

The Percolator

Carl Johnson, Pastor

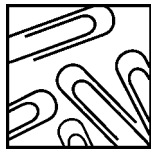
May 2012

The Journey of a Thousand Miles

"The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step"...that's the quote on the necklace I wear every day. I bought it as a gift for my sister, but hesitated giving it to her since her fashion sense has always been far more advanced than mine. I shoved it into my desk drawer and forgot about it for over a year - until I found it last November after a particularly painful and difficult time in my life. "The journey of a thousand miles", those words spoke to me last fall in a new, more meaningful way. We are all on a journey. Whether we accept that fact graciously or plop down in the middle of the road in a pout, our journey remains. We have no other option but to see it through...but where that journey leads "begins with a single step". No matter how strong the urge to quit, or even perhaps go backwards, the journey continues, propelling us forward through joy, tragedy, newness, and tears - all the makings of a beautiful and full life. Good news is we are not alone!!! God walks this road with us, just as he did on that Emmaus road so long ago. God is there, offering peace, hope, comfort, mercy, truth and best of all his unyielding, transformative love. As we walk with God, others' journeys criss-cross ours, granting us precious time with fellow sojourners, time to grow, time to hold one another's hands as we travel together. It all begins with a single step. As graduation nears and I look at our remarkable youth and college students, I am overcome with excitement, joy, and nostalgia as I anticipate their continued journeys. And as I look out among the congregation, this Woodmont family, and all the journeys shared, I feel that same sort of jittery anticipation. So much God-given potential, so much earth-shattering, Kingdom-welcoming grace fills our graduates and our congregation...and it all begins with a step. Or as Martin Luther King Jr. once encouraged, "Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase. Take the first step." Will you walk with me, with one another, lifting one another up, as we journey towards the Kingdom together?

*Love and Peace,
~ Andrea*

* * * * *



**FROM THE
CHURCH
OFFICE**

*All articles & submissions for the June newsletter should be in by **May 24 no later than 12:00 noon.** Please send your information to the church office by that date & time.*

Sunday Morning Worship in May

May 6 – “A Familiar Voice”
John 10: 22-30

May 13 – “Coming Home”
John 14: 1-4

May 20 – “Unless the Race Is Worth Running...”
Hebrews 12: 1-2, 12-17

May 27 – “The Spirit’s Movin’!”
Acts 2: 1-21

The names of our outstanding young musicians just keep rolling in! In the superior-ranked Reidsville High School Band, Nancy Goodes, Kelsey McKinney, and Alex Cundiff are also members. Congratulations!



We have an exciting opportunity for all you aspiring musicians age 14 to 114! We are starting a “true” beginning handbell choir for this summer. You don’t even need to be able to read music, just a willing heart and a desire to share your newfound talents with our congregation. Our first rehearsal will be Wednesday evening, June 13 at 6:30 p.m. Just show up and we’ll take it from there.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be served in the sanctuary on Sunday, May 6 at 9:30 AM. Plan to join us for this short, but very meaningful, time of worship.

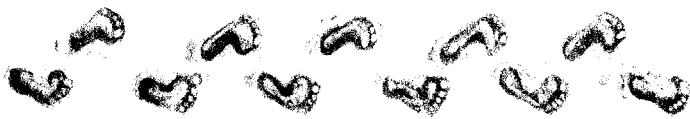


With Deepest Sympathy

Our Christian love and sympathy is extended to Steve Gilliam and his family following the death of his stepmother, Louise Gilliam, who passed away on March 26th.

In Memory

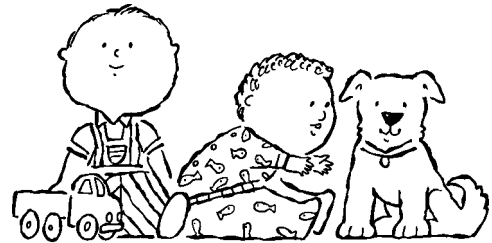
Louise Gilliam
Lee & Dena West
Jimmy & Susan Thompson



Along with Rick and Lisa Hughes, I am walking in the Guilford County heart and stroke walk to raise money for the American Heart Association. Their research created and continues to improve CPR techniques, advance skills and capabilities of medical professionals and educate at-risk populations (all of us) to prevent heart disease. I lost my mom to her first cardiac event, a fatal heart attack in 1992. Lisa helps survivors recover and improve their health through focused rehabilitation.

