



# THE STEEPLE

## News and Announcements from the Woodburn Baptist Church

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[www.woodburnbaptist.org](http://www.woodburnbaptist.org)

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### Missions Giving Report for 2009

- International Missions \$14,359 an increase of 31%.
- North American Missions \$7059 an increase of 5%.
- State Mission \$4322 an increase of 12%.
- Baptist Medical and Dental Mission International \$8140 and increase of 25%
- Co-operative Program \$52,304 an increase of 12%.
- Warren Association \$24,614 an increase of 9%.
- The church's missions giving was 23% of our budget in 2009. Thank you for your generosity as a church in giving to missions!

### STRENGTHENING OUR MARRIAGE GOD'S WAY

Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study and Fellowship is starting back for the winter and spring semester. Come Join Us!!!!

#### Woodburn Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. No Fee

Childcare available

More information: contact Marla Hardcastle  
270-792-5395 ~ [mthard@bellsouth.net](mailto:mthard@bellsouth.net)

BABY  
SHOWER



A baby shower will be held for Tina and Brandon Harris, Sunday, February 28 at 3:00 pm. The Harris family is expecting a girl. They are registered at Target.

Contact Allison Mefford for more information.

### Woodburn Campus - Annual Preschool and Nursery Workers Meeting

Yes, it is that time of year again! We will hold our annual meeting for all Preschool teachers and Nursery Workers on Saturday, **February 20<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am - 12:00 pm**. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall for a yummy breakfast and short informational meeting with time to share your questions and concerns for the coming year.

We will then all work together on the fun task of Spring Cleaning (or maybe winter cleaning?!) our nursery rooms and preschool classrooms. This is a great day to get the rooms organized and take inventory of what's in all those cabinets and drawers. Encourage your team teachers to attend so you can work together!

If you teach preschoolers on Sunday morning or Wednesday night or if you work in the nursery, this meeting is for you! It will be fun! Please sign up so we will know how much food will be needed. Any questions, contact Warren Weeks or Allison Mefford.

### Love is in the Air



The Preschool classrooms (ages 2 - kindergarten) will celebrate Valentine's Day on February 10th at 6 pm. We will be making special valentines to pass out to folks after the prayer service. We will also be sharing valentines with our classmates. Check with your child's teacher to see how many valentines to bring that evening. It is sure to be a fun night for our younger ones!

*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,

Ever wondered what it is with Baptists and business meetings? I grew up Baptist, so I've sat through a lot of business meetings. Honestly, I didn't always *sit* through them. As a kid, I laid under the pews and looked at feet, passing the time, thinking the meeting would never end. During long discussions, I would dream of slipping out into the hall and pulling the fire alarm. Sometimes I even prayed for the rapture. Seemed like my desire to get out of there and go home always died for lack of a second.

It's different for me now. I've come to understand a little more about what it means to be Baptist. For one thing, a Baptist church is governed by *congregational polity*. No individual or body makes decisions for us. We seek together God's will for the good of this local body. We respect his speaking voice in the life of every church member. Through prayer, open dialogue, and debate in public meetings, we discern how God is leading us and decide together matters of corporate importance.

That's why all the church members have to meet regularly together to decide things. Congregational decisions are ultimately made at the regular monthly business meeting, where our discussions follow the common set of rules known as *parliamentary procedure*. Certainly, this congregation tends to prefer the "rule of love" over *Robert's Rules of Order*. Even so, these orderly habits define the process by which we translate our individual perspectives into a joint decisive action. These common rules of procedure ensure four basic principles: (1) that every member receives the same courtesy and fairness; (2) that the body considers and decides one question at a time; (3) that the minority must be heard; and (4) that the majority's sense of God's leading shall prevail.

You may have noticed that the last couple of business meetings have been shorter; the deacons and I have been looking for ways to make our decision-making sessions more efficiently productive. We've tried to trim the monthly agenda, focusing more on questions to decide and less on information to report. We'll use this newsletter and other media for disseminating reports. We'll use the business meeting for the issues that call for our deciding together.

