

The Spire

WOODMONT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 12, 2017

NEW MEMBERS!



Brian and Kathy Berhow with Emily & Boyd
(not pictured: Thompson, Jr. at TCU)
September 10, 2017

CHILD DEDICATION



Stratton Carson Coleman
Son of Will David and Patti Coleman
September 10, 2017

WEDNESDAYS AT WOODMONT

FAMILY AND PARENTING SERIES BEGINS THIS WEEK
6:30 PM, DROWOTA HALL



Wednesday, Sep. 13
Raising Girls
with Sissy Goff



Wednesday, Sep. 20
*The 10 Commandments
of Marriage*
with Jim Schleicher



Wednesday, Sep. 27
Wild Things
with Dave Thomas

Wednesday, Oct. 4
Are My Kids on Track?
with Dave Thomas
and Sissy Goff

NEW CLASS! SHORT STORIES BY JESUS
What were all those stories Jesus told really all about?



Led by Alexis James Waggoner, Wednesday nights from
September 13 through October 4 at 6:30 PM in the Boardroom.



Wednesday

FELLOWSHIP DINNER



INTRODUCING
BARLEY
TO
RISE

BEGINS WEDNESDAY, SEP. 13
5:45 PM, DROWOTA HALL

2017 Hooper Classic Golf Tournament

September 23 • Nashboro Village • 9:00 am
18 holes, free range balls, lunch, contests, awards, & prizes!
REGISTER AT WWW.WOODMONTCHRISTIAN.ORG/GOLF



Travelling Woodmont is back!

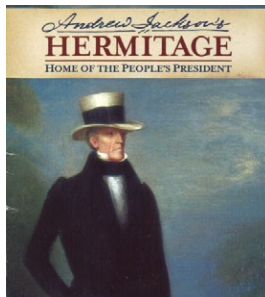
On Thursday, Oct. 5, Travelling Woodmont returns with a special trip to Andrew Jackson's Hermitage.

Travelling Woodmont is one of Woodmont's longest-running groups and is being revitalized by Betty Williams and Jane Dyer.

Space is limited to 14 people! The group will meet at Woodmont's campus and take the bus to Hermitage, TN. The bus leaves at 11 AM and considerable walking is involved in the tour!

Lunch will be at The Hermitage's Kitchen Cabinet cafe. Two tour options are available: The Self-Guided Tour and The VIP Tour.

For more information, contact Betty Williams at byotwilliams@comcast.net or (615) 210-0316.



September GEMS Meeting

Sgt. Steve Linn, Community Affairs Coordinator at the West Precinct, Metropolitan Nashville Police Dept., will talk about police operations, crime prevention, and safety concerns.

**G(reet) E(at) M(eat) S(ocialize), Tuesday, Sept. 26.
Noon, \$10 Buffet lunch**

The event is open to all adults, but you must make a reservation by midday Friday, Sept. 22, using the internet or by calling the church office.

GEMS meets the 4th Tuesday of the month in 2017, except December.



WOODMONT
CHRISTIAN CHURCH
www.woodmontchristian.org

OUR MISSION:

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

OUR CORE VALUES:

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

WOODMONT'S 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

Michael Graham • Director of Music Ministry

Abby McLean • Children's Ministry Director

Katie Sheridan-Gossage • Assistant Youth Ministry Director

Thom Schuyler • Young Adults, Missions & Outreach Director

Anne-Marie Farmer • Small Groups & Connections Director

Andra Moran • Creative Director, The Bridge

Stephen Daniel King • Worship Leader

Mary Clare Pyron • Parish Nurse

Russell Davis • Accompanist

WOODMONT'S SUPPORT STAFF

Chris Beck • Business Administrator

Mandy Barton Brown • Executive Assistant

Martha Duff • Preschool Director

Sam Marsh • Property & Facilities Manager

Jan Anderson • Administrative Assistant

Matt Diffenderfer • Communications Director

For assistance, please call the church office at
615.297.8563 or email info@woodmontcc.org

Get the most up-to-date information at
www.woodmontchristian.org

Woodmont Christian Church
3601 Hillsboro Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37215
615.297.8563

www.woodmontchristian.org



Selfless Love In Action

by Clay Stauffer

On Sunday, our scripture was from Matthew 16 where Jesus is talking about discipleship. He says, "If any man want to become my followers, let them DENY THEMSELVES, take up their cross and follow me." Christianity is countercultural because of its challenge to "deny self." We know that our culture is self-centered. You deserve this! You deserve that! Look at me! Look at what I bought! Look out for number one! But that's not Christianity - which is why it is difficult. There is a difference between taking care of yourself and being self-centered. Self-care is healthy. Narcissism and self-centeredness is not. It always makes me proud when I see Woodmont members making an intentional decision to "deny self" in order to serve others. Consider these recent situations.

