

Welcome to our Visitors

We welcome all visitors to our services today. We are thankful for your presence for this time of worship and fellowship with the brethren here at Woodstock Church of Christ. Please complete a "Visitor" card and send it to the center aisle so we can have a record of your presence.

This Week's Events



KidSing
Today, 6 pm

Church Office Closed
Monday, December 26, All Day
Monday, January 2, All Day

Manna in the Morning
Will Not Meet on Monday,
December 26 or January 2



Men's Recovery Group
Mondays at 6:30 pm, room 206
If you would like to be a part of the 12-step recovery for men, please attend. See Dave Brannan for questions.



Exposure Youth Camp
December 27-30
HS & MS Youth

Holiday Special Services
Wednesday, Dec. 28, 7:30 pm
Bible classes will NOT meet



New Year's Eve
Get-together & Game Night
7:30 pm - midnight
fellowship hall

Bring games, 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.

Next Week's Events



Men's Recovery Group
Mondays at 6:30 pm, room 206
If you would like to be a part of the 12-step recovery for men, please attend. See Dave Brannan for questions.



Women's Recovery Group
Mondays at 6:30 pm, room 205
We will be starting the women's recovery group on January 2nd. Classic Brumley will be the group facilitator. The meeting times will be the same as the men's group. 6:30-8:30 pm on Mondays.



Wednesday Morning
Ladies' Bible Class
Will resume January 4, 2017
We will continue our study with 2 Corinthians.

ESL Classes
Mondays at 7 pm
Classes resume January 9

We are in need of volunteers for teaching, serving refreshments, baby sitting and registration. Please see Rafael Uzcatagui.

Sewing Club

Thursday, January 12
Monday, January 16
Thursday, January 26
Monday, January 30
If you do not want to quilt, just bring your own project and enjoy the group. We meet 7-9 pm.

L2L 2017
Registration
Sunday, January 15

Registration fees are due at the time of registration. See Jeremy & Shawna Powell for questions.

Challenge Youth
Conference (CYC)
February 24-26
Pigeon Forge, TN

This is an opportunity for youth to attend a gathering of about 12,000 Christians for devotionals, to hear great speakers and singing groups from the brotherhood, and to worship and sing praises to our Father. If you want to attend, sign up on the Youth bulletin board by Today. The payment needs to be made by Wednesday, December 28. Call Joey O'Dell at xxxxx for details, or you can get more information and see a schedule at cyconline.com.

WINGS Tea
Women In God's Service
Sunday, January 15, 4:30 pm
fellowship hall

All women of the congregation are encouraged to attend.



Library Inventory

We are in the process of doing inventory for the library. There are many books still out. Please check your home and car for books and return all as soon as possible. Thank you, Library Staff

Birthday Calendars

A list of members' birthdays for January, February, and March is available on the credenza in the foyer. Get your copy today and send a card!

Missions

Pantry Items of the Week

Cereal, Cooking Oil, Toilet Tissue, and Dish Detergent

God's Blessing Bags

The Blessing Bags are ready! Please take what you can give away.



2017 Woodstock
Mission Travel Fund

This fund is for those individuals traveling to India from Woodstock in January 2017. Collection dates for this fund began July 1, 2016, and will cease December 31, 2016. To contribute (IN ADDITION TO YOUR NORMAL WEEKLY CONTRIBUTION), make checks payable to WCOC and note for Woodstock Mission Travel Fund.



Dear Church family at Woodstock,
I just wanted to express my feelings of thankfulness and gratitude to all of you for your many acts of kindness toward me during my recent health issues. Thank you for all the cards and especially for your prayers for me. You are truly a loving family, letting the love of Christ shine through.

In His name,
Pat Harris

New Sister in Christ

Baptized 12/18/16
Ciara Baughn
Care Zone 2.1

New Address

Daniel & Jennifer Welker
Care Zone 2.1

Chronological
Bible in a Year

January bookmarks are now available. Please check out BibleGateway.com to see the daily passages online. Place completed bookmarks back in the tray. Currently: Jan. 47, Feb. 45, Mar. 45, Apr. 42, May 40, June 37, July 37, Aug. 37, Sept. 38, Oct. 33 and Nov. 31.

