

WBC NEWSLETTER

February 2023



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

A WORD FROM OUR ELDERS

Are you too rich to get into heaven? And before you answer, I would like to present you with a statistic and a verse. First, a stat I recently heard: 1/5 of the world's population is in extreme poverty and none of them live in the U.S. Secondly, Jesus words in Luke 6:20: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God."

We read that verse and we are quick to point out that he is referencing the same teaching Matthew talks about in the Sermon on the Mount when he says, "poor in spirit." And we say he is not really talking about the poor. Instead of basing our conclusions on Matthew I think we should base them upon Luke's own retelling of Jesus' life. For Luke wants us to genuinely focus on what it means to be poor.

Luke 24 tells us that all of the Old Testament spoke about Jesus, so what does the Old Testament teach us about the poor as Jesus addresses them. I think Tim Keller summarizes the Old Testament understanding of the poor well: "You have little or nothing of what the world values." No skills, no abilities, no winning personalities, and no money. We get a glimpse of this in Proverbs 14:20 and 19:4, 7. In these verses we see that the poor are people who have nothing to offer the world so the world abandons them. Even the family and friend (singular) of the truly poor abandons them. Then Proverbs 13:23 says that when the poor are able to cobble together a meager profit, even that will be taken away through injustice because the poor can't stick up for themselves. And lest we draw any errant conclusions, four verses later after Luke tells us the poor are to be blessed, he further clarifies what he means by offering a contrast: "Woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation" (Luke 6:24).

As we read through this hopefully we become more aware of the poor. Our response however must go beyond making a commitment to give to the need or pledge to support a child in a third world country, for these efforts would miss what Luke 6:20 is telling us. For in Luke 6:20 Jesus is teaching the gospel. The gospel is for all those who recognize they have nothing to offer and never will, there is nothing they can give God in exchange for salvation. And not only does God take away their shame He gives them the entire Kingdom. To be poor, as Luke is describing, is to live in the knowledge that we have nothing to offer and it is only by the grace of God that our circumstances have changed. The person who perpetually lives in this knowledge is the person who is a Kingdom woman or a Kingdom man.

Pastor Mitch

WBC PRAYER FOCUS

WBC PRAYER MINISTRY:

“Prayer Matters”

*“You will seek Me and find Me when
you seek Me with all your heart.”*

Jeremiah 29:13

It is reassuring to see the clarity of God’s Word in the above scripture. Directions are simple – *seek Me, find Me*. However, the implied condition can be quickly overlooked in the excitement that we have found a promise that states we will find our Amazing GOD! Often, we move right on in our reading of the passage and miss the *“with all your heart”* statement.

That’s what He wants – our hearts. And, as believers, that is the desire each of us struggle to maintain in ourselves . . . living out wholeheartedly our commitment to God’s ways and purposes. We attempt to surrender daily ourself as we deliberately spend with Him, yet things creep in that misalign our attitudes or priorities with those of His heart. He doesn’t look for perfection, He chose to make us human – thus, in need of Him. He is quick to help us through our seeking repentance or His help in our areas of need. God sent His Precious Son, Jesus Christ for us.

As you seek God, remember this – HE wants to be found by each of us! A catholic priest from the 1500s, John of the Cross, stated “If you are seeking after God, you may be sure of this: God is seeking you much more. He is the Lover, and you are His beloved. He has promised Himself to you.”

So, please enjoy His invitation to come and His availability! Continue seeking to read His Word daily and praying to Him daily. Those two activities are spoken of by numerous Christian leaders as the key to being in God’s Presence – to finding Him. And, in HIS Presence, we will find what we need through HIS grace, love and faithfulness. Jesus Christ came for our hearts!

“. . . in HIM all things hold together.”