Polly Keith's sister, Cathy Reynolds, found herself in a very difficult spot. Her kidneys were failing and she needed a transplant. She was added to a list of potential donor recipients. All family members tested to see if they might be a match. Polly was a match and immediately, she knew what she wanted to do. On Monday, August 28th at Duke Medical Center, Polly donated a kidney to her sister. This was one of the most loving and sacrificial acts that a family member can do, but if you know Polly like I do, then you are not surprised. Both Polly and Cathy are now doing well!

When Hurricane Harvey hit Texas, it caused a devastating amount of damage and flooding. Thousands of homes have been ruined. Thousands of people have been displaced. When **Susan Batson and Steve and Deb Laforge (pictured right)** saw the devastation, they quickly made their way to Texas. For the last two weeks, they have been working tirelessly through Hope Force International, to help people get their lives back on track. They didn't wait around, but they simply made the decisions to go, serve, and bring hope.



Tom Woodard and Steve Smith received a large donation of medical supplies from HCA. Their plan was to pack 1500 backpacks that would go to help first response workers in both Texas and Florida. With the help of some Woodmont members, the supplies were loaded into the backpacks last Thursday and Friday and are now on their way to these devastated regions.



Ian Navarro is a Houston native and a member of Woodmont. He has been involved in our church for many years and has been very active with the Nashville Food Project. He wanted to do something to help the families of his home town so he has now planned an event called "Tacos for Texas" that will take place at the Martin's BBQ downtown on Tuesday night, September 26th. Some incredible chefs and song writers will be present



John "Jojo" Hermann is a Woodmont member and is the keyboardist for the well-known band WideSpread Panic. When he is not touring and playing around the country, he enjoys using his gifts to serve this community. Once again, this past Friday night, he played another fundraiser at the Green Hills Corner Pub benefitting the ongoing work of the Nashville Food Project to provide healthy food and education to the Nashville community. A famous musician, playing in this neighborhood, to benefit a great cause.

Jade Forlidas is a Woodmont elder. Last year, she became aware of a growing number of refugees in our community called the Coptic Christians who have been displaced from their homeland due to war and violence. Many of these folks have very little and need direction and help. With the help of **Roy's** Wednesday morning men's group and people like **John Carpenter**, the Coptic Christian ministry at Woodmont is now growing and is serving this very vulnerable community.

This list could go on and on but I think you see my point. Denying self and serving others is what it means to answer the call of Christ. It's also a well needed formula for our hurting world. Never stop serving! Never stop loving!

Blessings,



Thank you, Woodmont!

On Sep. 7 & 8, 1500 backpacks with medical & hygienic supplies inside were sent to Houston for Harvey relief.



HCA donated the backpacks and contents, items like surgical gloves, scrubs, bandages, and more. Health Trust was responsible for getting the backpacks to Houston and asked Woodard Brothers to fill the backpacks and prep them for shipment.

Woodard Brothers reached out to Woodmont on Sep. 6 and the response was extraordinary! Woodard Brothers, HCA, and Health Trust extend a heartfelt thanks to Woodmont for the efforts to get these needed materials to victims of the storm. From arrival at the warehouse on Sep. 6, all materials were packed and ready to ship in 48 hours. It was amazing!



A Prayer to Begin

by Farrell Mason

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Farrell's blog is back with new content every single week at breadandhoneyblog.net.](http://breadandhoneyblog.net)

Welcome back! We are coming up on our five-year mark for Bread and Honey. J.K. Rowling once said in an interview that she writes to understand who she is, what she believes and what is important to her. Every week over the last five years I have done my very best to share my heart: what I wrestle with spiritually, what I know and have experienced about God, and what gives me joy.

I have shared with you what I am curious about, what lights me up, and what gives me peace. There have been bite-size spiritual homilies, simple and yummy recipes that I make for own my family, book recommendations, prayers both written and spoken, and new product offerings like my healing oil that I created to nourish the soul. I have also shared my struggles, my flaws and doubts because I believe it's important to show an authentic spiritual journey.

