

WOODLAWN WINDOW

Woodlawn Baptist Church

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Getting Back to What Matters

September has always felt like a month of new beginnings. Summer vacations are winding down, children are back in school, schedules are filling up, and before we know it, the calendar seems to be moving faster than we can keep up with.

But September also gives us a good opportunity to stop and ask ourselves an important question: What really matters? It is easy to become so busy with work, school, sports, activities, appointments, and all the responsibilities of everyday life that the things that matter most can slowly get pushed to the side. Sometimes church becomes something we will get to “when things slow down.” The problem is that life rarely slows down.

Jesus reminds us where our priorities should be in Matthew 6:33: **“But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”** Putting God first doesn’t mean that we won’t be busy. It means that we allow our relationship with Him to shape everything else we do.

As a new school year begins, let’s make September more than simply a return to our normal routines. Let’s make it a return to the things that strengthen our faith.

Return to worship

Return to Bible study

Return to fellowship with God’s people

Return to prayer

Return to serving others

Return to making time for God each day

The church is not simply a place we attend. It is a family we belong to. We need one another. Our children need to see adults who take their faith seriously. Our young people need encouragement and guidance. Those who are hurting need someone to walk beside them. And each of us needs the encouragement that comes from worshiping and serving together.

This month, I want to encourage each of us to ask: “What is God calling me to do?” Maybe it is becoming more faithful in worship. Maybe it is getting involved in a ministry. Maybe it is spending more time in God’s Word. Maybe it is reaching out to someone who has been absent. Or maybe it is simply slowing down long enough to listen to God.

Whatever it is, don’t wait. A new season is beginning. Let’s make it a season of renewed faith, renewed commitment, and renewed purpose.

Let’s make room for God in our schedules—not because He needs our time, but because we need Him.

Jeff Connell
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In this newsletter
you can expect:

Sunday
School

XYZ Group

WNBC

Birthdays &
Anniversaries

Missions

Week of
Prayer

Golden
Offering

This Month at Woodlawn



Sunday School

September, what a lovely month. School is back in session and kids are back to learning. September starts a new Sunday School year too. If you have not been attending SS now would be a great time to start. We have great teachers who just love to teach the word of God!

Please remember to pray for our church, Sunday School, Pastor and the sick.

Janice & Jim Patrick

XYZ Group

We had a wonderful time together at The Crabby Cafe in August with 14 attending. Thank you to everyone who came and helped make it such an enjoyable afternoon. A special thanks to Jim Patrick for driving the bus!



Mark your calendar for Sunday, September 27th, and plan to join us for our next luncheon. Everyone age 50 and older is invited, and we always welcome guests and family members. We hope to see you there!

Ruth Ann McSwain

SEPTEMBER Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthday Blessings

- 2 - Anna Brown / Betty Gross
- 3 - Tina Marie Hogue
- 5 - Nick Barrett
- 6 - Eddie Harkleroad / Ensley Kerns
- 8 - Tony Blakley
- 9 - Greg Kilgore
- 11 - Alaina Hargroves / Kathryn Marinos
- 14 - Angie Harkleroad
- 15 - Virginia Parks
- 17 - Christi Branson / Barbara Malone
- 21 - Pat McKay
- 23 - Avery Kerns / Zachary Springer
- 25 - Sherry Hutson / Susan Kerns
- 27 - Brenda Ayers
- 29 - Robin Cross / Will Brown / Megan Holmes
- 30 - Gail Blakley / Diana Rife

Wednesday Night Bible Club

WNBC is a fun and exciting time for children to grow in their faith and learn more about Jesus!

Children enjoy Bible lessons, crafts, mission activities, games, and more—all while building friendships and discovering what it means to follow Christ.

We're thankful for the opportunity to invest in the lives of our children and help them grow in their knowledge and love of Jesus. We'd love to have your children join us each Wednesday night at 6:15pm!



Happy GrandparentsDay

We celebrate the special grandparents in our lives and thank God for the love, wisdom, prayers, and faith they share with their families. We are grateful for the grandparents in our church family and the important role they play in the lives of their children and grandchildren.



Anniversary Celebrations

- 6 - Allen & Connie Burnette
- 8 - Steve & Carol Leonard
- 12 - Steve & Sandy Barrett
- 14 - Aaron & Laura Patrick
- 19 - Nick & Sadee Barrett
- 25 - Tom & Delma Slagle
- 26 - Michael & Kelly Wayner
- 27 - Michael & Tracy Buckles

Missions



WMU® God's mission.
Our passion.

FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry was worked on Aug 11th taking 137 items from the church serving 8 families for a total of 17 individuals. Please bring your items before the second Tuesday of each month.

CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST

Thank you to all that participated in collecting school supplies to celebrate Christmas in August. The boxes were overflowing with your love for helping to supply needs to children.

The Women on Mission group packed 50 sack lunches for the Carnival Workers Ministry at the Applachain Fair Aug 24-29.

TN STATE MISSIONS

Week of Prayer for TN State Missions and the Golden Offering is Sept 13-20. The theme this year is **"Together: We Pray. We Give. We Go."** Our offering goal is **\$800** and envelopes are available in the pews.

BLESSINGS BOX

The Blessings Box continues to be filled and empties quickly. After our spotlight on it by WCYB we have received anonymous donations to help supply the needs.

MISSION GROUPS

As we begin our new fiscal year Sept 1, 2026 I would like to invite you (if not already coming) to our Women on Mission meetings held the 4th Wed night each month at 6:15 pm. This is a great opportunity for you to learn about the missionaries our church supports and how God uses them to bring the unsaved to become one of his children.

Please continue to remember our projects, church and nation in your prayers.

Brenda Harklêroad, WMU Director



Week of Prayer for Tennessee Missions

September 13–20 is the Week of Prayer for Tennessee Missions. This special week gives us an opportunity to focus our hearts and prayers on the people, churches, and ministries across our state that are sharing the Gospel and meeting needs in Jesus' name.

As we pray throughout the week, let's remember these specific areas:

- **Sunday** - Spiritual Awakening
- **Monday** - The Lost
- **Tuesday** - The Vulnerable
- **Wednesday** - Our Communitites
- **Thursday** - Building the Kingdom
- **Friday** - Healing & New Beginnings
- **Saturday** - Recovery / Responding in Crisis
- **Sunday** - Reaching the Nations

Let us pray, give, and go together, asking God to use us to make a difference for Christ throughout Tennessee.



Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions

September is our month to support the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions, helping provide vital support to mission work and ministries across our state. Through this offering, we have the opportunity to share the love of Christ and make a difference in the lives of others throughout Tennessee.

The offering will be collected throughout the month of September, with envelopes available in the pews. Our church goal is \$800.

We invite everyone to prayerfully consider how you can participate and help us reach our goal as we support missions across Tennessee!

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