

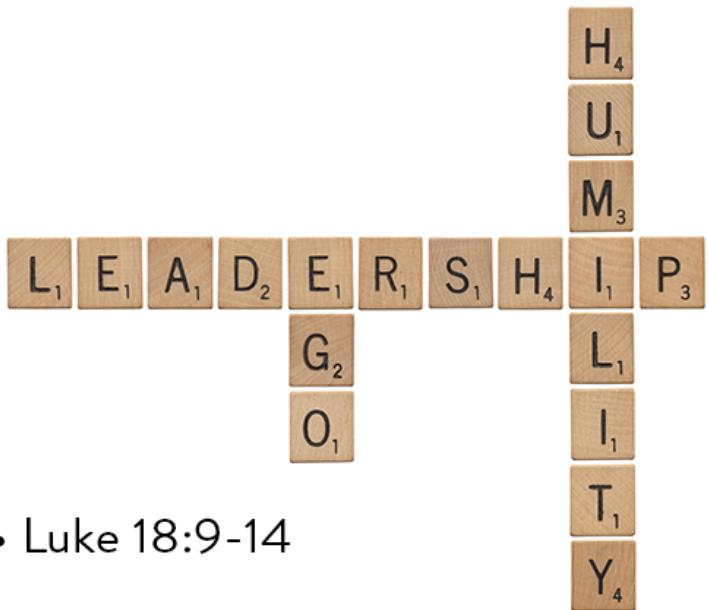
INSTALLATION OF NEW LEADERS  
SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 11 AM

# The Spire

WOODMONT CHRISTIAN CHURCH JUNE 20, 2017

## LEADERSHIP, EGO, & HUMILITY

Clay Stauffer • Sunday, June 25 • Luke 18:9-14



### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



Bill Lauderdale  
June 18, 2017



Trey Bryant and Kallie Whaley  
June 11, 2017



CJ and Cecile Gideon  
June 11, 2017

### Q4 Outreach Grants Awarded by Woodmont:

Barefoot Republic  
Charis Ministries  
Christian Church TN  
Family & Children's Services  
Family Reconciliation  
Hope For Justice  
Lutheran Services of TN

McNeilly Center  
Remote Area Medical/MS  
Nashville CARES  
Renewal House  
Rooftop  
Minister's Discretionary Fund



# Father's Day 2017

Photos by Patricia Taylor



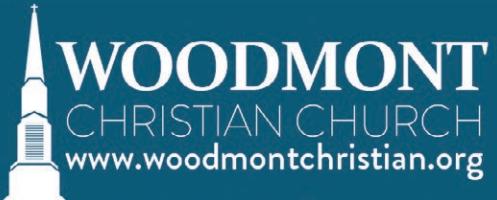
Mary Clare Pyron presents Roy Stauffer the prize for most family members in church.



Sunday's sermon was a dialouge between Roy and Clay Stauffer on the Prodigal Son.



Recognition of fathers, 11 AM Service.



**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

Farrell Mason • Minister of Family Life & Pastoral Care

Michael Graham • Director of Music Ministry

Mary Clare Pyron • Parish Nurse

Katie Sheridan Gossage • Assistant Youth Ministry Director

Thom Schuyler • Director of Young Adults, Missions & Outreach

Andra Moran • Creative Director, "The Bridge"

Stephen Daniel King • Worship Leader

Abby McLean • Children's Ministry Director

Anne-Marie Farmer • Director of Small Groups & Connections

## WOODMONT'S SUPPORT STAFF

Chris Beck • Business Administrator

Mandy Barton Brown • Executive Assistant

Russell Davis • Accompanist

Martha Duff • Director of Preschool

Sam Marsh • Property & Facilities Manager

Matt Diffenderer • Communications Director

Jan Anderson • Administrative Assistant

For assistance, please call the church office at 615.297.8563 or email [info@woodmontcc.org](mailto:info@woodmontcc.org)

Get the most up-to-date information at  
[www.woodmontchristian.org](http://www.woodmontchristian.org)

