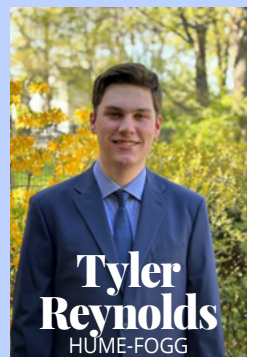
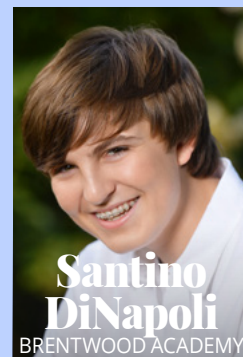
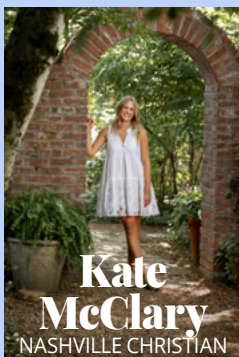
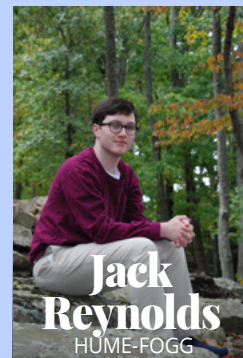
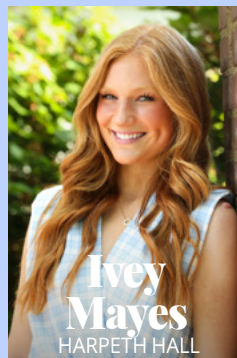
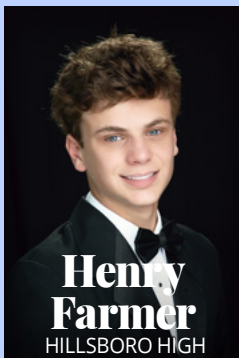
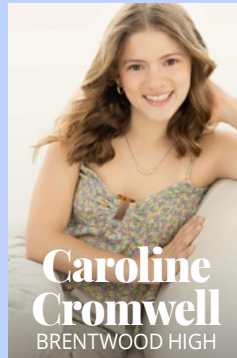
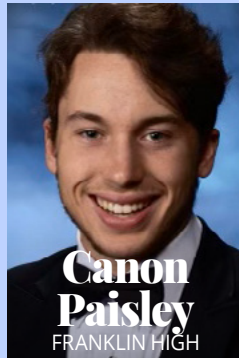
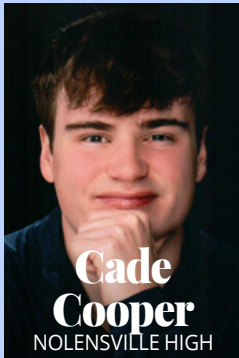
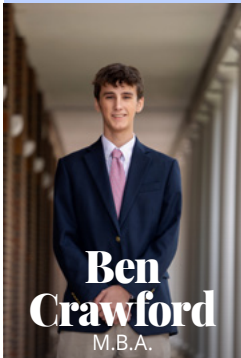
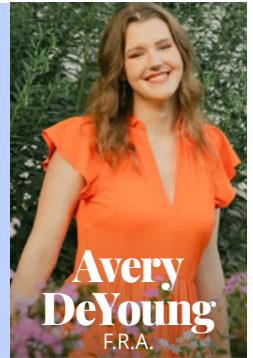
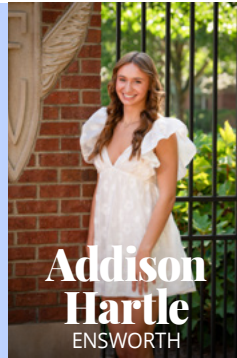


The Spire

WOODMONT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

APRIL 30, 2024

YOUTH SUNDAY 2024



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SENIORS!

NOT PICTURED: ANDY WALLER, COOPER WALLER, ROLLIN PIERCY

Welcome, new members!



