

WBC NEWSLETTER

August 2023



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

A WORD FROM OUR ELDERS

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Ephesians 5:15-17

Although hard to believe, many of us reading this newsletter will be in the process of getting our offspring ready to start or return to school. As one who spent most secondary school grades in a different state, its hard to comprehend the thought of returning to school before Labor Day, but here we are!

If you are that parent or grandparent doing the preparations, who is carrying more stress, you or the student? What about the school teachers, staff and administration? Let it suffice to say, there can be plenty of opportunities for stressful times for all involved, be it in public school, private school, home school or post-secondary education.

Stress in the family is rarely a good thing; it leads to many misunderstandings and conflict that results in our making poor decisions that are not well thought out (unwise) or timely. (Matthew 11:28-29) Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." Jesus invites us to call upon Him in our time of need, seeking His guidance.

Perhaps this would be a good time for church families who have students to begin to pray Ephesians 5:15-17 over or with your students, explaining it to them in age-appropriate terms. For those families who don't have students in their home, consider adopting a church family who does have students and pray this scripture for them daily.

Whatever stage of life we may be in at this point, we need to carefully study scriptures so that "we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love." (Ephesians 4:14-16)

Our ultimate and absolute goal should be to grow up in every way in Him, whether we are entering the first year of formal education or have been a believer for decades. If you are on a growth path, God bless you. If you're still being tossed to and fro by the waves, start small with something like Matthew 6:33 "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you".

Grateful to be growing together,
Don

WBC PRAYER FOCUS

WBC PRAYER MINISTRY:

“Prayer Matters”

“... look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.”

2 Corinthians 4:18

Where is our focus in most decisions? Truthfully, most of us are looking at the present, immediate impact it makes on today. That works for most decisions, but should not become an automatic response in every case. We realize the basis for some decisions will come from past experience in a similar situation or with a similar person. But, looking at some decisions through the lens of unseen or eternal things, could have an impact far beyond our expectations. As the scripture above speaks about how we look at things as having fleeting or eternal consequence, could it include decisions we quickly made based on our own logic and understanding – perhaps without inquiring of the Lord as some in the Bible were guilty of doing at times? We could miss an opportunity to be blessed or even to bless others.

Recently someone stopped in the midst of a busy and overwhelmed moment of heading into their plans for the day, and made a decision. They paused and agreed to take that moment, read scripture together and pray. The sweetness of that time was blessed with evidences of the peace of God and a renewed strength for the day's plans. It was a treasured and encouraging “God-moment” which was almost missed.

There are times in all our lives, when we have such moments. The more we train our eyes to focus on the unseen, the more *our heart* and *mind* will seek it as well. We all have decisions to make and opportunities to inquire of God how to best communicate with or even represent Him to others on our daily journeys. Time in the scriptures and in prayer with Him daily becomes fuel toward equipping us for such moments. Please continue to ask God to use you to share with others how looking at eternal things impacts your life. As we focus our vision and thoughts onto eternal things more, it can inspire a fresh passion that reveals some decisions could be used as opportunities to live on mission to show the love of God and share the gospel of Christ with others. Perhaps, that could make a difference in and through our lives and others, both now and eternally.

“And He said to them, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.’ ”

Luke 10:2

PRAYERS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST



PRAYERS FOR SALVATION:

Emilee, Stephen, Joshua,
James, Josh, Jessie, Robert

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING:

Joyce Beatty, 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
August 5
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



Woodlawn Kids will be collecting monetary donations to donate to Lowell Elementary and Holbrook Middle School. Please contact our church office to make a monetary donation or donate online on our website by designating School Supplies Giveaway fund. If you know someone who has a need for school supplies, please have them contact our church office. (While supplies last.)

Please pray for all the children, teachers, and parents as they begin the new school year in August.



**Woodlawn Kids (Birth-5th)
Celebration Lunch
Sun. 8/2 @12pm in Gym
All Children, Volunteers, and
their Families Welcome**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug. 1-15: Woodlawn Kids School
Supplies Donation Drive
Wed. Aug 2, 7pm: Back to School Party
Sun. Aug. 6 Kids Promotion Day And
Luncheon in the Gym
Wed. Aug 10: Game Night, Classrooms



*Please fill
my children's minds
with things that are
true, noble, just, pure,
lovely, and of good report.*

ref. Phil. 4:8

faithgateways



**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

STUDENTS



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Our goal with Woodlawn Students is to equip them to follow Jesus, to be made like him, and to become fishers of men.

GABE VEAZEY, STUDENT MINISTER

ADULTS

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

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

OR

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

MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST

WE WILL TAKE
THE SUMMER OFF
BUT LOOK FOR
OTHER MEN'S
MINISTRY EVENTS
COMING UP.



Young at Heart

We will not
meet through
the summer.

