



# THE STEEPLE

## News and Announcements from the Woodburn Baptist Church

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### The Power of a Praying Wife:

#### Special Topic Sunday School Class

The challenges and pressures that couples are facing today can make a fulfilling marriage seem like an impossible dream. Yet God delights in doing the impossible -- if only we will ask! Ladies, if you desire a closer relationship with your husband and a more fulfilling marriage, surely you will find encouragement in this refreshing look at the power of prayer in marriage.



All ladies are invited to this special topic Sunday School class beginning **March 1<sup>st</sup>** in the mobile units across the street and will be led by Tina Harris. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the hallway.



### "Caring for And Reaching Everyone"

Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 4:00 PM in the fellowship hall. Our focus this CARE night will be on telling everyone about our upcoming Easter activities. We will

pass out Easter gifts to our community around the church, send postcards to 1000 homes, write cards, make phone calls, contact those in Sunday School class with us and visit our recent guests. There is something for everyone to do at CARE night. Come and join us. Be thinking about who you can invite to come with you on Easter Sunday.



**On Saturday, March 7**  
**Turn your clocks forward**  
**one hour**

### Leadership Advance

This year's Leadership Advance will be on **Friday, March 20th from 6 to 9 PM**. We are hoping to have this year's Leadership Advance at the Franklin campus. All Sunday School teachers, deacons, church council members and Franklin campus leaders are invited to attend. We will have a dinner to begin the evening followed by a general session and two break-out sessions designed to help you be an effective leader in the ministry in which you serve.

### Ministry Action Plan for the Franklin Campus

By a 90% majority, the congregation voted at a special called business meeting to move forward with the MAP for launching a satellite campus in Franklin. So what's the next step? Same as the first step--prayer. Pray for the deacons as they pursue a lease agreement for the Soul Harbor facility. Pray that all the financial and legal arrangements will fall into place in a timely manner. Most importantly, pray for leaders. God will be calling and bringing forward a campus pastor, a deacon captain, music/worship leaders, a youth leader, a Sunday School Director, an Outreach Director, multimedia technicians--and an army of other workers.

### Upcoming Women's Retreat

Woodburn Baptist Church would like to invite all women of all ages to a Women's Retreat at Barren River Lake **Saturday, May 16, 2009** from 8:30 until 4:30 pm. The theme of our retreat this year is "Let us walk by the Spirit" (Galatians 5:25). Please save the date! Tables will be set up in the lobby the last two Sundays in March and the first Sunday in April to provide additional information about the retreat and the guest speakers. Women will have an opportunity to register for the event at this time as well. Registration will be limited to the first 50 women.

*Woodburn Baptist Church is a family of Christians that loves and welcomes everyone, shares the gospel of Jesus Christ, and serves God through worship, teaching, and everyday acts of service.*

## Sisters and Brothers,

Not one of them applied for the job. They were recruited, some of them called out in the middle of the work day. Among them, there were several sets of brothers, a number of fishermen, a government collections agent, a political rebel.

*The first one to die for the gospel was James. They say he talked about Jesus so boldly—so passionately—that just before James was executed, the officer who guarded him professed Christ and died beside him. They cut off James’s head with a Roman sword. (Acts 12.2)*

The rabbis argued over the age at which a boy should begin studying the Scriptures. Most seem to have started formal learning when they were six years old. The school was the synagogue—the place of worship—and the only subject was the Jewish Bible, the Old Testament. During one of the first lessons, as the rabbi taught the children God’s word, he would take honey and place it on each pupil’s tongue. The taste was meant to remind them that God’s word is sweet, like honey on the tongue, the most pleasing thing imaginable. The boys would start by memorizing the book of Genesis, then Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. *Memorizing.* There were no personal copies of the Bible in those days, of course. To learn it was to take the words in deeply and make them a part of you.

By age ten, the students started to be sorted out. Some rose to the top and would continue learning; they entered the next level of education and would have all 39 books of the Old Testament memorized by the time they turned 13. The rabbis would take these young disciples and stretch their minds with questions, and the disciples would follow the teacher wherever he went, so as not to miss a single word from his mouth. We’re talking about the brightest kids—they were the ones who stayed with the rabbis. The other kids—the C and D students, the slow learners, the average ones—the dropped out to learn a trade. They usually went with the family business. Something like fishing.

