applied Paul’s writing from 1Corinthians 6:12 “All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything.

Are we willing to take a stance similar to Paul and declare “I will not be dominated by anything”? The list of dominating influences in our lives can be overwhelming. However, we must declare the proper order those influences will have in our lives. Let’s be honest with ourselves and take a serious inventory. Do we spend more time in the Word of God, social media or news outlets? Which is dominating our lives? Is the dominating component most helpful to our spiritual lives?

Colossians 3:1-4 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Ponder these things and have a renewal through this Easter season.

Don

WBC PRAYER FOCUS

WBC PRAYER MINISTRY:

“Prayer Matters”

“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost”

Luke 19:10

As we move into the Easter season, the verse above clearly comes alive. As believers, we should praise God that we understand the truth this verse represents – the gospel story. Yet, so many do not know the simple truths around that verse for all mankind! And, it is literally the difference between blessings and curses, life and death – not just here and now, but forever. Some of these truths we will think and pray over the few weeks as a church family during WBC’s annual churchwide prayer emphasis, **One Voice—One Focus**. As believers, we have an accountability and responsibility to share the gospel through our daily living and to pray for others to have receptive hearts which are open to Christ, the Son of Man. *This is the passion of God which brought Christ to earth. And, His passion should become our mission while we are on earth.*

During the month of April, you will receive a weekly bulletin insert titled, **God’s Passion: Our Mission**. Each will have a separate prayer point and short narrative/prayer for use during the week. Perhaps you can use the insert as a family, with prayer partners, as well as individually during this year’s season of prayer. As we join in these prayers as a church family, may God soften all our hearts to the passion of His heart for those who are not saved or have wandered away from relationship with God through sin and it’s many deceptive, destructive paths.

On May 4, we will conclude our 2023 season of prayer with a community observance of the 72nd Annual **National Day of Prayer**. The Lowell prayer observance will be held at the new public park across from the Lowell City Hall on the corner of W. First Street and N. Main Street from 12:15pm–12:45pm, May 4. Please attend this observance and pray with the pastors/leaders as they pray for those who influence our culture -- our nation’s churches; schools; businesses; government leaders; military-police-fire and first responders; arts and media industry; and our nation’s families. May God grant an increase of God-honoring righteousness in the hearts of leadership in each area of cultural influence and His name be glorified.

Please take advantage of these prayer opportunities before us through your personal participation. Also, encourage another to join you in prayer and even to attend worship at WBC with you or the community observance of the National Day of Prayer if they are already in church. Ask God for opportunity to be on mission daily through sharing the gospel with your life.

“All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer . . .”

Acts 1:14

PRAYERS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL



Countywide Prayer Spotlight

Please join other believers in prayer for the following GGBA member churches. May **WBC** be blessed as we join others seeking God to build up HIS kingdom through this prayer emphasis

Victory Baptist – Gastonia Pastor: Keith Martin

Walnut Grove – Dallas Pastor: Chris Parker

West Cramerton Baptist—Cramerton Pastor: Mike Ivey

Westview Baptist – Gastonia Pastor: Scott Rudisill

W. Franklin Spirit of Life –Gastonia Pastor: Jeff Williams

*"Restore us again, O God our Savior ...
Will You not revive us again. . .*

"Psalm 85:4-6

PRAYERS FOR SALVATION:

Emily, Stephen, Joshua, James, Josh, Jessie,
Robert

PRAYERS FOR HOMEBOUND OR THOSE IN ASSISTED LIVING:

Hazel Currie,

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING:

Joyce Beatty, Robert Willard,
Michael and Dianah Minges,
Terry Collins' daughter Marsha

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

STRENGTHENING & BUILDING OUR
Community
THROUGH THE POWER OF PRAYER

Community Prayer
Gathering
First Saturday of Each Month
April 1
9:30-10:30am
WBC Sanctuary

Please join your brothers and sisters in Christ
from area churches to pray and believe that
God's Word in 2 Chronicles 7:14 is true for today



To initiate a prayer, call the
church office or visit
wbclowell.com/connect/prayer

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Happy
Easter!



