



West Wind

January 2014

Westwood Baptist Church

Joining God in His Work

Phone 919-469-9393 Fax 866-682-1360



Church Staff

Mike Eddinger, Pastor

Keith Vaughn, Associate Pastor

Caroline Allen, Minister of
Music & Worship

Michelle Anderson, Minister of Youth

Charles Allard, Pastor Emeritus

Becky Bullock, Administrative Assistant

Tracy Gonzalez, Secretary

Ellis Williams, Deacon Chair

Diane Owens, Pianist

Kim Taylor, Organist

Church Office Hours

Monday ~ Friday, 9:00am—4:00pm

Weekly Activities

Sunday

8:30 am Orchestra Rehearsal
9:15 am Sunday School
9:30 am Sunrise Ministry
10:30 am Worship
5:30 pm Puppet Ministry
6:30 pm YAC (Youth Center)

Monday

4:00 pm Youth Handbells
7:15 pm Adult Handbells

Tuesday

6:30 am Prayer Breakfast
4:00 pm Children's Handbells
6:30 pm ESL
7:00 pm GriefShare

Wednesday

5:15 pm Fellowship Meal
6:00 pm Nursery
6:00 pm Youth Missions
6:00 pm Preschool & Children's
Music & Missions
6:30 pm Prayer & Bible Study
6:30 pm Men's & Women's Bible
Studies
6:45 pm Ensemble Rehearsal
6:45 pm Youth Praise Band
& Ministry Team
7:30 pm Outreach
7:40 pm Westwood Choir
Rehearsal

Carrying the Absurdity of Christmas into the New Year

Søren Kierkegaard was a 19th century Danish philosopher and church reformer who ruffled plenty of religious feathers in his day, and since. He once commented on what he termed the *absurdity of Christmas* by proclaiming *the biblical Yuletide story, complete with a virgin, baby, angelic visitors, and a host of other nativity guests, is utterly irrational.* And that absurdity, he concluded, was exactly what made Christmas so perfect.

Kierkegaard staged an ongoing literary battle against what he saw as the institutionalized, depersonalized religion of the Church of Denmark. Authentic worship had evolved into empty theological traditions that numbed the hearts of the people. Ministers had become civil servants. Sermons were reduced to speeches. Worship had become mechanical. The warm hope of the Gospel was gone.

Into the midst of that religious apathy Kierkegaard injected a fresh sense of mystery. He reasoned that the Christian faith, by necessity, is completely irrational. *No one can achieve salvation by objective examination,* he said. Rather, a *subjective leap of faith* is what propels us into God's family.

What a wonderful lesson for you and me to remember and reflect upon as we enter 2014. God is not bound by our everyday rules of logic. He eternally lives outside the box. The classic example of that is the absurdity of Christmas...that God, who is infinite and eternal, would become a human being, who was finite and mortal. What a profound and appealing paradox!

God will never *make sense* to us. After all, Scripture teaches us...*As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.* And it seems to me that at the top of the list of God's unexplainable agenda is his choosing you and me to join him in the work of telling his divine story. Surely, only the most holy and worthy would qualify to be entrusted with such work; but as usual, God surprises us with a different plan. He not only accepts, but he calls and commissions imperfect human volunteers to join him in his work.

To each of us who claim the name of Jesus, God asks, *whom shall I send?* And perhaps without much thought and a bit naively, we respond, *here am I, send me.* And even though we don't really understand what we're getting into, God accepts our willingness and honors our good intentions and with heavenly confidence says, *go!*

You and I have been chosen to experience, and declare, and become the expression of the deep and marvelous mystery of God's infinite love for us. His love story is ours to tell and live. To what greater resolved goal could we aspire for 2014 than to do that faithfully?

My prayer for you and your family is that 2014 will be a year of experiencing God's peace in fresh ways, both within your soul and in all your relationships.