KENT & SUSAN BURNS
JOINED MARCH 3, 2024



LISA & JOHN HENDERSON
JOINED MARCH 7, 2024



SARAH & ISAAC PINEDA MALDONADO
JOINED MARCH 23, 2024



OLIVIA WEINBERG
JOINED MARCH 24, 2024



MARY MARGARET BURROWS
JOINED MARCH 26, 2024



HARRISON & ASHLEY FRIST
JOINED MARCH 28, 2024



JENNIFER & MARVIN MORRIS
JOINED MARCH 29, 2024



MARSHALL NEAL & JEAN ANNE COGDELL
JOINED MARCH 31, 2024



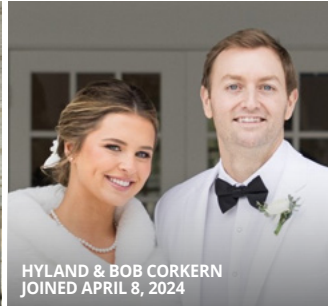
COLIN & KALYN CROSBY
JOINED APRIL 1, 2024



KATHERINE & NATHAN KIVETT
JOINED APRIL 2, 2024



KYLE & GREG MURPHY
JOINED APRIL 2, 2024



HYLAND & BOB CORKERN
JOINED APRIL 8, 2024



LYN & STEVE CATES,
JOINED APRIL 9, 2024



LINDA LAMB
JOINED APRIL 21, 2024



MARSHALL NEAL & JEAN ANNE COGDELL
JOINED MARCH 31, 2024



JEANNE & BOB PARTRIDGE
JOINED APRIL 15, 2024

New to Nashville, Bob & Jeanne Partridge are the parents of Dr. Megan Stauffer and the grandparents of Montgomery, Clayton, and Wade Stauffer.



WOODMONT
CHRISTIAN CHURCH
woodmontchristian.org

MINISTERIAL STAFF

Dr. Clay Stauffer, Senior Minister

Rev. Jay Hutchens • Executive Minister

Rev. Farrell Mason • Minister Pastoral Care

Dr. Roy Stauffer • Minister to Older Adults

Rev. Justin Gung • Minister of Pastoral Counseling

PROGRAM STAFF

Michael Graham • Music Ministry Director

Andra Moran • Creative Director, The Bridge

Abby McLean • Director of Children's Ministry

Moriah Domby • Director of Young Adult Ministries

Katie Gossage • High School Youth Director

Jake Patterson • Middle School Youth Director

Jerry Johnson • Missions Director

Dr. Ben Curtis • Spiritual Director In Residence

Anne Mitchell • Parish Visitor

Rev. Ashley Buchanan • Curriculum Coordinator

Tammy Morgan • Connections Director

Russell Carpenter • Youth Ministry Assistant

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Chris Beck • Business Administrator

Matt Diffenderfer • Communications Director

Amber Moss • Executive Assistant

Jan Anderson • Administrative Assistant

Steven Quinn • A/V Director

Sam Marsh • Property & Facilities Manager

Rellie McLaurine • Custodian



Check out Realm, our online church directory, by searching for "Realm Connect" in the App Store.

3601 Hillsboro Pike
Nashville, Tennessee 37215
615.297.8563

www.woodmontchristian.org



Life Moves Fast So Know What Matters!

BY CLAY STAUFFER

I want to THANK EVERYBODY who has made a commitment to support Woodmont for another year. We have had a strong response through Commitment Sunday! It is still not too late to be a part of this campaign "Loving God, Loving Nashville." You can still email pledge@woodmontcc.org to make your commitment. Every commitment makes a difference and helps us set a responsible budget. We want as many to participate as possible.