*They cut off Matthew’s head with an axe. Thomas was impaled with spears. James (son of Alphaeus) was thrown from the roof of the Temple; then they stoned and clubbed the life out of his body. Simon the Zealot was taken and sawed in half. Nathanael’s death may have been the slowest and the worst: they skinned him alive.*

When Jesus called the Twelve to be his disciples, they were already involved in other occupations and pursuits. They couldn’t make the cut down at the synagogue with the scholars and the scribes. None of them was disciple material, until Jesus chose them. It’s remarkable. He chose the Hebrew-school dropouts, the ones not-good-enough for any other rabbi. He took one look at these rough boys and said, “You’re just what I’m looking for. Follow me.”

*When they were about to put Peter to death on a cross, he protested, saying he was not worthy to die in the same manner as his Lord. So they honored his last wish and crucified him upside down, with his feet pointing to heaven. Philip died in the same way. Andrew was lashed to a cross in the shape of an X. Only John lived to see old age. Miraculously he survived being boiled alive in oil. As the story goes, he dug his own grave. It was in the shape of a cross.*

In his classic book, *The Cost of Discipleship*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer says, “When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die.” There are lessons to learn from those who have followed Jesus before us. The path of Christian discipleship always involves leaving everything for the sake of living the life of Christ, becoming like him, taking up the cross for oneself. The first disciples were never perfect. The New Testament is full of their failures. Discipleship apparently is less about *perfection* and more about *transformation*. In the end,

Jesus transformed these men, and through their brave witness, the world itself was transformed. From now until Easter, we’ll be looking at the Twelve and learning the lessons their lives teach us about living and dying for Jesus. After all, we’re his disciples, too. He calls each of us to follow him. To come and die.

*See you Sunday Tim*

### *Remember Our Shut-Ins*

Dorothy Martin Regis Hopkins Bill Moore  
Tressie Vice Annie Beasley Jerry Grimes

### **February - Homebound Visitation Schedule**

1<sup>st</sup> week - Norma Palacios & Louise Stephens  
2<sup>nd</sup> week - Wilma Guthrie  
3<sup>rd</sup> week - Margaret Ann Adams  
4<sup>th</sup> week - Joy Bush & Nancy Williams

### **Hopkins Nursing Home Ministry**

March 1 10:00 am - Blue Team  
March 15 10:00 am - Red Team  
March 29 10:00 am - Purple Team

## *Worship Schedule*

### **Sunday, March 1 [LENT]** [Series begins: *The 12*]

A.M. Preacher Frank Wright, *The 12: Andrew* (John 1.40-42)  
P.M. Preacher Warren Weeks, *The 12: James* (Mark 3.17; Acts 12.1-2)

### **Sunday, March 8 [LENT]**

A.M. *The 12: Philip* (John 1.43-46; 6.7) musical group *Jubilate*  
P.M. *The 12: Common Men* (Matthew 9.35–10.42)

### **Sunday, March 15 [LENT]**

8:30 A.M. YOUTH D-NOW SERVICE  
A.M. *The 12: Thomas* (John 11.1-16)  
P.M. *The 12: Nathanael* (John 1.43-51)

### **Sunday, March 22 [LENT]**

A.M. *The 12: John* (Mark 9.38-40)  
P.M. CARE NIGHT

### **Sunday, March 29 [LENT]**

A.M. *The 12: Peter* (Luke 22.31-34)  
P.M. FIFTH-SUNDAY SINGING @ WBC

## *Sympathies and Prayers to ....*

- Ron Ford on the death of his father, Henry Ford.
- Rick Strait on the death of his mother Patricia Strait.
- Missy Gaines & family, on the death of her daughter Shea Wells. Shea was a church member, friend and neighbor.
- Vernon & Teresa Long on the death of their daughter Emily Long. Emily was a church member, friend and neighbor.
- Billy Thomas on the death of his wife, Sue Thomas. Sue was a church member and neighbor.
- Freddy Morris on the death of his father, George Morris.

## Mowing Bids

The trustees are taking bids for the mowing of the church property on both sides of Hwy. 240. All bids should be submitted to the church office by Sunday, March 8th.

## The Church Nursery



Tony Kummer wrote an article entitled "7 Reason Why Your Church Nursery Service Is Vital To Your Church" which I shared at our Preschool Worker's meeting in January. I thought it would be a good reminder for all of us of the importance of our church's ministry to preschoolers.