Woodlawn Kids Weekly Ministries
Sundays

9:45am Sunday School

11:00am Kids Worship (K-3)

Wednesdays

7:00pm KidsROC

(Kids Rely on Christ)

and Preschool Kids Club



VBS 2023

June 12-16

6-8pm

**for kids who
completed K-5th**

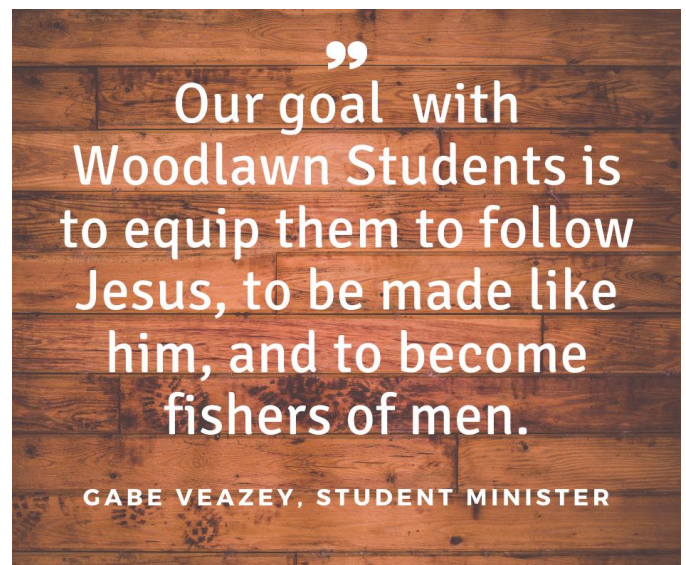
**Please pray about serving
in this important church
ministry.**



FOLLOWING JESUS CHANGES THE GAME

**"MAKE YOUR WAYS KNOWN TO ME, LORD;
TEACH ME YOUR PATHS." PSALM 25:4 (CSB)**

STUDENTS



ADULTS

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

If you have questions you are encouraged to talk to
Justin Morehead

OR

Visit wbcclowell.com and click on resources tab for more information

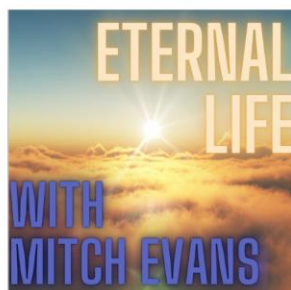
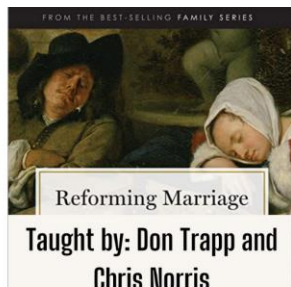
MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST

APRIL 6, 6:30AM
1ST THURSDAY EACH MONTH
MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM
SHORT STUDY/DEVOTION
CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE
FOR MORE INFORMATION
OR VISIT THE WEBSITE



Young at Heart

Ages 50+
Every other
Tuesday
11:30am
April 12 and 26
MP Room
Pick-ups and snacks

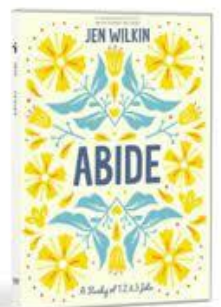


Women's Bible Study

ABIDE by Jen Wilkin
Beginning March 2
6:30 - 8pm
MP Room

Everyone will need
to order a book
prior to the study.

All ladies are invited



LOWELL CRISIS MINISTRY



**FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL
WE WILL BE COLLECTING:**

**PAPER TOWELS AND
TOILET PAPER**

The churches ministry in reaching the community is made up of several churches in the Lowell city area and provides assistance in times of need by sharing our resources and proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The Church Food Pantry is a staple ministry for serving the poor. If you work in a church, you know that it's not uncommon for people in need to gravitate towards churches. Let's be honest. This is a good thing. This means that they see a church as a place where they might find the help that they need.

The food pantry is a simple but effective way to meet this need. Our food pantry is a ministry of the church that provides food to people in need and also to reach them with the gospel. We are open to all individuals that have fallen on hard times and need our help. We will deliver the food as our resources allow to better address the need.

A church food pantry consists of four basic elements: storage space, volunteers, food and funds as needed for the purchase of any requirements that may not be donated.

In 2023 we are adopting a new Mission Statement to better address the needs of our community. We are focused on the diverse needs of those who come to Woodlawn's Food Pantry. We support their dignity by how we treat them, how we listen to their story, by what services we provide them and how we can help them access other help in the community.