Our Love Expressed

Bible Study.....179
Worship AM.....310
Worship PM.....160
Wed. Night Bible Study.....N/A

December 25, 2016

SHUT-INS

Prayer Requests	Frank Blackwell	Mary Legg
	Jennifer Chambers	Ethel Miles
	William Flatt	Janice Moody
	William Goodwin	Kenneth Payne
	Carole Gunter	Margaret Payne
	Thamara Howell	Eileen Skelton
	Howard Key	Jewell Tucker

OUR MEMBERS

Classic Brumley	KayIn Jones
David Cravy	Bobby Mason
Tina Davis	Robert Phillips
Diana Diamond	Anerol Reese
Jean Franklin	Sandra Rice
Gayle Goodwin	Mark Roby
William Goodwin	Carson Vitrano
Thamara Howell	Sandra Wallace
Linda King	Daniel Welker
Johnny Mackey	

Christians in Pakistan
Kyle Clayton Family in India

FRIENDS AND RELATIVES

Angie Miles, friend of Glen & Sandra Rice
Bret Gilmore, brother of Missy Dotson
Eddie Rice, son of Glen & Sandra Rice
Sheri Moreau, sister of Terri Hall
Zora Lewis, wife of a friend of Ron Cox
Nancy Bender, sister of Leslie Torkildsen
Linda Simcox, recent visitor
Pat Thompson, mother of Terri Hall
Matt Jones, friend of Burt Holt
Marcus Monahan, grandson of Barbara Murphy
Terry Sanford, mother of Pam Patterson
Jennie Lindell, friend of the Amos family
Kathy Mock, grandmother of Brody & Bryson Padgett
Deborah Thames, daughter of Anerol Reese
Luz, mother of Bianca and Kimberly Berkenmeier
Michael Jennings, son of Chris Jennings
Molly & Matt Latham, friends of Joey O'Dell
Thomas Sanders, husband of Ruth Sanders
Ron Stiteler, friend of Gayle Goodwin
Tim Schumacher, son of Cindy Schumacher
Dave Craton, husband of Carol Craton
Cole Putnam, son of Bob & Cathie Putnam
Joshua Moore & Dakoda Phipps, sons of Tammy Phipps
Allan Williams, husband of Janet Williams
Don Bailey, frequent visitor



Donevan Brand
Austin Cooper
Austin Hannum
Colton Umstead
Shane Umstead
Joseph Vasquez

This Week's Events		
Sun.	6:00 PM	KidSing
Mon.	All Day	Church Office Closed
Mon.		No Manna This Week
Mon.	6:30 PM	Men's Recovery Group
Tues.		MS & HS Exposure Camp
Wed.	7:30 PM	Special Service
Sat.	7:30 PM	New Year's Eve Game Night

Weekly Schedule	Elders
Sunday Bible Study 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM 6:00 PM	elders@woodstockchurchofchrist.org David Cravy Gary Kyle Rick Reynolds Don Williams
Wednesday Bible Study 7:30 PM	
Friday Spanish Bible Study 7:00 PM	

Deacons	
Charles Bailey	Rick Laukka
Reg Berry	Jack Lewis
Dave Brannan	Tom Markham
Frank Cole	Barry Payne
Ron Cox	Jeremy Powell
Larry Crawford	Doug Reed
Eric Dotson	Walter Sessions
Greg Garner	Joe Stephens
Troy Golden	Joe Stickels
Mike House	Lincoln Waddell

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

Contact Information	
Address	219 Rope Mill Road Woodstock, GA 30188
Main Office	770-926-8838
Spanish Office	770-926-8271
Fax	770-926-8271
Website	www.woodstockchurchofchrist.org
Email	info@woodstockchurchofchrist.org
Office Hours	Monday - Thursday 8:30 AM-3:30 PM Friday 8:30 AM-12:30 PM

Social Media	
www.facebook.com/groups/6063394680/	- Woodstock Church of Christ page
www.facebook.com/groups/681085048620415/	- Young Christian Adults page (YCA)
www.facebook.com/groups/163427743687505/	- Fellowship of Christian Adults (FCA)
www.facebook.com/groups/205772372829263/	- Woman IN God's Service (Wings)
www.facebook.com/groups/41417838605466/	- Woodstock Church of Christ Ladies (WCOCLadies Group)
www.facebook.com/groups/35792174237/	- Woodstock Day School Twitter: @wccoc219
Stream sermons at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzIDPK3tAJSF4UCOKYAS3A	

