

# WBC NEWSLETTER

March 2024



**WOODLAWN BAPTIST CHURCH EXISTS TO  
GLORIFY GOD THROUGH THE ADVANCEMENT OF  
HIS KINGDOM BY TRUSTING IN THE POWER OF  
GOD IN THE GOSPEL TO SAVE SOULS AND  
TRANSFORM LIVES.**

# A WORD FROM OUR ELDERS

## Resurrection Hope for Today

*1 Corinthians 15:58*

*[58] Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. (ESV)*

'Tis the season of resurrection hope and new life in Christ. I love the metaphorical observations that can be made in connecting the spring season with the Christian hope in the resurrection. Dead, brown lawns are beginning to sprout patches of fresh, green grass. Dormant bulbs buried beneath our hardened flower beds are sprouting forth new life with the expectation of beautiful blooms for weeks and months to come. Bluebirds and finches are chirping and swirling, looking for homes and building nests for laying eggs and hatching baby birds. Kids who have hidden indoors all winter are spilling out into backyards and fields to play the world's best game, the recreational hope of summertime, baseball. Life is all around!

When Christians think about their hope in the resurrection, they usually think about the hope of heaven and eternal life. This certainly is our ultimate hope! But does our resurrection hope impact our lives today? Like, right now? 1 Corinthians 15 is a chapter all about resurrection hope. In this chapter, Paul lists the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ among the truths of "first importance" in essential Christian doctrine (15:3-8). He also explains that if we believe Jesus was raised, we should also believe that ourselves and others can be raised (15:12). Then he concludes that without the truth of the resurrection of the dead Christians should be pitied for the way they choose to live their lives (15:19). Throughout the chapter he goes on to describe what bodily resurrection looks like for a believer, and that Christians should anticipate imperishable immortality (15:52-53)! Because of this hope, Paul says that the sting of death is gone. For Christians, because of their faith in Christ and his resurrection, all that death will bring is eternal victory (15:55). The last verse of the chapter is a concluding statement of application based on the Christian belief in the resurrection: "Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain" (15:58).

Isn't it interesting that the concluding application isn't about heaven? It is about our life here and now on earth! Why is that? Paul concludes that since we believe in the resurrection, we should be steadfast, immovable, and always abounding in the work of the Lord. Why?

Christians, our hope is not in this life. If this life is all that there is, we should scratch and claw to make it comfortable, enjoyable, easy, and breezy! But a life of faithfulness isn't an easy life. In the sermon on the mount, we are told that we are blessed when we are mourning and persecuted for the sake of our faith, among other things (Matt. 5:1-12). We are told to love our enemies and pray for those who do us wrong (Matt. 5:44). We are told to walk the hard path through the narrow gate of faithfulness and obedience to Christ (Matt. 7:13-14). This is why Paul concludes that without the hope of the resurrection the Christian life is most to be pitied.

John 12:24 teaches that a grain of wheat must fall to the earth and die before it can bring forth new, fruit-bearing life. This principle is also true of the Christian life. As we die to ourselves, our preferences, and our selfishness, we have the hope of eternal life. Not because our resurrection philosophy has become more refined and articulate, but because of our faith in the bodily resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

I pray that this spring's celebration of the resurrection will produce in you hope for *today*. That you would be steadfast, immovable, and always abounding in the work of the Lord (15:58).

Winter's over, start living!

# WBC PRAYER FOCUS

WBC PRAYER MINISTRY:

*"Prayer Matters"*



## Women's Ministry Prayer Service

March 12, 6pm - Sanctuary

WE ENCOURAGE ALL LADIES TO COME  
FOR ORGANIZED, GUIDED PRAYER AS WE  
INTERCEDE FOR OUR CHURCH NEEDS.

Join us for this important and  
intentional time of prayer for the  
needs of our church and church  
families.

# PRAYERS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH



## PRAYERS FOR SALVATION:

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

## PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING:

Ray Gilbert, Sheila Langley,  
Gary Huffstetler, Don Trapp,  
Joyce Beatty, Robert Willard,  
Terry Collins' daughter Marsha,

## INTERCESSORY PRAYER

STRENGTHENING & BUILDING OUR  
*Community*  
THROUGH THE POWER OF PRAYER

Community Prayer  
Gathering  
First Saturday of Each Month  
March 2  
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](http://wbclowell.com/connect/prayer)



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



## WOODLAWN LUNCH & EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 23  
11:00 am



### Woodlawn Kids Weekly Ministries

*Sundays*

9:45am Sunday School

11:00am Kids Worship (K-3)

*Wednesdays*

7:00pm KidsROC

(Kids Rely on Christ)



### Christian Summer Camps

When: Tues-Thurs June 18,19,20

Choose an Arts Camp from 9am-11am or

Choose a Sports Camp from 6pm-8pm

For: Completed Grades K-5<sup>th</sup>

Cost: \$30 per camp

More details to come!