Happy New Year!
Mike

Youth Group Scoop

Wed. Jan 1		No Youth Activities...Happy New Year!
Fri. Jan 3	5:00 pm	Winter Jam (*sign up is full-wait list only)
Sun. Jan 5 & 12	6:30 pm	YAC
Sat. Jan 18	6:00 pm	10-12 Grade to Hockey Game (*Sign up is first come first serve)
Sun Jan 19	6:30 pm	YAC & deadline for \$50 Student Life Deposit
Fri-Sun Jan 24-26		Ski Retreat
Sun Jan 26	11:30 am	Quarterly Business Meeting & Youth Fundraiser Lunch
Sat. Feb. 1	6:00 pm	Senior Adult Banquet (youth arrive at 5 pm)
Fri. Feb 7	6:00 pm	7th—9th grade to hockey game (*Sign up is first come first serve) Sun. Feb 9 SuperYac ~ More info to come



GRIEF SHARE®

Winter Evening Session 2014

Winter Evening Session 2014,
Tuesdays, January 7 – April 1, 2014

7-9pm in Room 209

Cost: \$25 per person

2014 Monday Morning Bible Study

The Monday morning Bible study will begin on Monday, January 13, 2014, at 10:00 a.m., meeting in room 208. The study will focus on the book of Philippians. A study guide will be available at the first session.

A sign-up sheet will be posted in Hall A or you may contact Terry Campbell at 851-6259 or at tccampbell519@yahoo.com.

Singles Focus

with

- Singles Lunch ~ Sunday January 19 at Bojangles on Hwy 64 and Laura Duncan. Rd.
- Singles Movie Night ~ Friday, January 24th at 7 pm. We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall and watch "Standing Firm".
- Singles Conference at Westwood Saturday, February 6th. More details on pg 5

MEDIA CENTER NEWS

In memory of Clarence Cox (Gail Stevens' father) the Round Table Mission Group has given the book "The Reason For My Hope: Salvation" by Billy Graham. Billy Graham reminds us that Jesus came "to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10) and that salvation belongs to us, when we reach out for the only One who can rescue us-Jesus.

Come by the Media Center and check out one of our many inspirational and uplifting books.

Parenting Class coming in February during the Sunday School hour. Watch for more details!

Keith's Corner

I am sitting at my desk in my office in front of my computer pondering on what I should write in my article for the January newsletter. What can I say to you that would be new and fresh? What musings can I give that may be pithy, insightful, helpful, or possibly even humorous that would speak to life and faith, and how the two merge together in our daily following of Jesus? I must confess that I struggle to find words that are edifying and encouraging even for myself at times, much less for you.

As you read this we will be in the midst of Christmastide, celebrating the twelve days of Christmas as we move toward Epiphany (January 6) which will complete the Christmas season. We will be in the calendar year of 2014 and I am looking down the list of church activities that are bearing down upon us in January and February. These activities include putting away Christmas decorations, a staff retreat, a youth ski retreat, a deacon retreat, a quarterly church business meeting, the Senior Adult banquet, a Gregg Buchanan concert, our Annual Singles Ministry Conference, and Winter Bible Study. That doesn't include all of the other sundry events that come in to play in between the printed schedule and calendar.

So, what do I say, what do I write to help you wade into the New Year not only in church life, but also in everyday life as you live out your calling to be a servant of Jesus Christ? Well, lo and behold, God places something in front of me in the form of a Christmas gift from my dear friend, Ron Glover, who I have known since my seminary days. It is a book by the author Anne Lamont, a *New York Times* bestseller no less, titled *Help Thanks Wow: The Three Essential Prayers*.

Lamont provides for us three simple prayers to get us through tough times, everyday struggles, and the hard work of everyday life. It is in these three simple prayers in which we ask for assistance, appreciate the good we witness, and feel awe at the world that helps get us through the day and to move forward. She teaches us that our communication with God doesn't have to be elaborate or complicated or formal or excruciating, but prayer that is as simple as these three words, help, thanks, and wow. Lamont writes, "I do not know much about God and prayer, but I have come to believe, over the last twenty-five years, that there's something to be said about keeping prayer simple. Help. Thanks. Wow."