Woodmont Christian Church

3601 Hillsboro Road

Nashville, Tennessee 37215

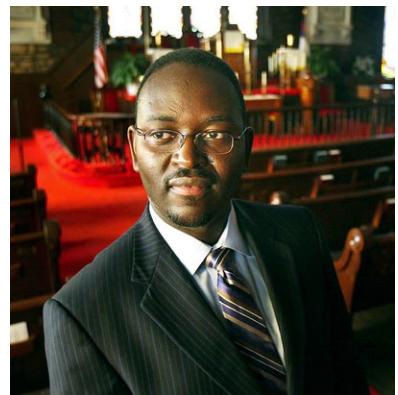
615.297.8563

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

# Hate Never Wins - Remembering Clementa Pinckney

by Clay Stauffer

Rev. Clementa C. Pinckney was born July 30, 1973 in Ridgeland, SC. He was educated in the public schools of Jasper County and graduated magna cum laude from Allen University with a degree in Business Administration where he served as class president and president of the student body. He was a Woodrow Wilson summer research fellow at Princeton, earned a Master's degree from the University of South Carolina in public administration, and a Master of Divinity from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary.



A natural born leader, he was called to preach at thirteen, became a pastor at eighteen, was elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives at twenty-three, and then to the State Senate at twenty-seven. He did this while also serving as pastor of Emanuel AME Church in Charleston. He was a loving husband and father of two daughters. This was a truly remarkable man, committed to God, family, and to serving the common good!

On Wednesday night, June 17th, 2015, while leading a Bible study at his church in Charleston, he and eight others became the victims of a senseless hate crime because of the color of their skin and where they happened to be. His killer, Dylann Roof, a twenty-one year old white supremacist with hate in his heart, wanted to start a race war by killing black people. He achieved the opposite. Emanuel AME Church, Charleston, and our nation stood in solidarity in the aftermath of this horrific tragedy.

It's hard to believe that there are still people like Roof in this country, a clear indication that all racism is not generational. Where does this hate originate? Why is it there? What can we do about it? The fact that he could sit in a Bible study for an hour, interacting with those he was about to execute, is unfathomable and evil. Two years later, our thoughts and prayers remain with Pinckney's wife and daughters, the families of all the victims, and the members of Emanuel AME Church.

Good did come out of this tragedy. Hope took the place of despair. Love ended up winning. Forgiveness was granted by the families. It continues to be up to all of us to take the torch from Clementa Pinckney and advance the causes he was so passionate about. Let us work diligently to build bridges and tear down walls of fear that divide and polarize. Let us work together for the common good, looking out for the least of these in our society. Let us remember the words of Dr. King who said, "Hate cannot drive out hate. Only love can do that."

Let us remember that just sticking to "our community" or "our side of town" is not enough. We must come together and build relationships with those different from us. Let us also remember the timeless words of Christ: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." That is exactly what Clementa Pinckney did on that dreadful night in Charleston two years ago. He laid down his life for his friends. His death was not in vain!

CS



**DEADLINE FOR DISCOUNTED AIRFARE IS AUGUST 1! DON'T MISS OUT!**

Through our relationship with Unbound, Woodmont is taking its 3rd group of adults to Guatemala this fall. We have reserved group airfare, but have to commit to the exact number of tickets soon.

If you would like to experience another culture from an insider's perspective, spend time with the beautiful people of Guatemala, meet your and Woodmont's sponsored friends, and provide hope and encouragement to the people of San Lucas Toliman, please join the trip. Info sheets are available in the church office.

A deposit of \$200 can be made on-line at : <http://bit.ly/2InER3a>

Feel free to contact Emmie Thomas: [emmie.d.thomas@gmail.com](mailto:emmie.d.thomas@gmail.com) with questions or to sign up!



## 2017 HEART FOR AFRICA **DIAPER DRIVE**

400 DIAPERS A DAY = 146,000 DIAPERS A YEAR  
1,600 WIPES A DAY = 584,000 WIPES A YEAR

**THAT'S A LOT!**

Heart for Africa is a charity that provides homes for orphans in Swaziland, Africa. They are in need of diapers and wipes. Help us meet this urgent need!

Our goal is to collect 146,000 diapers and 584,000 wipes, which should last us a whole year. 300 friends of Heart for Africa have already purchased 96,000 diapers and 315,000 wipes to date! We still have a ways to go before the container ships at the end of June, so please go to our Baby Registry Amazon accounts today and help us reach our goal. **When you shop on those registries, the diapers are shipped directly to our warehouses in the US. It's just SO easy:**

<http://bit.ly/2017diaperdrive>

Diapers will also be collected by Mary Welsh Owen at Woodmont until June 27. Please leave them on the back table in Drowota Hall.

