

WBC NEWSLETTER

October 2023



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

A WORD FROM OUR ELDERS

If "Unsaved Christian" sounds like a silly phrase or at best a confusing one, then I want to show you its origins in the Bible. The category of "Unsaved Christian" is the target of Paul's address in the opening verses of Romans 10.

Paul's desire and prayer is for "them" to be saved (v. 1). So who is the "them" that needs salvation? Paul goes on to provide a description, which conveys the basis for the category we have been describing as "Unsaved Christian." He says it is a person with "zeal for God" (v. 2), and yet he is praying they will "be saved" (v. 1). They want to be considered a child of God, but they need salvation. In other words, in the southeast in 2023, someone who has zeal for God but is not saved equals an unsaved but self-proclaimed Christian. They believe they will go to heaven one day because they have a good relationship with God. Someone who is zealous for God will tell you they are a Christian, put verses on their Facebook, and have a lot of familiarity with church lingo, like "Jesus died on the cross."

So what is the problem? The main problem is their zeal for God is "not according to knowledge" of the gospel (v. 2). They are "ignorant of the righteousness of God" (v. 3). Rephrase: they are ignorant of what actually makes a person right with God. So we might ask: what makes them feel like they are good with God? They have sought to "establish their own" way of being right with God (v. 3). Usually this is a combination of good works, and the belief that Jesus came so that God would overlook their mistakes - you know, we all make mistakes.

God has provided a way for us to be right with him through Jesus. "For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes" (v. 4) Rephrase: Jesus is the end of someone earning their right standing with God. Jesus has provided the right standing if we will trust in him. So what does Paul cite as the reason they want to rely on their own good works instead of Jesus? "They did not submit to God's righteousness" (v. 3). Rephrase: they are unwilling to *submit* to God's method of being in a right relationship with him. They are absolutely convinced their good behavior is what gives them a right relationship with God. But little do they know the final outcome of that logic is found in Matthew 7:22-23 "'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'"

So if they are ignorant of the truth and foolishly base their right standing on the belief they are "good people" or a willingness "to give the shirt off their back" or a comparison to others "who have done a lot worse," how can they be saved? The key word for Paul is "submit." We all must submit to the way God says we can be right with him (v. 3). Submitting in this way declares: I don't care what it costs me. I will give it all up to be right with God. As Jesus says, "whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it" (Mark 8:35).

As a church our response to this zealous-for-God person who needs salvation - the "Unsaved Christian" - must be to "preach the good news!" (Romans 10:15). Rephrase, invite someone who claims to be a Christian on the basis of their good works to *submit* their life to Jesus.

Pastor Mitch

WBC PRAYER FOCUS

WBC PRAYER MINISTRY:

"Prayer Matters"

"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn.

Isaiah 61:1-2

The job description above written by Isaiah is one which we know only can be fulfilled by our Lord and Savior, Jesus. Yet, does not His very spirit inhabit His children? Jesus did tell us to be His light, to go and tell HIS story – the gospel. As His followers, we desire to be found faithful to that assignment which we know Jesus left to His followers, the Church. God gives us a very simple way to begin in this assignment from Him.

It begins on our knees as we pray for His heart to so impact our heart with His priorities that they become our priorities. We begin when we truly hurt for and with the ones we see who are broken hearted, captive to the lies of both man and hell, and may be living in defeat. The compassion of Jesus is reflected in His mission to seek and to save the lost and in His proclamation of the good news. Please join daily in October praying that His mission and ours are the same. Below is a prayer challenge to consider during October.

Consider setting an alarm on your phone for 10:02 daily to remind you of the Luke 10:2 scripture passage written below. Then, take an intentional moment from your day and pray asking God to raise up laborers for HIS harvest of souls. As you pray, ask God to reveal what *your part* is in answer to that prayer. God is at work changing hearts and it can begin by your prayers. Your simple prayer brings an exciting opportunity to make eternal differences for HIS glory and witness HIS kingdom grow! Perhaps someone you are already praying for God to call into a new or more faithful relationship with Jesus as their Savior and Lord will be one whose life is impacted when a fellow laborer is brought into their path. May God help each of us continue to earnestly pray for God to raise up laborers for HIS harvest of souls through this simple alarm. We may be living for such a time as this!

