

# The Spire

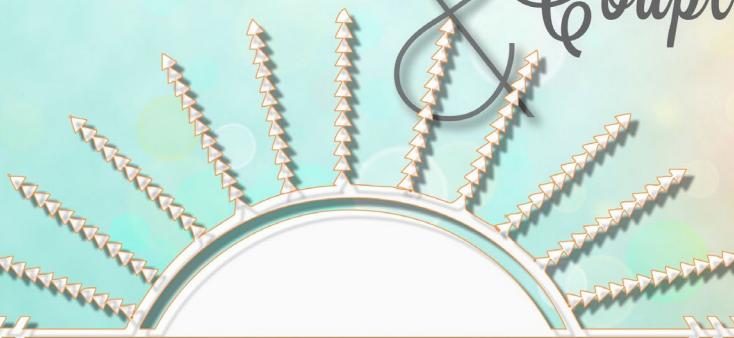
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WOODMONT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 9, 2018

## THIS MONTH

**LAUNCH PARTY!**  
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS & Couples



TUESDAY, JANUARY 23  
6PM @ CAMPBELL WEST

## NEW MEMBERS!



Alejandro and Ana Maria Rivas with Antonio and Emilio, January 7, 2018



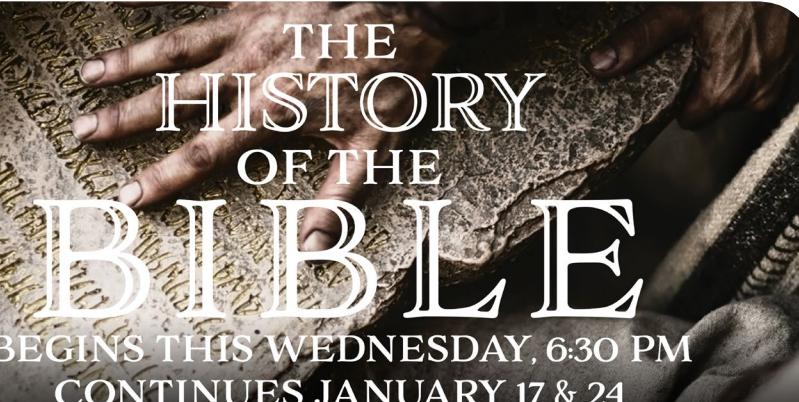
Robin & Nicole Henderson with Kylie and Kaiden, December 24, 2017

## CHILD DEDICATION



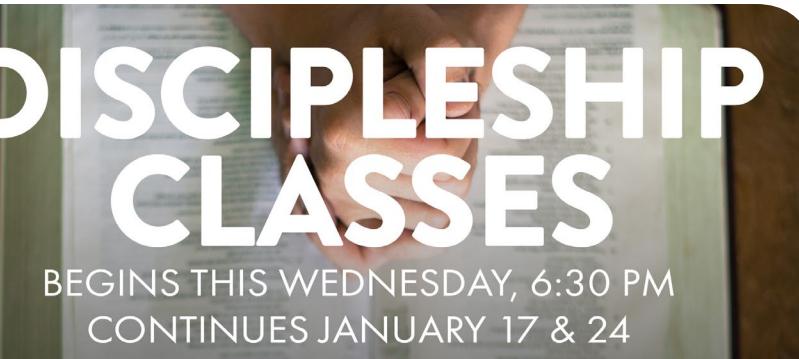
Porter Ernest Short, son of Cory and Beth Short, January 7, 2018

THE HISTORY OF THE BIBLE



BEGINS THIS WEDNESDAY, 6:30 PM  
CONTINUES JANUARY 17 & 24

**DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES**



BEGINS THIS WEDNESDAY, 6:30 PM  
CONTINUES JANUARY 17 & 24

NOMINATE YOUR LEADERS

# CHURCH LEADERSHIP

VISIT WOODMONT'S WEBSITE TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS  
[WWW.WOODMONTCHRISTIAN.ORG](http://WWW.WOODMONTCHRISTIAN.ORG)

## 2018 Leadership Nominations

Woodmont is now accepting nominations for:  
**1 Chair Elect, 3 Board Members, 6 Elders,  
& 30 Deacons**

Woodmont believes strongly in the ministry of lay people. Once a year, the congregation is asked to recommend fellow church members to serve in lay leadership positions, and that time of the year is now!

### SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATIONS!

Go to [woodmontchristian.org](http://woodmontchristian.org),  
click the "Members" menu item on the top right, then click "2018  
Leadership Nominations"



## LIFE GROUPS AT WOODMONT

A life group is a small group of 8 to 12 people who typically meet twice a month for discussion of spiritual issues, sharing life experiences, friendship, and support. Life groups typically meet for 3-4 months.

Are you interested in joining a new life group in 2018? Great! Simply look for a signup card in Sunday's bulletins and return it to us in the offering plate.



WOODMONT  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

### MISSION

Growing disciples of Christ by seeking God,  
sharing love, and serving others

### CORE VALUES

- Welcoming
- Outstanding Worship
- Outreach
- Different Traditions
- Mission & Ministry
- On The Move
- Nurturing
- Transforming

### MINISTERIAL STAFF

#### Dr. Clay Stauffer, Senior Minister

Dr. C. Roy Stauffer • Minister of Adult Education & Church Life  
Rev. Justin Gung • Minister of Children & Congregational Care  
Rev. Chris Cox • Minister of Youth & Their Families  
Dr. Donovan McAbee • Minister of Spiritual Formation  
Farrell Mason • Minister of Family Life & Pastoral Care

### PROGRAM STAFF

Thom Schuyler • Young Adults, Missions & Outreach Director  
Katie Sheridan-Gossage • Assistant Youth Ministry Director  
Abby McLean • Children's Ministry Director  
Michael Graham • Music Ministry Director  
Andra Moran • Creative Director, The Bridge  
Stephen Daniel King • Worship Leader, The Bridge  
Alexis Waggoner • Intern for Adult Education and Discipleship  
Lauren Lucas Beuerlein • Young Adults & Couples Director

### SUPPORT STAFF

Chris Beck • Business Administrator  
Mandy Barton Brown • Executive Assistant  
Martha Duff • Preschool Director  
Sam Marsh • Property & Facilities Manager  
Jan Anderson • Administrative Assistant  
Anne-Marie Farmer • Small Groups & Connections Director  
Matt Diffenderer • Communications Director



For the most up-to-date information, download  
Woodmont's Realm church directory app.  
Search for "Realm Connect" in iTunes & Google Play.

Woodmont Christian Church  
3601 Hillsboro Pike  
Nashville, Tennessee 37215  
615.297.8563

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

# Woodmont Celebrating 75 Years!

by Clay Stauffer

This will be a special year as we are celebrating *75 years of mission and ministry at Woodmont Christian Church*. Mark your calendars because the main celebration will be the weekend of *July 14-15th, 2018*. For 75 years, Woodmont has been a beacon in this community and has provided a place for worship, education, fellowship, prayer, connection, and mission. We are grateful to those who bravely started this church and to the many leaders who have given their energy and resources over the years. All of us stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us and as Paul writes, "No one can lay a foundation other than the one that has already been laid, and that foundation is Jesus Christ." (I Cor 3:11) As Adam Hamilton says in his book CREED, "The church is the gathering of people called out by Jesus, who belong to Jesus, and therefore who seek not only to experience fellowship with him but to do his will and his work in the world." When churches focus on Christ, they do well. When they don't, problems arise.

## Three Focus Areas for 2018

### Strategic Planning

As we celebrate 75 years of ministry, there will be a lot of reflecting and reminiscing. At the same time, we will be looking ahead to the future and continuing our strategic planning. There are challenges that we face including overcrowded children's Sunday School rooms and the ongoing need for a multi-use chapel. We will also be making plans for South Hall once the Food Project moves to its new home. This will all be part of our strategic planning in the coming months.

### Life Groups

Our small group ministry at Woodmont has grown immensely and we want to keep that going. Connection is key to a healthy faith community. A life group is 8-12 people who get together at least once a month, some weekly or bi-weekly, for fellowship, prayer, discussion, and service. Our greatest need right now is to find new life group leaders. Please contact Anne Marie Farmer at [annemarie@woodmontcc.org](mailto:annemarie@woodmontcc.org) if you are interested in being trained as a life group leader.

### Being Missional

Woodmont is a missional church on many fronts. This is what Christ calls us to be. We serve this community in a variety of ways including Room in the Inn, AA, AL Anon, Divorce Care, Nashville Food Project, Morgan Scott, Habitat, Guatemala, and a host of other ministries. We want to keep this going and get more of our members involved in these ministries.

