

**Today's Sermon Topics**

**AM**

I Am Resolved  
Philippians 2:5-13

**PM**

Shall We Keep Christ in Christmas?  
Matthew 2:1-12

**Welcome to our Visitors**

We welcome all visitors to our services today. We are thankful for your presence, and pray that you will enjoy this time of worship and fellowship with the brethren here at Woodstock Church of Christ.



**Church Office Hours**

The church office will be closed all day  
**Thursday, Dec. 22**  
**Friday, Dec. 23**  
**Monday, Dec. 26**  
**Tuesday, Dec. 27**  
**Wednesday, Dec. 28**

The bulletin will be printed on Wednesday, Dec. 21 and Friday, Dec. 30. Please turn in items for the bulletin the day before printing date.

**Holiday Services Schedule**

Classes and Worship Times As Usual on  
**Wednesday, December 21**  
**December 25, am & pm**  
**January 1, am & pm**

**Special Devotional Service**

**Wednesday, December 28**  
**7:30 pm**  
**Auditorium**  
No classes will meet.

**Bible Bowl Teams Practice**

**Wednesday, Dec. 28**  
**7:30 pm**  
**Rooms 205 & 206**

We will continue our study of James. If you have an opportunity during your break, please continue reading and studying the questions.

**New Year's Eve Get-together & Game Night**

**7:30 pm - midnight**  
**Fellowship Hall**

Bring games and snack foods and drinks. All ages are invited. Come and bring in the new year with your Christian brothers and sisters. Come early or late, stay as long as you like! See Larry or Kathy Crawford for more information.

**FFYF=** First Friday Youth Fellowship  
**Friday, January 6**  
**7-9 pm**  
**Teen Classroom**

**SAVE THE DATE!!!**  
**Elder & Senior Appreciation Dinner**  
**Saturday, January 21**

**Coat Collection**

Once again, we are collecting warm coats and heavy sweaters for the homeless and needy in our area. Please place your donations in the box in the foyer.



**Sympathy**

Our thoughts and prayers are with the following families in their time of loss:

**Doris Manning**, whose daughter, Yolandra Manning, passed on last Saturday morning.  
**Don & Martha Slocumb**, in the passing of his sister, Gloria Darlene Perry, on Sunday.  
**Pat & Charles Holmes**, on the loss of her mother, Bonnie Mae Stone, last Sunday. Mrs. Stone was the grandmother of Joel Fields.

**Benevolence News**

Thank you to all who have responded so generously to the appeals for food for the food pantry. You have really helped to meet our needs. A big thank you also for all the gifts for our Christmas Kids! You made many children happy.

Mike House, Tom Markham  
Deacons

**Woodstock Day School**

1 - 4 year olds  
**THANK YOU!**



The Woodstock Day School extends a huge thank you to all who helped to create and donate gift baskets for our Silent Auction held at our Christmas Party. It was a very successful fund-raiser, in fact we earned the highest amount in our history, making a profit of over \$1300! We really appreciate the support of the congregation.

Kristie Markham, Director & The Board of Directors



Woodstock Church of Christ,  
Thanks so much for the prayers, flowers, and cards you sent during the loss of my dad. We are very blessed to have such a caring church family.

Love,  
Joe, Gayla, Tripp,  
Trevor & Addie Stephens

**New Address**

Betty Tomlin

**Pantry Items of the Week**

We are having many requests for food from our pantry and it is bare again! Please bring as many of these items as you can to help us restock:

Cereal  
Toilet Tissue  
Jelly



Rice  
Beans

**OUR LOVE EXPRESSED**

Bible Study.....161  
Worship AM.....305  
Worship PM.....214  
Hispanic (am service).....26  
Wed. Night Bible Study.....134  
Contribution.....\$8,293  
Budget.....\$8,850  
Difference.....-[557]

December 18, 2011



**SHUT-INS**

Bobbie Fish	Kenneth Payne
Carole Gunter	Henry Schmid
Marie Hastings	Eileen Skelton
Eulene Howell	Betty Tomlin
Bill Kirby	Katherine West

**OUR MEMBERS**

John & Rosie Hicks	Katherine West
Wallace and Burns families	
Jennifer Chambers	Rebecca Little
the unemployed of our congregation	

