

# WBC NEWSLETTER

November 2023



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

# A WORD FROM OUR ELDERS

## The Formula for Trusting God

Life often feels out of control. Our imaginations about worst case scenarios lead to cycles of paralyzing fear and anxiety. Staying put and hunkering down become the only reasonable approaches to life. Everyone else seems so reckless. Life often feels unfair, too. We have lifelong dreams and desires that have never panned out. We watch as people who don't treat their families well and probably don't even love God seem to have blessing after blessing fall into their lap. Often, the reality of life isn't what we planned for at all. We doubt ourselves and ask questions like "Is there something else I could have done?", or "Did it really have to be this way?"

It isn't uncommon for us to experience life as some mixture of anxious, disappointed, and confusing. The fact that they are common doesn't mean that they are harmless. In fact, quite the opposite. These feelings, when unaddressed, can lead to outbursts of anger, a critical spirit, simmering bitterness, withdrawn resentment, and hopelessness. God wants us to rejoice and be glad (Ps. 118:24)! Throughout Scripture God calls his people to a disposition of gratitude and happiness. God wants us to work and live and thrive and flourish and have relationships and build community together! We can't worship God with our lives the way he instructs us to if we remain hindered by our sinful anxieties, disappointments, and doubts.

So, what is the solution? Should we "man up", "get it together", and magically learn how to "deal"? The answer is no. At this point, as most would agree, we've proven that we can't do it. The solution is to trust God. That answer might seem obvious and simple - easier said than done! Just ask anyone who has struggled with fear and anxiety. Trusting God is less about your ability to *do* something and more about your knowledge *of* something, or someone – God himself. We can't trust what is unfamiliar to us, so for starters we need to familiarize ourselves with God.

Let's think of this approach as a formula for trusting God. This formula for trust is made up of three *absolute* attributes of God and is therefore rooted in our knowledge of him. Here is the formula: Absolutely Sovereign + Absolutely Good + Absolutely Wise = Trustworthy. First, God is absolutely sovereign. He is the King of the universe. The Bible says that God does all that he pleases (Ps. 115:3), controls people's hearts (Prov. 21:1), makes both good and bad situations (Isa. 45:7), and is greater and more powerful than we can imagine (Isa. 40:9-26). Second, God is absolutely good. He is our Father in heaven. He is only light and in him is no darkness at all (1 John 1:5). He provides for us (Matt. 6:25-26) and sent his Son that we would have a life of true abundance (John 10:10). "Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just" (Gen. 18:25)? Lastly, God is absolutely wise. God's way is the best way and the best means for accomplishing his purposes. Scripture refers to him as the "only wise God" (Rom. 16:27). Job says that God is wise in heart and that his plans cannot be thwarted (Job 9:4; 42:2). The Bible even talks about how God intended his plans to seem like foolishness to the world so that those who trust in him would have to rely on him instead of themselves (1 Cor. 1:18-21). That's how wise God is!

If God is truly sovereign, and completely good, and the only wise God, shouldn't we trust him? Not based on our ability to trust, but on the basis of who he is! There is never a time that God isn't in control – and he is your loving Father in heaven who wants to do good in your life. Who else would we want in control? Ourselves (now *that's* something to be afraid of)? And we should never question if there was another way or a better way, God *knows* the best way to accomplish our good and his glory.

This is an invitation to come out of hiding. There is freedom in knowing God. Freedom to trust him and live life to the fullest and for his glory.

Justin

**Proverbs 3:5–8** - [5] Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. [6] In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. [7] Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil. [8] It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones. (ESV)

# WBC PRAYER FOCUS

## WBC PRAYER MINISTRY

### *“Prayer Matters”*

*“... the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.”*

1 John 4:4

Rejoice and give thanks as you read the verse above and review the truths below. Knowing *that same God* is at work today, may we continue boldly to *PRAY and BELIEVE*. May we all pray for opportunities throughout the approaching holiday season to share with others of the amazing wonders of God seen throughout the scriptures, including the heart-transforming Gospel story itself! Some of those wonders are listed below. Please thoughtfully read through the scriptures referenced below and be freshly awed by the power of our Almighty God!