"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 OCTOBER



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
October 7
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

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



National Shoebox Collection Week is November 14-21

For more info on what items to pack, go to:

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



Woodlawn Kids Weekly Ministries

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



KIDSROC FALL PARTY

WED, OCT 26, 7:00 PM
K-5 CLASSROOMS IN THE
EDUCATION BUILDING

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, October 26, 7:00 pm
KidsROC Fall Party, Classrooms

November 14-21
Operation Christmas Child
National Shoebox Collection Week

Sunday, December 4, 9:15 am
Grab & Go Christmas Breakfast
K-5 Classrooms

Wednesday, December 14, 6:45
Popcorn & Pajama Movie Night
K-5 Classrooms

Wednesday, December 21, 6:30 pm
KidsROC Christmas Dinner
Multipurpose 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 *soup and dessert social*

October 19, MP Room
6-7 Soup and Dessert in MP
Room

7-8 Guest Speaker –
Betsy Forbes
in Sanctuary

**All
women
invited**

Join Us for

BEYOND
THE BASICS

Oct 8 & 22, 4pm MP Room

MEN'S BREAKFAST

1ST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

OCTOBER 5, 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, Oct. 3, 6pm

Multi-Purpose Room

Topic: Scams and Holiday Safety
Bring a covered dish and a dollar for
the kitty

REACHING THE UNSAVED CHRISTIAN

IDENTIFY • INVITE • INVEST • INCREASE

3 WEEK SERMON SERIES
10/1, 10/8, 10/15

MEMBERSHIP — MEETING —

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15
IMMEDIATELY
FOLLOWING 11AM
SERVICE**

**TO ADDRESS AN ISSUE OF MEMBER
ACCOUNTABILITY IN OUR CHURCH**

LOWELL CRISIS MINISTRY



**FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER
WE WILL BE COLLECTING:**
**PANCAKE MIX, SYRUP, STOVE TOP DRESSING,
PASTA SAUCE, CANNED POTATOES, GREEN
BEANS, TOMATO SOUP, CANNED MEATS, BEEF
STEW, RAMEN NOODLES, CREAM OF MUSHROOM
SOUP, PAPER TOWELS— SINGLE ROLLS**

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

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

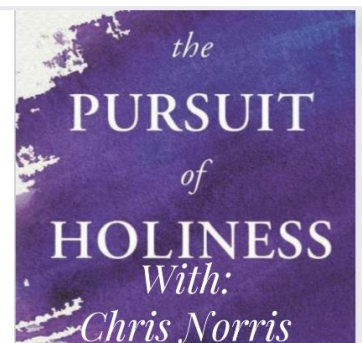
Preschoolers – Preschool
Department-Ed Bldg.

Children – Children's
Department-Ed Bldg.

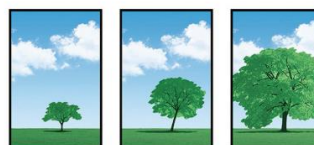
Students
Student Room-Ed Bldg.

Sunday,
October 15
11am

The
Lord's
Supper



how people change
with:
Jeremy Eastburn &
Justin Morehead



THE BIBLE AS
HISTORY With:
Mitch Evans



Each Wednesday Night, 7pm

SPECIAL OCCASIONS - October 2023

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

3 Ann Lowery	4 Joyce Fowler	8 Annabelle Grant
8 Gary Huffstetler	10 Debbie Simpson	12 George McGlaughlin
15 Ray Gilbert	18 Donna Herndon	18 Maisie Rollins
18 Jacob Sears	20 Joy Wolfe	25 Yulia Helm
26 Harper Gunter	29 Kristin Robinson	30 Tom Botts
31 Jordan Anderson	31 Ella Godwin	31 Carolyn McDowell
31 Tina Santiago		