*Thank you!*

Sincerest thanks to all my wonderful Woodmont friends for the prayers, flowers, great meals, visits, encouraging cards and calls!

It's been a rough patch but made so much smoother by your love and care.

God Bless,

*- David and Karen Conrad*



Congratulations to Emily Berhow, Houston Hartle, and Elly Hensley for being accepted onto the TN Regional CYF Youth Cabinet. These three high schoolers will help represent Middle TN in planning for Regional Youth events, primarily taking place at Bethany Hills Camp. We are so proud!



Emily Berhow



Houston Hartle



Elly Hensley



## MORGAN SCOTT MISSION TRIP **JULY 27-30**

JOIN THE WOODMONT MISSION TEAM IN HELPING  
TENNESSEE'S MORGAN AND SCOTT COUNTIES

**GROUPS LEAVING THURSDAY, FRIDAY AFTER  
WORK AND FRIDAY MORNING!**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT  
**JEREMIAH.WEEDENWRIGHT@GMAIL.COM**



## How do I become a member of Woodmont?

by Anne-Marie Farmer

One of the most frequent questions posed by visitors and long time attendees is a very basic one – “What do I need to do to become a member of Woodmont Christian Church?” Folks are often surprised at how simple the process is. In keeping with Christ’s open invitation to all, our church has chosen to remove as many hurdles as possible to church membership. All that is required is a belief in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, and an expressed commitment to being a part of this community.

If you are interested in being a member of our church, there are a few different ways to profess that commitment. The traditional route is to walk to the front of the church during the invitation hymn, where the minister will introduce you to the congregation. A benefit to joining in this manner is that those in attendance will know right away that you are a new member and can welcome you at the end of the service. Another option is to join at one of our Introduction to Woodmont luncheons, held every six weeks or so at 12:15, after church services. Our next one will be on Sunday, July 16. These catered lunches in the church board room are about an hour long, with a brief presentation about our church and the Disciples of Christ denomination, and an opportunity to ask Clay any questions you may have and take a tour of the church campus to learn more about our various ministries. These lunches are open to those considering membership, as well as to visitors who simply would like to learn more. If the luncheon date isn’t convenient for you and you are hesitant to stand in front of the congregation, you can also state your commitment to join our church by simply filling out a new member card and placing it in the offering plate during worship or returning it to the church office. These cards are available in the sanctuary pews and on the visitor kiosk at the Bridge service.

If you have any questions about the process of joining our church, or would like more information on our congregation or denomination, email me anytime at [annemarie@woodmontcc.org](mailto:annemarie@woodmontcc.org).

## SUMMER GOSPEL SING-ALONG AND POTLUCK SUPPER



EVERY WEDNESDAY THROUGH MID-JULY, 5:30 PM,  
FOLLOWED BY A POTLUCK AT 6:15 PM

# WOODMONT KIDS



Former MLB player Ryan Roberts shared his faith with Woodmont's elementary children Sunday, June 18

## June 16th-30th Birthdays:

6/16 Whitaker McGuigan	6/24 Ben Smith
6/17 Emelia Hadley	6/24 Tanner Sepra
6/17 Anna Patton	6/25 Elise Mason
Mayes	6/26 Rob French
6/18 Grace Milam	6/26 Wyatt Wills
6/21 Rex Waddey	6/28 Andy Waller
6/23 Charles Wiles	6/28 Cooper Waller
	6/28 Canon Paisley

## June Memory Verse:

“I’ve commanded you to be brave and strong, haven’t I? Don’t be alarmed or terrified, because the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

- Joshua 1:9



Gracenotes celebrated 2016-2017 with their end-of-year choir party at BounceU on Sunday, June 4



# Tree Hugger

by Farrell Mason

I have always loved trees: the prehistoric ginkgo, the Angel Oak, the sweet Southern magnolia, groves of olive trees and the elegant weeping willow, to just name a few. I fell in love with my husband hiking Sewanee's famous Perimeter trail beneath a fortress of pine trees. For my fortieth birthday, David gifted me with a pair of apple, pear, plum and cherry trees. The cover illustration for my first book, *Alma Gloria and the Olive Tree*, sums up my evergreen devotion perfectly with a tree carved with a heart at its center. I guess you could say I am a "tree hugger."