## Leadership Nominations

We are now accepting nominations for church leadership through the end of January. Rich Sanderson is chairing the committee this year. We will be nominating 1 Chair Elect, 3 At Large Board Members, 6 Elders, and 30 Deacons. We want as many nominations from the congregation as possible.

In considering nominees, please ask yourself: 1) *Are they active and present in the church?* 2) *Do they take their faith and spiritual life seriously?* 3) *Do they have a servant's heart?* 4) *Do they want to help lead Woodmont into the future?* If the answer to all of these questions is "yes", then please consider nominating them for a leadership position. The nominating committee will begin meeting in February.

Here's to a great year and to thanking God for 75 years of ministry at Woodmont!



Blessings,

CS

Sunday, January 7, 2018

Photos by Steve Lowry



**Birthdays Jan. 1-15:** Hannah Johnson 1/4  
 James Andrews 1/5  
 Stella Corey 1/5  
 Caroline Buck 1/8

Percy Mason 1/11  
 John Thomas Jackson 1/12  
 Lillian Douglas 1/15

Our Families Room in the Inn night is coming up on Friday January 19th. Thanks to your generosity, all sign up spots are currently full EXCEPT two overnight hosts. We absolutely have to have this important part of the night. Please let us know if you would be interested in helping! We would love to have two dads willing to step up and help! Email [abby@woodmontcc.org](mailto:abby@woodmontcc.org).

Father/Daughter Dance is quickly approaching so be on the lookout for an invite!  
 Save the Date for Sunday, February 11th!



## Switchbacks

by Chris Cox

"I feel like I've turned the corner."

That's a common phrase. I think most of us have probably said it at some point in time. It means that we feel like things are going to get better. We've gotten over the hump. A rough season is behind us.

You know what makes a literal mockery out of that statement? Climbing out of the Grand Canyon.

You see, there are no elevators or escalators in the Grand Canyon and stairs only make cameo appearances. That's an obvious statement, but you don't truly appreciate the gravity of this situation until you realize that you must climb thousands of feet without any of those luxuries.

The steepest climbs are accomplished by switchbacks. These trails wind back and forth up the canyon walls. When you get to the top of one arduous portion, you turn the corner... and then you're facing another climb. Turning the corner when you climb out of the Grand Canyon does mean that you're getting somewhere, but it does not necessarily mean things are going to get any easier. Why would it? You're still climbing.

The beginning of a new year is a time in which many of us decide that we're going to turn the corner. Even though we can just as easily start new chapters of our lives on a random Tuesday in February or Arbor Day, the turning of the calendar is an easy signpost for change. This year is going to be better than the last. This year I'm going to get my crap together.

Yet our reality is closer to a switchback. We turn the corner on a new year and it's still an uphill climb. There is still difficult terrain ahead. There are still rocks over which you can stumble. The sun is still going to beat down upon you. There may be moments when you feel like you can't take another step.

Here's the good news. Hiking the Grand Canyon was one of the coolest adventures on which I have ever been. E.A. and I are going to do it again with our kids when they are old enough (and can carry things for us). And even though climbing out was a struggle to the very end, each corner turned meant something. Though the path was incredibly demanding, there were new vistas. The scenery below us was majestic. Beautiful. Breathtaking. We kept climbing higher and higher and were stunned by how far we had come.

My prayer is that you have a similar experience in 2018. I hope that when you turn a thousand corners and still find brutally steep paths that you will keep climbing. I hope you will realize that despite the difficulties you are getting somewhere. I hope you seek God and a life that radiates love, grace, and peace to all those you encounter. I pray that you will see amazing things and at the end you'll be stunned by how far you have come; how far you have been brought.

Don't be discouraged by the switchbacks. It's simply part of life. Take time to rest. Leave behind whatever is weighing you down. Tackle the trail with worthwhile companions. And keep climbing.

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## Woodmont serves Nashville's homeless

by Deb LaForge



This box was left outside South Hall as a donation and it pretty much says it all.

