

**Opportunities Include**

**SUNDAY**

9:00 AM Prayer at the Altar  
 9:15 AM Sunday School  
 10:30 AM Morning Worship  
 4:30 PM Adult Choir Practice  
 5:45-7:15 PM Youth Dive Group  
 5:30 PM Orchestra Practice  
 6:00 PM Evening Worship

**TUESDAY**

7:00 AM Men's Prayer  
 10:00 AM Ladies Prayer Time

**WEDNESDAY**

6:30 PM Children and Youth Program  
 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study and Prayer

**Important Information on how we can be contacted:**

**Website - [www.westport.church](http://www.westport.church)**  
 Church Office - 704-483-1000  
 Weekday Preschool Office 704-483-5835  
 Fax - 704-483-7474

**Church Staff**

Pastor Steve Owenby / Senior Pastor  
 Email address: [steve@westport.church](mailto:steve@westport.church)  
 Pastor Jerry Matheiss / Minister of Music  
 Email address: [jerry@westport.church](mailto:jerry@westport.church)  
 Pastor Caleb Moore / Pastor to Students & Families  
 Email address: [caleb@westport.church](mailto:caleb@westport.church)  
 Susie Sherrill, Senior Administrative Assistant  
 Email address: [susie@westport.church](mailto:susie@westport.church)



**November Birthdays**

11/01 Justin Hudgins	11/13 Tracie Parker
11/01 Logan Richardson	11/13 Larry Walker
11/04 Lee Wright	11/17 Judy Melton
11/06 Luke Furr	11/23 Jerry Hudgins
11/09 Mike Hayes	11/26 Shelby Munn
11/10 Brandi Furr	11/26 Calvin Wyatt
11/11 Ricky Jones	11/27 Don Clark
11/12 Jackson Carpenter	11/27 Betty Robinson

**November Anniversaries**

11/03/79 Tony and Carol Luckey
11/06/13 Kevin and Kathy Brown
11/09/60 Art and Susan McLaren
11/09/73 Jimmy and Rachel Perkins
11/10/56 David and Jean Dale
11/15/02 Michael and Maryellen Warren
11/21/09 Ryan and Carey Miller



**From The Pastor's Desk...**

Have you ever spent time around people who always seem to find the problem with any idea or in any situation? It can be really frustrating. As a matter of fact, it can be down right depressing. People who always look at the negative usually don't have a lot of friends. It reminds me of a story I read...

Once there was a farmer who was continually optimistic, seldom discouraged or blue. He had a neighbor who was just the opposite. Grim and gloomy, he faced each new morning with a heavy sigh.

The happy, optimistic farmer would see the sun coming up and shout over the roar of the tractor, "Look at the beautiful sun and clear sky!" And with a frown, the negative neighbor would reply, "Yeah—it'll probably scorch the crops!"

When clouds would gather and much-needed rain would start to fall, our positive friend would smile across the fence, "Ain't this great—God is giving our corn a drink today!" Again, the same negative response, "Uh huh, but if it doesn't stop 'fore long it'll flood and wash everything away."

One day the optimist decided to put his pessimistic neighbor to the maximum test. He bought the smartest, most expensive bird dog he could find. He trained him to do things no other dog on earth could do—impossible feats that would surely astonish anyone.

He invited the pessimist to go duck hunting with him. They sat in the boat, hidden in the duck blind. In came the ducks. Both men fired and several ducks fell into the water. "Go get 'em!" ordered the owner with a gleam in his eye. The dog leaped out of the boat, walked on the water, and picked up the birds one by one.

"Well, what do you think of that?"

"Unsmiling, the pessimist answered, "He can't swim, can he?"

The truth is, as a Christian, you have more to be optimistic about than anyone else in the world! We should be able to look past the adversity in our lives and see that it is all a temporary phase we will get through. We should remember the words of our Savior in **John 16:33 – Then Jesus spoke to them and said, In the world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer. I have overcome the world!** Are you able to have a cheerful heart today? Will you let the focus of your life and your ministry be one that is filled with joy? Remember this – Jesus went to the Cross to take care of your biggest problem, and He has promised that it won't be long till He will take care of ALL our problems! When we get to heaven, never again will there be a trial, a sickness, or any kind of adversity! Why not start living in that victory now? If we will make set our eyes on our destination rather than our present circumstances, it will change our attitude and we will be filled with gratitude. That is a great way to enter this Thanksgiving season!