Happy Anniversary

1 Stephen and Ruth Abbott	1 Scott and Nicole Anderson
17 Randy and Tracie Philbeck	18 George and Heather McLaughlin
19 Rick and Sharon Boone	24 Shirley Falls
30 Max and April Bowden	31 Jonathan and Kristin Robinson

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

FINANCIAL DIGEST **AS OF AUGUST 2023**

INCOME YEAR TO DATE

\$256,885.04

OFFERING AUGUST 2023

\$43,089.81

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

SUNDAY SCHOOL

AUGUST 2022-87

AUGUST 2023 - 112

WORSHIP

AUGUST 2022- 166

AUGUST 2023 - 170

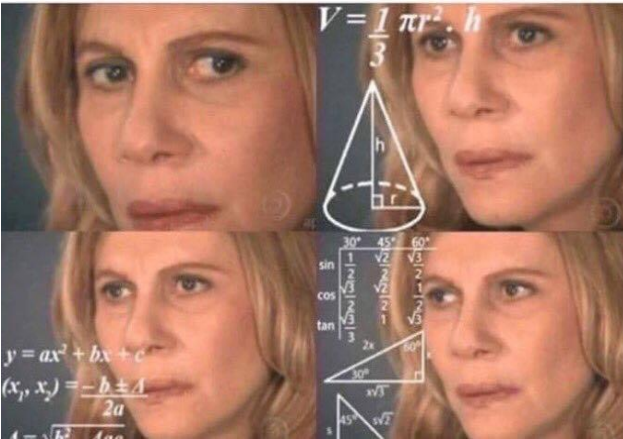
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

**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

#6 How often can I come back home?

This depends on the type of mission work you are involved in. Typically, you can expect a trip home every 2-4 years. There are also some home trips for special circumstances such as medical and family emergencies. Studies and experience show that going home more than once a year harms mission work. Going home often destabilizes the work in the community you may be doing. It also hinders your adjustment to the culture which can take considerable time.

#7 How do missionaries date and find spouses?

By swiping right on the app like everyone else. I am joking of course. During our mission work, there were several single men and women who worked with us. Many of them met and fell in love as missionaries, others met and married local single men and women. Some met and married when they came back home. Just like everyone else's good love story, the circumstances for dating and courtship will be unique for each missionary.

#8 Can I learn the language from an app?

Communication is essential to mission work so most missionaries attend a language school. Many times, it is not easy. Our missionary Brian Pate struggled to learn Portuguese when he went to Brazil even though his wife is fluent in the language. One of the reasons my father chose Scotland over Mexico was so he did not have to learn a new language. Missionaries even hire tutors if they get stuck. Apps are good as a supplement or as a practice to these other efforts. It should not be your primary source for learning the language. The other drawback to just using an app is that it primarily teaches you the formal language. It does not teach you the normal everyday usage or even the local slang. Learning local slang is very important as a single word can have different uses between regions and people groups. One word may mean nothing to one people group but may be used as an insult to another. Building relationships with a local native speaker is the best way to learn any language.

Pates in Brazil

This is the first time that Brian's family has been able to accompany him on an RTIM training trip to Matto Grosso. Continue to pray for our missionaries the Pates.



Wade Lawing Local Missionary with FCA

This young man surrendered his life to Christ after an FCA Huddle (FCA's version of a Bible Study/Devotion) at Bessemer City High School. The passage that God used to grab his attention was **2 Corinthians 5:14-21**



German Interns

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



Missions Geography 101 / Bahrain People

Groups/Unreached: 17/8 Capital: Manama
Distance from Lowell: 7152 miles Primary
Religion: Islam Population/Unreached:
1,462,000/1,134,000 Christian Adherents:
2.27% 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**

**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
OCTOBER
ROSS BRADLEY AND TOM ROBB**