It works for me because my relationship with God through Christ Jesus doesn't always have to be difficult, but should be joyful, comforting, and energizing. Life is hard enough, and I take hold of Jesus' promise that his yoke is light and he shares it with me. And so, I agree with Ann, and my friend, Ron, that I can pray simply and say help, thanks, and wow to God. I hope this helps as we all move forward into the New Year together.

Grace and peace, Keith

Westwood Responds...

WESTWOOD GARDEN

Although there are collards, greens and some cabbage still to be harvested, this will be a final update on this year's garden. Our Westwood garden has been extremely productive with total production within two pounds of last year's harvest, which exceeded two thousand pounds. Beginning in early June, vegetables have been harvested every week. Many people have helped with the garden – replacing the fence, spreading compost, rototilling, planting, cultivating, watering, and harvesting. It has been a good hands-on experience for our Mission Friends, RA's, GA's, and Youth.

Most importantly, we have provided fresh vegetables for a lot of needy families through the Western Wake Crisis Ministry and Dorcas Shop.



Westwood Seniors

UPCOMING SENIOR EVENTS



Senior Adult Luncheon

Tuesday, January 14 at 12 noon. Covered Dish

Our program is Tarheel Traveler by THE Tarheel Traveler guy himself, Scott Mason of WRAL. You will learn about some places in NC you probably don't know about because he is always both entertaining and enlightening.

This project is made possible by a grant from the North Carolina Humanities Council, a statewide nonprofit and affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Senior Adult Banquet ~ Patriotic Theme
Saturday, Feb. 1st 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

The S.A. Banquet is a night for the youth at Westwood to honor our senior adults with a great meal and entertainment.

Senior Adults; please sign up on the Senior Adult bulletin board on Hall A.

SINGLE ADULT SEMINAR

for divorced, widowed, and never married singles

SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 8, 2014

THEME: "Our Identity"

Registration is \$15 per person.

Registration starts at 8:30am, program begins at 9am and continues to 1pm.

Guest speakers include:



Caroline Farmer

Deputy Director Victims and Citizens Section NC Attorney General's Office

Topic: "Identity Theft"



Dr. Talmage Williams

Retired Pastor and current member of Westwood

Topic: "Our Single Identity"



David With

Minister with Students Hayes Barton Baptist Church, Raleigh

Topic: "Our Eyesight: Overcoming the Barriers and Begin Living an Extraordinary Life by Fixing Our Eyes on Jesus"

For more info and to pre-register, please contact the church.



DENTAL CLINIC

Saturday, Feb. 15 from 8 am – 4 pm

The dental bus, operated by North Carolina Baptist Men, will be at Westwood on Saturday, February 15 for a free dental clinic.

We need toothpaste and dental floss to help make up kits that are given to each patient. We have plenty of tooth brushes. A collection box is located by the Media Center. The clinic is from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm on the lower level of the church. This is a unique opportunity that we otherwise would not have to minister to people in Wake County.

Music Notes from Caroline

Thanks to all who helped this Advent Season to make our WORSHIP special at Westwood. Those who helped with Sound, Lighting, Advent Readings, Music, Ministry Moments, Global Missions, Decorating, The Lord's Supper and Candlelight service. For all the acts of kindness that Westwood has shared from the INSIDE/OUT, we give thanks. Let's continue to share Christ's love in the New Year! Our God is AMAZING! Blessings to all...

THE BELLS ARE COMING!!! We have been collecting money for our 5th Octave of Handbells for several years. Thank you to all who have given honorariums and memorials to the Music Fund for this purpose. The bells are on order and should be a part of our worship in 2014. The 5th Octave of Handbells will be dedicated in honor of all who play handbells and our Handbell Director, Dubba Lucas. Dubba has spent countless hours with our 4 Handbell Choirs in preparation of music and rehearsals. We celebrate this achievement through the music ministry of Westwood. Thanks to everyone for your love, encouragement and support of the Music Ministry.