"Too often serving in the church nursery can seem like a thankless job, but it should not be that way. With that in mind, I offer these following 7 reasons why serving in the church nursery is important. **Reason #1** - God is in the church nursery. This may come as a shock, but the Bible has specific promises about God's presence when children are welcomed and loved in Jesus' name. **Reason #2** - Your service in the church nursery allows church goers to focus on worship, rather than worrying about their children. In a very real sense your ministry makes it possible for the pastor to fulfill his ministry. **Reason #3** - The first (and sometimes lasting) feelings a child will have toward church is formed in the nursery. While not everyone agrees, I believe that a positive experience in the church nursery is essential. **Reason #4** - When you serve in the nursery, you are being entrusted with the most important (and vulnerable) members of the church family. There is no greater treasure on this side of heaven than the little ones God has given us. You must be someone special to have a job that is so important. **Reason #5** - Your service is essential for your own spiritual growth. You may have never looked at it this way, but a *growing* Christian is always a *serving* Christian. Jesus was known for putting others first, when you serve in the church nursery you are walking in his example. **Reason #6** - The church nursery is the first contact young families will have with your church. Your friendly greeting and exceptional care for their children can make a great first impression for your church. If they don't feel like their children are safe, they will not return - and rightly so. **Reason #7** - Your service in the church nursery is a powerful opportunity for prayer. If every nursery worker would spend several minutes praying over the children in their care, imagine how God might begin to change this coming generation. There is no better way to create an environment of spiritual nurture than to pray while you serve in the nursery."

There is always a need for more to serve in the nursery as our church continues to grow. If you would be interested in learning more about serving in the nursery or in another area of the preschool ministry, please contact me.

*Serving Together, Warren Weeks*



**Congratulations!** To Neely and Neal Ballance on the birth of their son Winston James Ballance. Winston was born February 10 and weighed 7 lbs. and 6 oz.

## Everlasting God

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord;  
We will wait upon the Lord.  
Our God, You reign forever.  
Our hope, our strong Deliv'rer!  
You are the everlasting God;  
The everlasting God!  
You do not faint;  
You won't grow weary.  
You're the defender of the weak.  
You comfort those in need.  
You lift us up on wings like eagles!

Our new song for worship this month is, *Everlasting God*. This song deals with the divine nature of God and truly leads us to worship. Our worship choir will be introducing the song to you on March 1<sup>st</sup>. I continually look forward to hearing from you regarding the new music that I feel led to introduce to you each month. Always feel free to contact me personally at church, by email, or on facebook!

Feel free to join us throughout this month as we put the finishing touches on our Easter worship service (Palm Sunday Night), and our Maundy Thursday Service, during the following week. Our worship choir meets on Wednesday nights for the hour following our weekly prayer service. Keep us in your prayers as we continue to lead you in worship, each Sunday morning.

Keep our Franklin Campus in your prayers as we search for a music and worship volunteer leader. Pray for God's will and timing as we look to see who will be leading the congregational worship, growth, and spiritual truth in worship.

Praise God from whom ALL blessings flow! *Andrew Causey*



Special thanks to everyone who participated in the ice storm clean up. There were 16 men from our church who helped in Leitchfield and the Hartford communities. Guys from our church also worked to clean up at least 10 yards and homes in the Woodburn area.



## Woodburn Community Blood Drive

*"The Need is Constant"*

The Red Cross was very proud of our church Blood Drive. We had 29 people come out to donate. Thanks to everyone who participated. Matthew Powell was the winner of the gas card give away.



This year our church will have two softball teams a men's team and a co-ed team. The cost will be \$25 per person, due by Sunday, March 29. There are sign-up sheets on the hall bulletin board. If you have questions see Frank Wright.



Everyone is invited to a baby shower for Kelly & Tim Goss, Saturday, March 7 from 2 - 4 in the afternoon. Kelly is expecting a girl and they are registered at Target. Contact Kristy Floyd for more information.

## Preschool Teachers' Meeting Take Two

If you missed the Preschool Workers' Meeting in January, you get a second chance to hear Michelle Stowell share her teacher-tested methods to make your time with young ones the best! She will be sharing great ideas on Bible story time plus she has lots of practical tips for you to use right now in your classroom. If you teach on Sunday Mornings or Wednesday nights ages 2 – kindergarten, please come March 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:30. Please come – you will not regret it and neither will the children you teach!

