



Midweek at Woodmont
Wednesday Evenings
Each Wednesday we will have a 5:30 p.m. dinner, kids and youth activities, prayer, adult Bible study, and choir rehearsal. There will be no Midweek activities on Wednesday, November 26. Check out the schedule and dinner cost below:

- Schedule**
5:30-6:15 Dinner
6:15-6:30 Adult Prayer Time
6:15-7:30 Kids and Youth Activities
6:30-7:30 Adult Bible Study
6:30-7:30 Choir Rehearsal
7:30-8:00 Christmas Choir

Meal Cost:
\$10 per adult
\$5 per child
2 and under - free
College Students - free
\$30 family max

FRONTRUNNERS' NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Carolyn Askew
- Marsha Allen
- Calvin Dunham

- Stan Higgins
- Donna Lile
- Amelia Scruggs

- Becky Hickson
- Deborah Everton
- Steve Dalrymple

PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

- Prayer Requests:**
- Hecter Sims
 - Barbara Costain
 - Tom Teeter

OCTOBER GIVING				
DURING THE WEEK OF:	10/5	10/12	10/19	10/26
Weekly Receipts	\$57,754	\$16,338	\$33,075	\$15,486
Year to Date Receipts	\$582,051	\$598,389	\$631,465	\$646,951
Year to Date Budget	\$600,885	\$623,140	\$645,395	\$667,650



WORSHIP & BIBLE STUDIES

Sundays
9:15 a.m. Morning Bible Studies, Preschool/Children Activities
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service

OUR STAFF

Nathan Parker
Senior Pastor
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Aaron Duncan
Executive Pastor of Music & Administration
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Beth Howe
Minister of Students & Discipleship
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Rachel Gregory
Minister of Preschool & Children
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Windy Robbins
Weekday Preschool Director
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Lil Cook
Ministry Assistant / Senior Adults
lilc@woodmontbaptist.com

CONNECTING

General Information
Main Phone: 615.297.5303
WBIS (WBC info service): 615.298.3100
Weekday Preschool: 615.297.2810

Website: woodmontbaptist.com
Facebook: facebook.com/wbcnashville
Weekly eNews: To receive our eNews, sign up on our website or email Lil Cook.

Text Alerts: Text “wbctextalerts” to 833.242.4172 to receive emergency info from us about church closings due to inclement weather.

Woodmont's Live TV Broadcast
Sundays, 10:30 a.m. on MYTV30 (Comcast Channel 14)

Live streaming on Facebook and on our website! You can also view our past services online on our website.

The Woodmont Herald

A Monthly Publication of Woodmont Baptist Church

November 2025



Nathan Parker
Senior Pastor

wider view of Christianity than I had known before and a narrower one as well. I learned about the wideness of the historic Christian Church, how the many schisms and controversies within the Church often led to a God-ordained diaspora of missional, gospel-advance. The many streams of the Christian tradition led a diverse and robust gospel presence around the world. And yet I also became aware of a narrowing of doctrine. The big splits in Christian history were most often born out of doctrinal dispute. Through the centuries, Christians clarified the core contents of sound doctrine (orthodoxy) as they prayed, searched the Scriptures, and counseled together. Many groups sadly chose error (heresy) and splintered away from the loving confines of the true, Christian faith.

While I still certainly agree with the historic Baptist distinctives of religious liberty, the priesthood of all believers, and the sacredness of one's own conscience before God, I also see the need for guiding doctrinal principles that we can agree to as a body of believers. The apostle Paul constantly reminds young Timothy and Titus of the need to “teach what accords with sound doctrine” (Titus 2:1). Paul warns Timothy, “If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness, 4 he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing” (1 Tim. 6:3-4a). Clearly, the sound doctrine that is found in the revelation of Jesus Christ and in God's Word is fundamental to a church's health and success in fulfilling God's mission. As the theologian Robert

October/November Series: "What Do We Believe? The Life-Giving Teachings of the Bible"

When I applied to Beeson Divinity School, I was asked to write an essay. I believe the only instructions were something like, “Write an essay interacting with the Apostles Creed.” I honestly wasn't sure what to do with it! I grew up hearing proclamations like, “No creed but the Bible!” I was raised in an era of Baptist life when Walter Shurden's book on “The Baptist Identity: Four Fragile Freedoms” was extremely influential. The churches I worshiped in and served in emphasized soul freedom, Bible freedom, church freedom, and religious freedom. These historic Baptist principles were important to me, to my family, and to my church.