Steve Owenby



**NOVEMBER 5, 2017**

**Fall Back**

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME





- Nov. 2, Ladies Bible Study 9:30 AM
- Nov. 5, Daylight Saving Time Ends
- Nov. 7, MOPS morning meeting 9 AM
- Nov. 9, Ladies Bible Study 9:30 AM
- Nov. 11, VETERANS DAY
- Nov. 11, Women's Festival of Tables 6 PM
- Nov. 12, Quarterly Business Meeting 6 PM
- Nov. 21, THANKSGIVING DINNER
- Nov. 23, THANKSGIVING DAY - OFFICE CLOSED
- Nov. 24, OFFICE CLOSED
- Nov. 26, HANGING OF THE GREENS 6 PM
- Dec. 3, LOTTIE MOON 6 PM
- Dec, 17, Christmas Cantata 10:30 AM and 6:00 PM
- Dec. 19, Weekday Preschool Christmas Program 10:30 AM
- Dec. 25, CHRISTMAS DAY

Question: Can you remember the circumstances of your own personal salvation experience? I had the opportunity a while back to explain my call to the ministry, and also my salvation experience. Last year, our church, Westport Baptist, helped me celebrate my 50th year in the ministry and you talking about being surprised! Much was said about the years of my ministry and was asked about them how and when did they begin?

My family literally grew up in church! My Dad was the "Song Leader" and mom played the organ and piano. My Dad was also the custodian. We were all day on Saturday's cleaning the buildings, my Dad, my three brothers at that time, and myself. I learned early in life that someone had to make sure the buildings were ready for Sunday. It didn't just "Happen" as some folk think. As a ten-year-old boy a few of us kids went forward to "Be saved," we thought. All got baptized. Safe and sound we thought. Big deal at church for all us boys.

All through my school days never gave it a second thought. I knew something wasn't right, though. Years passed. High school, US Air Force, got married. Took a job where everyone else worked. Still attending church religiously. Great friend of mine, his father was our Pastor, encouraged me that I needed to be in college studying for the ministry in music. Thought that would be the thing to do. Gayle and I and our first daughter, Wendy, packed up and moved to Chattanooga, Tenn. Started school. All day in school. All night working at a freight line. Six long years. God was preparing me. Those years were packed to the brim!!

My second year in college, during a message by chapel speaker Dr. Fred Brown, evangelist, preached from John 1:12. I only then realized it wasn't anything I had done for salvation. It was what God had done for me. Not by my power but by His I could be His child. After chapel went to English class. Had to get that settled. Asked professor if I could leave class and go to prayer tower. Friend went with me. Settled it about my salvation and secure in Him. All settled once and for all!

50 years later in the ministry and still settled what God had done in my life. What about yours? Happy with your salvation? Assured that God did for you what He said He would do? Make sure. Get it settled. You'll be glad you did. That was just the "Nut shell" of my whole life. It probably would take a volume of books to explain all the little details, just like it would yours. So many little things along the way that reveal what we are today. Just make sure what you do is for Him, not yourself. He will bless you for your testimony. Thanks for listening!

In Christ, Jerry Mattheiss



### Christmas Cantata December 17th at 10:30 am & 6 pm

Please make plans now to bring family and friends to the Westport Baptist Church Christmas Cantata, "Mary Did You Know" - a powerful musical presentation about our Savior on Sunday, December 17th at 10:30 a.m. and 6 pm.



**OUR GOAL IS 200 SHOEBOXES THIS YEAR!** We have cardboard shoe boxes for you to pickup, or you may purchase your own plastic box. Our cut-off date for turning in shoe boxes will be Sunday, November 19th with a dedication service that evening.

#### How to Pack a Shoe Box:

Decide whether your gift will be for a boy or girl and choose an age category: (2-4), (5-9), or (10-14). Attach the appropriate BOY/GIRL LABEL on the TOP of your box and mark the correct age category.

Fill your shoe box with a variety of gifts:

**Toys:** Include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls, toy cars, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, balls, toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries), etc.

**School Supplies:** pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

**Non-Liquid Hygiene Items:** toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths, etc. **(NOT TOOTHPASTE)**

**Accessories:** t-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), etc.

**A Personal Note:** You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. If you include your name and address, the child may be able to write back.

Do NOT include the following items: **(And this year no candy of any kind, or toothpaste)**

- Used or damaged items....
- War-related items (toy guns, toy soldiers, knives, etc.)....
- Perishable items (candy, chocolate, foods, crackers, etc.)....
- Breakable items (china dolls, snow globes, glass containers, aerosol cans, etc.)....
- Liquids (shampoo, lotion, bubbles, etc.)....
- Medications or vitamins (cough drops, ointment, etc.)