The God who stopped the sun on high (Joshua 10:12-13)  
And sent the manna from the sky, (Exodus 16:4-5)  
Laid flat the walls of Jericho (Joshua 6:20)  
And put to flight old Israel's foe, (Joshua 10:8-10)  
Why can't He answer prayer today (Luke 1:37)  
And drive each stormy cloud away? (Matthew 14:31-32)  
Who turned the water into wine (John 2:3-11)  
And healed the helpless cripple's spine, (Luke 13:11-16)  
Commands the tempest, "Peace, be still" (Mark 4:39)  
And hungry multitudes does fill? (John 6:9-13)  
His power is just the same today – (Hebrews 13:8)  
So why not labor, watch and pray? (Matthew 26:41)  
He conquered in the lions' den (Daniel 6:16-23)  
He brought Lazarus back to life again. (John 11:38-45)  
He heard Elijah's cry for rain (1 Kings 18:42-45)  
And freed the sufferers from pain. (Matthew 8:16-17)  
If He could do these wonders then, (Exodus 14:21-31)  
Let's prove our mighty God again. (Malachi 3:10)  
Why can't God who raised the dead, (1 Kings 17: 17-22)  
Gave little David Goliath's head, (1 Samuel 17:32-51)  
Cast out demons with a word, (Matthew 8:28-32)  
Yet see the fall of one wee bird, (Matthew 10:29)  
Do signs and miracles today (John 14:12)  
In that same good, old-fashioned way? (Acts 5:12-16)  
*HE CAN! He's just the same today,* (Ephesians 3:20)  
If we believe God when we pray. (Matthew 13:58)

Happy Thanksgiving, brothers and sisters in Christ! May you and yours see God's blessings and wonders at work in and through your life with both humble thankfulness and joyful praise to our Savior Lord.

*Shout with joy to God, all the earth! Sing to the glory of His name. . .*

*Say to God, "How awesome are Your deeds. . ."*

Psalm 66:1-3

# PRAYERS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER



## PRAYERS FOR SALVATION:

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

## PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING:

Abbey Veazey, Robert Willard,  
Wade and Courtney Lawing,  
Terry Collins' daughter Marsha,  
Robert Messer



## INTERCESSORY PRAYER

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

Community Prayer  
Gathering  
First Saturday of Each Month  
November 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



HOW CAN WE  
**PRAY**  
FOR YOU?

To initiate a prayer, call the  
church office or visit  
[wbclowell.com/connect/prayer](http://wbclowell.com/connect/prayer)



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



## How to say "Thank You" in other languages:

Language	Thank you	Pronunciation
Chinese, Mandarin	xie xie	syeh-syeh
French	merci	mehr-see
German	danke	dahn-kah
Greek	efharisto	ef-har-rih-stowe
Hebrew	toda	toh-dah
Hindi, Hindustani	sukria	shoo-kree-a
Italian	grazie	gra-see
Japanese	arigato	ahree-gah-tow
Spanish	gracias	gra-see-us
Swahili	asante	ah-sahn-teh



Woodlawn  
Kids  
Weekly  
Ministries

Sundays: 9:45am Sunday School  
11am Kids Worship

Wednesdays: 7pm Preschool  
Kids Club and  
KidsROC (K-5)



## National Shoebox Collection Week: November 13-20

Grab a shoebox, fill it, and return it to church by Nov. 19. For more info about what items to pack, go to:

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/pack-a-shoe-box/>



#ipackedashoebox

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR K-5™

**Sun. Dec. 3, 9:15 am**  
Grab & Go Christmas Breakfast,  
Kids Department in Education Bdg

**Wed. Dec. 6, 6:30 pm**  
Popcorn & Pajama Movie Night,  
K-5 Classrooms

**Wed. Dec. 13, 6:30 pm**  
KidsROC Christmas Dinner, MP Room



# STUDENTS



”  
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

November 9-12

**WSM**

**FALL**

**RETREAT**

**2023**

**Scan to  
register**

Registration closes November 2





# ADULTS



*Women's Ministry*  
*Coffee & Conversation*  
*November 14.*  
*6-8pm*

Floyd and Blackies, Cramerton  
All women are invited to join us for  
coffee and fellowship