Of course our congregation is now located at two different sites. Getting together takes planning and sacrifice. That's why we will begin having a joint *Celebration Service* on the second Sunday night of every other month. This night will bring members from both campuses together for worship here at Woodburn, and the schedule will include a *Family Meeting* to handle church-wide business. We will continue to have interim business meetings at the Woodburn Campus during each of the alternate months, but we will try to reserve the most major decisions for the months when we have our larger Family Meetings. *The first Celebration Service and Family Meeting will be held this month on Sunday night, February 14.*

In recent years, our business meetings have been lightly attended. I'm asking all of you to make a new commitment to be a part of the decision-making around here. After all, it's the Lord's business we are about. As Baptists, every single one of us has a voice and a vote. Please come exercise yours at this month's Family Meeting.

**See you Sunday, Tim**

## “A Church at Worship...”

I've been reading *Sent and Gathered* (Clayton J. Schmit – Baker Publishing Group), and am loving the vivid tags he gives the local congregation. My favorite so far is, "...a church at worship." This is truly a top notch idea. Simple, concise, and completely necessary in its definitional approach to the activity of Christ's church, here on earth. I believe God's blessings fall on all types of churches, but I see in my own experience that the churches that are "at worship" tend to find and receive these blessings in a very poignant state of thanksgiving.

So, if we're "at worship," we are constantly showing worth to God and his directions to us. I'm most specifically drawn to missions and Matthew 28.16-20. In this moment of Christ's regenerated life on earth we see one of my favorite words in Scripture... *therefore*. I love it! "Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations..." Therefore? My argument is not that since these are Christ's last words on earth, they are his most important. That's not a fair argument. My point is simple: Anytime Christ says, "therefore" we have to pay attention. Directly before that he said, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. THEREFORE..."

Through the authority of God you are specifically directed to make disciples. By hearing this word of God and applying it to your life, you are worshipping. This changes two things in the life of a Christian.

1. Your own agenda: Your life is no longer yours to live. Pay no attention to this world's philosophy or priorities. Take heed to God's and God's alone. Romans 12:1

2. Your lack of involvement in His church: As a minister, I've heard all the excuses about why people will not volunteer and lead in various areas of the church. They are well thought out and well intended, but we are all, A-L-L called to lead in His church. If you're not ready, then get ready. If you're not able, become able. His call echoes to every single hidden corner of your soul. Answer the call and be a willing servant to a God who freed you from eternal hell and darkness.

So, if you're keeping up with me we've come to a point where you look inside yourself and break down the walls that are keeping you from answering the call on your life. God does not need you, but he chooses to use you in this great plan of time, in which we live. Live your life in worship. Be *at* worship.

Youth Choir Practice - Every Sunday afternoon @ 4:45 pm!

Worship Choir Practice - Every Wednesday Night @ 7:15 pm!

***Andrew Causey, Minister of Music***

### ***Remember Our Shut-Ins***

Regis Hopkins	Bill Moore	Dennis Wheeley
Tressie Vice	Annie Beasley	Lena Van Meter

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

1<sup>st</sup> week - Renee Morris  
2<sup>nd</sup> week - Norma Palacios, Louise Stephens  
3<sup>rd</sup> week - Wilma Guthrie  
4<sup>th</sup> week - Margaret Ann Adams

### **Hopkins Nursing Home Ministry**

Feb. 7	10 am - Blue Team	Speaker: Terry Chaffin
Feb. 21	10 am - Red Team	Speaker: Mark Swinney

## “Come to the Lord’s Table”

*Come to the Lord’s Table* is a 28 day devotional book by Claude King. The purpose of the book is to help Christians prepare themselves for the observance of the Lord’s Supper. “If we properly examine ourselves and participate in a worthy manner, the Lord’s table can be a time to renew ourselves and participate in a worthy manner, the Lord’s table can be a time to renew the new covenant with our Lord. It will be a time to return to our first love. It will be a time to repent of sin that has crept into our lives and relationships. Every observance will be another invitation to reconcile any broken relationships in the body of Christ” states Mr. King in the book’s introduction.