GOD'S ROCK-SOLID TRUTH IN A  
WORLD OF SHIFTING SANDS  
ROMANS 10:2

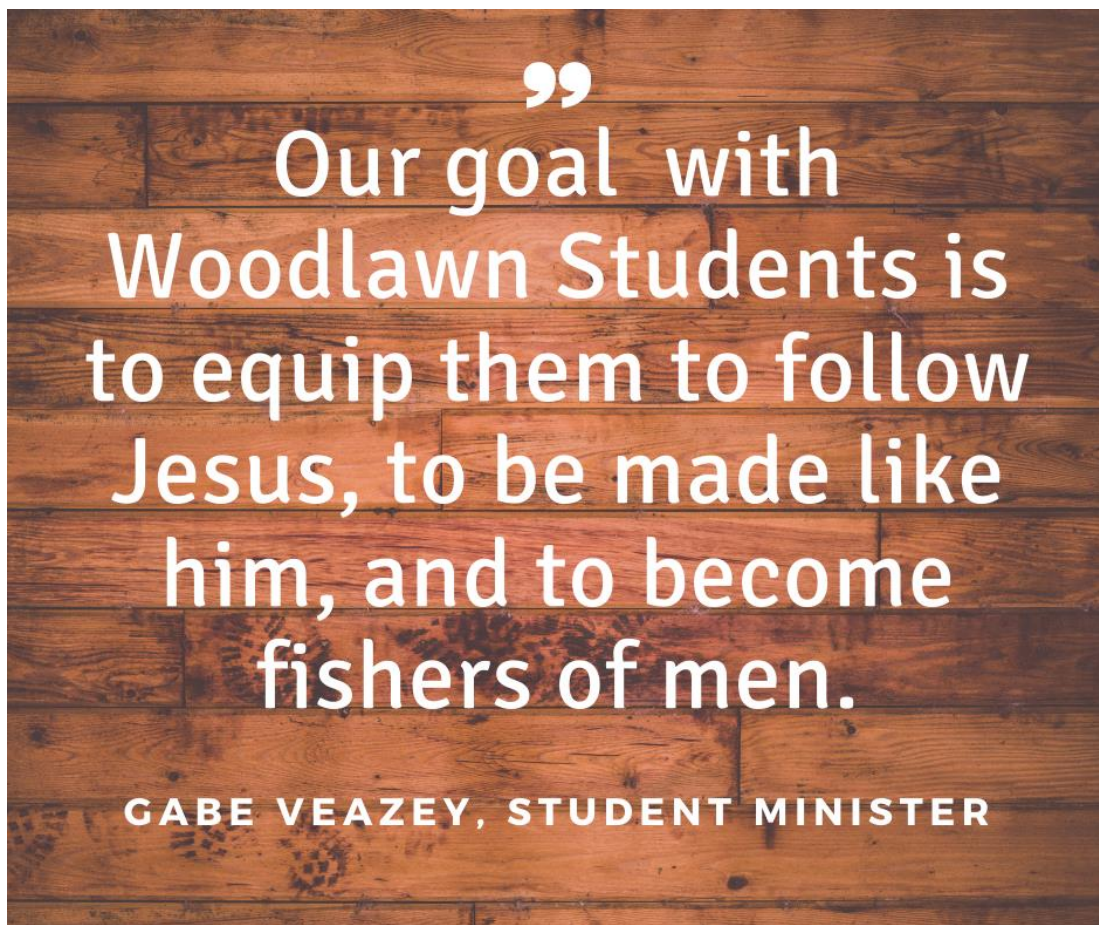
**VBS 2024**

**Saturday, July 13**

**10 am - 2 pm**

For kids who completed K-5<sup>th</sup>

# STUDENTS





# ADULTS

Come join us as we  
celebrate our risen Savior!

## CHURCH-WIDE LUNCH & EGG HUNT

babies-5th  
SATURDAY, 3/23

11am

Meet in the gym for  
fellowship, a meal,  
and a short gospel  
presentation!



EVERYONE  
WELCOME

**BEYOND**  
THE BASICS

March 10,24



Mar. 17, immediately  
following service

### Community Sports and Arts Summer Camps

If you are interested in  
volunteering for these  
exciting camps, please  
attend this interest meeting.



