

JULY 2026

The Lampstand

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
WEST MILLEN BAPTIST CHURCH



549 HWY 25 NORTH
MILLEN, GA 30442

WESTMILLENBC.COM



Keeping Your Lamp Lit

By: Pastor Bob

Greetings, in the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ:

As most of you know, I'm an avid sports fan. I've been keeping up with South Carolina Gamecock sports for 60 years. Many (maybe most) of those years it's not been easy to stay on the band wagon! Whether it's baseball, basketball, football or another of the many sports we enjoy, every coach has the same message: it's the fundamentals that win the games! Oh, of course, you can slip in a win or two by a trick play here or there, but to be continually successful day in and day out, year after year, it's the basics. It isn't the plays or the programs—it's the performance!

God is still at work here on this earth and He doesn't need trick plays to get His work accomplished. Additionally, should we choose to get on board and have Him use us to do His work, we receive a special blessing. If we refuse to be compliant to do His will and work, He'll just use another person who is willing, and that person receives the blessing!

You've heard me preach many times to get up and do something for the Lord! If you are a true born-again child of God, you possess at least one gift given to you by the Holy Spirit. That happened the minute you accepted Jesus as Savior. Paul, in 12th chapter of 1 Corinthians, talks all about "spiritual gifts." In each church, God orchestrates, very carefully, a body of believers placed together in a unique way. He molds the "body" to get His work done according to His plan. I can't express it enough and James tells us very plainly, "...Show me your faith without your works and I will show you my faith by my works" (James 2:18). James knows very well that faith alone saves, but what he opposes is fake faith. Defined as lip service from someone who says they've accepted Christ, but never does anything to show

God's love to others. James clearly says, "...faith without works is dead" (2:26). If you have no desire to work for Jesus, to spread His Gospel, to teach His children, to sing His praises in worship, to clean His House, or show hospitality to others, etc, you better do a heart check! We don't work to get into heaven. We are saved, then work out our salvation because the Holy Spirit plants a desire within our hearts to please our Savior.

Now back to the basics: If we all are obedient and give of ourselves to please the Lord, God's House will be blessed and we'll grow in numbers and spirituality. So what are the "basics?" **I believe those are: (1) Prayer; (2) Preach; and (3) Practice.** We've just seen this game plan played out and God was glorified! I cannot express the thanks I feel in my heart to all those who gave of themselves for an entire week during our recent Vacation Bible School. Let's take a look at how the "fundamentals" were observed and what the results can be for sticking with "God's game plan."

(1) **Pray** – We prayed individually and collectively as a church. This was not a trick play. This is the basis of seeking the power of the Holy Spirit through prayer. Only the Holy Spirit can empower the church to make all we do effective.

(2) **Preach** – When the whole counsel of God's Holy Word is preached from the pulpit and taught by our teachers, people stop and listen. Folks are hungering for God's Word and nothing else quenches that thirst and hunger. All our VBS teachers and workers had their game plans, knew their lessons, were prepared, and shared Jesus the whole week.

(3) **Practice** – During VBS, you not only taught the love of Jesus, you showed it! We had a corporate game plan, and we showed up for practice. Y'all invited friends and handed out flyers. We advertised through newspaper, radio, and internet. Everyday you were talking with people and inviting them to the "Junkyard." Your work-out was hard all week through heat and thunderstorms

But you showed up and shared the love of Jesus. In essence, you “practiced what is preached.” People of a lost and dying world saw and felt the love of Jesus through your actions.

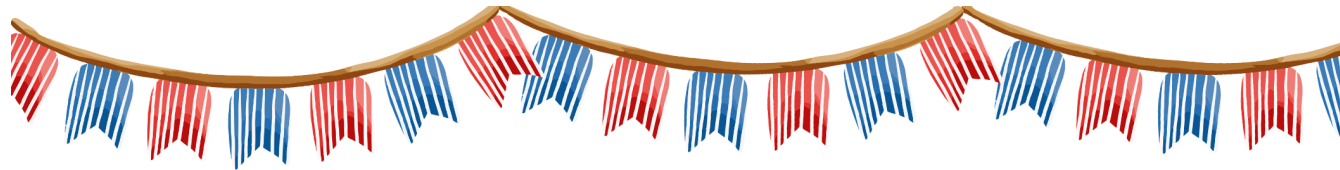
Need a replay? Let’s give Jesus all the praise He alone deserves!