Each of us likely has been, or has a high probability, to be impacted by heart disease. Please consider a donation to the AHA by visiting guilfordheartwalk.org and looking for Lisa Hughes, Rick Hughes, or Sonja Boles through the "find a participant" link. A tax-deductible donation can be made directly to the American Heart Association through their secure links at the guilfordheartwalk.org website. Thank you for your consideration and support!

~ Sonja Boles



IT'S A BOY!

Woodmont proudly announces the birth of Jackson "Jax" Wayne Howe, who was born April 7th. Jax weighed in at 7 lbs., 10 oz. and was 21" long. The proud parents are Seth & Blaire Howe, and the even prouder grandparents are Wayne & Sandy Keeling.

Mark Your Calendar!

Don't miss being in worship on Sunday, May 6, when Rick Hughes, Chair of the Staff Parish Relations Committee, will share information about our new minister, who will be appointed at this year's Annual Conference. Carl Johnson's last Sunday at Woodmont will be July 1. He is retiring, and he and Donna will be living at Lake Junaluska.



Casual Sundays

It has become tradition at Woodmont Church that members and friends come to Sunday School and worship casually dressed during the summer months! We will renew that tradition beginning Memorial Day Weekend, on Sunday, May 27. Please dress comfortably as you come to church – just be sure you come!



On Sunday, May 6, United Methodist Churches throughout six districts in the Western North Carolina Conference are once again given the opportunity to support the Mother's Day Offering for Arbor Acres, located in Winston-Salem. Mother's Day gives us an opportunity to recognize our mothers or other loved ones with a gift, and at the same time, support the Financial Assistance Ministry at Arbor Acres United Methodist Retirement Community. The offering is specifically designated to provide compassionate financial support to senior adults who are in need. Your generosity will be appreciated.



Don't forget our next Friday Night Live event will be held Friday, May 18th from 6 - 7:30 p.m. This is a wonderfully creative opportunity for Pre-K thru 3rd grade students to learn Bible stories through music, art, science, games,

cooking...you name it, we've tried it!!! Bring a friend and make plans to attend Friday Night Live on May 18th!! For questions or to sign up to help, contact Andrea at the church.



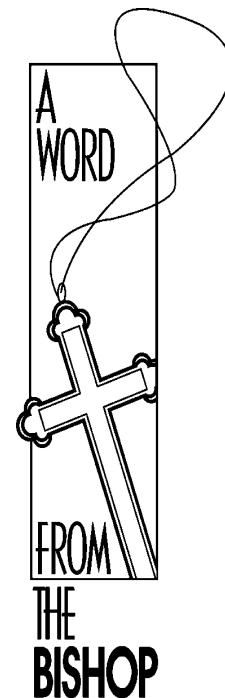
Calling all Graduates! That's right, summer is right around the corner and with it comes

invitations, funny hats, parties and the end of school!!! Your Woodmont family wants to honor you and all of your accomplishments, so if you are graduating from high school, college, or graduate school please join us during Worship on Sunday, May 20th. We'll recognize your hard work with a small gift, hugs, and beaming smiles. Contact Andrea in the Education office ASAP with your Graduate's information, so we can include everyone in the celebration. This also includes any summer or winter graduates from 2011!



Bishop Larry Goodpaster has announced that beginning in July, we will have a new District Superintendent, and that Woodmont will also be part of a new district. Dr. Nancy Rankin is being appointed Superintendent. She is currently serving in her first year as Salisbury District Superintendent. Previous to that, she was minister of Blair Road UMC in Mint Hill, near Charlotte. She also served on the Conference Staff for four years as Director of Congregational Development.

As a part of the restructuring of the Western North Carolina Conference, there will be eight districts in the conference as opposed to the current fifteen. We will be part of the Northern Piedmont District, comprised of Rockingham and Guilford Counties, and the northern part of Randolph County. For at least the next six months, the District Office in Madison will remain open, along with the District Office in Greensboro. After that time, the office will be consolidated, and will be located on the campus of Greensboro College.