My prayer for us reading this book together as a church is for personal revival. The Franklin campus read it together back in November and I have heard several tell me how much it meant to them. We plan to pass the books out on Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup> and begin reading the daily devotionals on Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. The deacons are providing one book per family at no cost. You may purchase additional books for your family at a cost of \$5 each. I hope that you will participate in the reading of the devotionals each day and let these words lead you into a closer walk with our Savior. *Serving Together, Warren Weeks*

An excerpt from *Come to the Lord’s Table*. (Page 5)

Churches in the past took the Lord’s Supper very seriously. Many churches would take a day, a weekend, or even a week or more for special services to help God’s people prepare themselves to partake of the Lord’s table in a worthy manner. These days were sometimes called pre-Communion days. Some groups would even fence the Lord’s table to prevent unworthy participants from defiling the event. Only those who had adequately prepared themselves were permitted to partake.

I was explaining this to a missionary from west Africa when he exclaimed, “That’s what happened to me in Africa!” He went on to explain that he went to pastor a church during his first term as a missionary. One Sunday he realized that the congregation had not celebrated the Lord’s Supper since his arrival. He announced in the morning service that they would celebrate the supper that evening.

An elder on the front pew began to weep and said, “Pastor, you must not ask us to do this. We always spend at least a day preparing ourselves for the Lord’s Supper. We haven’t had time to prepare. It would be offensive to God for us to come unprepared.” The missionary realized they treated the Lord’s Supper with much greater respect than he was accustomed to. Believers need to return to celebrating the Lord’s Supper in a worthy manner.

## *Welcome New Members from the Woodburn Campus...*

Larry and Jan Winn joined Dec. 20 by transfer of letter.  
Tami and daughter Megan Devore joined Dec. 20 by baptism.  
Timothy and Joyce Jones joined Jan. 24 by transfer of letter.

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

Barry Hall on the death of his mother, Barbara Hall.  
Cathy Poppy on the death of her father, Clair Farabaugh.

## Woodburn Campus Youth...

Well, I think the youth have finally stopped talking about the New Year’s Eve party (especially Underground Church, and don’t worry youth, I am working on when we will play it again), we had a blast and really appreciate Rhonda Smith working out all the details so we could have it at the school where she teaches. Also, as I write this, we are finishing up an excellent series on Wednesday nights about Worship led by Andrew Causey. Thanks to Andrew for taking your time to not only teach us, but lead us in worship as well. We also want to thank everyone who donated to Help 4 Haiti.

Some upcoming things that you need to be aware of in the youth ministry are: the summer camp (June 14-18) deposit of \$75 is due Sunday Feb. 7, Youth One Day Mission Trip to Nashville Rescue Mission will be Monday, Feb. 15th (9 am to 4 pm), D-Now is March 5-7th and the money (\$15) is due on Thurs. Feb. 28th. Please turn in all money to Frank Wright so that it can be properly credited to your youth’s account and if writing a check make it out to Woodburn Baptist Church. If you have any questions or need some help with funding for these events please do not hesitate to contact me, Frank Wright, @ 529-5221.

In addition, I am currently in the process of establishing meeting times with the parents of our students in grades 7-12. My hope is that these “Parent Partnership” meetings will allow me an opportunity to explain fully the purpose and direction of our student ministry for 2010. I am privileged each week to minister to 50 plus students in our “Connections Ministry” and my desire (along with all our volunteers) is to see them grow in a deeper relationship with the Lord. Please make plans to attend and let’s partner together for the future of our students. I would ask the church to please pray for these “Parent Partnership” meetings that the Lord will bless in great ways.