Colossians 1:17

PRAYERS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY



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

Sunset Forest – Gastonia Pastor: Jeff Hicks
Sunset Lane -- Bessemer City Pastor: Dick Hannah\ Sunnyside -- Bessemer City Pastor: David Mauldin
Taylor Memorial – Gastonia Pastor: Gene Alley
The Pointe – Belmont Pastor: Ray Hardee

*"Restore us again, O God our Savior ...
Will You not revive us again. . .
"Psalm 85:4-6*

STRENGTHENING & BUILDING OUR
Community
THROUGH THE POWER OF PRAYER

Community Prayer
Gathering
First Saturday of Each Month
February 4
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

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:

Family of Shirley Sutton, Family of
Mable Buchanan, Family of Patsy
Waugh, Joyce Beatty, Michael and
Dianah Minges, Terry Collins' daughter
Marsha



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

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

♥ **HAPPY**
Valentine's
DAY ♥

we ♥
Volunteers

*If you have a heart
to serve as part of our
Woodlawn Kids Ministry Team
(Elementary or Preschool),
we would love to serve with you!*

*If interested, please contact Crystal
Watkins in the church office or see Ray
Gilbert, Melissa Botts, or Lydia Black.*

*Volunteers must be church members
and pass a background check.*



*Serve One Another
in Love*

UPCOMING EVENTS

***K-5th Valentine's Day Celebration**
Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 7pm in kids classrooms

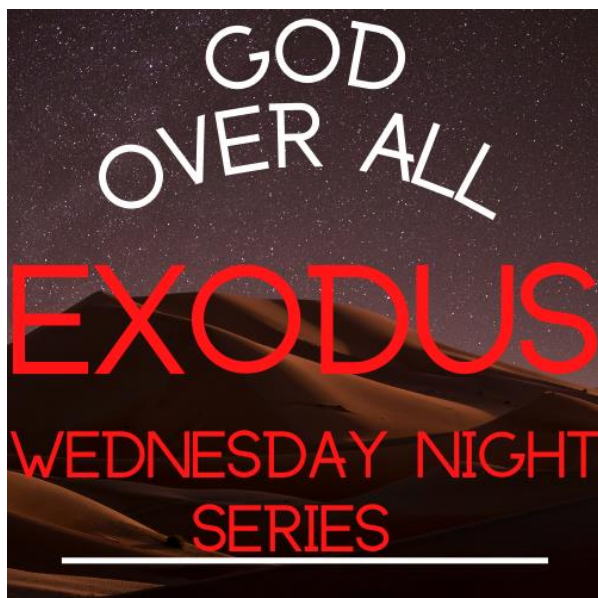
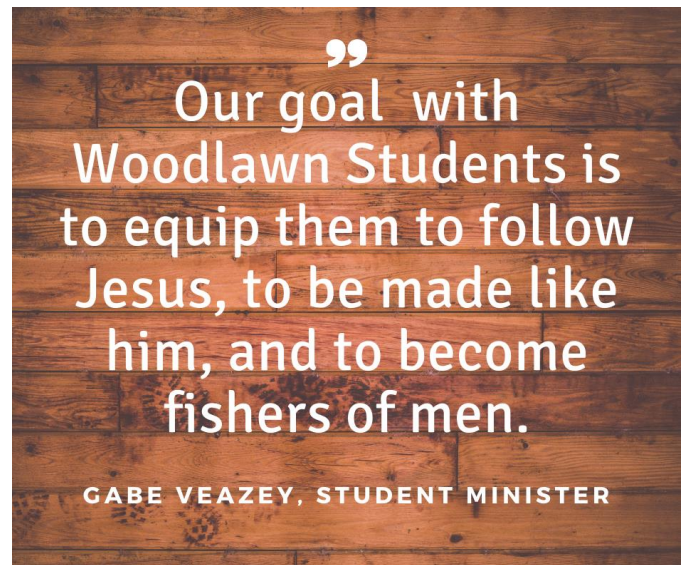
***Kids Ministry Vision Luncheon** for all Parents,
Volunteers, and Interested Volunteers
Sunday, Feb 26 at 12:15 in the gym