Privileged to Serve		
If you are unable to serve, notify Frank Cole,		
Ushers for December: Marshall Brown, Woody Woodyard, David Kennedy, and Charles Little		
Worship AM	December 25	January 1
Welcome	Eric Dotson	Mike House
Song Leader	Jeremy Powell	Jeremy Powell
Opening Prayer	Johnny Mackey	Woody Woodyard
Lord's Table	Rick Laukka	Don Williams
1	Mike House	Mark Williams
2	Andrew Rodgers	Aaron Martell
3	James Dowdy	Monty Pernel
4	Don Williams	David Kennedy
5	Walter Sessions	Zack Kay
6	Billy Allen	Andrew Rodgers
Scripture Reading	Marcus Musgrave	Owen Massey
Sermon	Matt Amos	Matt Amos
Shepherd's Closing Prayer	Gary Kyle	Rick Reynolds
Prepare Communion	Marshall Brown	Gary & Lara Kyle
	Don & Tammy Williams	Joe & Katherine Stickels
Greeters	Paul & Debbie Dotson	James & Peggy Dowdy
	Frank & Glenda Cole	Dave Brannan
Sound Room (A/V)	Stan Dmytrowitz	Frank Cole
Building Lock-up	Rick Laukka	Rick Laukka
Nursery	Lara Kyle	Gwen Stoker
	Emma Kyle	Shannon Stoker
Worship PM	December 25	January 1
Welcome	Justin Hydrick	Troy Golden
Song Leader	Jack Kyle	Walter Sessions
Opening Prayer	Stan Dmytrowitz	Jeremy Powell
Scripture Reading	Woody Woodyard	De'artae Pernel
Sermon	Matt Amos	Matt Amos
Lord's Table	Monty Davis	Woody Woodyard
Assist at Lord's Table	Reagan Markham	Andrew Woodyard
Closing Prayer	John Hicks	Eric Dotson
Nursery	Anna Golden	Kelly Ashworth
	Darlene Vasquez	Katrina Brannan
Wednesday	December 28	January 4
Song Leader	Special	Troy Golden
Invitation	Service	Matt Amos
Closing Prayer		Michael Maldonado
Sound Room (A/V)	Stan Dmytrowitz	Frank Cole
Building Lock-up	Troy Golden	Marshall Brown

Local TV Shows/Other Social Media	
In Search of the Lord's Way with Phil Sanders, WATC-TV 57, Sunday 7:30 am, www.facebook.com/insearchofthelordsway, Blog: searchtelevision.blogspot.com/	
YouTube: www.youtube.com/user/Search1TVMinistry	
Good News Today, on GBN	
Preaching the Gospel program available on DISH NETWORK Channel 267 and DIRECTV Channel 376, Sunday Mornings only, 7:30 Eastern Standard Time	
The Gospel Broadcasting Network may be viewed in the Atlanta area: Online at http://www.gbn.tv/	
Through the Roku device (http://gbn.tv/roku.html)	
On iPhone/iPad with GBN app in the iTunes Store (http://bit.ly/jnqMvXK)	
On Android with GBN app from the Android Market (http://bit.ly/XREhXf)	



Woodstock Church of Christ Weekly Bulletin

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.

Vol. 24 No. 52 WAS JESUS BORN ON DECEMBER 25? December 25, 2016

The reason our services today are no different than any other Sunday is because Jesus was not born on December 25 and because the Lord never authorized in His Word the recognition of a special day for His birth. Careful analysis of Scripture clearly indicates that December 25 could not be the date for Christ's birth. Here are two primary reasons:

First, we know that shepherds were in the fields watching their flocks at the time of Jesus' birth (Luke 2:7-8). Shepherds were not in the fields during December. According to Luke's account, it may suggest that Jesus would have been born in summer or early fall. Since December is cold and rainy in Judea, it is likely the shepherds would have sought shelter for their flocks at night.

Similarly, this passage argues against the birth of Christ occurring on December 25 since the weather would not have permitted shepherds watching over their flocks in the fields at night.

Second, Jesus' parents came to Bethlehem to register in a Roman census (Luke 2:1-4). Such censuses were not taken in winter, when temperatures often dropped below freezing and roads were in poor condition. Taking a census under such conditions would have been self-defeating.

If Jesus Christ wasn't born on December 25, does the Bible indicate when He was born? The biblical accounts point to the fall of the year as the most likely time of Jesus' birth based on the conception and birth of John the Baptist.

Since Elizabeth (John's mother) was in her sixth month of pregnancy when Jesus was conceived (Luke 1:24-36), we can determine the approximate time of year Jesus was born if we know when John was born. John's father, Zachariah was a priest serving in the Jerusalem temple during the course of Abijah (Luke 1:5). Historical calculations indicate this course of service corresponded to June 13-19 in that year.

It was during this time of temple service that Zachariah learned that he and his wife, Elizabeth, would have a child (Luke 1:8-13). After he completed his service and traveled home, Elizabeth conceived (Luke 1:23-24). Assuming John's conception took place near the end of June, adding nine months brings us to the end of March as the most likely time for John's birth. Adding another six months (the difference in ages between John and Jesus (Luke 1:35-36)) brings us to the end of September as the likely time of Jesus' birth.

Although it is difficult to determine the first time anyone celebrated December 25 as "Christmas Day", historians are in general agreement that it was sometime during the fourth century. This is an amazingly late date. There was a desire to bring pagans into "Christianity" and December 25 was fixed as a compromise with celebrations of paganism. After all, if Romanism could get the pagans to celebrate "Christ-mass", that would be one step closer to integration! Christmas was not observed in Rome, the capital of the Roman Empire, until more than 300 years after Christ's death. Of course, its origins cannot be traced back to either the Bible or practices of the earliest Christians, as cannot many of the practices of the Roman Catholic Church.

-Matt