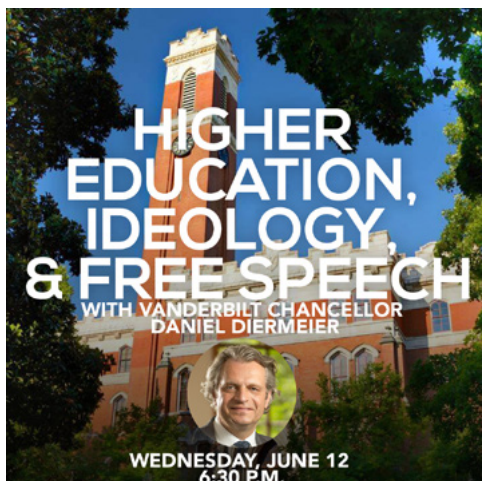
We are looking forward to our youth leading worship this Sunday, May 5, and to some of our graduating seniors sharing the messages. We are very proud of our young people and we should all pray for our seniors as they prepare for a major life transition. It has been a joy to watch them grow up in this church and we wish them all the best as they move on to college and whatever life has in store. Life is an ongoing series of decisions about what is most important, and what is not as important. Sometimes we get it right, and sometimes we don't. Many people say that they have certain values in life, but many of the decisions that they make simply do not align with those values. Let's get specific:

- Some say that their marriage is important, but they don't carve out intentional time to be with their spouse & get away from the kids.
- Some say their children are important, but they often work late and miss many of the games and plays and then wonder how they grew up so fast.
- Some say that their physical health is important, but they don't eat well, get enough sleep, exercise, or work out.
- Some say that their friendships are important, but they rarely reach out to check in and see how their friends are doing.
- Some say that their mental and emotional health is important, but they don't go to counseling, get a spiritual director, or take time to renew, rest, and refresh.
- Some say their faith is important, but they don't pray, read scripture, serve others, join a small group, or come to church & support it.

The hardest person to lead will always be yourself. We constantly get in our own way. Eugene Peterson articulates it this way in his memoir: "The cultural conditions in which I am immersed require a kind of fierce vigilance to guard my vocation from these cultural pollutants so dangerously toxic to persons who want to follow Jesus in the way that he is Jesus. I wanted my life, both my personal and working life, to be shaped by God and the scripture and prayer." Many in our culture will say they want to grow spiritually, emotionally (EQ), and in their faith, but if their weekly or daily schedule is closely analyzed, no time is reserved for this to happen. One activity leads to another and then to another. Busyness and overcommitment have somehow become a badge of honor. Some have a hard time saying "no" because they are people pleasers. American culture is busy, but what are we really busy doing? What quality of life do we really have?

Leadership expert Ron Heifetz talks about the importance of sanctuary, which he describes as "the mental or physical haven to which one can intentionally retreat to create space for reflection and renewal." Sanctuary allows us to take a step back from our specific context to do self-care and to assess our own physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual state. Unfortunately, many in our culture do not have a place or method of finding sanctuary. Alcohol, drugs, shopping, and social media substitute as familiar methods of coping with the stress of a busy life. This is not the same as taking intentional time to grow and mature. Time must be set aside for prayer, stillness, study, reflection, and rest. Self-care must be a priority if we are to do anything well. Without self-care, we will become exhausted and everything will feel out of balance.

CL





Fifth grade youth retreat

APRIL 19-20 AT DEER RUN RETREAT





What God Can't Do

BY ROY STAUFFER

Is there really anything God can't do? When I was a boy, about the age of my grandson Wade, we used to ask a riddle: "Can God make a rock heavier than he can lift?" Of course, there's a difference between playing games with words and doing some serious thinking. And there's a difference between saying God "can't" do something and God "won't" do something.

In Mark's gospel (6:1-6) there's an interesting account about Jesus paying a visit to his hometown. Instead of seeing Jesus for who and what He had become, they only saw him as what he had been growing up – "Isn't this Jesus, the carpenter, the son of Mary? And we know his brothers and sisters too. Where did he get all these ideas he is teaching?" Because of their attitude, Mark says, "and He could not do any mighty works there."