Weekly Ministries

Sundays 9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Kids Worship (K-3rd),
Preschool Worship
Wednesdays 7:00pm KidsROC
(Kids Rely on Christ),
Preschool Kids Club

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

FEBRUARY 2, 6:30AM
1ST THURSDAY EACH MONTH
MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM
SHORT STUDY/DEVOTION
CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE
FOR MORE INFORMATION
OR VISIT THE WEBSITE

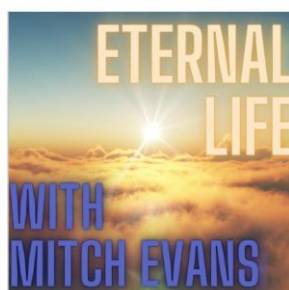
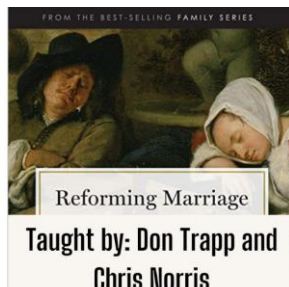


Get connected with the
Woodlawn community in

Sunday School

Sundays at 9:45am

If you have questions, see
Justin or call the church office



February 12, 5pm
**MEMBERS
CLASS**
FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR CHURCH

Multi-Purpose Room
For current members or those
considering joining
RSVP to Justin or call the
church office

MEN'S MINISTRY

MEN'S MINISTRY

"Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another."

Proverbs 27:17 (ESV)

PURPOSE & MISSION

The Men's Ministry is committed to honoring Jesus Christ through prayer, Scripture, and fellowship. This ministry desires to lead men into a deeper relationship with Christ and fellowship of other believers by building relationships within the church, throughout our community, and beyond, making disciples who make disciples. Through building significant relationships with other Christian men, this ministry hopes to develop in one another the servant attitude modeled by Jesus.

We are making opportunities for men to participate with other men in biblical studies, helping widows and orphans, and quarterly outings (golf, fishing, hiking, sports...). Also, every 1st Thursday of the month at 6:30am we have a breakfast here at Woodlawn. We have a home cooked meal, fellowship, a short Bible study, and prayer. This time gives men the opportunity for fellowship while growing together in the Lord. Please join us as we develop relationships and help one another sharpen our walk with Christ.

This year will be filled with opportunities to be involved in each other's lives and develop the fellowship and unity that is so commonly described in Scripture. Please join us and experience the biblical model of uniting with other men in fellowship for the growth of the body of Christ. As we gather in unity, we can expect to see ourselves grow as Ephesians 5 husbands, Biblical fathers, and spiritual leaders in our church and communities.

"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." Acts 2:42 (ESV)

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?



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

**PEANUT BUTTER, JELLY, MIXED
FRUIT, PEAS, CARROTS, CORN,
CANNED POTATOES,**

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.**

2023 AND BEYOND:

**CASTING
A VISION
FOR
WOODLAWN**

TWO PART SERIES 2/5 & 2/12

SPECIAL OCCASIONS - FEBRUARY 2023



1 Landon Hammons
2 Larry Simonds
6 Jordan Crawl
7 Judah Demaree
12 April Bowden
14 Jeremy Eastburn
21 Evie Grant
24 Eddie Calvert
26 Rick Fowler
26 Russ Sprinkles
28 Mandy Whitaker

2 Elizabeth Clements
5 Justin Morehead
7 Lydia Black
11 Brian Jones
13 Chris Crawl
19 Elias Veazey
21 Emily Swindell
24 Sheila Langley
26 Lauren Gunter
26 Michael Watkins