For some people the situation they find themselves in requires them to live with food pantry assistance the rest of their lives. But for others, a 'helping hand' is what they need right now. By providing food and other services at this time in a person's life – we are often able to provide the additional help they need in order to regain their independence.

Our 'Scripturally-based perspective' is referenced as a statement of our Christian values in how we treat others, as well as how we share the gospel as the Lord has instructed us through the God-given abilities and strengths that make each of us unique and valuable.

WHAT we do and HOW we do it – are intentional aspects that make Woodlawn a Scripturally based Food Pantry for the purpose of filling the needs of individuals in difficult times and reaching them with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We need your help!

If you know anyone in the community who would benefit from the help we as a church can provide please send them to us. If you are interested in volunteering or donating resources, please call the church office or inform Stephen Abbott - Ministry Deacon

MEN'S MINISTRY

Woodlawn Men's Ministry



"Come, follow me...and I will make you fishers of men." (Mark 1:17)

Simon and Andrew probably thought it would be an ordinary day. "Life as usual" was undoubtedly their mindset as they cast their nets into the sea. But, O, how Jesus changed that ordinary day into an extraordinary one for Simon and Andrew!

Jesus invited these two brothers to join Him: "Come follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." The majestic personality of this Man Jesus drew them to follow Him. And their lives would change forever.

How could Simon, Andrew, James, and John realize what lay ahead? Their lives would become an adventure, a drama of unbelievable miracles, profound instruction, and unparalleled insight into the kingdom of God. They responded willingly to the challenge to follow Jesus. They would never be the same again.

The Lord also invites you into the world of fishing for men. This life leads us into something much bigger than ourselves. The Lord has called and you have responded. Like the apostles, you may not realize the incredible adventure lying ahead of you. But you can be sure, as long as you stay close to Jesus, unbelievable things can and will happen.

At the end of World War II, the body of Christ began to focus mostly on ministry to children, youth and women. But to our demise, we have unconsciously lost a generation of men to serve Christ and the church. It's time for Christian men to come alongside their pastors in reaching, educating, discipling, maturing, equipping and releasing men into ministry.

"Here am I, send me!" (Isaiah 6:8)

With all the competition for men's time, it is imperative that men be able to address their spiritual identity. We know this should be a priority for all of us. However, with TV, Monday night football, school meetings, civic, professional, social, political, and recreational events, we find our spare time at a premium, and often, the things of God are either off the stove all together or at least on the back burner. The Men's Ministry is a vital part of the growth of men in the church and the church itself through God's implementation.

The Men's Ministry provides a great way to reach men who are caught up in the secular aspect of life. Men who need Christ and one-another. We have many resources which are great "entry doors" to introduce men to the balance between the secular and the spiritual.

There are four areas of ministry:

- Spiritual - developing Christian growth
- Service - involving church and community
- Social - fellowship and team building
- Soul-winning - men witnessing for Christ

It is the desire of the Men's Ministry to assist in developing men who are dedicated to God, motivated for ministry, and mobilized for action. We are committed to the ministry of men providing resources to reach their spiritual maturity in Christ through prayer, scripture, and fellowship.

Christian men live in two worlds: our citizenship "heaven", and the secular world. Our spirituality usually takes place on Sunday and during a mid-week service. The fellowship, worship, teaching, and hearing of the Word have an effect on us that is reassuring and brings about a certain peace and order to our lives.

The problem is that Monday arrives and forces us into that secular world where peace, order and assurance are not always present; in fact, it is very seldom the case. Other than a mid-week break, that secular world, with its pressures and deadlines, will be with us for at least five more days.

One of the purposes of Men's Ministries is to bring about a blending of these two worlds so our conduct or lifestyle in the secular world will become a spiritual statement as to what is more important to us. The result of these efforts will enable Men to...

- Reach men for Christ
- Strengthen men spiritually and hold them in the local church
- Provide deep abiding fellowship and relationship
- Develop a clearer understanding of Christian manhood
- Become a local training center of evangelism and outreach
- Help men become faithful loving husbands, godly fathers, and spiritual leaders
- Train men to be leaders and disciples in the church
- Encourage and support the pastor

"Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another." (Proverbs 27:17)

If you would like to be a part of the Men's Ministry, see Stephen Abbott - Deacon or call the church office.