Join Us for

**BEYOND**  
THE BASICS

Nov 5, 4pm MP Room




**MEN'S BREAKFAST**  
1<sup>ST</sup> THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH  
**NOVEMBER 2, 6:30AM**  
SHORT STUDY/DEVOTION  
CALL THE CHURCH  
OFFICE  
FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
OR VISIT THE WEBSITE



Age 50 and older  
*Young at Heart*  
SENIOR MINISTRY

Tuesday, Nov. 7, 6pm  
Multi-Purpose Room

Bring a covered dish and a dollar for  
the kitty



**CHRIST'S AUTHORITY, OUR ALLEGIANCE**

**MATTHEW 8-12**



# LOWELL CRISIS MINISTRY



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

**JELLY, CANNED FRUIT, CEREAL,  
PANCAKE MIX, PASTA SAUCE, BAKED  
BEANS, CANNED YAMS, CANNED  
POTATOES, BOXED MILK, BEEF STEW**

## **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 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



Check your Calendars Men don't forget the upcoming events and check the bulletin each week for new fellowship and ministries available to the men of Woodlawn. Men's breakfast will start back in October. The first Thursday of each month at 6:30am we have a breakfast for all men at the church and visitors are welcome. There is always a great time of devotion/study, fellowship, breaking bread, and prayer. Join us once a month for a time to recharge with each of the brothers.

On Saturday November the 4th at 5:00pm, there will be a hot dog social for all the men and kids to give the women a night out/off for shopping for Christmas or anything that gives them a break. Thank you ladies, for all you do at Woodlawn and especially at home with your family. Sorry we will not have child care for this event.

### What a Man Needs

#### Identity

Men need a sense of purpose and significance. It's not a secret that men are identified by their success, what he owns (cars, toys, houses, etc.) and what his social status is (title, job, position, etc.) even what he controls (power, money, people etc.) Most men find their identity or self- worth in his job, so when he loses his job he then feels as though he has also lost his self- worth. God has given each of us a longing to be significant, to feel like a man's life actually matters and yet most men have tendencies of inadequacy and insecurity which has nothing to do with the amount of talent or gifts he possesses. Men therefore need to find their identity, purpose and significance. Men need to learn and realize how to find their identity in Christ. We have all dealt with this in one way or another and the Men's Ministry is a place to begin this journey. We all long for this and no matter what walk you are currently in there is a current purpose for every man in the Church. Whether you have gone through a season in life to be able to help others or going through this season now that we can fellowship with one another. Join us in Scripture, strengthened by grace, and entrusting men with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. (2 Timothy 2:1-7)



# 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

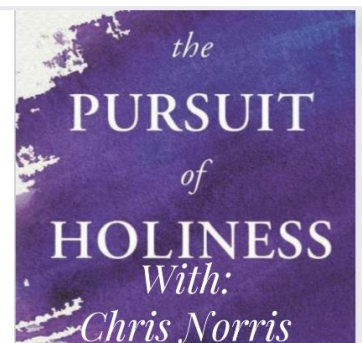
Preschoolers – Preschool  
Department-Ed Bldg.

Children – Children's  
Department-Ed Bldg.

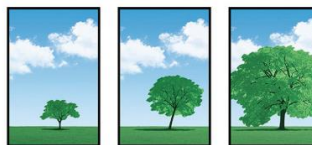
Students  
Student Room-Ed Bldg.