I cannot speak enough gratitude that you have been willing to read my words, listen to my prayers, dare my recipes in your own kitchens, and support my writing by purchasing my books!

If you'll have me, I would love the opportunity to continue to bring to life the conversations that take place on my heart, share my faith journey and most importantly offer a little hope in your lives. Time is so precious to each of us and I want to make sure that Bread and Honey delivers each week what your soul needs and desires. Please reach out with kind critiques and inspired ideas of things you would like me to write about over the coming year! And I would so appreciate you passing along the blog to family, friends and anyone you know that could use a word of hope!

As I begin this new school year with my kids, return to work, writing and try to locate my grounding in this new season before me, it is so important that I check in with myself and God. I believe every worthy endeavor begins with a prayer. Following is a new prayer to begin again together!

*Holy and Loving God,
No one knows me like You do; beast and beauty.
Luminous and many a chink in my armor.
Inside this gargoyle lives an angel.
In the deep of my Deep, I long to live a noble, loving and
beautiful life.
But oh how life can trip me up in my evolving.
First, it's the busyness.
I fear I skim only the top off of life in my rush to be here, there
and everywhere
Instead of allowing my soul to steep in the grace of every
breath.
The worry;
When I give it power it tightens like a corset around my soul.
A great regret is how long it takes me to realize I am not Atlas
charged with holding up the whole world in my hands.
And come running to the trees to find You.
Beneath the chiseled stone, You know I am a tender being.
Help me be more resilient when life's arrows slip through the
chain mail and prick my soul.
You see how I ruminate;
Remind me the right way is always love-driven.
Cut a pattern of redemption in my story.
Mercy given, mercy received---sets me free.*

*I want to be free.
At my hopeful half-point, there is still so much for me to learn
about myself
And especially about You.
I need to sit more in the classroom of cosmic stillness.
Stillness is where the angels do their best work.
I long for our conversations in the quiet.
You settle me.
I need to finally trust You----With Everything-----Once and for
all.
Take on my wings and enjoy more the glide.
Eternal is already stamped on my passport.
And for those I love.
That should give me the sweet peace I long for.
Buoyant is the word I have chosen for this season.
The definition: Always rising
This will be my heart's focus.
Oh, And lest I forget, my day job in the kingdom is to give hope.
One soul a day (at a minimum)!
Let us now set out together.
My hand in Yours.
I and Thou
(Now and Forevermore)
Amen.*

Tacos
for
TEXAS

Woodmont Member Organizes Fundraising Dinner Event for Texas

Over 12 featured chefs from Nashville's hottest restaurants, music by Don Schiltz, Brandon Ratcliff, Lila McCann, and more!

Tickets are on sale now at tacosfortexas.com

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 6-9 PM, MARTIN'S BBQ DOWNTOWN

Pancakes & Pajamas 2017

September 10, 2017 - Photos by Steve Lowry



WAITING in HOPE

- NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE -

What is Waiting in Hope?

For the one in eight couples suffering from infertility, they no longer have to walk alone. Waiting in Hope ministries is a national nonprofit aimed at supporting ladies through local support groups and marriages through couples dinners. Come find support, fellowship, friendship and love. If you or someone you know is struggling with infertility, Waiting in Hope is for you. [Please contact Julie or Sara Kate at nashville@waitinginhopeinfertility.com](mailto:nashville@waitinginhopeinfertility.com) for more info.

WIH meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 6:30 in Campbell West.

Pancakes & Pajamas 2017

September 10, 2017 - Photos by Patricia Taylor





Let Timothy Speak

by Ashley Buchanan

Woodmont is a community that fosters relationships from the beginning of one's life all the way to the end, and has space for every stage in between. Many members are surrounded not only by a church family, but generations of their own families as well. I see grandparents walking their grandchildren to their Sunday School classes every week, cousins in youth group together, and when a baby is being dedicated I see the pride of the entire family filling the first few rows of our Sanctuary. These white bricks have made worshipping as a family, no matter what age each person is, possible and that is one of the many spectacular qualities about Woodmont Christian.

While I didn't come to Woodmont as a toddler, or even during my awkward middle school years, I certainly grew immensely during my time here in the Youth Group. I walked in my junior year of high school a little afraid of being rejected- what teenager wouldn't be nervous about meeting a new group of people? Yet instantly, I felt a sense of home with the people I met and a fresh sense of belonging at Woodmont, and now as I go into my junior year of college I feel as if I have found my voice through my time spent with the youth as a student and as an intern.