**In Kids-4-Christ news**, we are currently doing SwordMasters and will be starting practice for the spring musical at the end of the month. Also, I know it seems like it might be too early, but it is time to start thinking about Vacation Bible School. If you are interested in helping with VBS, please contact me and keep your eyes open for information on when our first meeting will take place!

*Frank Wright, Youth and families Minister*

## Help 4 Haiti

I would like to thank the church for all the supplies that they brought in to help Haiti. Thanks to all the youth (along with others in our church and youth from Blackjack Baptist Church) that worked so hard to get it all packed up on Sunday afternoon. I would also like to give a huge thank you to Cameron Esters, Josh Floyd, and Morgan Mason for challenging their school (Rockfield Elementary School) to collect items & for all the items that those students brought in. If you saw the stack in the fellowship hall last Sunday, that was brought in by Rockfield students.

Here is a brief recap of what we had, that filled up the entire church trailer. We had to take out three seats in the back of the van just to have room for everything. In all, we had more than 1500 canned good items, 1200 bottles of water, roughly 150 pairs of shoes. There were more than 100 toiletry items including flashlights and batteries, more than 60 blankets, 100 jars and cans of baby food/formula, and more than 100 medical supply items.

## From the Franklin Campus...

Do you remember playing with Play Doh when you were younger? It was fun to be able to make something out of the colorful clay and then proudly display it as a work of art. While it was fun to see the final product, the real work began when you grabbed a handful of the dough and began to form it into the object of your choice. In the same way, God wants your life to be like putty, or Play Doh in His hands. When you become like moldable clay, you allow yourself to be formed into His image and put on display by Him for everyone to see.

The Bible describes God as a potter, or someone who works pottery. If you think about how pottery is made, it begins as malleable clay that is easily handled. Often, it is spun on a potter's wheel until the desired shape or design is achieved.

Isaiah 64:8 says, "But now, O Lord, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand." Acknowledging that you are like clay in God's hand is the first step to being used by Him to achieve His purpose on the Earth. On the other hand, when you harden yourself against His guidance and direction, you position yourself for disaster.

Another way to describe being putty in God's hand is to be pliable. Essentially, it means having an obedient heart that is willing to change direction at a moment's notice. For example, you may have an attitude or behavior that is not pleasing to God. When you are pliable, you don't argue with God or try to defend your behavior because you aren't ready to let it go. They do this simply because they love God too much to disobey or disappoint Him.

Jesus was an example of someone who was like putty in God's hands. He never did or said anything that wasn't first spoken by His heavenly Father (John 12:50). Though He was God in the flesh, He lived and walked the Earth as a man. He was an example to mankind of what it means to be totally submitted to God.

I wonder what would happen if Christians everywhere became committed to being putty in God's hands. I guarantee if that happened, the Body of Christ would accomplish much more for the Kingdom of God. From past hurts and relationships to yielding to God's plan for your life, when you are easily molded, God can do great things in and through you.

**Love you guys, Pastor Eric**

### Franklin Youth Ministry - by Greg Crittenden

The youth ministry at our young church has started off the new year with a bang! On the first Sunday of the year, we got to witness our first ever Youth Sunday in which the youth led our evening service. I cannot begin to tell you how proud I am of our young people. The initiative they took with this service was not only inspiring to all of us, but also served as further evidence that this youth group is not the church of the future, but they are the church of the now! Youth Sunday was soon followed up by our first game night of the year, which was then followed by our youth's first ever bowling event. As wonderful as these things were, this is only January, and it's only the beginning.

On Wednesday nights, we have begun a new, innovative study. This study takes several passages from the Bible and tells them in story form, much like the way the Bible was originally passed down.

Many other events are fast approaching. The youth ski trip will be February 5th and 6th. Also, camp will be taking place June 14th to 18th, but the deposit will be due on February 7th. If you have a child interested in going, please get the \$75 deposit to me by that date (the remaining balance of \$125 is due no later than May 16th). And do not forget, if you have more than one

child, you can take advantage of our "Double Dip" program; your second child is only charged half price (on any event that is \$50 or more)!