I usually write thank you notes to those that have helped out with our Room In The Inn program but the sheer volume of help that this program has received from our congregation over the past 2 weeks is overwhelming. Since Christmas Day, December 25th, until this past Friday night, January 5th, we have hosted 10 out of 12 days. There have been several individuals that have stepped up to stay overnight, some more than once. The food has been prepared and served by individuals, families, and groups from within and outside the church. We have provided hot meals, lunches to go, a warm place to sleep, showers, laundry, clothing closet, and toiletries for our guests. Just to put it into perspective, we served a total of 120 people. Yes, people, because during this time we took in not just our normal 12 men but also families and women.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



## New Year, New Opportunities

by Anne-Marie Farmer

Do you have any new goals or resolutions for 2018? Have you set your sights on growing in your faith and in your connection to your church family? There are several opportunities to pursue those resolutions at Woodmont Christian Church this year.

In addition to our existing classes and groups, we are beginning a new effort to form more life groups in our church. Life groups are small groups that meet once or twice a month, made up of people in similar stages of life, for fellowship, discussion, and sharing. If a life group sounds like something you are interested in, look for the sign up cards in the bulletin over the next two weeks, or email me at [annemarie@woodmontcc.org](mailto:annemarie@woodmontcc.org). At The Bridge, you can find these cards near the coffee and snacks. If you are interested in leading a life group, even better! Don't be intimidated by the idea of leading – we'll show you how to lead a meeting and provide any materials you might need.

I'd also like to draw your attention to the new Welcome Center in the church narthex. This is a great resource full of information on our church, its ministries, and our denomination. It's useful for members who'd like to know more about a particular subject, and it's particularly helpful for visitors and new members. Check it out, and encourage visitors you meet on Sundays to stop by and learn more about our church family. Again, at The Bridge, similar materials can be found at the visitor kiosk or the coffee and snack table.

As always, if you have any questions or ideas regarding groups or need more information on any of our ministries, I'm delighted to help.

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## Woodmont serves Nashville's homeless

by Deb LaForge

FROM PAGE 5

It has been a blessing to get to know several of our members and at the same time meet some of our guests. There have been nights of watching football on the big screen and sometimes just sharing a story. But most importantly we have been able to serve our brothers and our sisters. Truly you have been the hands & feet of our Savior.

As I write this, I know that there will be other nights when the temperature will dip below freezing and we will have the opportunity to serve again, maybe even this week. Please, if you are not already on the emergency notification list consider having your email placed on it. This doesn't mean that you will have to serve but will allow you the opportunity to be notified when we are doing extra nights and what our needs are. If you can help do, but if you can't at the time don't worry about it. If you want to be on this list, email me at [divegirldj@yahoo.com](mailto:divegirldj@yahoo.com).

There are still a few regularly scheduled Friday nights that need overnight hosts. The first being this Friday, January 12, and again on Feb. 16, March 23, and March 30. You can sign up by going to [woodmontchristian.org](http://woodmontchristian.org) and clicking "ROOM IN THE INN" under the "Ministries" menu. You can also sign up by emailing me directly.

Donations of travel size toiletries, men's winter clothing in good condition, hats, gloves, new tee-shirts, and new boxers (especially XL and 2XL) are always greatly appreciated. They can be dropped off at the church office.

AGAIN, THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!



HOLY YOGA

### Sunday, January 14

9:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary, Sun. School  
9:45 a.m. Worship at The Bridge, Drowota Hall  
11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary, Sun. School  
5:00 p.m. Jubilation Youth Choir, Youth Wing  
5:45 p.m. Youth Group, Youth Wing

### Monday, January 15

**MLK DAY - CHURCH OFFICE & BUILDING CLOSED**

### Tuesday, January 16

7:00 a.m. Centering Prayer Group, Room 100  
9:00 a.m. Women's Prayer Group, Campbell-Stone  
9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study, Room 200  
10:30 a.m. Book Club, Room 107  
6:00 p.m. Handbells Rehearsal, Choir Room

### Wednesday, January 17

6:15 a.m. Men's Small Group, Room 100  
7:00 a.m. "Original" Men's Bible Study, Room 105  
7:00 a.m. Younger Men's Bible Study, Boardroom  
5:30 p.m. Grace Notes practice, Kids' Commons  
**5:45 p.m. Wednesday Fellowship Dinner, D.H.**

**ENTREE: Lasagna a la bolognese.**

**Caesar Salad with parmesan, crouton, lemon, & caesar dressing. Garlic bread.**

**VEGETARIAN: Vegetarian Lasagna**

**KIDS: Spaghetti and Meat Sauce**

6:15 p.m. *DivorceCare*, The Bay Room  
6:30 p.m. *Holy Yoga* with Brooke Lovelace, Room 200  
6:30 p.m. *Discipleship Class* with Clay Stauffer:  
"Sharing," the Boardroom  
6:30 p.m. *The History of the Bible* class with Roy  
Stauffer, Room 105

### Thursday, January 18

7:00 p.m. Youth Boys Basketball Practice, D.H.

