



**EXALT**

**EQUIP**

**ENGAGE**

Sunday Worship  
Worship: 10 a.m. (in person or  
[www.woodlandpresbyterian.org](http://www.woodlandpresbyterian.org))

756 Park Street  
Woodland, WA 98674  
360-225-8941



## WOODLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

# NOVEMBER 2023 Happenings



✝ From the Pastor's Desk ✝

### ENTERING INTO THE DISCUSSION

*<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. <sup>2</sup>Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.* Psalm 111:1-2 (ESV)

Have you ever been involved in conversation with a group when the discussion changes to a subject with which you are unfamiliar? Maybe the others in the group begin to discuss a movie they have recently seen or a book they all have read – all except you. Your friends begin to talk about the plot and the various twists and turns in the storyline. They share a laugh as they discuss the more humorous aspects of the story. There, in the midst of a lively conversation, you feel distanced from the group. Though physically there, you cannot relate to this shared experience. It is not anyone's fault, but you end up feeling left out.

Our top priority in life is to seek the face of God, to fellowship with Him, and enjoy getting to know Him better each day. That priority is not always foremost in our lives. I must admit, there have been far too many times in my Christian life when I have felt as the one described in the opening paragraph – a person on the outside looking in. In those times, I have not been tuned into the work of God - I have not been seeking Him. In those dry seasons. I have come into the worship service; I see others praising God, I hear others speak of how the Lord is working in their lives, I

witness others praying with and caring for one another. During the times when I have drifted away from the Lord, I have felt so far away from those who are actually experiencing fellowship with God. Can you relate? Do you have moments/seasons when you cannot share in the experiences of God's people because God's presence seems so distant? Those times when you find it difficult to share in the spiritual life of those around you?

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, it occurs to me that it is difficult to give thanks to God when we have had little communion with Him. It is hard to see His benefits when we are not seeking to know God and His perfect will. If we have no personal recognition of His work in our life, then it follows that we will have no reason to be grateful. When we enter into a time of corporate thanksgiving to God (perhaps during a worship service or on Thanksgiving Day) without a sense of God's work in our lives, we may go through the motions of showing gratitude but be void of a sincere, heartfelt gratitude. It is like being in a conversation about a movie or book without ever having seen or read the story. We might be able to fake our way through the conversation, but we will never truly be able to enter into the discussion.

Our top priority in life is to know the living God. Hosea 2:23 speaks of the kind of relationship that is born out of God's work of grace in our lives: "I will plant her for myself in the land; I will show my love to the one I called 'Not my loved one.' 'I will say to those called 'Not my people,' 'You are my people'; and they will say, 'You are my God.'" When we experience this kind of love, acceptance, and forgiveness from the living God, how can we not respond in worship and in thanksgiving?

If you find yourself unable to enter into conversation about the grace of God and His activity in the lives of His people, I encourage you to make an appointment with the Lord. If you haven't been doing so lately, make the decision to spend time with Him in prayer and quiet meditation *every day from now until Thanksgiving Day*. Get to know the Lord anew, seek His holy face once again and experience the renewal of the glorious Spirit of Christ. Just see, you'll be in the conversation in no time, and *you might even be leading the conversation* as you declare, "Look what the loving Lord has done!"

In God's Grace, Pastor Kevin



## THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

On Sunday, November 19, we will have another opportunity to worship with Go Iglesia. The theme for this Thanksgiving service will be, "Giving Thanks in Trying Times." We will also share in a potluck meal following the service. Even more reason to prepare our hearts in the coming weeks, so that we will all enter into this combined worship service with a sense of unity as we declare with one voice, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever!"

### THANKSGIVING & CHRISTMAS SPECIAL OFFERINGS

HOLIDAY OFFERINGS: Each year, the EPC sponsors two special offerings during the year-end holiday season; one for Thanksgiving and one for Christmas. Each offering is designated for a specific purpose. The EPC's annual Thanksgiving Offering alternates each year between a church planting/church health project, and an EPC World Outreach emphasis. Thank you for your support of these special causes in EPC life!

<https://epc.org/donate/thanksgivingoffering/>



## November Sermons

- 5 – *Loving and Living for God's Glory*  
Romans 13:8-14
- 12 – *Unity, Liberty, and Charity*  
Romans 14:1-12
- 19 – *Combined Service with Go Iglesia*  
(Potluck meal to follow)
- 26 – *Help or Hindrance?*, Romans 14:13-23

## STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Stewardship Sunday is **November 12**. No doubt, you received the Stewardship letter. Please prayerfully consider the percentage of your income you intend to give in 2024, and bring your card, sealed in the envelope, to the service on **November 12**. We are grateful for your generosity towards the ministry of Christ.