Lastly, our youth group will be experiencing its first ever Disciple Now (or D-Now, for short). This is a wonderful event as anyone who has participated in one will tell you. D-Now will get underway on March 5th with special guest band Live Fish followed by special guest speaker Lance Parrott. Afterwards, the youth will go to a host home in which they will participate in the study of some great curriculum, they will stay the night and then have activities on Saturday, go back to the host home and finish up the weekend on Sunday morning (we will be done by the end of the 11 am service). Once again, I cannot tell you how proud I am of the participation of our youth in our young church. I want to thank also, the church body and, above all, the parents for your support. I look forward to serving you all throughout this new year.

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All new members of Woodburn Baptist Church - Franklin Campus, are invited to a specially prepared short term New Members class entitled "First Class." These three Bible study sessions will help orient you to the mission, history, and ministry of Woodburn Baptist. The deacons of Woodburn Baptist will also host a new member's dinner on Sunday, February 28, after the last session. Here are the times and dates of each session:

#### **Sunday, February 21 - Session #1 - Tim Harris**

- ~ Introduction, Overview of Purpose Statement,
- ~ Vision and Direction of church, Review of Church History
- ~ Worship and Teaching, Philosophy, Ordinances

#### **Wednesday, February 24 - Session #2 - Warren Weeks**

- ~ Sunday School, Age Group Ministries, Preschool Ministry and Places of service

#### **Sunday, February 28 - Session #3 - Frank Wright**

- ~ Youth and Children's Ministry
- ~ **Andrew Causey ~ Music and Worship**

Each of the sessions will begin at 6:00 p.m. and meet in the **sanctuary at the Franklin Campus**. If you have friends who are curious to learn more about WBC but are not quite ready to join, they are welcome to attend the classes as well. Also, make plans to attend the dinner, **Sunday February 28, following the 6:00 p.m. class.**

These sessions are informal, fun, and informative.

Please RSVP with Debbie Brown, our church secretary, at [debbiebrown@woodburnbaptist.org](mailto:debbiebrown@woodburnbaptist.org) or (270) 529-5221, and let us know whether or not you plan to attend the dinner on Sunday, February 28. We will need to know how many people are planning to come for dinner.

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### New Members from the Franklin Campus....

Gene Bragg joined December 28 by baptism.

Wayne, Vonetta and Wayne Baird, Jr. joined January 3, 2010

Earnest William joined January 10, 2010 by transfer.

Christina Chandler joined January 17, 2010 by baptism.

Anthony Harley joined January 17, 2010 by statement.

<u>Our Numbers</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Worship</u>
Jan 3	54	89
Jan 10	63	122
Jan 17	Unity Sunday	
Jan 24	64	165

## *Worship Schedule*

**Sunday, February 7**

A.M. *Paycheck to Paycheck* (Deuteronomy 14.22-29)  
[TITHING]

P.M. Missions report, Carol & Frank Jarboe

**Sunday, February 14 [St VALENTINE'S DAY]**

[Series to combine *Come to the Lord's Table* with Matthean parables]

A.M. *The Parable of the Unforgiving Debtor*  
(Matthew 18.21-35)

P.M. *Celebration Service*

**Sunday, February 21**

A.M. *The Parable of the Wheat and the Weeds*  
(13.24-29, 36-43)

P.M. [4:00 Pre-service prayer-walking]

*Come to the Lord's Table: Group Session 1*

**Sunday, February 28**

A.M. *Feast of Grace* (Exodus 24.9-11)

P.M. *Come to the Lord's Table: Group Session 2*

### *Woodburn Campus Worship Attendance*

	<b>Sun.</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Worship</b>	
Jan. 3	345	8:30 - 249	11:00 - 244	Overflow - 14
Jan. 10	335	8:30 - 272	11:00 - 225	Overflow - 19
Jan. 17	Unity Sunday	10:30 am		541
Jan. 24	367	8:30 - 266	11:00 - 217	Overflow - 16