Church Office

(704) 824-4261

admin@woodlawnbaptist-lowell.com

Stephen Abbott - Deacon

(704) 813-9460

steve@abbottservice.com

MUSIC MINISTRY

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

God has created music as a means of worshiping him! We have all experienced music's ability to enhance and stir our passions. I believe that music is intentionally designed in this way. When we attach the truths of Scripture to the songs we sing we can see very clearly why God has designed music this way! I pray that our love for the Lord would continue to deepen as a result of singing together each week.

Rehearsal for Singers!

*** If you are interested in helping us lead our congregation in worship through music, please join us for our weekly rehearsal on Wednesday evenings 6-7pm!**

Instrumentalists!

*** If you play an instrument and would like to talk about serving the church through music please reach out via email!**

justin@woodlawnbaptist-lowell.com

WHAT'S GOING ON AT WOODLAWN?

Sunday morning services:

Sunday school for all ages
9:45am

Worship in the Sanctuary
11:00am

Sunday morning worship
live at 11:00am

www.wbclowell.com

Services are archived on our
website for your viewing
convenience.

Wednesday Evening

At Woodlawn 7-8pm

Adults-Prayer and Bible
Study - Gym

Preschoolers – Preschool
Department-Ed Bldg.

Children – Children's
Department-Ed Bldg.

Students
Student Room-Ed Bldg.

Matthew 5-7

Kingdom Teaching for Kingdom Living

PASSION WEEK

at Woodlawn

PALM SUNDAY APRIL 2 | EASTER APRIL 9

Welcome to our newest
members

**George, Heather and
Carter McLaughlin**



SPECIAL OCCASIONS - APRIL 2023



1 James Grant	3 Sean Moore
4 Jonathan Robinson	4 Wagner Santiago
6 Kelly Ray	8 Buddy Barnhill
9 Jordan Farr	11 Ayla Bell
12 Levi Bradley	12 Joshua McAferty
12 Gabe Veazey	14 Martha Ann Huffstetler
21 Evan Botts	22 Karen Robb
23 Marian Schrader	24 Angie Odell
25 Lillian Bradley	25 William Bradley
25 Chris Lamb	27 Larry Black
28 Carrie Howard	28 Heather McLaughlin
30 Dayle Guffey	

6

Larry and Myra Black

13

Chris and Emily Rodgers

21

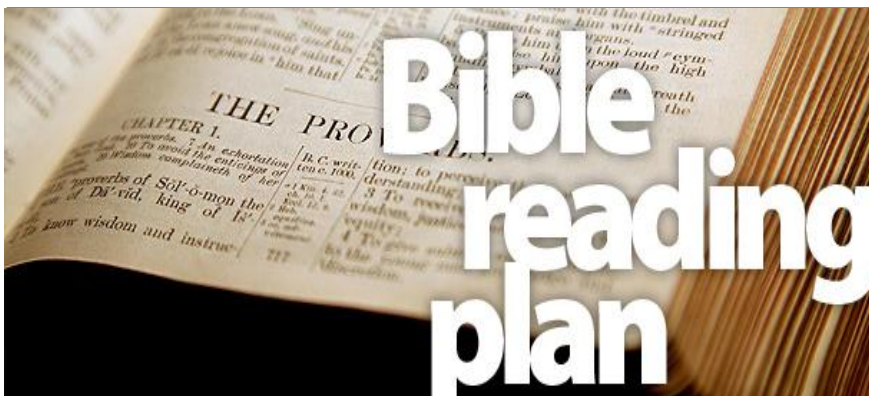
Dayle and Charlene Guffey

21

Jordan and Martina Rollins

24

Larry and Kaye Maddox



- ❖ Read through the Bible in a year
- ❖ Read through the New Testament
- ❖ Read through the Bible Chronologically
- ❖ Read through Mark

Call the church office if you would like to have a copy of one of these reading plans.

WOODLAWN BAPTIST CHURCH

STAFF

Lead Pastor: Mitch Evans
mitch@wbclowell.com

Music and Discipleship Pastor
Justin Morehead
justin@wbclowell.com

Student Minister – Gabe Veazey
gabe@wbclowell.com

Volunteer Elder – Don Trapp
don@wbclowell.com

Volunteer Elder – Chris Norris
chris@wbclowell.com

Ministry Assistant: Crystal Watkins
admin@woodlawnbaptist-lowell.com

The WBC Newsletter is a monthly publication for
Woodlawn Baptist Church
1101 N. Main St.
Lowell, NC 28098
Phone: 704-824-4261