### THE STORY OF Christianity

HOW WE GOT FROM ACTS TO WOODLAWN

with Mitch Evans & Eric Gunter



WHEN  
I AM  
AFRAID

REGAINING HOPE THROUGH  
GOD'S PEACE AND REST

with Chris Norris



Age 50 and older  
*Young  
at Heart*  
SENIOR MINISTRY

Multi-Purpose Room  
Tuesday March 5, 6pm  
Bring a covered dish and a dollar for  
the kitty

MEN'S BREAKFAST  
1ST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH  
MARCH 7, 6:30AM

SHORT STUDY/DEVOTION  
CALL THE CHURCH  
OFFICE  
FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
OR VISIT THE WEBSITE



**1 JOHN**  
Assurance for the  
Christian Life

with Justin Morehead



# LOWELL CRISIS MINISTRY



**FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH  
WE WILL BE COLLECTING:  
BOXED LIQUID MILK, INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED  
TOILET PAPER AND PAPER TOWELS  
THE FOOD PANTRY IS NOW OPEN ON  
WEDNESDAYS FROM 9AM-NOON**

## **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 Tom Robb (deacon) (330) 412-9699.

**To Donate Food** - to the "Food Pantry" stop by on Wednesdays from 9am-noon or 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



### Friendships

One of the things I find interesting and yet also dispiriting is the fact that most men have many acquaintances but very few if any real friends. Their conversations are superficial, brief, and without real meaning. For the most part men are spiritually fed, but relationally bankrupt. This is regretful and can be counter-intuitive by not serving a useful function within the body as few men have close friendships in the church.

One thing that is expressed over and over again through survey's, mens questionnaires, and groups dealing with men's fellowship is that the greatest need of men today is close friendships among men. This need for close, trusted relationships with other men proves to be a compelling need amongst most men, regardless of race or culture. Men are looking for brothers in the spiritual sense that will become real, true and long time best friend relationships.

In spite of what is believed about men, there is a great need among brothers who will come alongside to encourage, exhort, and love them. By this each one through this Godly, Biblical relationship will see hope in their own lives and the innate need to turn to that relationship for help in times of difficulty. This is what Jesus meant when he spoke these words: "34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." **(John 13:34-35)**

Encouragement, exhortation, and love kindle hope. Mature men labor together in God's kingdom by taking this hope to his family, his friends, and this world.

Men struggle with this role in leadership despite the clear mandate to "love one another," most men have a difficult time having genuine relationships in the church. And yet when quizzed many would say that they would love to have friends with whom they can count - brothers that truly matter! A response by Pat Morley, in his book "Man in the Mirror, is helpful and offers a list of questions that are practical and timely in our quest for the definition of a quality man-to-man relationship.

1. When things go badly, to whom do you talk?
2. With whom can you be totally honest?
3. Who will listen to you?
4. From whom would you take advice?

5. When you fail, who will stand by you?
6. With whom do you face life's struggles?
7. Who is your confidant?
8. Who holds you accountable?

If men are to become successful in ministry they must develop a system that will guide them in making lasting and significant friendships. Without this men are fated to continue feeling lonely, isolated and without hope. If we are to build a biblical ministry to men we must focus our time in relationships that matter and not just the program and their ministry involvement.

**(Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)**

A Biblical "Men's Ministry" is developed by God's Word, lived through the Word of God, and cultivated within the people of God.

Stephen Abbott

# EASTER AT WOODLAWN

EASTER  
AT WOODLAWN



***Saturday, 3/23 @ 11am : Church-wide Lunch & Egg Hunt***  
***Palm Sunday, 3/24 @ 11am : Worship Service & Lord's Supper***  
***3/24 @ 6:30pm : WBC Music Ministry Spring Concert***  
***Friday, 3/29 @ 6:30pm : Good Friday Service***  
***Easter Sunday, 3/31 @ 11am : Worship Service***



# 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](mailto: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](http://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,  
March 24  
11am**