Trees symbolize hope for me. I admire how they appear to take the long view of life. Serene instead of reactive, trees focus on the things that matter. They ground themselves deep in an intricate root system, point themselves in the direction of the sun, practice resilience in the face of life's changing seasons and keep a stoic eye on the kind of legacy they are leaving. In the stillness of the forest, you get the feeling that trees have figured out the secret: It's love that makes this planet turn.

I often speak to God beneath their evergreen wings because I have a sense they have God's ear. Now you might be saying to yourself, "Farrell has gone off the deep end anthropomorphizing trees." But what if I told you that trees have feelings and a capacity to show love? The talking Ents in the Lord of the Rings and Shel Silverstein's, *The Giving Tree* might actually be more real than fiction. I have just finished reading Peter Wohlleben's stunning New York Times bestseller, *The Hidden Life of Trees*, and not only do trees smell and taste, but they talk to each other! Trees have families and a circle of friends. They safe-keep memories and make plans for the future. But more importantly, trees take care of one another. If one tree is ill, all the surrounding trees will send sugar and nourishment to revive the tree. Trees see to the orphans, widows, elderly, even help bury their own. They register pain. If an invader such as an insect or bird comes into the area, the trees immediately send out alerts to warn the other trees to take protection. Trees intuitively know that they cannot survive on their own and happily take part in the symbiotic community of the forest. In Wohlleben's twenty years of research, he found that trees exercise compassion, mercy and love for one another. There are circumstances where arbor partners are so tightly connected at the root that they die together. More profound, trees are willing to sacrifice their own needs, even die, for the good of another. Isn't that the ultimate definition of love?

Trees just may have heart at their center after all!

I'll never forget my second grade teacher reading *The Giving Tree* and being moved by the love and sacrifice of the tree for the boy. First, the tree invited the boy to swing in her branches and eat of her fruit. As the boy grew older, she allowed him to take and take until all that remained of her was a stump. The reason this story touched me at seven years old and still today is because deep down I know I'm here because someone needs my love. As Jesus said, we only gain our life when we are willing to give it away for another. Or said in another way, the value of our life in the forest (and the measure of our joy and soul's worth) is determined by our willingness to step beyond ourselves for the love of another.

There is a blueprint of love in nature, a gorgeous divine system that extends itself out across all of creation. It operates on love. God's intention, whether in the creation of human beings, lions, birds, ants or trees, was that we would see to one another. It's genius really, Human being and saplings alike, are wired for compassion. The archetype "forest" (marriage, family, community, church, world) is only as strong as the selfless heart of every tree living within it. Forest harmony or "kingdom living" here on earth is the plan if love is the choice.

If you are struggling to answer the questions: Why am I here? What is my purpose? Go hug a tree. They are sage teachers. Thanks to Wohlleben, trees are fulfilling their destiny in the biome of the forest: listening, protecting, showing kindness, inspiring, living in faith and loving every tree for whom they share life with. If we do nothing else in our short span of a life, let it be said that we over-communicated love with those who crossed roots with us. At the end, hopefully they'll be nothing left us but a glorious stump, love spent.



## New CWF Leadership

The installation service for CWF's 2017-2018 leadership was led by Roy Stauffer on Tuesday, June 6.

CWF's incoming leaders pictured here (left-to-right):

Mary Hawkins, President  
Gail Reinhard, President-Elect  
Carol Hankla, Circle 4; Jade Forlidas, Circle 6; Mandy Lowe, Circle 2; Pat Malone, Circle 3; Pam Zimmerman, Circle 5; and Jane Clay Meadors, Circle 1.

## GOSPELAIRES SUNDAY! 9:30 AM JUNE 25



## Next Week's Calendar

### Sunday, June 25

8:15 a.m. "Seekers" Bible Study, Room 105  
9:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary, Sun. School  
9:45 a.m. Finn Hill Dedication  
10:30 a.m. Worship at The Bridge, Drowota Hall  
**Leadership Appreciation Reception, GH**  
11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary, Sun. School  
**Installation of newly-elected leaders**