Sunday School is at 9:45am
Worship service is at 11:00am

Wednesday adult Bible study and discussion,
preschool, children and student activities are at
7:00pm

FINANCIAL DIGEST

AS OF FEBRUARY 2023

INCOME YEAR TO DATE

\$29,965.88

OFFERING FEBRUARY 2023

\$68,795.68

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

SUNDAY SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 2022- 120

FEBRUARY 2023 - 99

WORSHIP

FEBRUARY 2022- 179

FEBRUARY 2023 - 167

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

**MONDAY
THRU
THURSDAY
8AM – 4PM**

**Woodlawn Baptist Church is
happy to allow members to
use our facilities.**

We just ask that you complete a
“Facilities Use Form” and give it to the
Ministry Assistant so she can be sure
there are no scheduling conflicts and
can add your event to the church
calendar. The “Facilities Use Forms”
are available in the church office or
workroom.

MISSIONS



TCKs, MKs, Oh my! (series - part 3)

“A TCK (Third Culture Kid) is an individual who, having spent a significant part of the developmental years in a culture other than the | parents' culture, develops a sense of relationship to all of the cultures while not having full ownership in any. Elements from each culture are incorporated into the life experience, but the sense of belonging is in

relationships to others of similar experience.”

So, what are some of the disadvantages of being a missionary kid TCK?

Cultural Identity Confusion: Growing up in a different culture than your parents' or your passport country can lead to confusion and uncertainty about your cultural identity. You may feel like you don't belong anywhere, and struggle to find your place in the world.

Social Isolation: As a TCK MK, you may find it difficult to connect with people who haven't had similar experiences. You may feel like you can't relate to your peers or that they can't relate to you, which can lead to social isolation.

Frequent Goodbyes: As a missionary kid, you may have to say goodbye to close friends and family members more frequently than most people. This can be emotionally challenging, and can lead to feelings of sadness, loneliness, and grief.

Difficulty in building long-term relationships: Constant relocation as a TCK MK can make it difficult to build lasting relationships. You may have to say goodbye to friends and loved ones every few years, making it harder to maintain long-term connections.

Lack of Stability: Frequent moves and living in different cultures can make it difficult to establish a sense of stability and consistency in your life. You may find it difficult to create a stable home environment or to establish a sense of routine and predictability in your daily life.

This series is intended to help us understand our missionary kids and how we can best pray for them and support them.



Pates in Brazil

Continue to pray for our missionary family the Pates as they labor in Brazil teaching pastors.



Germany Trainee Program

Our missions deacon George Gates and his wife Louann will be traveling to Germany in April to assist with their Evangelium21 conference. He will also be meeting with the pastoral intern trainees who we currently support. Pray for a safe and successful journey.



Wade Lawing Local Missionary with FCA

A note from Wade:

This month we had the opportunity to share the gospel with 250 people at the NC 1A West Vs Midwest All-Star Game. Roughly 50 Athletes received a copy of God's Word. Our guest speaker was Mr. Rodney Monroe from NC State and the NBA. He challenged the audience on their identity, is it in Christ?

Pray for Wade as he shares the Gospel with local students.



Missions Geography 101 / Australia

People Groups/Unreached: 203 / 31

Capital: Canberra

Distance from Lowell: 9900 miles

Primary Religion: Christianity

Population (Total / Unreached):

26,016,000/1,408,000

Christian Adherents: 63.2%

Scripture: None for some indigenous tribes to complete Bible

2022-2023 Deacon Family and Ministry Assignment

**Ross Bradley – A-And and Web-Z
Baptism, Bereavement, Fellowship**

**Sean Moore – Ane – Bk
Recreation**

**Eric Gunter – Bl-Cars
Women's Ministry**

**VICE CHAIR - George Gates – Cart-E
Missions, Benevolence**

**Stephen Abbott – F-Gil
Men's Ministry, Food Pantry**

**CHAIR - Ray Gilbert – Gim-Her , Gavaletz
Finance, Prayer, Children**

**SECRETARY - Tom Botts – Hes-Mit
Audio Visual, Website**

**Buddy Herndon – Miu-Robe
Building and Grounds**

**Buddy Barnhill – Robf-Ste
Greeters, Bus, Security, Decorations**

**Eddie Calvert – Stf-Wea
Building and Grounds**

**YOUR DEACON ON DUTY FOR
APRIL
ROSS BRADLEY AND RAY GILBERT**