



The 139th Psalm (attributed to David) says in v. 14, **“I will praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.”**

Modern medical science has given us a much greater understanding of truly how wonderfully made we are. David knew nothing about the fact that an adult human has 60,000 MILES of blood vessels. He knew little about the 12 different systems of the body and how each of them works independently, and together, to allow the body to function properly. Indeed, the physical complexity of God’s final creation in the Genesis account is a miracle in itself and the Psalmist recognized that.

Just as our physical bodies are made with each member doing the work it was created for, the body of Christ (the church) is also dependent upon each member exercising their spiritual gifts and their God given talents. They all work together for the good of the body as a whole. Consider Ephesians 4:11-16, **“And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.”**

There is a wealth of teaching in that passage but in the underlined parts I just want to point out that it is the saints (each of us) who do the work of the ministry, and that each of us is designed and gifted to do our individual jobs for the Lord and His church.

Our church body (as is the case with every church in our country) has been powerfully impacted by the Covid 19 pandemic of the past two years. Those most vulnerable, like the elderly or immune suppressed individuals have been understandably fearful of gathering in large groups. While it looks like Covid is going to be with us for the foreseeable future, news reports this morning are that it is morphing from a pandemic to an epidemic status, such as the flu. It is something that we are probably going to have to live with, but the encouraging news is that fatality levels are dropping, and we have CDC approved vaccines for it, and we know ways to try to prevent the spread, our society **MUST** get back to normal.

So it is with the Church.

We continue to have hand sanitizer at each entrance. Although they are not required, masks are still supplied for those who would feel more comfortable wearing one. We have opened up the pews that had previously been blocked off, but remember that in an auditorium that seats 450 (with an “active membership” of about 250) there is plenty of room to spread out.

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Click on the:

GIVE

button on the church website  
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Dr. C. J. Adkins

**Youth Pastor**  
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**Church Secretary**  
Alanna Cline

**Director Of Music Ministry**  
Josh Spurgeon

**Worship Director**  
Ted Keown

**Team KID Directors**  
Michael & Alanna Cline

**Fellowship Coordinator**  
Angie Scarberry

**Newsletter & Web**  
Rusty Dillon

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We still want to exercise caution and use good judgment, but it is time to take seriously the command of Hebrews 10:25, **“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”** Each of us need this community, and we need ALL of our members to be back together in worship, fellowship, and work! In short, We Need YOU!

While we know that there may still be folks who are somewhat fearful of gathering, we also know that it is easy just to GET OUT OF THE HABIT of coming to corporate worship service. Our Livestreaming of services during the pandemic has been a blessing to those who are unable to attend, but also has made it easy for those who are so inclined to just stay home and perhaps watch services from the bed or sofa. While this can be a blessing, the Enemy can use this simple thing to separate us physically and do damage to the unity of the body.

Now, rather than staying negative, I am thankful for several new individuals and families whom God has brought into our fellowship during these pandemic months. We have been printing photos of them in the monthly newsletter for those who have not yet met them. Some of our new members have already been assimilated into some of the various ministries of the church. Our desire is that ALL members, new and existing, be about the Father’s business here in the work of our church.

In the new member packets I have stressed that there are four basic expectations of membership here at Westmoreland Baptist. Every “active” member of the church is expected to:

- ***Regularly Attend Corporate worship (unless providentially hindered)***
- ***Be a part of some small group, in which relationships are built around the study of God’s Word***
- ***Be a part of at least one ministry of the church***
- ***Give regularly and proportionately to the work of our church and its mission in the community and around the world.***

Of course, there are so many other things that membership entails but these four are basics that should apply to ALL of us. I recognize that our newer members (and some of our long time members too) may not be aware of all of the ministries available to us. I plan on providing a list of those ministries in the next newsletter.

Let me close with this plea to EVERY member of Westmoreland Baptist. It is time for us to renew our commitment to church membership. If you are attending and participating fully, thank you and keep up the good work. If you have been separated from the family – Come back home. ***We need you!***

C. J. Adkins



We wish to apologize for failing to include Herman Jividen in the April birthday list and want to say, Happy Belated Birthday Herman.

Glenda Koukos	1 <sup>st</sup>	Nyle Dygert	15 <sup>th</sup>
Ann Garren	2 <sup>nd</sup>	David Howerton	17 <sup>th</sup>
Seth Christian	4 <sup>th</sup>	Elijah Napier	19 <sup>th</sup>
Charles Michael Moore	8 <sup>th</sup>	Mitzie Trout	22 <sup>nd</sup>
John Cole	10 <sup>th</sup>	Noah Napier	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Aiden Smith	11 <sup>th</sup>	Ted Keown	27 <sup>th</sup>
Eugenia Nichols	12 <sup>th</sup>	Bruce Morris	28 <sup>th</sup>
Sarah Hamlin	12 <sup>th</sup>		







## Ridgecrest Fuge Camp is June 18-22.

Time is approaching quickly.