The  
*Lord's*  
Supper



**Adam, Beth, Caleb,  
Gracie, Olivia and Jonah  
Brennan**

# SPECIAL OCCASIONS - MARCH 2024

1 Isabella Anderson

1 Jacob Gates

2 Larry Maddox

6 Linda Cannon

8 David Bradley

10 Sadie Bell

12 Stephen Abbott

12 Joanie McCombs

13 Lynn Lawing

14 Ethan Demaree

15 Nathan Bell

15 Rick Boone

HAPPY  
*Birthday*

16 Owen Rollins

17 Holden Gunter

18 Gavin Felan

19 Isabella Gunter

19 Judah Rodgers

23 Ross Bradley

24 Gary Ford

24 Susan Stewart

28 Shannon Bradley

29 Buddy Herndon

30 Mae Carter

30 George Gates

10 Ray and Veronica Gilbert

12 Scott and Joanie McCombs

18 Bob and Joy Wolfe

27 Eric and Carrie Howard

Happy  
Anniversary

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@wbclowell.com

Music and Discipleship Pastor  
Justin Morehead  
justin@wbclowell.com

Student Minister – Gabe Veazey  
gabe@wbclowell.com

Volunteer Elder – Chris Norris

Volunteer Elder – Don Trapp

Ministry Assistant: Crystal Watkins  
admin@wbclowell.com

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

## **CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

**MONDAY  
THRU  
THURSDAY  
8AM – 4PM**

## **FINANCIAL DIGEST** **AS OF JANUARY 2024**

### **INCOME YEAR TO DATE**

**\$29,315.00**

### **OFFERING JANUARY 2024**

**\$29,315.00**

### **AVERAGE ATTENDANCE**

#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

JANUARY 2023-92

JANUARY 2024 - 115

#### **WORSHIP**

JANUARY 2023 - 156

JANUARY 2024 - 171

**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



## Factors to consider for Missionary Homes Part Two

Just like everyone else, missionaries must think about where they will live, one such factor is access.

Missionaries don't want to necessarily be too far away or too isolated from

the people groups they are trying to reach or work with. When you move to a new area culture shock will kick in quickly. At times you may want to just hide, but being among your people group presents many gospel opportunities. It also helps to overcome the culture shock a little more quickly. In our first two mission terms, we lived and worked in a little town called Hawick. Hawick had 16,000 people. We worked mostly with children and the poorer side of town. I went to school with most of the kids. The church was only about 1.5 miles from the house so it was easy to get to. In our last term, we lived in a town called Bishopbriggs, which is a little bigger than Belmont. It is a suburb of the city of Glasgow. Glasgow is about the size of Charlotte. My father's mission had changed from church planting to being a fill-in replacement for missionaries who needed to go home, usually for an extended stay of up to a year. His time spent in Hawick gave him the necessary experience for the job. Glasgow is a major centrally located city with good highways to most major towns. My father filled in at several locations such as Bishopbriggs itself, Paisley (20 miles away), and Stirling (40 miles away).

Another factor to consider is hospitality. I could write entire novels on this subject alone. Is the home good for hospitality? Is the house comfortable for locals to visit? Is it in a good neighborhood or a sketchy neighborhood? Is the space itself efficient or frustrating for hosting? Is it too fancy or uppity for the locals to visit? Is it in a high-rise apartment? Some people may not visit due to a fear of heights. Growing up I never knew what kind of stranger would be at the house. My parents were constantly inviting people over at least for a cup of coffee. They usually stayed for a meal. How my mother managed to feed so many people with something as simple as a can of beans and a few potatoes I will never know. We would also host church services at our house. The first church services we had in Hawick we hosted at our house for several months. The church building was a small storefront set up as a printer's shop. We converted it to a church but it took time. The Bishopbriggs church rented out a gymnasium for Sunday services. On Wednesdays, we would host church at our house. I especially enjoyed having all the international students there and getting to know them. They were from all over the British Commonwealth nations. I indirectly met my wife through my parents' hospitality. Once they left the mission field they continued to work in our local church. They continued their tradition of hospitality. They invited Melissa's older sister to our house when she came to college. I got to know her and then a year later Melissa followed in her footsteps.



## Pates in Brazil

Please continue to pray for our missionary in Brazil and his family as they bring the gospel to different parts of Brazil.



## German Interns

Please continue to pray for our interns as they study and bring the gospel back to their churches.

## Wade Lawing-Local Missionary with FCA

2600 FCA staff from around the world gathered in Orlando this month. We had the chance to refuel for a new season of ministry, sitting under the teaching of Dr. Tony Evans and Coach Tony Dungy



## Missions Geography 101 / Belize

People Groups/Unreached: 13/1

Capital: Belmopan

Distance from Lowell: 1573 miles

Primary Religion: Christianity 86.4%

Population/Unreached: 387,000/6,600

Evangelical: 23.97% Scripture: Complete Bible



# **2023-2024 Deacon Family and Ministry Assignments**

***VICE CHAIRMAN* - Ross Bradley – A – Bea**  
Bereavement, Fellowship

**Jeremy Eastburn – Beb – Cal**  
Counseling, Benevolence

***CHAIRMAN* - George Gates – Cam - Eva**  
Finance, Missions

**Stephen Abbott – Evb - F**  
Decorations, Men's Ministry

**Tom Robb – G-Ham**  
Women's Ministry, Food Pantry

***SECRETARY* - Tom Botts – Han - J**  
Audio Visual, Website

**Buddy Herndon – K-McG**  
Building and Grounds, Young at Heart

**Tony Watkins – McH - Pat**  
Security, Children, Baptism

**Sean Moore - Pau - Re**  
Recreation

**Gabe Veazey – Rf – Sc**  
Recreation, Students

**Buddy Barnhill – Sd – Sut**  
Prayer, Greeters, Children

**Chris Rodgers – Suu – Z**  
Bus, Building and Grounds

**YOUR DEACONS ON DUTY FOR  
MARCH**

**GEORGE GATES AND JEREMY EASTBURN**