Could Jesus not do any great work because He was "unable" to do it? Or could He not do any great work because the people didn't let Him? Maybe we

need to think deeper about how God (and Jesus) succeeds in this world. God does not accomplish mighty works by "forcing" them upon us, ... or "making" us do something. It's not that He couldn't; just that He won't. God will not "make" you love other people. God will not "make" you care for the needs of others. God will not "force" you to become a compassionate person ... or a generous person. Instead, God leaves the decision up to you. God doesn't "force" us to love Him. He wants us to love Him ... and serve Him ... because we "choose" to do so, not because He "makes us do so."

Think about it. There are many wonderful and mighty works that God doesn't do, not because He "can't" do them, but because we don't "let" Him. Maybe we're sometimes like Jesus' hometown folks, so familiar with Him that we fail to let His mighty works happen. Maybe we're so familiar with the Church that we fail to realize what could happen to us and to others through the Church "if" we really responded in a way to make it happen.

This past Sunday, and throughout the month of April, God has been asking for your "pledge" or "tithe" to underwrite His mission through Woodmont for another year. Now God does not "force" you to make a pledge. And God won't "make" you become a tither. It's up to you to decide whether or not you will do your part. It's up to you to decide whether you trust God in such a way that you're willing to support His work in this world.

All I know is that God has been doing wondrous things through Woodmont because of those who "chose" to make it all possible. It's amazing what the Lord can do with what we entrust to His mission. (Look at the little boy with the loaves and fishes. (John 6:9)

I hope nobody, like in Mark's gospel, will ever write about Woodmont Christian Church and say, "and He could do no mighty work there."

Summer workshops at the Center for Hope & Healing



Woodmont's Center for Hope & Healing will be offering several opportunities for lunchtime and half-day workshops at Campbell West, beginning in May and running through August. The workshops will include different areas for exploring and deepening your spiritual life, and will also offer opportunities for connecting with Woodmont members and the Nashville community at-large.

Topics will include:

- *Writing Your Faith Memoir*
- *Exploring Your Enneagram Type*
- *Healing Through Breathwork*
- *Understanding and Recognizing Trauma*
- *Learning to Lament*
- *Starting A Connection/Bible Study Group*

If there is a specific topic you would like to have added to this list, email the center's director, Vicki Askew, at vaskew@woodmontcc.org and we will do our best to find an expert in that field.

Music spotlight: Jay Bragg

BY MICHAEL GRAHAM



Jay Basiner - better known as Jay Bragg - has been on stage performing music literally his entire life. A New England native and third generation musician whose father still plays music professionally, Jay's introduction to music was through the Suzuki program and he played his first show at age 5. Since then he has written hundreds of songs, recorded 13 studio albums, and performed well over 3,500 live shows all across America, even opening for legendary acts like Chris Stapleton and Alan Jackson.

Jay was raised in a folk music tradition committed to preserving history, connecting people, and celebrating the gift of life through his rich gumbo of American roots music.

In 2020, Jay launched a charity concert series called A Songwriter's Christmas with the mission of celebrating Nashville's songwriter community while raising resources for music education for children from low-income families. Aside from the annual Nashville concert, A Songwriter's Christmas now tours throughout the country each holiday season.

In 2022, Jay founded a community service organization called Gift of Music Project to organize music events for the purpose of public service. Gift of Music Project supports programs related to musical inspiration and collaboration with marginalized communities including folks with developmental disabilities and hospice patients - the latter with whom Jay volunteers weekly as a musical companion.

Jay moved to Nashville in 2015 and he and his fiancé Rachel have been a part of Woodmont for over a year and absolutely love the community.



- THIS WEEK -

SUNDAY, MAY 5 - YOUTH SUNDAY

8:30 AM Full Breakfast, D.H.
9:30 AM 21st Century Class, Boardroom
9:30 AM Disciples Class, Room 105
10:45 AM Connection Class, Room 100
10:45 AM Pathways Class, Boardroom
10:45 AM Reflections Class, Room 200
11:00 AM Points of View Class, 105
3:00 PM Pickleball, Drowota Hall