Join us for our next WOW work project on Saturday, May 12th at 8:30 a.m. Our monthly Woodmont Outreach Work crew dedicates one Saturday a month answering God's call to serve our neighbor through various projects including light home repair, yard work, painting, etc. But the real blessings are shared by home owner and worker alike, as new friendships are formed and prayers are answered. Don't miss your blessing, and join us Saturday, May 12th! For questions, see Troy Marquardt.

Thoughts on Missions

by Joye Latta



Join us Sunday, June 3rd for our annual Blessing of the Animals/D.O.G. Days of Summer event! Starting at 4pm, we'll have games and activities for both the furry and non-furry, followed by a meaningful Blessing of the Animals service at 4:30. Then it's Hot Dogs (no, not yours), with all the fix'ins, followed by a pick-up flag football game! Make plans to attend one of our most beloved summer events, as we welcome the D.O.G. Days of Summer together! For questions see Andrea and we'll see you on June 3rd.



With school winding down and summer rapidly approaching, that can only mean one thing...VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!!!! This year we're heading to exotic Babylon to learn of Daniel and his amazing faith. We'll be having an information/volunteer meeting on May 20th directly following worship. Trust me, you will not want to miss this incredible opportunity to make the scripture come alive for our children and community. So plan to pitch in, and we'll see you on May 20th. For questions or TO VOLUNTEER, see Kandi Drizake or Andrea today!!!



I think I spend way too much time at a computer. Often in search of a simple definition, I will find myself following a trail I did not expect but that intrigues me. (I actually named a company that way once!) However, today I need to write this article so I think I will look up the definition of the word mission.

mission: noun

1. assigned task: a particular task given to a person or group to carry out
2. calling: an aim or task that somebody believes it is his or her duty to carry out or to which he or she attaches special importance and devotes special care

Hmmm, now calling gets my attention.

call-ing: noun

1. the act of a person or thing that calls.
2. vocation, profession, or trade: *What is your calling?*
3. a call or summons: *He had a calling to join the church.*
4. a strong impulse or inclination: *She did it in response to an inner calling.*

I think I can make my case here. We are all missionaries. Have you been called to carry out an assigned task? Sing in the choir? Prepare for or attend a Munch? Pray for someone? Participate in a Sunday School class? ...a Bible study? Prepare a meal? Listen instead of speak? Support the monthly mission basket? Smile?

One small mission that Woodmont does monthly is large and wide-reaching in its impact. In March our mission basket offering went to the MS Walk and the food offering supported the Salvation Army. The April mission basket offering supports Nothing But Nets and the food goes to the Moss Street Back Pack mission. May's mission basket supports Camp Guilrock and Moss Street. Is this something to which you attach special importance?

Listen to your "inner calling." Whether it's something big or something small—all are equally important. Smile, be a missionary.



Please keep the following members and friends of Woodmont UMC in your continuing prayers:

Bill & Jewell Dallas	Virginia Apple
Pat Capps	Geraldine Conway
Sara Dominick	Bee Holmes
Sue and Tommy Thompson	Rose Livingston
Slim & Alyne Martin	Lenny Stadler
Tony Mullins	John and Mary Sacrinty
Marilyn Moore	Dot Stadler
Eva Oakley	Glory Zulauf
Jan Tindal	Bonnae Williams
Hal Williams	Tonia Fike

If you are aware of others who should be added to the list, which will be published occasionally, please contact the church office at 349-8773 or woodmontumc@bellsouth.net.

We, here at Woodmont UMC, would like to extend our best wishes to Carolyn Barnett, our former Nursery Worker, as she embarks on a new chapter in her life. Carolyn faithfully served in our Nursery for years, and will be missed by children and families alike. We are now in the process of hiring a new "Nursery Worker for Children with Special Needs". Applicants must have a strong background in working with young children and children with special needs. Applicants must also be willing to obtain CPR certification and satisfy all Safe Sanctuaries requirements. Most importantly, applicants must be willing to play, sing, and interact with children in ways that support their faith development. If you or someone you know may be interested in this fun and satisfying job opportunity, please contact Andrea in the church office (349-8773) today!