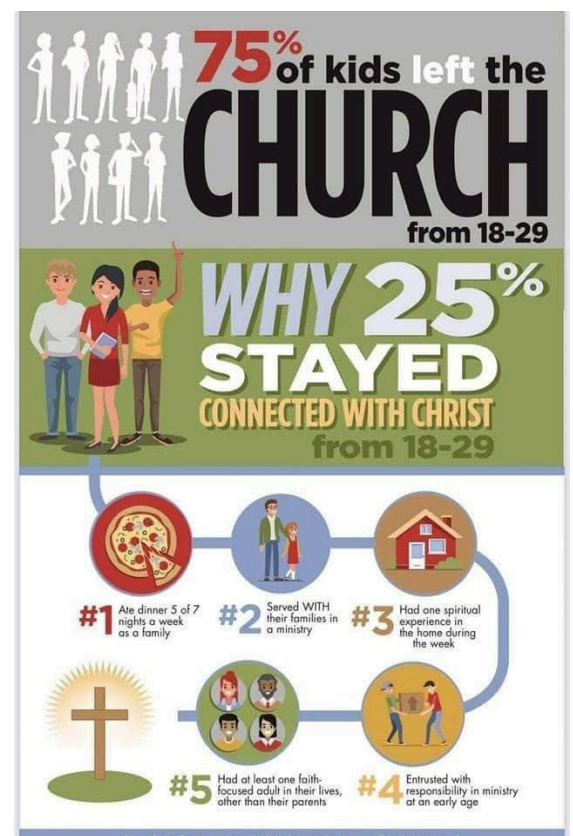
**We are \$1200 from reaching our goal as of 5/1/22.**



As a Pastor my priority is not camps and games. There are plenty of time for those activities. I hope Jamie and myself share the same concerns as you do as parents and grandparents and congregation. Keeping these kids in church as much as possible and sharing the Gospel with them. Let's face it we are living in a day when even those that gather in church are ok with their kids missing just to avoid to conflict, unfortunately that is the culture we live in. It warms my heart to know we have kids who want to be in church here at WBC. We are facing an uphill battle to reach kids and keep them involved. I catch myself not only reading articles about kids and families leaving church but unfortunately have witnessed it firsthand. That always is a signal that is room for improvement, just like for us it starts at home. I ask that you look at this article I shared a while back on Facebook because it has really made me think what is there, I can do better not only for my kids but yours as well. We love them all so much and want them to continue to grow with us, not all the time in numbers but spiritually. I know with summer coming it begins to be easy to become comfortable and vacations as well. We are going to have a great summer this year. No, we will not be able to do two camps because the means are just not there to do so. If an individual would still like to go to Summit Camp, they absolutely can. Contact me and I can help assist you with that, but I am unable to be a counselor this year due to scheduling. I am calling on all parents including Jamie and I to be in prayer for this one item, KEEP THE MAIN THING, THE MAIN THING. Its as simple as this, our kids depend on it.

Mathew 28 16-20

<sup>16</sup> Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup> And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in<sup>[u]</sup> the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."



# The Persecuted Church

From: "The Alabama Baptist Paper"

**Kabul, Afghanistan** - Afghanistan has moved to the top of the list of countries where Christians suffer the most persecution for their faith, overtaking North Korea for the first time in more than two decades. The 2022 "World Watch List" is compiled by Open Doors USA, a missions organization that works in the world's most oppressive regions to empower and equip persecuted Christians.

The group noted that while the situation in North Korea has not improved, Afghanistan has become even more dangerous for believers since the Taliban seizure of the government. "If you share your faith maybe 5% of the people will accept it, but maybe 95% will turn you in to the Taliban," said Paul, an Afghan believer and one of the last refugees to be able to leave Afghanistan. With nine of the top ten world watch list countries being led by Islamic or Hindu extremists, the Taliban's victory in Afghanistan has galvanized Islamic extremism around the globe, leading to the increased harassment of Christians.

**Ungwan Kanti, Nigeria** – Militant Muslim Fulani herdsmen killed a kidnapped pastor and 10 others in ongoing attacks upon Christians in Nigeria, Morning Star News reported. Pastor Dauda Bature was kidnapped Nov. 8 from Ungwan Kaniit village in Kaduna state, then slain a month later after ransom was paid. His wife was kidnapped Nov. 18 when she delivered the ransom money but was released Dec. 6. She said her husband preached Christ to, and prayed for repentance of his captors, which infuriated the captors, stated the report. In Plateau State, Fulani attacked Te'egbe village Nov. 26 killing 10 Christians, stated Morning Star. In Zamfara state, Islamic militants warned churches there would be attacked unless they close, said relief group Barnabus Fund. Last year, Nigeria had the highest incidents of Christians being kidnapped (990) in the world and the highest number of Christians killed for their faith in the world (3,590), Morning Star reported. Nonetheless, the US State Department recently removed Nigeria from its list of Countries of Particular Concern. One Christian official said the move shows the US is prioritizing its Nigerian interests over the lives of Christians. Nigeria is No. 9 on Open Doors' 2021 World Watch List of places most difficult to be a Christian.