1. 9 salvations (nine lives & eternities forever changed)
2. 204 enrolled (an average of 148 present each night)
3. \$2,830.00 raised for school supplies & new playground fund
4. Anonymous donor gave \$10,000 to playground fund
5. 68 volunteers, teachers, leaders

Vacation Bible School is like a play-off: easy to get hyped up about, then expend all our energy on a once-a-year performance. But God asks us to daily stick with the game plan. Stay in the trenches, week in and week out. Show up for practice & games. **What does that look like in real time?** We’re coming up on another new church year, September 1st. Right now is when the church body needs to fill positions to keep the playbook strong. Get involved! Is there somewhere you’d like to serve? See a Nominating Committee team member or come to me. God has a place for you! Jump on the bandwagon! Then STAY on the bandwagon!

Will you be obedient and serve Him on His team at WMBC?

‘Til next time—“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.” (2 Thessalonians 1:2)



Upcoming Events

We invite everyone to join us for upcoming events as we grow together in faith, fellowship, and service. Please mark your calendars and make plans to join us!

BROTHERHOOD & WMU MEETING | JULY 16 AT 7PM

Join us for the Brotherhood and WMU meeting and supper on Thursday, July 16, 2026 at 7:00PM. Let's come together for fellowship, prayer, and discussion as we continue to serve and grow in our community. Please bring a side dish.



SURVIVOR CAMP 2026

JULY 13-17 6-9 PM

19163 US-80, BROOKLET, GA 30415

6-12 GRADE

SCAN THE QR TO REGISTER!



CSRA KIDS FOR CHRIST DAY CAMP

JULY 20-24 8:30AM - 4PM

**3233 OAK HILL CHURCH RD, MILLEN,
GA 30442**

FREE LIMITED SPACE | AGES 6-12

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER

***Deadline: July 3, 2026**

**CSRA KIDS FOR CHRIST
DAY CAMP**



SUNDAY SCHOOL TRAINING AT FBC SYLVANIA

AUGUST 2 4PM

All Sunday School workers are invited and encouraged to attend. Please visit

**<https://form.jotform.com/261734451587161>
to sign up and let Mrs. Bonnie know.**





BIBLE STUDY | MONDAYS AT 6:15PM

Everyone is invited to attend Bible study every Monday at 6:15PM in the social hall.

YOUNG ADULTS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

We are excited to announce a new Sunday School class designed specifically for young adults ages 18–29, happening now! This class is a great opportunity to grow in your faith, build meaningful relationships, and dive deeper into God’s Word alongside others in a similar stage of life. Whether you’re just beginning your walk with Christ or looking to strengthen your foundation, we would love for you to join us.

For more information, please see Patrick or Clay.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT NEW BELIEVERS CLASS

New Believers class meets on Wednesday nights for anyone ages 15 and up who is new to the faith or looking to better understand the basics of following Christ. This class will focus on building a strong foundation, answering questions, and encouraging spiritual growth in a welcoming environment. If you or someone you know would benefit from this class, we invite you to be a part of it. For more information, please see Patrick or Clay.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Each Wednesday evening, our deacons and men of the church lead us in a time of Bible study and reflection. It’s a great opportunity to grow in faith and fellowship, come and be encouraged midweek!

July 2026:

1st Matt Brinson

8th David Wilkes

15th Clay Hillis

22nd Branden Kinard

29th Terry Arthur



HAPPY *Fourth of July!*

"Now the Lord is the Spirit,
and where the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is freedom."

2 CORINTHIANS 3:17



July 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 th of July
5 July 4 th Service (AM) No Evening Service	6 Bible Study 6:15 PM	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Bible Study 6:15 PM	14	15	16 Brotherhood + WMU (7:00PM)	17	18
SURVIVOR CAMP 2026 (BROOKLET) JULY 13-17 6-9PM						
19 Deacon Candidates Announced (AM) Bible Study Outreach Project (3:00PM)	20 Bible Study 6:15 PM	21	22	23	24	25
CSRA KIDS FOR CHRIST JULY 20- 24 8:30AM-4PM						
26 Deacons Meeting 8:30AM Special Called Business Meeting to vote on Deacon Candidates (After AM Service)	27 Bible Study 6:15 PM	28	29	30	31 BACK TO SCHOOL Pray for our kids as they head back to school!	

SUNDAY

9:15 AM BIBLE STUDY (CLASSES
FOR ALL AGES + NURSERY)
10:30 AM WORSHIP (NURSERY +
CHILDREN'S CHURCH)
4:45 PM CHOIR PRACTICE
6:00 PM EVENING WORSHIP

WEDNESDAY

5:30 PM TEEN + KIDS
PROGRAMS
6:00 PM NEW BELIEVERS
CLASS + ADULT BIBLE
STUDY

Visit the website!



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WEST MILLEN
BAPTIST CHURCH

"Where everybody is somebody and Jesus is Lord!"