**FRIENDS AND RELATIVES**

Med Anschutz, mother of Sandi Bailey  
Warren Watson, stepfather of James McGee  
Keith Mitchell, relative of Jayne Woodyard  
Mr Bailey, father of friend of Ethan Woodyard  
Maurice Hill, father of former member, Leigh Burns  
Zack Quinn, nephew of Stenelle Brewer  
Henry Chambon, friend of Judy Hayes  
Edna Smithy, sister of Millie Hardin  
Wayne Sticher, brother-in-law of Betty Sticher  
Mike Langley, brother of Shirley Lewis  
John Bradley, brother-in-law of Glen Rice  
Darrell Wright, former member

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Carie Taylor completed her Master's degree in Early Childhood Education. Nick Murphy graduated from UGA with a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice.

**SERVING IN FOREIGN LANDS**

Jeffery Harbuck - contact of Susan Garner  
Justyn Duncan - contact of Susan Garner  
Kevin West - former member, nephew of Goodwins  
Levan Freeman - great-nephew of Jean Franklin  
Brandon Tucker - great grandson of Jewell Tucker  
Ben Proctor - son of Sandra Rice's friend  
Matt Callihan - nephew of Mark Mason  
Neil Hufstetler - friend of John & Linda Campbell  
Dale Nelson - minister, contact of Bryan Collins  
Devin Dankert - cousin of Bryan Collins  
Brailey Brooks - brother of Stenelle Brewer

This Week's Events		
Thurs.	All Day	Church Office Closed
Friday	All Day	Church Office Closed

Weekly Schedule		Ushers for Dec.
<u>Sunday</u> Bible Study Worship	9:30 AM 10:30 AM 6:00 PM	Marshall Brown Keith Taylor Barry Payne Rick Laukka Ron Dunnivant
<u>Wednesday</u> Bible Study	7:30 PM	

Deacons			
Eric Aguirre	Mike House	Rick Laukka	Benny Stephens
Dave Brannan	Greg Hughes	Tom Markham	David Stoker
John Campbell	Guy Hydrick	Harold Null	George Stroh
Larry Crawford	Jack Kyle	Barry Payne	Don Williams
Greg Garner	Rick Langosch	Jeremy Powell	

Ministers	
Matt Amos matt.amos@woodstockchurchofchrist.org	Rafael Uzcategui rafael.uzcategui@WoodstockChurchofChrist.org

Contact Information		Elders
<b>Address</b>	219 Rope Mill Road Woodstock, GA 30188	elders@woodstockchurchofchrist.org
<b>Main Office</b>	770-926-8838	David Cravy
<b>Spanish Office</b>	770-926-8271	Stan Dmytrowitz
<b>Fax</b>	770-926-8271	John Hicks
<b>www.woodstockchurchofchrist.org</b> <b>info@WoodstockChurchofChrist.org</b>		Rick Reynolds
<b>Office Hours</b>	Monday - Thursday 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM Friday 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM	

Local TV Shows
<i>In Search of the Lord's Way</i> with Mac Lyon, WATC-TV 57, Sunday 7:30 AM
<i>Good News Today</i> Sunday 7:30 AM, Dishnet Channel 267, DirecTV Channel 376, Sky Angel - IPTV Channel 136, GloryStar Channel 117
<i>Preaching the Gospel</i> with James Watkins is seen on <i>Good News Today</i> See GBN, 24/7, Broadband: go to GBNTV.org, click on the live stream

Ushers for December: Marshall Brown, Keith Taylor, Barry Payne, Rick Laukka, Ron Dunnivant