We will
resume in
September



Matthew 5-7

Kingdom Teaching for Kingdom Living



Isabella Anderson

Hensley Evans

Hannah McGirt

LOWELL CRISIS MINISTRY



**FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST
WE WILL BE COLLECTING:
TOMATO SOUP, CEREAL, CANNED MEAT,
BAKED BEANS, MAC&CHEESE, PANCAKE
MIX, SYRUP, BEEF STEW, CANED POTATOES,
RAMEN NOODLES, PAPER TOWELS
INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED OR 2 PACK**

Woodlawn Food Pantry is Reaching Our Community.

Since we first opened our doors and introduced food for our fellow citizens in Lowell our vision was to feed the immediate problem of hunger. Since this time of humble beginnings, and over the following years, we expanded and began the intentionality of introducing the Gospel as a vital means of response to the immediate problem. Without the Gospel there is no real change and no real reason for meeting any need. Without God's truth, reason is not reached in the life of an individual because the immediate reason is based on a temporal outcome without God's love.

As a Gospel centered "Food Pantry" we are reaching our community in ways that are far beyond bodily needs, we are reaching people with God's Word. In other words, we are feeding our community with real food that transforms a person by introducing them to the true God of the Bible, the Creator Himself.

Woodlawn Baptist Church will address and minister to the social issue of hunger by providing nourishing food items to families within our congregation and surrounding community trusting in the Lord to expand our program as the need increases.

Our "Food Pantry" is here to serve those who come to our pantry, with compassion and respect and with a Christ-like servant attitude. We remain open to listening and working diligently to meet the needs of the individuals and families in our community.

As the body of Christ, we encourage all members to help us reach this specific need in our community through giving, prayer, and reaching those in need by letting us know who may benefit from this assistance ministry so that we as a church may proclaim the gospel, feed the hungry, by planting and watering that God may give growth.

"So, neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building. (1 Corinthians 3:7-9)

How Can You Help? ... Volunteer! ... Donate! ... Give!

The "Food Pantry" depends on the help of the congregation and the community to continue this valuable service for those that need assistance. **Please Help!**

To Volunteer - please contact the church office at (704) 824-4261 or text Stephen Abbott (deacon) (704) 813-9460.

To Donate Food - to the "Food Pantry" stop by during church office hours of operation. Particular needs will be listed in the Church bulletin each week. Please check expiration dates of items donated; we only accept items that are not expired.

To Give a Monetary Donation - please stop by during church office hours of operations, give online or send a check to Woodlawn Baptist Church (*Food Pantry in the memo line*). We use your monetary donations to purchase food and for pantry operational costs.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Woodlawn Men's Ministry



The greatest need we have in America today is to reach our men.

There is an obvious need for developing men in their personal commitments to God, their family, and their church. However, studies show that only a small percentage of men will change through sharing and receiving information in a normal church service. Another group of men will never change regardless of what you try to do for them. The majority of men will make needed changes in their lives only after they have experienced intimate relationships with God and other Christian men. These same studies also have shown that the average man in the church has no or few close Christian friends with whom he can relate, share and learn. As the Men's Ministry we must provide the means by which men can learn to be men of God, turn their hearts toward God, their wives and children, their churches, and to the lost (Luke 14:25-35). We have the potential to see the greatest revival the world has ever known. God's Spirit is sweeping across this world, searching for men who are trustworthy to stand in the gap (Ez. 22:30).

Throughout history, revivals have stirred God's people. These revivals were sparked by prayer, repentance, humility, preaching of the Word, holiness, Christian service and saving the lost. These revivals, called awakenings, have brought about great spiritual and sociological change. They were pivotal in setting a direction for culture, law, education, business, ethics, and – above all – personal morality and integrity. The church and devotion to God became paramount in the family, church and community.

We are to strengthen our brothers (Luke 22:31-32) As men of Woodlawn Baptist and fellow believers in the body of Christ we are called to build one another into the men God has called us to be through encouragement, fellowship, and lifting one-another to be strengthened in the faith.

As the world has encroached its liberal view and since the "Second World War" the churches have turned most of their time to women and children and we have lost a generation of men to find themselves alone.

Men's Fellowship must be prioritized by all men in the church - whatever the age, demographic, or life stage - because Men's Fellowship is vital to a man's spiritual health.

Stephen A

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.**



**Sunday,
August 20
11pm**

The
Lord's
Supper

KNOWING GOD BY HIS NAMES

Learning to trust the Father fully

New Wednesday Night
Summer Series beginning June 21

SPECIAL OCCASIONS - AUGUST 2023



Happy



Birthday



2 Mae Demaree
14 Justin Farr
16 Matthew Stewart
22 Josiah Rodgers
27 Holly Bell
28 Dylan Bradbury

3 Knox Sears
15 Lydia Eastburn
19 Jeanne Maricle
24 Debbie Trapp
27 Ryan Botts

5 Crystal Watkins
16 Eli Morehead
20 Silas Clements
25 Sarah Jane Grant
27 Jessica Boone

Happy Anniversary



6 Gary and Becky Ford
7 Brad and Kelly Phillips
14 Mark and Deborah Hall
15 Jack and Yulia Helm
20 George and Louann Gates
25 Jon and Erin Calvert
28 Jonathan and Ashleigh Grant