Join A CHOIR MONTH: January is a great time to join a choir! Contact Caroline Allen [919-522-3046](tel:919-522-3046) or Dubba Lucas at [919-467-2025](tel:919-467-2025) if interested!

QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING AND YOUTH FUNDRAISER LUNCH

Sunday, January 26th

In the Fellowship Hall

after the morning worship service

Menu: Chili, Crackers, Slaw & Tea

Adults: \$5

Children: \$3

Mission Statement

*A community of
believers worshiping God,
making disciples and
sharing Christ's love.*

Sermon Schedule January, 2014

January 5, 2014

Epiphany – Finding Holy Humility
Matthew 2:1-12

January 12, 2014

The Invasive Spirit
Mark 1:4-11

January 19, 2014

Come and See
John 1:43-52

January 26, 2014

Follow Me – For the Long Haul
Mark 1:14-20

February 2, 2014

The Power of Doing Something
Mark 1:21-28

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA OPPORTUNITY FOR WESTWOOD INFORMATION MEETING SUNDAY, JAN 12

The Church Council invites you to an informational meeting for discussion, questions, and answers session involving an opportunity for Westwood to charter an established Boy Scouts of America Troop in the local area. The Boy Scouts of America is an educational resource program and charters religious organizations or groups to use Scouting as part of their service to their own members, as well as the community at large. Westwood has been approached for consideration to be a sponsor church that would provide meeting space and any other support necessary to this local troop organization in 2014. We will present this item for vote in our regular quarterly scheduled business meeting on Sunday, January 26th.

The information meeting for purposes of this topic only will be held immediately following the service on Sunday, January 12th in the fellowship hall. We invite and welcome all members for this session.

JANUARY 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 8:30 AM Sunday Morning Opportunities	30 7:30 PM Undecorate for Christmas	31 6:30 AM Prayer Breakfast 7:30 PM Undecorate for Christmas	1 New Year's Day Office Closed	2 9:00 AM Staff Retreat 12:00 PM AA	3	4 8:00 AM Christmas Decorating
5 8:30 AM Sunday Morning Opportunities 4:00 PM Music Reading School 5:00 PM Singing School 6:30 PM YAC	6	7 6:30 AM Prayer Breakfast 7:00 PM Fellowship Committee 7:00 PM GriefShare 7:00 PM Youth Committee	8 7:30 AM Missions Committee Meeting 8:30 AM Community Bible Study 6:00 PM Wednesday Evening Activities 7:40 PM Adult S. S. Teacher's Meeting	9 12:00 PM AA 7:00 PM Church Council 7:00 PM Deacon's Meeting	10 12:00 PM Chrismon Workshop Preparation	11 8:45 AM Chrismon Workshop & Bible Study
12 8:30 AM Sunday Morning Opportunities 11:30 AM Boy Scout Information Meeting 11:30 AM Singles Ministry Meeting 4:00 PM Music Reading School 5:00 PM Singing School 6:30 PM YAC	13 11:30 AM Volunteer Appreciation Lunch	14 6:30 AM Prayer Breakfast 12:00 PM Senior Adult Luncheon 6:30 PM ESL 7:00 PM GriefShare	15 8:30 AM Community Bible Study 6:00 PM Wednesday Evening Activities 7:30 PM Christian Education Meeting	16 12:00 PM AA	17 Deacon's Retreat	18 Deacon's Retreat
19 Lord's Supper 8:30 AM Sunday Morning Opportunities 11:45 AM Craft of Christian Teaching 11:45 AM Singles Lunch-Bojangles 4:00 PM Music Reading School 5:00 PM Singing School 6:30 PM YAC	20	21 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6:30 AM Prayer Breakfast 6:30 PM ESL 7:00 PM GriefShare	22 8:30 AM Community Bible Study 5:15 PM Music Ministry Mtg. 6:00 PM Wednesday Evening Activities	23 12:00 PM AA	24 Youth Ski Retreat 7:30 PM Single Adult Movie Night	25 Youth Ski Retreat
26 Youth Ski Retreat 8:30 AM Sunday Morning Opportunities 11:30 AM Quarterly Business Meeting/Youth Lunch Fundraiser	27	28 6:30 AM Prayer Breakfast 10:00 AM Current Missions 12:00 PM Craft of Christian Teaching 6:30 PM ESL 7:00 PM GriefShare	29 8:30 AM Community Bible Study 6:00 PM Wednesday Evening Activities	30 12:00 PM AA	31 Banquet Prep	1 5:00 PM Senior Adult Banquet