## Shining Star Bazaar Is Almost Here

Our Shining Star Bazaar is almost here! We are very excited to host this community event on Saturday, November 18, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. We have over 20 vendors bringing their wares to sell. WPC will also be selling YOUR handmade craft items and homemade baked goods (which are individually wrapped) and providing an excellent lunch consisting of homemade soups (minestrone, clam chowder, and African chicken peanut), home baked rolls, and a cookie. It is going to be fun day!

As you can imagine, an event this big will need lots of helpers! There will be a sign-up sheet for the various areas needing volunteers. We will begin getting ready on Friday, November 17, starting at 11:30 a.m. This will be to set up table areas and for you to bring in your items to price and display. On Saturday, we are looking for helpers to work at our craft tables, greet shoppers with a friendly smile, and other hands-on help. Sign up early to pick your spot! Of course, we will also need a clean-up crew beginning at 3:00 p.m. Be sure to invite your family, friends, and neighbors. Maybe bring them to lunch, too!

Thank you!  
Your Fellowship Team





# NOVEMBER 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	<b>2</b> 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b> 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class 10:00 a.m. Stewardship Mtg	<b>4</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship Mtg  11:00 a.m. Prayer Walk
<b>5 Standard Time Begins</b> NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Live 10:00 a.m. Worship Service <i>Communion</i>	<b>6 OFFICE CLOSED</b> 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	<b>7</b>  7:00 p.m. Vision Team	<b>8</b> 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	<b>9</b> 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:30 a.m. Missions Mtg 5:30 p.m. Bells Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	<b>10</b> 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	<b>11 Veterans Day</b> 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Crafts
<b>12 STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Live  10:00 a.m. Worship Service	<b>13 OFFICE CLOSED</b> 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class  1:00 p.m. CE Mtg	<b>14</b>  7:00 p.m. Session Mtg	<b>15</b> 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	<b>16</b> 10:00 a.m. Bible Study  5:30 p.m. Bells Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	<b>17</b> 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class  10 a.m. Fellowship Committee Mtg	<b>18</b> <b>9 a.m.-3:00 p.m.</b> <b>WPC Bazaar</b>
<b>19</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Live 10:00 a.m. Joint Worship Service with Go Iglesia Church	<b>20</b> 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	<b>21</b>  7:00 p.m. Deacons Mtg  7:00 p.m. Outreach Team	<b>22</b> 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	<b>23</b> 	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Crafts
<b>26</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Live 10:00 a.m. Worship Service <i>(Blue Bag Sunday)</i>	<b>27</b> 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	<b>30</b> 10:00 a.m. Bible Study  5:30 p.m. Bells Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal		

# November Prayer Families

## Week of...

- November 5 Yvonne Barker  
Donnie Womelsdorf
- November 12 Jeanne Beesley  
Jason & Sarah Wolk
- November 19 Richard & Janet Benney  
Jim & Karen Wilson
- November 26 Jim & Elaine Blair  
Claralee Williams



## Financial Report: Operating Budget

<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Beginning Balance	-41,010.68	-17,100.47
Receipts	14,309.99	18,088.41
Disbursements	<u>19,644.27</u>	<u>19,687.86</u>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>(46,344.96)</b>	<b>(18,699.92)</b>
<b>Year to Date</b>		
Beginning Balance	-	-
Receipts	142,275.91	167,363.75
Disbursements	<u>188,620.87</u>	<u>186,063.67</u>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>(46,344.96)</b>	<b>(18,699.92)</b>

## Financial Report: Invested Funds

<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Beginning Balance	232,256.96	216,440.73
Receipts	5,893.65	4,182.85
Disbursements	<u>8,161.77</u>	<u>28.33</u>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>229,988.84</b>	<b>220,595.25</b>
<b>Year to Date</b>		
Beginning Balance	226,637.02	237,352.89
Receipts	80,859.88	53,683.76
Disbursements	<u>77,508.06</u>	<u>70,441.40</u>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>229,988.84</b>	<b>220,595.25</b>
<b>NET FUNDS</b>	<b>183,643.88</b>	<b>201,895.33</b>

## Prayer Walk

Come and join us in a prayer walk on **November 4, at 11 a.m.**, in front of the Woodland Presbyterian Church, to walk and pray over the community of Woodland. If you can't walk very far let us know. We can take the van and be out and about town meeting up with our walkers to pray over the lives and work and play of the people in this community.

**DON'T FORGET TO SET YOUR CLOCKS  
BACK ONE HOUR SATURDAY NIGHT  
for Sunday, November 5,  
(Standard Time Begins)**



Birthdays

## November Birthdays & Anniversaries



Happy Anniversary!