### Friday, January 19, & Saturday, January 20

Room In The Inn, South Hall

# HOW WE SEE & TREAT EACH OTHER

GALATIANS 3:23-29



SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

A panel discussion with Dr. Clay Stauffer, Dr. Christal Williams, & Dr. Donovan McAbee



WOODMONT  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

DECEMBER 17:	380
DECEMBER 24:	N/A
DECEMBER 31:	199
JANUARY 7:	474

ATTENDANCE:

989
1651
706
945

OPERATING:

\$104,547
\$100,588
\$172,761
\$137,375

**DIVORCE Care®**  
Next 13-week session begins Wednesday,  
January 10, 6:15 PM in the Bay Room



## January GEMS meeting

On Tuesday, January 23, Donovan McAbee will share photos and stories from his sabbatical experience in Scotland!

GEMS gathers at noon for a buffet lunch catered by Barley to Rise.

Cost is \$10. Reservation required by Friday, January 19. Reserve online or through the church office.

## PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

### SYMPATHY TO:

Neil Kunkel and family, on the death of Neil's mother, Evelyn Charlotte Kunkel (82) on Saturday, January 6, 2018.

### IN THE HOSPITAL:

JoAnn Patterson, Vanderbilt

Linda Glascock's parents, Nancy and

Jerry Taylor, Summit Hospital

Al Richardson, St. Thomas West

Carter Patten, infant daughter of Daniel and Emily Patten, Mid Town

John DeVoe, Elisa Clark's father - Vanderbilt

### CONTINUING CONCERNS:

Ben and Gayle Cherry

Mary Hofwolt

Nancy Hooper

Pam Richardson

Isse Waddey, begins chemo

George Wiles

### FAMILY OF MEMBERS - CONCERNS:

Ann Arney's mother-in-law, Pauline Gilpatrick, Livingston, TN

Laura Brown's sister, Barbara Johnston (78), in Huntsville, AL

Gail Cherry's son in Virginia - bone cancer - chemo began Dec. 18

Gary Jones, Pam Groom's father, at home

Jamie Huling's father, Donald Huling in Lasalle-Peru, IL

Andra Moran's mother, Ruth Ann Moran, in California

Park Owen's sister, Mary Lee Rogers

## PRAYERS FOR OUR WORLD

*This week, Woodmont's elders ask you to pray specifically for:*

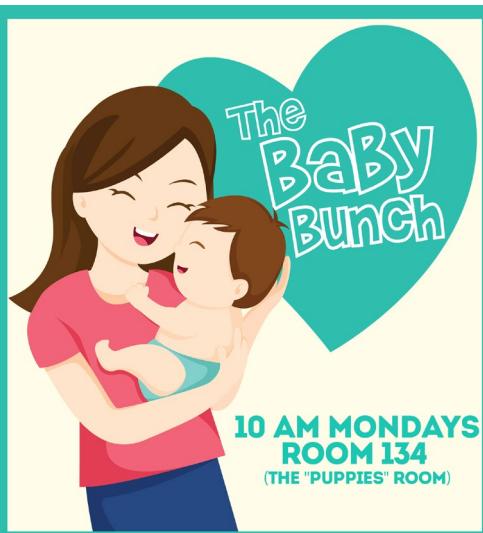
All those affected by the cold, snow and ice especially the Atlantic Coast storm.

Persons who are homeless during this cold weather.

All the students and teachers who returned to school.

Victims of government persecution in Iran.

Metro Water employees who are working outside long hours to keep Nashville with water.





# WOODMONT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

3601 Hillsboro Pike, Nashville, TN 37215

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# The Spire

# UNDER THE BIG TOP

**WOODMONT CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL  
SPRING AUCTION 2018**

March 10, 2018