So I was challenged to think differently about the Christian faith when I enrolled at Beeson. I was taught both a

WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?

November 2	What God Does and What We Do, pt 2
November 9	Finishing the Race
November 16	The Church: God's Own Family
November 23	The World to Come

Jenson put it, the mission of the church is to speak the gospel. That requires some criterion by which to identify and say “no” to not-gospels and also to pick out and proclaim the one and only gospel of Jesus Christ. I recently heard someone say that Baptists should be both confessional and convictional. We should hold to sound doctrine, preferably written down in a confession or statement of faith and affirmed. And we should also really believe those things that we claim to be true. In other words, we should say what we mean (confessional), mean what we say (convictional), and do it all without being mean!

Continued on page 2



Room In The Inn

Ever thought you could make a difference in someone's life by simply making beds, picking up food, or sharing God's love through genuine conversation? Learn more about the ministry and how to get involved at by visiting woodmontbaptist.com/riti.



WBC Thanksgiving Dinner
November 19 at 5:30 p.m.

Join us for a fellowship meal on Wednesday, Nov. 19 at 5:30 p.m. We will eat in the fellowship hall at 5:30 and then have a time of thanksgiving. Meal prices will be the same as our Midweek meal. Please email Lil at lilc@woodmontbaptist.com to RSVP.



Support in Sierra Leone
The Sierra Leone Children's Fund provides scholarships for 250+ primary and secondary school students. These scholarships cost just \$100 per year. If you are interested in donating or learning more about the program, stop by the tables in the piano foyer and south entrance or visit woodmontbaptist.com/childrensfund.



Christmas Choir
Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.
Interested in singing in this year's Christmas Cantata on Dec. 21st? Join us for rehearsals on Wednesday nights from 7:30-8 in the choir room!



Celebrate Recovery
Mondays, 7 p.m. in the youth area
This program is designed to help those struggling with hurts, hang-ups, and habits. Get more information here: woodmontbaptist.com/celebraterecovery.

Continued from Pastor Nathan ...

That's the problem, isn't it? Sometimes we get too caught up in doctrine and we lose sight of the gentle compassion of our Lord. In the wake of the Reformation in Europe, literal wars were waged over theological and ecclesiological disagreements. Churches split over things like the color of the carpet. The pendulum can also, however, swing too far the other way. Many churches today are wishy-washy and non-committal when it comes to sound doctrine. In an age of decline, many denominations have chosen to neglect doctrine for the sake of unity. In his book, *Finding the Right Hills to Die On*, Gavin Ortlund describes this tension, "Four hundred years ago, if you took a different view on baptism, you may have gotten drowned for it. Today we rightly recoil at that, but I worry that we sometimes swing to the opposite extreme. This is the mindset that says: 'Let's stop dividing over doctrine! It just hurts people. Let's just love Jesus and feed the poor.'"

There are indeed some clear, biblical doctrines worth dividing over, but we should be careful not to break the unity of Christ's church over second and third-tier issues. What is needed is a prudent balance, holding on firmly to biblical, gospel doctrine while also actively seeking to cultivate gospel community and practice. This is why a Statement of Faith is helpful for a church. Members can point to a Statement of Faith and agree, "This is what are holding to as the gospel. This is what we believe is 'of first importance' in our doctrine. This is what we see in Scripture that will help guide us into all truth and sanctify us (John 16:13; 17:17) as we seek to fulfill God's calling on our church."

So what are our core beliefs? What doctrines make up Woodmont's convictions? You may have noticed the tab labeled "Statement of Faith" on our website or heard me talk about it at a "Discover Woodmont" class. Where did it come from? I am ashamed to admit that I did not ask to see Woodmont's Statement of Faith before I accepted the call to pastor this flock. I can't remember if there was one in place that I didn't like or if there wasn't one at all. So, I did something that I now think was a perhaps a bit foolish and even arrogant – I wrote my own. As if I could do better than all the historic, time-tested confessions that have come down to us through wise and godly champions of the faith! I have come to believe that it is, indeed, an inferior statement. We need something more robust, more anchored in both the Bible and in history.