## Spring Cleaning

Calling all nursery workers and preschool teachers – we will be meeting March 21<sup>st</sup> 10:00 am to clean out, rearrange, and just generally take stock of all the goodies we have in our cabinets and drawers! We are so blessed to have such a nice preschool wing – now we just need to organize and straighten things up a bit. Please join us for some spring cleaning fun (yes, it can be fun!) Plus we'll have donuts! Please sign up to let us know you'll be there.

## Hop to It! Easter Egg Hunt is a'coming!

Mark your calendars – Easter Egg Hunt is April 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. All children birth through 10 years old are invited to come and hunt eggs. Please invite your friends too! We will be accepting candy donations in the bin in the vestibule. And if you would like to volunteer to help, we need people to stuff eggs, folks to help with set up and clean up, and others to help with snacks. If this sounds fun, please contact Allison Mefford or Warren Weeks.

## Welcome New Members...

- **Cody Gilstrap**, joined Feb. 1 by baptism. Cody lives in Bowling Green.
- **Kim Collins**, joined Feb. 1 by transfer of letter. Kim lives in Bowling Green.
- **Corbin Renick**, joined Feb. 1 by transfer of letter. Corbin lives in Bowling Green.
- **Shelia Harris**, joined Feb. 8 by transfer of letter. Shelia lives in Bowling Green.
- **Nick & Amanda Kohnen**, joined Feb. 8 by transfer of letter. The Kohnen family lives in Bowling Green.
- **Will & Juliana Simmons** (transfer), along with children Boone and Brodie (baptism) joined Feb. 22. They also have a daughter Jenna. The Simmons family live on Meng Road.

## Creative Ministries Festival!

First Baptist Church, Bowling Green

March 14 - 9:00 am - 4:45 pm

This is a great time to learn more about Christian drama, interpretive movement, puppets and creative arts. Contact the church office if you would like to go with our group. To get more information go to [www.kybaptist.org/cmfb](http://www.kybaptist.org/cmfb).

**In youth news**, we had a wonderful time on the ski trip and it was neat to see the youth give of themselves by helping to carry each other's luggage and picking up trash during meal times.

Our next big event is D-Now which is coming up on March 13-15. The weekend will conclude as usual with the 8:30 am service being led by the worship team and our speaker from D-Now. We will be having the same worship team, LiveFish, as we did last year. For more information about the weekend feel free to check out the youth page on the church website or look up the event on facebook. It is really exciting to see how many students we have attending, over 40, which is our largest group to date. Please be in prayer for our students, leaders, host homes, worship team, speaker, and the others that will be involved in the weekend.

I want to go ahead and say a big THANK YOU to all the people that will be giving of their time or home to make this weekend a huge success, without the amazing people of our church, a weekend like this would be very, very difficult to accomplish.

**In Kids 4 Christ news**, we are still in full swing with Worship Kidstyle. We have started looking for a location for the summer musical and will get out the details and information as soon as we have everything lined up.

*Frank Wright, Youth and Families Minister*



We are collecting used Bibles and Christian books for Edwin L. Hodges Ministries. This ministry ships Christian literature free to churches overseas that would otherwise have no way of obtaining anything. There

has been a tremendous amount of requests from Bible colleges and Pastors for books to help them start libraries.

Please donate any Concordances, Commentaries, Devotionals, any books that can help Christians overseas to grow in their faith. Also, Bibles are always needed, especially study Bibles. There will be a collection box in the church lobby. Your help will really be greatly appreciated. **We will be collecting until Sunday, March 15.** If you have any questions, contact Lisa Williams at 996-3974.

## Angel Food Ministries

For \$30.00 you can receive a box of food containing both fresh and frozen items. There will also be a \$4 tote deposit for first time buyers. Food items are top quality – bought from major food producers throughout the country to ensure the best food comes to your table.

Each month there is a new food list located in the church lobby. The list has places and times to order your food totes for that month. **In March, our church will be taking food orders March 12, from 3 - 5 pm.** Angel Food Ministries accepts cash or Food Stamps. For more information go to <http://www.restorationunlimited.org/>.

What: Celebrate Recovery Meeting

Where: Woodburn Baptist Church

When: Every Friday night

Time: Starts at 6:30 p.m.

Who: Anyone who is in need of recovery.

## *Worship Attendance*

### **Sun. School    Worship**

Feb. 1	466	8:30 - 280 11:00 - 260	Overflow - 49
Feb. 8	450	8:30 - 304 11:00 - 265	Overflow - 49
Feb. 15	384	10:30 - 234 Overflow - 51	
Feb. 22	424	8:30 - 223 11:00 - 287	Overflow - 41