Afghanistan, officially the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, is a landlocked country located at the crossroads of Central and South Asia. The country is predominately mountainous with plains in the north and the southwest. As of 2021, its population is 40.2 million, composed mostly of ethnic Pashtuns, Tajiks, Hazaras, and Uzbeks. Kabul is the country's largest city and serves as its capital.

**Religions**

Islam 99.7%  
Others .3%



Nigeria, officially the Federal Republic of Nigeria, is a country in West Africa. It is the most populous country in Africa. It is geographically situated between the Sahel to the north and the Gulf of Guinea to the south in the Atlantic Ocean. It covers an area of 923,769 square kilometres (356,669 sq mi), with a population of over 211 million. Nigeria borders Niger in the north, Chad in the northeast, Cameroon in the east, and Benin in the west. Nigeria is a federal republic comprising 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory, where the capital, Abuja, is located. The largest city in Nigeria is Lagos, one of the largest metropolitan areas in the world and the second-largest in Africa.

**Religions**

Muslim 53.5%  
Christian 45.9%  
Traditional Faiths .6%



**Westmoreland Baptist Church**  
*Welcomes Its Newest Members.....*



Rylie Richardson



Lou & Wanda Bush

**SEND Relief**

WBC is part of the backpack ministry of the North American Mission Board again this year.

Join thousands of Southern Baptists nationwide to pack backpacks for people in need!

Details coming soon.



Women On Mission will start meeting the first Tuesday of each month beginning May 3 at 6 pm in the room across from the choir room. We will wrap the Mother's Day gifts for our homebound members. Laura Bishop will share about the American Heritage girls. The girls are working with WOM on several of our projects. Cathy Howerton will be sharing her testimony. Bring finger food to share.

Janora

**Deacons  
Of the  
Month**



Jim Hawley  
304-429-1989



Daniel Adkins  
304-638-2685

What a great time with Jimmy!! And a BIG THANK YOU to the folks at Westmoreland Baptist for the help! Couldn't have done it without you!

We had about 80-85 folks come. The Gospel was proclaimed and I have heard that a few folks were moved by Jimmy's testimony! Don't know of any salvation decisions but the Gospel went out!!!

Also, thank the following folks for some great door prizes!

- Great Outdoors  
Tackle Box  
Hall Funeral Home  
Express Oil Change  
Seth Christian  
Bare Arms
- Borders  
Todd's Sporting Goods  
Kevin's Ole Time Barbershop  
Bridgeport Machines  
Dunham's Sporting Goods

Most of all to God's glory!  
More coming later

Brady Lipscomb





# Battle Hymn Of The Republic

Julia Ward Howe (1819 - 1910)

Julia Ward Howe wrote these lyrics in the heat of the Civil War. She sent the words to the Atlantic Monthly magazine and received an honorarium of \$5.00. But the money wasn't her concern. Her purpose was to provide some wholesome lyrics for the tune of "John Brown's Body Lies A-Moldering in the Grave". She accomplished that, and more. When President Abraham Lincoln first heard the hymn, he asked to have it sung again.



The text is filled with biblical allusions. The expression "grapes of wrath" refers to Revelation 14:19 , the sounding trumpet is probably from Revelation 8. For the Christian, the message of the this song is that God's truth is eternal. Although circumstances may appear overwhelmingly difficult, God will still accomplish His purposes, and His truth will endure.

It can be dangerous to identify political causes or even national patriotism with God's truth. Nations may rise and fall, but God's truth remains forever. "His truth is marching on."

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;  
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword:  
His truth is marching on.

(Chorus)  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps,  
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;  
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps:  
His day is marching on.  
(Chorus)

I have read a fiery gospel writ in burnished rows of steel:  
"As ye deal with my contemnners, so with you my grace shall deal;  
Let the Hero, born of woman, crush the serpent with his heel,  
Since God is marching on.  
(Chorus)

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;  
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment-seat:  
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer Him! be jubilant, my feet!  
Our God is marching on.  
(Chorus)

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,  
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me.  
As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,  
While God is marching on.  
(Chorus)

He is coming like the glory of the morning on the wave,  
He is Wisdom to the mighty, He is Succour to the brave,  
So the world shall be His footstool, and the soul of Time His slave,  
Our God is marching on.

Westmoreland Baptist Church  
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