A voice is something that is given to every person, but it's easier to listen to some people over others. We are taught to respect and listen to our elders, which I completely agree with, but I also believe that listening to the youngest in the room is incredibly important as well. I have learned so much through my internship with the youth these past two summers because I taught myself to stop talking and listen to the Chi Rho students on Sunday mornings. Through my Sundays with these students I have gotten to hear their ideas on what being a true light of Christ means, how Jesus loved EVERYONE with no exception, and that their faith is something that continues to grow even when it's hard to talk about it. Our youth are shaping their personal beliefs here at Woodmont, but if people aren't asking them what they think and believe, then they won't find a voice to match their thoughts. There is something incredible and unique about faith from the mind of a youth, but we seem to forget that they have wisdom to share because of their age.

As this new year is starting, I challenge this congregation to find new ways to bring out the voices of our youth. If you're interested in hearing what a Chi Rho or CYF student has to say, you could volunteer to help be a part of the foundation for their faith. If you know a student that is a part of the youth, by simply asking them what they talked about in Sunday School or what they thought about the sermon that morning could open up an entire conversation that you otherwise would be missing out on. Don't stop asking their thoughts on what is going on in the world because they do have opinions that may change your own. Jesus was welcoming to everyone, so try to not limit what you allow our youth to be a part of. Their voices are the future of this church and our denomination, so start hearing them now. Welcome them into the conversation and don't let their age hinder you from listening and taking their words seriously.

WY+ NOTEWORTHY FALL DATES

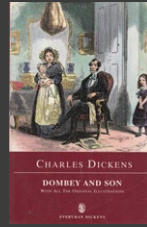
SEP. 17: YOUTH CHOIR PERFORMANCE

SEP. 24: LASER TAG

SEP. 30-OCT. 1: CYF OKTOBERFEST RETREAT

LINDENWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH, MEMPHIS, TN

Next Week's Calendar



BOOK CLUB IS BACK

The September meeting of the WCC Book Club will be at 10:30 on Tuesday, Sep. 19th, in Room 107. Liz Ramsey will lead a discussion of Charles Dickens' book, *Dombey and Son*.

Sunday, September 17

8:15 a.m. "Seekers" Bible Study, Room 105
9:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary, Sun. School
9:45 a.m. Worship at The Bridge, Drowota Hall
10:45 a.m. "Life in the Balance" class, Room 100
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, September 18

3:30 p.m. "Geezers" Men's Bible Study, Boardroom

Tuesday, September 19

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, September 20

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.

**MAIN ENTREE: Baked Pasta a la bolognese.
Field Green Salad with sundried tomatoes,
croutons, & citrus vinaigrette.**

**VEGETARIAN OPTION:
Baked Pasta a la ratatouie**

**KIDS:
Pasta and tomato/meat sauce**

6:15 p.m. *DivorceCare*, Room 100
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
6:30 p.m. *Short Stories by Jesus* week 2 with
Alexis James Waggoner in the Boardroom
6:30 p.m. *The 10 Commandments of Marriage* with
Jim Schleicher, part 2 of Fall Family and
Parenting Series, Drowota Hall

Thursday, September 21

7:30 a.m. Music for the Soul Breakfast, Drowota Hall
6:00 p.m. Young Adults, Campbell West

Saturday, September 23

9:00 a.m. 2017 Hooper Classic Golf Tournament,
Nashboro Village

Why Are You Afraid?

MATTHEW 8:23-27

TOUGH QUESTIONS BY JESUS SERIES
CLAY STAUFFER • SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 • ELDERS & DEACONS SERVING

9:30 AM - Informal Sanctuary Worship

So. Entrance Greeter/Offering - Tom Bond
Greeter/Offering - Heather Douglas
Greeter/Offering - Marcie Anderson
Greeter/Offering - Jim Batson
Usher/Cleanup - Billy Crawford
Usher/Cleanup - Lockwood Barr
Usher/Cleanup - Lanie Whittington
Usher/Cleanup - Kirtley Whittington
Bread - Faye Tevebaugh
Cup - Pam Richardson

9:45 AM - The Bridge Worship

Service Coordinator - Andrew Chelton
Greet/Serve/Clean Up - Chip Hooper
Greet/Serve/Clean Up - Sara Kate Hooper
Greet/Serve/Clean Up - Kristen Newman
Greet/So Entrance/Serve - Sabrina Kronk
Bread/Cup: Tim Perry