### Monday, June 26

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

### Tuesday, June 27 - VBS Night 1

9:00 a.m. Women's Prayer Group, Campbell-Stone

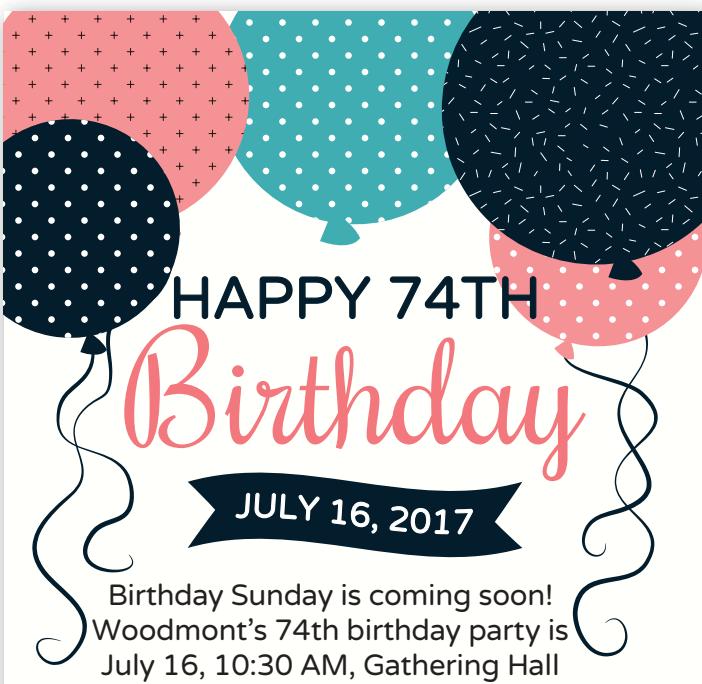
### Wednesday, June 28 - VBS Night 2

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. Summer Gospel Sing-Along, Room 105  
6:15 p.m. Potluck Supper, Drowota Hall  
6:45 p.m. Uninvited Women's Study, Boardroom.

### Thursday June 29 - VBS Night 3

### Friday, June 30 - VBS Night 4

**VBS JUNE 27-30, 5:15 PM**  
An event for the whole family!  
5:15 PM to 7:15 PM



## SUMMER READING LIST



### Clay Stauffer

- **Short Stories of Jesus** by Amy Jill Levine
- **Make Today Count** by John Maxwell
- **Two Paths: America United or Divided** by John Kasich
- **Hillbilly Elegy** by JD Vance
- **The Righteous Mind** by Jonathan Haidt\*
- **What I Wish I Knew before We Got Married** by Gary Chapman
- **The Gospel of Luke**

### Roy Stauffer

- **Hillbilly Elegy** by J. D. Vance\*
- **The Book of Joy** by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama\*
- **Thank You for Being Late** by Thomas Friedman\*
- **Cracked Up** by David Hall\*
- **Jesus' Plan for a New World** by Richard Rohr\*
- **The Gospel of Mark** by Marcus Borg\*
- **The Heart of Centering Prayer** by Cynthia Bourgeault\*

### Justin Gung

- **Rest in Power: The Enduring Life of Trayvon Martin** by Sybrina Fulton and Tracy Martin\*
- **The Pocket Cathedral: A Collection of Prayers** by Farrell Mason
- **What is the Mission of the Church?: Making Sense of Social Justice, Shalom, and the Great Commission** by Kevin DeYoung and Greg Gilbert
- **The Resurrection of the Son of God** by N.T. Wright
- **Making Sense of God** by Timothy Keller

### Farrell Mason

- **The Hidden Life of Trees** by Wohlben
- **Love Does** by Bob Goff
- **The Pocket Cathedral** by Farrell Mason
- **No Man is An Island** by Thomas Merton

### Thom Schuyler

- **Bonhoeffer (Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy)** by Eric Metaxas
- **Hillbilly Elegy** by J.D. Vance
- **Here, There and Everywhere** by Geoff Emerick
- **The Frontiersman** by Allan W Eckert
- **My Utmost For His Highest** by Oswald Chambers\*

### Andra Moran

- **Only Love Today** by Rachel Macy Stafford\*
- **The Tale of Despereaux** by Kate DiCamillo
- **If You Want to Write** by Brenda Ueland
- **The Weight of Heaven** by Thrity Umrigar

### Alexis James Waggoner

- **The New Jim Crow** by Michelle Alexander
- **Welcoming the Stranger** by Matthew Soerens and Jenny Hwang
- **Prophetic Imagination** by Walter Brueggemann
- **Being Mortal** by Atul Gawande
- **The Spiritual Child** by Lisa Miller

### Anne-Marie Farmer

- **Reading Lolita in Tehran** by Azar Nafisi
- **Confederate Streets** by Erin Tocknell
- **Also a Mother: Work and Family as a Theological Dilemma** by Bonnie Miller-McLemore \*
- **March. Book One** by John Lewis
- **The Giver** by Lois Lowry

# Congratulations!

To Aaron and Josephine Durbin  
on the birth of their son, Alexander Benjamin Durbin,  
born May 31, 2017

bit.ly/meals4durbins  
take them a  
**meal**

## New Elder & Deacon Chairs



Fran Stewart has been appointed to the position of Elder Chair, a 1-year term.