After much research and prayer and consultation, I have decided to propose an adapted version of the 1853 New Hampshire Confession of Faith. In 1833, a group of Baptist leaders gathered in New Hampshire to outline various basic Christian beliefs that could clarify the doctrinal confusion of their day and establish a common foundation for cooperation within the denomination. First organized in 1814, the official name of the denomination was, "The General Missionary Convention of the Baptist Denomination in the United States of America for Foreign Missions." (This was several years before the Southern Baptist Convention was established.) In 1853, Rev. John Newton Brown, the principal architect of the 1833 confession, added two articles, "Repentance and Faith" and "Sanctification." Some of the language has been updated, but some of it still sounds old-fashioned, which reminds us of its historic roots. I believe it is thoroughly rooted in Scripture and full of sound doctrine that will serve our congregation well for many years to come.

I encourage every member to prayerfully engage with this Statement, to weigh its claims against what is written in God's Word, and to determine if you can, in good conscience, adhere to it. There will be ample time given for discussion and a formal adoption process according to our bylaws. Please let me know if there's anything you'd like to discuss personally with me. I pray that we will all benefit from agreeing to a strong Statement of Faith. It will clarify who we are as a church and help determine our direction going forward. May the Lord continue to advance his Kingdom through the saints of Woodmont Baptist Church, all by his grace and for his glory.

Grace and peace,

NATHAN



Parent's Night Out
Saturday, November 8 at 5:30 p.m.

Parents, mark your calendars for the next Parent's Night Out on Saturday, November 8! From 5:30-8:30 p.m., children are invited to join us at Let It Shine in Franklin for an evening of fun. The cost is \$15 per child or youth volunteer. Please register at woodmontbaptist.com/kids. The deadline to register is November 1.



Operation Christmas Child

Woodmont is once again a central drop-off location during National Collection Week November 17-24, and our Dedication Sunday is November 16. Stop by and visit the table in the foyer! There you can get your boxes, adopt boxes, sign up to volunteer, and learn more about how you can serve. You can also visit the packing room on the third floor where you can shop for a box for a flat rate! Talk to Elaine Bright or Marissa Arnott for more information.



Senior Adult Recognition Lunch
Sunday, November 9 at 10:30 a.m.

Save the date for Sunday, November 9 for our Senior Adult Recognition Day during morning worship. Plan to join us for the \$10 catered meal afterwards in Fellowship Hall! Let Lil know if you will attend by Nov. 4 — we want to honor all our senior adults. Family members are welcome!



Matt and Evann Gerber



Family Christmas Tree

This year in the piano foyer we will have a WBC Family Christmas tree! Please bring a small photo of yourself or your family that we can add to the tree. On the back, please put your name and the year you joined WBC. We look forward to your participation!



Men's Breakfast
Saturday, November 8 at 8 a.m.

Men of all ages are invited to join us for a morning of fellowship and food on Saturday, November 8, at 8 a.m.!

As always, we will start cooking at 6:45 a.m. for those who wish to help. A suggested donation of \$7 will help cover the cost of food.



Senior Adult Program
Monday December 1 at 10:30

You are invited to join us Monday, December 1, at 10:30 AM to hear Michael Mann from "Preventive Measures" speak on safety awareness in our community, and, specifically, precautions to take in the event of an emergency during a worship service. Jet's Pizza will be served in Fellowship Hall at 11:30 for \$5. Let Lil know if you'd like to attend!



Thank you!

Thank you to all who volunteered at our Unity Habitat for Humanity build! Special thanks to Andrew Southern for coordinating!



- 11/2 Kids Min Lunch (Sun., 12 p.m.)
- 11/5 Midweek (Wed., 5:30 p.m.)
- 11/8 Men's Breakfast (Sat., 8 a.m.)
- 11/8 Parent's Night Out (Sat., 5:30 p.m.)
- 11/9 Senior Adult Recognition (10:30 a.m.)
- 11/12 Midweek (Wed., 5:30 p.m.)
- 11/16 OCC Dedication (Sun., 10:30 a.m.)
- 11/19 Thanksgiving Meal (Wed., 5:30 p.m.)
- 11/26 No Midweek for Thanksgiving Break
- 11/30 First Sunday of Advent
- 12/1 Sr. Adult Program (Mon., 10:30 a.m.)