MONDAY, MAY 6

3:00 PM "Geezers", Boardroom

TUESDAY, MAY 7

10:00 AM CWF Board, Room 200
11:00 AM CWF Meeting, Chapel
12:00 PM CWF Luncheon, D.H.
6:30 PM Alateen (ages 12-19), South Hall
6:30 PM Parents AL-ANON Group, 105
8:00 PM AA Meeting, South Hall

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

6:00 AM Roy Stauffer's Men's Group, 105
7:00 AM Clay Stauffer's Men's Group, Board.
8:00 AM Men's Bible Study, Room 105
6:00 PM DivorceCare, The Bay Room
6:15 PM Disciples Women's Bible Study, 200
6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

THURSDAY, MAY 9

10:00 AM Sit & Stitch, Gathering Hall
1:00 PM Mahjong Group, Gathering Hall
5:30 PM Handbells, Choir Room
6:30 PM Andra Moran Virtual Vespers, Zoom
6:30 PM Naranon, Room 105
8:00 PM AA Meeting, South Hall

FRIDAY, MAY 10

3:00 PM Pickleball, Drowota Hall

SATURDAY, MAY 11

10:00 AM Al-Anon, Drowota Hall



**THIS SUNDAY,
MAY 5**

YOUTH SUNDAY

**JOIN US AS MEMBERS OF OUR
YOUTH GROUP LEAD WORSHIP
IN-PERSON AT 9:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.
AND VIA VIDEO AT 9:40 A.M.**

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

**8:30 A.M. FULL BREAKFAST
9:30 A.M. INFORMAL & LIVESTREAM
9:40 A.M. THE BRIDGE & LIVESTREAM
11:00 A.M. TRADITIONAL & LIVESTREAM**

GIVING

**APRIL 7: \$100,287
APRIL 14: \$33,959
APRIL 21: \$68,722
APRIL 28: \$45,797**

PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

COMING UP:

- Dick Kendrick - knee replacement May 8
- Rosemary Weldon - ankle replacement May 14

SYMPATHY TO:

- Leslee Hughes on the death of her father, Jack Curtis Hughes, on April 22

NEW CONCERNS:

- Stephanie Bowman's father, Eugene Johnson Wall
- Mary Williams Katri, daughter of Cathy Williams and sister of Richmond Williams

CONTINUING CONCERNS:

- Steve Harrison
- Gloria Jackson
- Emily Bond Leaman
- Cass Meeks
- Michael Murphy
- Ken Palm
- Angela Powers
- Walker Sharpton, infant son of Katie & Scott Sharpton
- Pat Stanley
- Fran Stewart - recovering from knee replacement
- Mike Stewart
- Barrett Sutton
- Walter White
- Frances Wood

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS:

- Beverly Honeycutt Wilson - recovering from knee replacement
- Beth Sowell's sister, Barb Vial
- L. A. Galyon's mother, Vicky Galyon - small cell lung cancer
- Lee Moss



Spring Fling
SUNDAY, APRIL 28



Nonprofit Org.
US Postage Paid
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Permit No.1204

The Spire



Second Annual
Burnt Offerings
MEMORIAL DAY FUNDRAISER

Pulled pork shoulder in 2 lb bags for \$20 per bag

Smoked ribs for \$20 per rack

Payment made at pickup or via Realm

Available for Pickup
May 24 & 26
May 2024

Woodmont's grilling ministry is hosting it's second annual Memorial Day fundraiser and offering pulled pork shoulder in 2 lb. bags for \$20 each and racks of smoked ribs for \$20 each. Pre-orders will be taken until Wednesday, May 22, until our limit is reached (50 bags of pulled pork, 30 racks of ribs) on a first-come, first-serve basis. Pickup is Friday, May 24, at Woodmont.

At pickup time, pay via cash or check made payable to Woodmont Christian Church with "Burnt Offerings" on the memo line. Payment can also be made on Realm by selecting Miscellaneous Payment and in the memo line and typing Burnt Offerings Fundraiser. To order, scan our QR code.

Proceeds from this event will go towards funding future mission and outreach projects. Contact wcburntofferings@gmail.com