The church calendar is updated daily. For the most up to date version visit our church webpage at www.westwoodbc.org and click on the calendar tab.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Hal Coble	17 Bernice Parker
1 Marilyn Eddinger	18 Matthew Hoina
2 Cecilia Fleer	19 Brenda Jordan
3 Tullie Johnson	19 David Erwin
4 Kevin Nolan	19 Jim Hayne
5 Holly Hayes	20 Jonathan Allard
6 Rachel Lombardi	20 Andrew Beavers
7 Bob Clary	20 Houston Haigler
7 Brenda Ballard	21 Ray Lentz
7 Zack Litzsinger	21 Alex Brown
9 Guy Mendenhall	23 Brian Forrest
9 Ray Campbell	23 Nathan Luck
9 Wade Kirby	24 Joey Grissom
10 Shelby Ballard	24 April Morrison
10 Christopher Persinger	25 Audrey Nolan
11 Brandon Dixon	26 William Gartland
14 Dave Scherer	26 Betty Johnson
14 Colleen Coogan	26 Charles Wells
14 Rayleigh Deese	26 Emily Roberson
15 Mike Bass	27 Morgan Persinger
16 Tom Davenport	28 Steve Barnette
16 Karen Morgan	28 Marvie Lentz
16 Maria Gartland	31 Evan Hoke
16 Julie Rock	

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Chris & Jack Potter
- 8 Jane & Charles Hamm
- 9 Ken & Becky Waight
- 11 Evelyn & Jim Cooke
- 19 Frank & Brenda Jordan



Ministers On Call

If you have a ministerial need over the weekend please contact the minister on call: (Area code: 919)

Jan 3-9	Mike Eddinger	Cell: 805-1022
Jan 10-16	Keith Vaughn	Home: 554-4146 Cell: 605-5714
Jan 17-23	Michelle Anderson	Cell: 368-6508
Jan 24-30	Caroline Allen	Home 467-8693 Cell: 522-3046

Westwood Membership:
591

Cash Balance - General Operating Budget ...\$250,295
 Cash Balance - Designated Funds\$150,477
TOTAL Cash Balance\$400,772

General Fund Average Weekly Giving vs. Budget (through 11/30/13)

November Average Actual	\$21,081
Weekly Budget	\$20,192
Average weekly receipt versus budget for November	\$889
Year to Date Average Actual	\$19,292
Actual as a % of budget	96%

*Financial
 Highlights
 for
 November*

Westwood Baptist Church
200 Westhigh Street
Cary, NC 27513

February Newsletter Deadline January 21

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Studies
6:45 pm Ensemble Rehearsal
6:45 pm Youth Praise Band
& Ministry Team
7:30 pm Outreach
7:40 pm Westwood Choir
Rehearsal

Winter Bible Study

Schedule

- 11 am Worship Service with a Message by Dr. Lydia Hoyle.
- 4 -7 pm Bible Study and snack supper in the Fellowship Hall.
- We will have child care for babies & toddlers through age 2.
- Children ages 2 and up will have a study in love based on I Corinthians 13.
- Youth will have SuperYac
(see Michelle for Details).



I Corinthians

Guest Speaker: Dr. Lydia Hoyle
Campbell Divinity School