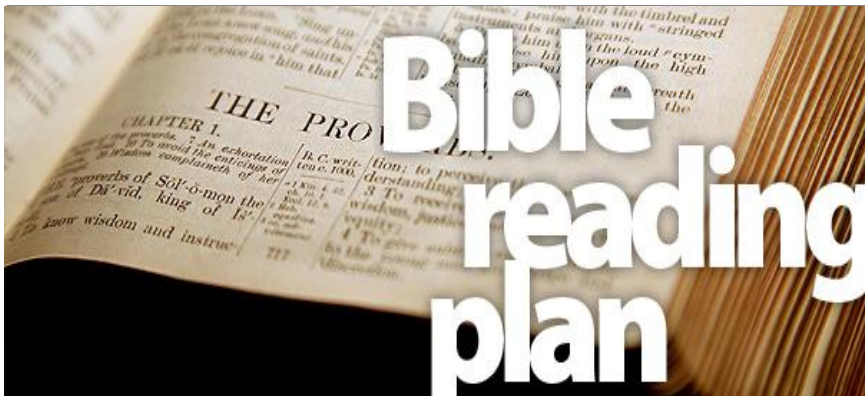
Happy Anniversary

14

Jim and Jeanne Maricle

14

James and Jessica Sears



- ❖ 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 DECEMBER 2022

INCOME YEAR TO DATE

\$439,825.13

OFFERING DECEMBER 2022

\$44,300.89

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

SUNDAY SCHOOL

DECEMBER 2021- 116

DECEMBER 2022 - 105

WORSHIP

DECEMBER 2021- 153

DECEMBER 2022 - 144

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)

You are probably not familiar with this term and are wondering what a third culture kid is? It is a term that has become popular in the last 30 years or so to help understand missionary kids. The term “third culture kid” was first used by Ruth Hill Useem during her anthropological study of expatriates in India in the 1960's. It was further defined by American sociologist David Pollock.

“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.”

Another term that is used to describe TCKs are “global nomads”. It is used to describe children of international families including government, business, military, missionaries and children of cross-cultural marriages.

Most people are born and raised in one country so they have had a very different experience from TCKs. TCKs are born in one country and then raised in one or more countries. The sense of most people's identity, nationality and belonging is not the same as a TCK. A TCKs life is very different than if they would have been raised in their own parent's “home” country. Not worse, just different. It also affects them as they mature. Research in 1996 that tracked TCKs for 20 years shows that 82% of TCKs still have international aspects to their lives and 42% live in countries other than their passport country.

TCKs are social chameleons in that they can blend in anywhere in a short amount of time. Adults take a long time to learn languages and customs but TCKs do it with ease as it is built into them.

A couple of biblical examples of TCKs include Joseph who was born in Canaan but spent time growing up in Egypt. Another example is Daniel who was from Jerusalem but grew up in Babylon.

In our next article about TCKs we will look at some of the characteristics of a TCK.



Pates in Brazil

As part of a 3-part series, Brian has written a great article on church strengthening as it pertains to missions. Read it here:

<https://tinyurl.com/5cjp5ues>



Germany Trainee Program

We have received an update from the trainees. You can read their comments on our website under the missions ministry page. Continue to pray for our friends in Germany.

<https://tinyurl.com/4zysjfc2>



Missions Geography 101 / Armenia

People Groups/Unreached: 18 / 3

Capital: Yerevan

Distance from Lowell: 6181 miles

Language: Armenian

Primary Religion: Christianity

Population

(Armenia/Unreached): 2,740,000 / 49,000

Christian Adherents: 92.46%

Scripture: Complete Bible

**2022-2023 Deacon Family and
Ministry Assignment**

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

**Sean Moore – Ane – Bk
Music, Recreation**

**Eric Gunter – Bl-Cars
Sunday School, Student Ministry**

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

**Stephen Abbott – F-Gil
Men's Ministry**

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

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

**Glenn Flowe Jr. – M-N
Fellowship, Decorations**

**Buddy Herndon – O-Ra
Building and Grounds**

**Max Collins – Rb-Sa
Food Pantry, Women's Ministry**

**Buddy Barnhill – Sb-Ste
Greeters, Bus, Security**

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

**YOUR DEACON ON DUTY FOR
FEBRUARY
TOM BOTTS AND STEVE ABBOTT**