Fran works to connect and affirm all people in their faith journey. Fran is an educator and has served in public and private schools for forty-four years. She is currently in her seventh year as the Director of the Junior

School at Montgomery Bell Academy. Fran is married to Cyril Stewart and is the mother of David Stewart and Sarah France.



Rich Sanderson has been appointed to the position of Deacon Chair, a 2-year term.

Rich's pillars of faith were discovered and constructed within the Woodmont Christian family. He prides himself in being a large part of the welcoming spirit that resides throughout the halls of Woodmont.

Rich worked for General Motors for 40 years in Rochester, New York; Detroit, Michigan; Mexico; and Spring Hill, TN. He recently retired as Supply Chain Business Manager at the GM Spring Hill Manufacturing Complex. His wife Mary Margaret works at Vanderbilt as a grant research assistant.

### By Our Presence and Our Gifts

Date	Sun. School	Total Attd.	Operating
May 28	188	585	\$19,685
June 4	263	738	\$65,189
June 11	274	716	\$26,230
June 18	250	731	\$23,120

### Worship Services June 25, 2017

**9:30, 9:45, & 11:00 A.M.**  
**"Leadership, Ego, and Humility"**

Clay Stauffer  
Luke 18:9-14

**INSTALLATION OF NEW LEADERS AT 11 AM SERVICE**

### PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

#### SYMPATHY TO:

Chip Phinizy, on the death of close relative, John Smith, on June 13 in Monroe, LA

#### NEW CONCERNS:

Joe Taylor

#### IN THE HOSPITAL:

James Frazier, father of Franklin Willis, Huntsville

Mary Webb, Martha Galyon's grandmother, Vanderbilt

Porter Earnest Short, infant son of Cory and Beth Short, NICU St. Thomas Midtown

#### CONTINUING CONCERNS:

Kevin Weldon, son of John and Rosemary Weldon

Robbie Richardson, Woodcrest

Willie Bandy, Woodcrest

Marcella Derryberry

Ellen Anderson

Robbie Graham, nephew of Michael Graham

Tammy Regen, daughter in law of Gene and Elizabeth Regen. Knoxville, TN

Vicki Phillips

Al Richardson, Belmont Village  
Lee Ann Hawkins

Gus Stranch, son of Gerard & Patty Stranch

Clay Perry, son of Diane & Tim Perry, grandson of Betty & Bill Johnson. Seattle

Ben and Gayle Cherry

### THIS WEEK, THE ELDERS OF WOODMONT ASK YOU TO JOIN THEM IN PRAYER FOR:

Victims of violence in Washington DC.

Vacation Bible School.

Those who have been killed or injured in the mudslides in Bangladesh.

Fran Stewart who will be the new Chair of the Board of Elders and the Elder Board.

All the other new leaders who will begin their roles July 1.

### Deacons Serving

- Communion Prep:** Diane Perry
- Service Coordinator:** 9:30 - Jerry Johnson  
9:45 - Paula Walker 11:00 - Becca Robinson
- Video Camera:** 9:30 - Christie Harrison  
11:00 - Jim Hester

9:30 a.m.

Marcie Anderson  
Laura Beth Brown  
John Weldon  
Sonny Berry  
Pam Groom  
Billy Crawford  
Laura Stephan  
Phillip Harrison

9:45 a.m.

Marcie Anderson  
Chip Hooper  
Sara Kate Hooper  
Christy Brown

11:00 a.m.

Laurie Hester  
Jeremiah Pyron  
Marty Jordan  
Mike Robinson  
Emily Carpenter  
DEACON NEEDED  
Sandy Dickerson  
Nick Forlidas

### Elders Serving

9:30 a.m.  
Sandy Smith  
Faye Tevebaugh

9:45 a.m.  
Mark Drury

11:00 a.m.  
Rich Sanderson  
Sandra Kyne

Hospital -  
Martha Galyon