- 1 Gary & Janet Oyer
- 3 Elaine Blair
- 14 Sam LaPore
- 17 Pat Clock
- 17 Jim Pool
- 23 Jim & Elaine Blair
- 27 Goni Laseke

The people listed in the Birthday and Anniversary list are members of WPC

*The radio theater production of*

## "A Christmas Carol"

November 9, at 3 p.m.

Please plan to join us for the re-telling of this beloved Christmas classic.

Invite family and friends.

Admission price is a can of soup  
(or other can good for  
the Woodland Action Center.

## Presbytery 2024 Planning



Our church has the opportunity to host Presbytery, February 1-3, 2024.

We will need lots of volunteers to help with this gathering.

Mark your calendars now, and begin praying on how God would use you to help serve at this meeting.

Thank you.



## **From...Carolyn Ford, Missionary**

From her August 2023 Letter...

*“For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.” Matthew 6.13b (KJV)*

I pray through the Lord’s Prayer daily, not just as a ritual, but as a pattern for presenting my requests to God. The words quoted above are not just a nice closing statement. They remind me that most of the crises and problems I have prayed about, and all of the heartaches I carry, are temporary. God’s kingdom, in which there is no death or sorrow or crying or pain, will come, and it is eternal! So are His power and His glory. As popular culture turns further and further away from acknowledging God, I take great comfort in the assurance that, one day, every knee will bow before Him (Psalm 22:29; Isaiah 45:23; Philippians 2:10-11). Often, I thank God for this truth before I say “Amen,” and almost always, I tell Him again that I love Him.

Matt suffered two blocked coronary arteries in mid-June. The Lord miraculously provided for him to be treated as soon as he arrived at a cardiac hospital in Addis Ababa. They did an angioplasty and opened the blockage. Praise God! Matt is now on medication and slowly regaining his strength. Please pray that he will have wisdom and discipline to modify his lifestyle so that there is no recurrence of the blockage.

He is only 53.

I have checked the cross-references I had inserted into the Tsara New Testament through Acts, making several corrections. The team worked with Matt again recently. Please continue to pray for the Holy Spirit to give the translators genuine understanding so that they translate the Scriptures accurately and apply the truth to their lives.

I have completed a draft of my memoirs through February 2005. Praise God! Please pray for greater progress over the next several months.

I continue to help at the Lodge (assisted living) in our village on Sunday mornings, and I am learning a new skill – massaging feet! My neighbor across the street fell and fractured her spine. She has been in a wheelchair for almost a month, and massaging her feet helps her relax. She is now in a rehab center and getting good therapy. Please pray for her healing. Another friend, Bev, who used to do reflexology, is helping me learn how as I practice on her feet. Also, though I am not much of a cook, I occasionally fix food for neighbors who are going through rough times. I am grateful for these privileges.

In His power & for His glory,  
Carolyn Ford

To support my ongoing ministry, give online at: [simusa.org/give/](http://simusa.org/give/) Type my name into the box marked “Select Designation,” click on Carolyn Ford – Ministry. OR, Send a check made payable to SIM USA with designation “for Carolyn Ford – Ministry Account #19489” to: SIM USA; 14830 Choate Circle; Charlotte NC 28273

### **Deacons Fund**

The Deacons Fund is used to help church members and community members with one time or ongoing expenses that they are having trouble meeting financially. Each month, we give out at least a \$1000 a month to those in need. In order to keep meeting those needs, we are reminding you of our Deacons Fund and asking if you are able to do so, to consider making a donation to the deacons fund on our Communion Sunday.  
Thank you.

### **Christmas Wreath Workshop**



Saturday, December 2  
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
WPC Fellowship Hall  
\$10



Participants bring hand clippers (to cut greens) and wire and any additional decorations you would like to add to your wreath.  
We will supply wire ring, reel wire, greens, ribbons, and pinecones  
**Sign up at the Welcome Center!**

**Volunteer Drivers Needed**

At times, a volunteer driver is needed to give people rides, especially for medical appointments. If you have a few hours available and would like to help out, please leave your name on a list in the church office, or see one of the deacons to discuss.

**Pastor's Appreciation**

Cindy and I were floored by the special gifts you presented to us on Sunday. The baskets and gifts for the arrival of our granddaughter, Autumn Rae, were so thoughtful, personal, and precious (she was born the following day, Oct. 30). We cannot say enough about this church family and how you continue to shower us with love in so many ways and through many expressions. God has blessed us with all of you. ~ Pastor Kevin and Cindy

**WOODLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (EPC)**

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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**