Worship AM	December 18	December 25
Welcome	Don Williams	Gary Kyle
Songleader	Stan Dmytrowitz	Mark Kyle
Opening Prayer	Harold Null	Rick Laukka
Lord's Table	Guy Hydrick	William Goodwin
1	Charles Bailey	Keith Taylor
2	Mark Williams	Joe Moody
3	Joel Fields	Bob Crompton
4	Woody Woodyard	Glen Rice
5	Clint Hall	Richard Holdridge
6	Joe Stephens	George Stroh
Reading: Philippians 2:5-13	David Brannan	Floyd Garner
Sermon	Matt Amos	David Cravy
Shepherd's Closing Prayer	John Hicks	David Cravy
Prepare Communion	John & Rosie Hicks	Steve & Rita Brandt
	Harold & Rachel Smith	Barry & Ellen Payne
Greeters	Frank & Glenda Cole Rick & Pam Reynolds Ron & Patti Dunnivant	Frank & Glenda Cole Rick & Pam Reynolds Ron & Patti Dunnivant
Sound Room	Eric Dotson	Clint Hall
Security	Jerry Wallace	George Stroh
Nursery	Delinda Druzba	Linda Grady
	Shirley Lewis	Julie Jones
Worship PM	December 18	December 25
Welcome	Johnny Mackey	Rick Laukka
Song Leader	George Stroh	Johnny Mackey
Opening Prayer	David Cravy	Stan Dmytrowitz
Reading: Matthew 2:1-12	Mike Allen	Richard Allen
Sermon	Matt Amos	Don Williams
Lord's Table	Rick Langosch	Larry Crawford
Assist at Lord's Table	Bob Crompton	Dave Brannan
Closing Prayer	Gary Kyle	George Stroh
Nursery	Rita Laukka	Tammy Williams
	Beth Wallace	Mary Leigh Williams
Wednesday	December 21	December 28
Song Leader	George Stroh	Robert Howell
Invitation	Matt Amos	To Be Announced
Closing Prayer	Jack Kyle	George Stroh
Sound Room	Robert Howell	Frank Cole
Security	Marshall Brown	Don Slocumb

Privileged to Serve if you are unable to serve, notify Dave Brannan

# Woodstock church of Christ

## W E E K L Y

**Vol. 19 No. 51 December 18, 2011**

*Welcome to the Lord's church that meets at Woodstock, Georgia. We find our authority in the inspired word of God and are governed in organization, faith, worship and work according to God's Holy Word.*

### "Do You See What I See?"

You know, a lifetime filled with hearing particular things could lead to a type of brainwashing. Those things might not be true, but just hearing those things over and over leads to a type of brainwashing, an acceptance without realizing the facts. Brainwashing is one of those terms that is not necessarily bad, but usually takes on a bad connotation. We should want to have our minds washed by God's word! But, that is a far cry from not always comparing what we believe to what the Word of God says! A comparable thought is the idea of open-mindedness. Our mind should always be open to consider what people believe and teach. We should listen and test everything that one might say or believe. But for some reason, being open-minded in our day means accepting everything, or at best not challenging anything, that someone believes. The Bible teaches that we are "not to believe every spirit, but test the spirits whether they are of God" (1 John 4:1).

Has a lifetime of hearing certain things about the birth of Jesus led us to blind acceptance? Have we traded truth for tradition? Do you have the ability to discern between truth and tradition? Remember the truth is what sets us free! Let's see. Let's try this little exercise. How many things in the following statement have no basis in scripture: things that many people just assume because they have always heard them or sung them? After counting them, then read Matthew 2 and Luke 2 for the details and see what God says. Don't be misled by what we have been conditioned to believe. You'll probably never look at a "nativity scene" the same again! Ok, here it is: *"The three kings followed the star over the stable where Jesus was born on Christmas night to worship Him and to deliver three gifts."*

Christians are grateful for the birth of Christ and for all the blessings that it brings! This should never be diminished any time of the year! We love this time of being together with friends and family and giving of the bounty with which God has blessed us! But conscientious Christians will want the truth of God on this matter and all matters to be believed and taught how God has described them, not merely how many have stated them!

You know there are many things that are said and done in the name of "Christianity" that have no basis in scripture, yet they are believed because people have heard them over and over and over again! This same test can be taken relative to such topics as "the sinner's prayer," denominational churches/"one church is as good as another," praying to Mary, "once saved always saved," mechanical instrumental music in the worship of God, and so many others. Are these things found in the New Testament or are they traditions of people that we have been accepted because these teachings, like the statement above, have been repeated over and over and over again? I believe it's time we checked out the facts!

By the way, I'll be interested to hear from you individually just how many assumptions you found in the above statement concerning the birth of Christ! (I'll also get a pretty good idea of how many are reading the bulletin!)

Our family will be out of town (in Ohio near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) this weekend and into the middle of next week! We hope that every one of you remain safe and enjoy this holiday season with friends and family. We look forward to ushering in the New Year with you! We love you all so much and we're glad that we now call Woodstock home!

-Matt