



WESTFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH

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Westfield Staff

Pastor	Dr. Glenn Jonas
Choir Director	Trent Carpenter
Deacon Chair	Trent Carpenter
Secretary	Marian Honeycutt
Organist	Joyce Ballard
WMU Director	Susan Murray
Sound Technician	Jimmy Bailey

SERVICE TIMES:

Sunday: 9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
Wednesday: 6:00 p.m. Prayer/Bible Study
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

UPCOMING EVENTS

July

4 Independence Day

August

3 Communion
23 WOW Luncheon 12:00

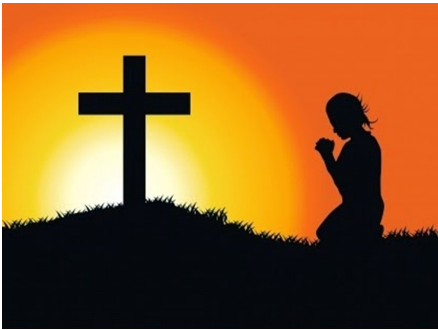
Lord Jesus,

Thou who art the Way, the Truth, and the Life; hear us as we pray for the truth that shall make all free.

Teach us that liberty is not only to be loved but also to be lived.

Liberty is too precious a thing to be buried in books. It costs too much to be hoarded. Make us see that our liberty is not the right to do as we please, but the opportunity to do what is right.

Peter Marshall
March 19, 1947



“Now the Lord is the spirit, and where the spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.”

II Corinthians 3:17

The Westfield Wire

July 2025

Westfield Baptist Church

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Happy Fourth of July



We know him best as “Doubting Thomas,” and often he is remembered negatively because of that. While some may believe that doubting is a bad thing, I believe doubting is the doorway to deeper faith. Doubting is a normal human emotion. It can’t be avoided. We can even see in the Bible that the great pioneers of the faith had their experiences with doubt or agnosticism as well. Do you remember the story about Abraham and Sarah when God told Abraham that Sarah was going to have a baby? They were in their 90s. Remember that Sarah was eavesdropping on the conversation and when she heard the message of promise, she laughed out loud? The next year they named their baby “Isaac,” a word that means “laughter” in Hebrew. Gideon once exclaimed, “If the Lord is with us, why then has all this befallen us?” The Psalmist said, “My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually where is your God?” Job once declared, “I cry to you and you do not answer me.” And, who can forget the great prophet Jeremiah who cried out to God, “Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.” And finally, even our Lord from the cross cried out, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

What do we know about Thomas the disciple? He is named among the twelve disciples in all four of the Gospels. In John’s Gospel he is called “Didymus,” which means “Twin.” There are three distinct episodes involving Thomas in the Gospels. In John 11:16, on the way to Bethany, Thomas offered to die with Jesus. In John 14:5 he interrupts Jesus teaching about going to “prepare a place for you” by saying, “Lord we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” The final scene is the most famous, in John 20 when Jesus appears to Thomas, who for a week before had refused to believe the other disciples about Jesus’ resurrection. Confronted with the reality that Jesus was indeed resurrected, Thomas exclaimed, “My Lord and my God,” making him the very first disciple to explicitly confess the divinity of Christ. There are legends about him in early Christian history, the most famous of which is that he carried the Gospel to India where he is still revered as the greatest of the apostles among the Christians of India. Of course, there is no historical evidence of this, only legend. But he was well-regarded by early Christians. And, there are at least two Gospels that never made it into the New Testament named after him: the Gospel of Thomas and the Infancy Gospel of Thomas,” both of which are regarded by modern scholars as spurious.

The feast day for St. Thomas is July 3. Let’s celebrate the fact that Thomas gives us permission to doubt. We shouldn’t ever be ashamed of doubting or questioning. It’s normal and can bring us into a deeper faith. Rachel Held Evans, in her book, *Evolving in Monkey Town*, says it this way: “In the end, it was doubt that saved my faith.”

Grace and Peace,
Glenn



Mission Moment

General Information about Baptist State Convention of NC:

- Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- NAMB—North American Mission Board
- NC Baptists on Mission
- Disaster Relief and Recovery
- Baptist Children's Homes of NC
- Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
- International Partnerships
- WMU—Women's Missionary Union of NC

General Information about Cooperative Baptist Fellowship:

- Pathlight—free weekly curriculum for children
- Global Missions Offering
- BWM—Baptist Women in Ministry
- Trauma Sensitive Ministry
- Abuse Prevention Training

We hear the names of Baptist organizations, but sometimes we don't really know what they do or what ministries are available. The above lists are some of the ministries of both organizations that Westfield supports by serving and giving. We may not even know where our mission money is used, even if we know the name of some of the programs and projects in each organization.

It is helpful if we have somewhat of an understanding of the functions of these two groups. There is much work to be done in God's kingdom in our world today, so let's educate ourselves and find our passions for service—locally, nationally, and globally.

Check out these websites for further information:

www.baptistsonmission.org
www.cbf.net

Prayer Concerns

Brenda Alberty
 Reverend Chris Family
 Hilda Bannerman
 Ray Braxton
 Lynn Brewington
 Barbara Caldwell
 Bill Dail
 Wanda Dail
 Janet Dulap
 Linda Faircloth
 Edith Flanary
 Carl Foster Family
 Chad Garvin
 Michael Harrison
 Peggy Hedgepeth
 Kathy King
 Diane Lanier
 David Lewis
 Jeff Lucas
 Kelly Wallace McLamb
 Jeanette Morrison
 Ann Parker
 Joyce Perellia
 Mark Phillips
 Janet Seymore
 Steve Turnage
 JoAnn Wells
 Faye West

Extended**Prayer Needs**

Carl Barbour
 Linda Beam
 Charlie Carpenter
 Midge Carpenter
 Opal Colville
 Warren Davenport
 Joe Frischman
 Steven Glover
 Violet Jackson
 Faye Parker
 Lucy Simpson
 Tony Simpson
 Joy Spell
 Judy Taylor
 Vance Walters
 Ethel Williams



*Hear my prayer,
 O Lord, give ear
 to my cry...
 Psalm 39:12*

Altar Flowers

6 Ann Carpenter
 13 Charles & Pam Wilkes
 20 Al & Susan Murray
 27 Available

Deacons of the Week

6 Jimmy Bailey
 13 Trent Carpenter
 20 Brinson Hunter
 27 Susan Murray

***July Birthdays
 & Anniversaries***

8 Al & Susan
 Murray
 14 Marilyn Hardee
 15 Glenn & Pam
 Jonas
 27 Joe Jones
 Grayson Jones

***It happened in June!***

Everyone enjoys the children's sermon as Trent teaches that each of us comes in different sizes. Thanks, Joe, for being a good sport.



New members Tom Demmel and John Maher



Susan Murray and Brinson Hunter share information about focusing on Jesus.



Angela Godwin reads the scripture for worship service.



Joyce Ballard and Trent Carpenter sing *Restore the Joy*.



Marilyn Jackson receives a gift from Westfield for Walk By Faith Ministry.



Dr. Jonas faithfully leads us in worship.