Bible reading plan

- ❖ 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@woodlawnbaptist-lowell.com

Music and Discipleship Pastor
Justin Morehead
justin@woodlawnbaptist-lowell.com

Student Minister – Gabe Veazey
gabe@woodlawnbaptist-lowell.com

Volunteer Elder – Don Trapp

Volunteer Elder – Chris Norris

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 JUNE 2023**

INCOME YEAR TO DATE

\$213,789.92

OFFERING JUNE 2023

\$33,619.12

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

SUNDAY SCHOOL

JUNE 2022- 108

JUNE 2023 - 113

WORSHIP

JUNE 2022- 155

JUNE 2023 - 172

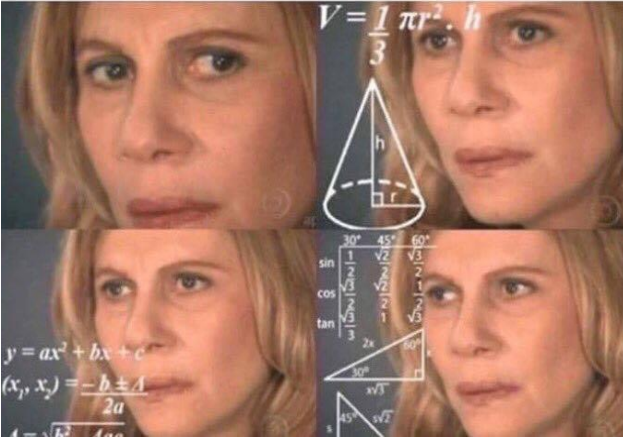
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

**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



10 Not-so-stupid questions to ask about missions.

If you are thinking about missions, you probably have the answers to the big questions. But what about the usual day-to-day questions that seem silly and trivial? As the saying goes there are no stupid questions just stupid answers

Can I be a missionary if I am an introvert?

Some of the best missionaries are introverts. According

to Romans 12:6-8 and 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, God gifts each believer differently, but all are equipped to serve Him to be a light to the world. A humble introvert in many cases can be a more effective witness than an overbearing extrovert. God uses all kinds of personality types on the mission field. The big question is how is God gifting you to serve where you are currently? If you are not using your gifts to serve now you will not use them in missionary work.

How poor will I have to be to be a missionary?

There are multiple answers to this question. You do not have to take a vow of poverty to become a missionary. At the same time, becoming a missionary can also mean giving up the American dream. If the emphasis of the question is on the word "poor," then honestly, I would rethink how I look at finances from a biblical perspective before venturing out to become a missionary. Missions work requires financing. Missionaries are financed in a variety of ways. It is very rare but some missionaries are self-funded. Some take paying jobs overseas and become a light to their coworkers. The vast majority of missionaries have to raise funds. They ask for financial support from churches, individuals, and even businesses. The Pate family (our missionaries to Brazil) and Wade Lawing (our local missionary with FCA) fund themselves by this method, and so did my family who were missionaries to Scotland. There are many difficulties with this method. The biggest difficulty is that it is very hard to raise funds when on the mission field. As such they have to return home from time to time to raise additional funds. Southern Baptist missionaries are very fortunate because they are usually fully funded by the IMB. Fundraising is usually not a favorite job of missionaries. Secretly, most hate to have to constantly ask for money. Another question is what should be your salary? The pay of an average worker is a general rule of thumb that is used to calculate salary. There is a lot to take into account wisely. It is not only just the cost of living that needs to be considered but also unexpected costs like family emergencies or medical care that might require a trip back home. Other expenses include currency exchange rates, as well as taxes that may apply to both your host country and your passport country. You also have to consider how much of your income will be used towards financing your ministry until it can be self-funding. Some missionaries keep these separate and others do not. On one of our trips to Belize, I met a missionary in Independence that had one of the nicest, richest houses in the area. After talking to him, I realized he was more of a tour guide than a missionary. Locals did point to the extravagance of this so-called American missionary.

Pates in Brazil

Missionaries are like us and need downtime to enjoy time with their families. Continue to pray for the Pates



Wade Lawing Local Missionary with FCA

This month we had the opportunity to host 40 coaches and their spouses at CTO. CTO stands for Coaches Time Out. If a time out can change the outcome of a game, think about what that can do for a marriage. Stop, Reload, Refocus on the game plan.



Micah Mueller German Intern

Please give a warm Woodlawn welcome to one of our German interns. His name is Micah and he has come to further his studies at RTS in Charlotte. He will be staying with George and Louann Gates as he gets adjusted.



Missions Geography 101 / Azerbaijan People

Groups/Unreached: 41 / 26 Capital: Baku
Distance from Lowell: 8099 miles Primary
Religion: Islam Population: 10,330,000,
9,972,000 Christian Adherents: 2.53% Scripture:
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 ,
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
AUGUST
STEVE ABBOTT AND TOM BOTTS**