**Complete the FORM and enclose it in an envelope with \$9 or more to help cover shipping and other costs.** Please place the envelope so it is clearly visible on top of the gift items. (Checks are recommended rather than cash. If you or your family are filling more than one shoe box, you may make one combined donation in a single envelope inside any one of your boxes.) Place a rubber band around your shoe box and lid.



## Follow Your Box Labels

Discover the Destination of Your Shoebox Gift Every shoebox needs a \$9 donation to cover critical shipping and ministry costs. If you make this donation online, you can Follow Your Box and receive a tracking label. Attach the label to your shoebox, and use our Look-Up Tool to find out the country where your box will be delivered with the message of Christ's love.





**Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Goal**  
**\$15,000.00**

**Our Lottie Moon Kickoff will be Sunday evening, December 3rd.**  
**We will begin at 6:00 pm in the Family Life Center with a "Chili or Soup and Sandwich Night" followed by a "Men's Cake Auction"**  
**(with all the proceeds going to the Lottie Moon offering)**

Every Christmas season we decorate our Sanctuary with Poinsettias. These Poinsettias are a part of our Hanging of the Greens service on Sunday evening November 26th. Order forms can now be picked up in the vestibule to purchase as many as you would like. The 6 1/2" poinsettias will be \$12.00 this year. You may purchase them in honor or memory of someone. We will list their names in the "Hanging of the Greens" program on Sunday, November 26th.



**The Hanging of the Greens - November 26th at 6:00 pm**



The "Hanging of the Greens" is our opportunity as a church family to festively make preparations of the sanctuary for celebrating Advent and Christmas. We come together on the evening of the first Sunday of Advent to decorate, sing, praise, and worship. The service is designed to explain the significance of the symbols of Christmas and will include all who attend, both members of our church family as well as visitors. We will hang wreaths, set poinsettias in the sanctuary, and place the Chrismons on the tree as carols are sung. The evening will conclude with the lighting of the Advent Candle and the Christmas Tree.

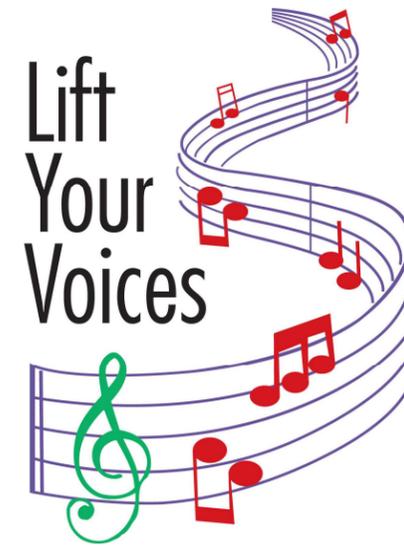


Please reserve 6:00 pm Sunday evening, November 26th, to be with your Westport Church family to celebrate the "Hanging of the Greens."

What do we teach our families about the importance of corporate worship in church? As often as we hear about the various worship styles that have divided churches down lines of style and preference, there is a lack of conversation around the power, wonder, and joy of singing together, and our worship suffers from it. The truth is that when we as people of God expend our energy to sing as one, and glorify Him with all our hearts, we learn to love God better as worship brings us closer to Him. We experience his power, wonder at his works, and lift our hearts in joy as one church, joined together to bless our Creator.

Our worship is also an incredibly counter-cultural tool for witness and evangelism. Where else do people join in song together, and the focus is not on the skill of the musicians or the magnetism of the people on stage? Where else do people cry out in repentance with one voice? In Keith and Kristyn Getty's new book *Sing!* they describe the witness of worship,

"When we sing, it is a battle cry of hope for the wounded, for the weary, for the lost... When we sing we witness to the people in our church who are yet to believe – to the unsaved spouse, the cynical teen, the intrigued friend. We witness to the outsider stepping through the door... The sight and sound of a congregation singing praise to God together is a radical witness in a culture that rejects God and embraces individualism."



I fear our future generations don't understand the power and necessity of worship. Let us do our best to teach them by modeling authentic worship, the kind that unites instead of divides, the kind that causes us to lose focus of ourselves as we focus on God, the kind that shows our love for our Creator.