11 AM - Traditional Sanctuary Worship

So. Entrance Usher/Offering - Phil Schmutz
Greeter/Offering - Terrell McWhirter
Greeter/Offering - Maryanne McWhirter
Greeter/Offering - Jeff Cobble
Usher/Cleanup - Jacob Garner
Usher/Cleanup - Marty Jordan
Usher/Cleanup - Denise Sesler
Cleanup/Flowers - Jeremy Pratt
Bread - Randy Luther
Cup - Sandra Kyne

Hospital: Faye Tevebaugh

Communion Prep:

BY YOUR PRESENCE AND YOUR GIFTS:

DATE:	SUNDAY SCHOOL:	TOTAL ATTENDANCE:	OPERATING:
AUGUST 20	475	998	\$95,912
AUGUST 27	378	931	\$28,324
SEPTEMBER 3	241	790	\$44,160
SEPTEMBER 10	367	846	\$22,033

Music for the Soul is Sep. 21 - RSVP by Sep. 18

One of the most precious gifts God has given us is the gift of song. But did you know that songs actually have the power to heal?

On Thursday, September 21, come and learn about the ministry of *Music for the Soul* and enjoy a delicious complimentary breakfast catered by the Food Company. The event takes place in Drowota Hall. There is no charge to attend.

Trudy Carpenter and Mary Clare Pyron are helping bring this event to our church and the program includes music, a short video, and brief comments from a Nashville therapist and pastor. Everyone attending receives a free copy of the book *Music for the Soul Healing for the Heart*. There will be an opportunity to support the ministry for those who wish to do so.

The program and breakfast beginning at 7:30 a.m. and will last 45 minutes. Check in will be between 7 and 7:30 a.m. **Register at musicforthesoul.org/updates/events**

Woodmont's Elder Retreat 2017

September 9, 2017, Campbell West



PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

SYMPATHY TO:

Chris Cox and family on the death of Chris's grandmother, Sharon Williams, on Saturday, Sep. 9 in Taylors, SC. Services will be on Wednesday, Sep. 13.

Mari-Kate Hopper and family, on the death of Mari-Kate's aunt, Jaye Wadlington, in Austin, Texas.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Brad and Lisa McDowell on the birth of their first daughter, Clara Eleanor McDowell on July 19th in Wilmington, NC. She joins her 2 brothers Isaiah and Bennett. Grandparents are Bob and Susan McDowell.

IN THE HOSPITAL:

Renee Lewis, St. Thomas West.

CONTINUING CONCERNS:

Willie Bandy, Woodcrest
LuAnn Brent
Ben and Gayle Cherry
Martha Hobby
Nancy Hooper
Frances Gibson, John Gibson's mother, in Hospice
Gloria Jackson
Mary Jo Phillips, at home
JoAnn Patterson
Vicki Phillips
Tammy Regen, daughter in law of Gene & Elizabeth Regen. Knoxville, TN
Al Richardson, Belmont Village
Robbie Richardson, Woodcrest
Wilbur Sensing
Mike Shipp
Beverly Small
Gus Stranch, son of Gerard & Patty Stranch
Kevin Weldon, son of John and Rosemary Weldon
Pam Zimmerman's mother, Winchester

WOODMONT'S ELDERS ASK YOU TO PRAY FOR:

Continued clean up from Hurricane Harvey. Flooding and damage from Hurricane Irma.

Safety for all the volunteers who have helped in all hurricanes.

All the children who have been raised and educated in the United States and are now at risk of deportation.



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The Spire

WEDNESDAYS AT WOODMONT



NEW CLASS! SHORT STORIES BY JESUS

What were all those stories Jesus told really all about?

Led by Alexis James Waggoner,
this class runs Wednesday
nights from September 13
through October 4 at 6:30 PM
in the Boardroom.

Parables can operate on many levels and can be surprisingly comforting, subversive, enigmatic, or even just plain weird! Come delve into the text and context of some of the most powerful of Jesus' teachings and understand a little bit more about his work on earth, his call to Christians, and our responsibilities 2000+ years later!

The class was inspired by AJ Levine's book *Short Stories by Jesus*, but reading is not necessary to attend.



Bread and Honey

NOURISHMENT FOR THE SOUL



Is back! New every week

Read new blog posts now at breadandhoneyblog.net