Sunday,  
November 19  
11am

The  
*Lord's*  
Supper



how people change  
with:  
Jeremy Eastburn &  
Justin Morehead



THE BIBLE AS  
HISTORY With:  
Mitch Evans



Each Wednesday Night, 7pm  
Through Nov. 15

# SPECIAL OCCASIONS - NOVEMBER 2023

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

2 Jamie Gunter

8 Theresa Eastburn

13 Jordan Rollins

22 Randi Gates

28 Becky Ford

30 Kelly Phillips

3 Brenda Whitt

8 Randy Philbeck

14 Johnny Rodriguez

23 Logan Bell

30 Max Bowden

7 Joyce Wynn

12 Joe Gates

17 Amber Flowe

25 Jonathan Calvert

30 Maxine Pettit

## Happy Anniversary

5

Evan and Kristin Rankin

## 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 – Chris Norris

Volunteer Elder – Don Trapp

Ministry Assistant: Crystal Watkins  
admin@woodlawnbaptist-lowell.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 SEPTEMBER 2023**

### **INCOME YEAR TO DATE**

**\$333,889.35**

### **OFFERING SEPTEMBER 2023**

**\$33,914.50**

## **AVERAGE ATTENDANCE**

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

SEPTEMBER 2022-85  
SEPTEMBER 2023 - 104

### **WORSHIP**

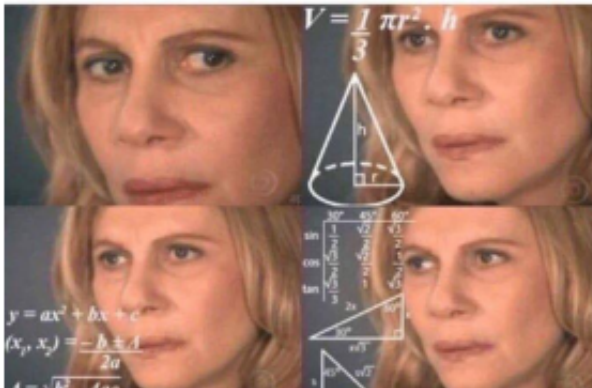
SEPTEMBER 2022- 164  
SEPTEMBER 2023 - 160

**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.

### #9 Can I bring my dog/pet?

This would be another wisdom decision with many factors to take into account. It would depend on your ministry area and how you are serving. Consulting the missionaries in that area would be a good idea. You need to take into account that when you first arrive on the mission field, you will be very busy getting accustomed to your new surroundings. This may place a strain on your ability to care for your pet. Your pet would need to be vaccinated and in general good health. You may also become separated from your pet as it may be quarantined in customs. It can spend up to 28 days in customs entering the US. Different countries will have different laws and timeframes for quarantine.

### #10 Is there a place for “regular” Christians without special training?

A lot of potential missionaries often wonder if they have the right qualifications for missions. The mission field is full of “regular” Christians doing great things for the kingdom. There are stories of missionaries who have just jumped on a plane and set off for the mission field. While that is not advised, in many cases, a little special training significantly contributes to effective ministry.

### Bonus: Can I get my local favorite foods on the mission field?

It depends. Sometimes, the only place to get your favorite comfort food from home is in a specialty store at an inflated price. In Belize, a gallon of Byers chocolate ice cream was \$32. Sometimes you can receive it in a care package assuming that the customs agent is not hungry. As a child, Kool-Aid or Welch's drink mix packages were like gold to us kids. On a return trip to the field, my mother once packed an entire suitcase full of southern grits to give as gifts to our fellow American missionary friends in Scotland.

I hope you have enjoyed this series “Not-So-Stupid Questions to Ask About Missions”. Missionary life can seem complicated sometimes, so just ask your question. It may help clear up your misunderstandings and fears.

## Pates in Brazil

You can read a ministry update written by Brian using this URL:  
<https://shorturl.at/djkD4>.

Continue to pray for our missionaries, the Pates.



## Wade Lawing Local Missionary with FCA

This month we partnered with Walnut Grove Baptist Church for Yellow Jacket Sunday. On Yellow Jacket Sunday a recently graduated player from Bessemer City High School was baptized in front of his coaches and teammates.

## German Interns

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



## Missions Geography 101 / Bangladesh

People Groups/Unreached: 278/298  
Capital: Dhaka  
Distance from Lowell: 8573 miles  
Primary Religion: Islam  
Population/Unreached:  
172,173,000/170,395,000  
Christian Adherents: 0.37%



# **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

**Steve 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  
NOVEMBER  
CHRIS RODGERS AND TONY WATKINS**