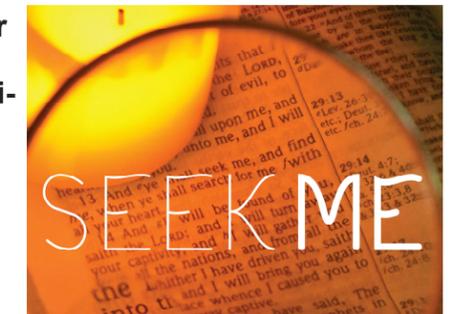
Caleb Moore



**Disciple Now weekend is November 10th, 11th, and 12th. We will have times of bible study throughout the weekend, games and fun, lots of food, and will take a hiking trip on Saturday. Students will be staying in host homes in the area, and will have all their meals covered from dinner on Friday to breakfast on Sunday. D-Now starts Friday, Nov. 10th at 6pm and students will be done after**

**the Sunday Morning service. Cost for the event is \$40 a student, this covers their meals, a t-shirt, and all learning materials for the weekend.**

**Contact Pastor Caleb for more information!**



Here is an example from the Desiring God website:

**Question 26: How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?**

*Answer:* Christ, the Son of God became man by taking to himself a true body and a reasonable soul. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mary, and was born of her, yet without sin.

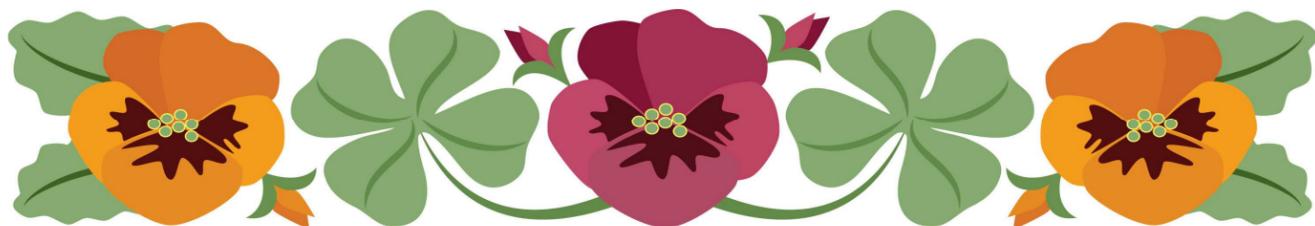
*Scripture:* [Hebrews 2:14](#); [4:14](#); [7:26](#); [Matthew 26:38](#); [Luke 2:52](#); [John 1:14](#); [12:27](#); [Luke 1:31, 35](#); [2:52](#); [Colossians 2:9](#).

# W.O.W.

## Women of Westport FESTIVAL OF TABLES

November 11th @ 6pm ~ Cost \$8 per person  
in the Family Life Center

You are invited to come and enjoy the fellowship, food and very inspiring speaker. Decorating a table is optional. If you are interested in decorating a table, please sign up to do that. You can choose the theme and have fun with it. Please see Beverly Weston or Michelle Miller if you have any questions.



### Weekday Preschool Fundraising Project

Every year the preschool holds a few fundraisers. Butter Braid seems to be the one that people really like. We are asking you to please help the preschool have a successful fundraiser by purchasing as many of the Butter Braids as you would like. They have a new flavor this year, Four Cheese & Herb. It is absolutely delicious. It is a great side item with soups, pasta,

chili! Also, makes a great sandwich on its own, just slice open baked pastry and add your favorite sandwich items! With Thanksgiving and Christmas coming up these make an excellent dessert choice, and now they have one that can be a main menu item as well. All you have to do is let it Thaw, Rise, Bake!

Please sign up today. Deadline is November 7th and they will be ready for pick up on November 16th. Please see Gina Catoe or Susie Sherrill for more information.



### MOPS/MOPS NEXT (Mother's of Preschoolers and School Age Children)

Here at MOPS, we are on a mission to celebrate motherhood.

We build circles of women who love each other like family, because raising humans is beautiful and hard, and having each other to lean on is life-giving. That's why we connect moms in our community who meet together to laugh, cry and embrace the journey of being a mom. This is motherhood, and together we can change the world in all the best ways.

#### DAYTIME MOPS/MOMS NEXT

Meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of every month, 9:00a.m. - noon.  
Register online at [www.westport.church/mops](http://www.westport.church/mops)

Our Annual Thanksgiving Feast  
is November 21st in the Fellowship Hall.  
Turkey and all the trimmings!  
Serving will be from 5:30 - 6:30 PM  
followed by a Special Thanksgiving Service  
in the Sanctuary at 7:00 PM.

The children and families of our Weekday Preschool will share with the Westport Church family in the meal and worship service. The preschool students will share with us in song in the worship service.



### THANKSGIVING SERVICE

**Tuesday,  
November 21st**