



#### WELCOME VISITORS! Thank you for joining us today to worship the Lord.

If you are looking for a supportive, Bible-based church family, we believe you have found it at Westworth. You are always welcome to be a part of the warmth and loving nature that is shown here. We have a place for you!

If this is your first visit here, please honor us by filling out a visitor's card found on the back of each pew. Any prayer requests may also be made on the flip side of the card. You may hand it to any member, place it in the contribution plate when passed, or simply leave it in the pew for us.

During the service we will celebrate communion. Communion is not only about Jesus' death, but his resurrection and triumph over death and sin. His resurrection is our source of hope that God will fulfill his promise of eternal life through Jesus the Christ.



# Today from the Pulpit

Guest Speaker—Nathan Keller

Scripture Reading: 1 Kings 17:17-24

# SERVING THE LORD

"I am the Lord's servant, Mary answered, may it be to me as you have said. Then the angel left her." Luke 1:38

"When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord commanded him and took Mary home to be his wife. And kept her a virgin until she gave birth to her first-born son. And he gave him the name Jesus." Matt. 1:24-25

God's messages to both Mary and Jospeh were unexpected. The announcement and the confirmation of the birth of Jesus to them was the fulfillment of God's will. They were willing servants. They believed the angel's message. Each received their place in doing the will of God. Don't you just love the way they took on the roles of Mother and (step)Father?

Many in the Bible are willing servants. Many God-fearing folks I have known in my own lifetime have been willing servants of the Lord. Much like God's choice of Mary and Joseph, faithful followers hear God's command to fulfill the will of God.

Jesus once replied, "I have not come to be served, but to serve and to give my life a ransom for many."

Examples have been set. Our calling is to follow them. One important fact is the hearing of God's commands. Unless we are listening to God's Word today, how will we know what God has commanded of us? By taking into our minds and hearts the inspired Word of God we find His commands given to us as we follow Jesus.

As we remember the coming of Christ and the fulfillment of the precious gift of our Savior, we might want to remember Mary and Joseph and their acceptance of God's Will. Then we can truly pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name....your will be done on earth (and in my life) as it is in heaven".

Max

## **DECEMBER EVENTS**

**December 17—Third Sunday Lunch**—With the holidays and knowing that everyone's schedule is packed, we will cancel the December, 3rd Sunday lunch. But we will plan to enjoy this fellowship once again on January 21, 2024.

**December 31, 6pm—5th Sunday** — rather than lunch immediately following



worship services, let's gather again later in the day and celebrate the new year with games, food and fellowship. Menu will include traditional New Year's Eve "Blackeyed Peas" and any other foods you care to share. Obviously we won't plan to "ring in the new year", but a couple hours enjoying the company of brothers and sisters to set the tone for the new year.

Food Items for Southside Church of Christ food bank -



 $especially\ considering\ the\ holiday\ season.$ 

A delivery was made this week. Southside once again expressed their appreciation of our participation in this ministry. Please continue your generosity in 2024.

• WORDS-OF-WISDOM—is it time to change your WOW sign for a different bit of Wisdom? There are plenty of signs available in the activity bldg. so you can keep the message fresh for those who may be driving in your neighborhood. It will also be a great was to begin the new year—with new "Words of Wisdom". Bring back the one you have so others can use it.

Directory Addition—Please add.......

Jane has been meeting with us several weeks. Be sure to get acquainted if you haven't already.

Jane Underwood 5732 Dennis Ave Ft Worth, TX 76114 817-907-7243

Micah 6:8

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

John 5:14



#### Known Prayer needs and requests:

**Ernie Brawley**—we learned late last week that about a month ago, Ernie had another fall and broke his leg. Surgery was performed on the broken leg and he is at Ridgmar Medical Lodge for therapy until the end of the month. He will then be moving into an assisted living facility. He is looking at an extended period during which he will be unable to put any weight on the leg. Please pray for Ernie's comfort during his prolonged recovery.

**Bob & Betty Lane**— Bob will soon have surgery to remove a malignancy behind one of his ears. Following that, plastic surgery will be required. Betty continues as Bob's primary care giver, even with hospice workers coming by twice each week. Please continue prayers for both Bob and Betty.

**David Burris and Courtney**— David continues to recuperate at home and is still experiencing some issues with swelling and drainage. He reports his latest doctors appointments were good, and his next follow-up is January 8. Please continue prayers for David and Tracy that all David's issues are resolved and healing can continue. **Courtney** suffered a concussion about 2 weeks ago, and is still experiencing headaches as a result. She has been off work for 2 weeks, and was 'let go' during that time. Please pray for Courtney's healing and complete recovery.

Jessica Gunnels—Sarah Lisle's friend— Last week, Jessica's husband made the heartbreaking decision to quit treatments for Jessica. Subsequently, she passed away on Monday, Dec 12. Please continue your prayers for Jessica's family as they grieve this loss, and work toward returning to everyday life.

**Joyce Gray**—Joyce's condition remains about the same. She is at home now, dismissed from rehab last week . Please continue to pray for Joyce and for all those who are caring for her.

Max, Juan and Ann—As they adjust to Joyce's changing circumstances.

**Sharold Ferris**—Sharold continues to recover from recent surgery on his thumb. Please continue to pray for his overall health.

John and Samantha Jewell et al—Pray for John and Samantha and their efforts on behalf of the young people at York University. Also please pray for Jonah. After his hospitalization for severe depression, he should be back with family by the end of December. He will receive a "General" discharge from the Army. Please continue your prayers for all of the Jewells, as well as the work in Malawi.

Rain—Please keep this need in your prayers.

#### Known Prayer needs and requests: (continued)

Those in assisted living and unable to meet with us:

 Dennis McMillion ◆ Pat Straw ◆ Jane Whitley ◆ Joyce Bennett

#### Please include prayers for:

- Israel and Ukraine -Safety of Christian brothers and sisters and innocent civilians.
- Church growth and leadership—pray for God's guidance and blessings on efforts to grow the Lord's church. Pray for wisdom for our leaders.
- **Travelers**—Any who may be traveling—especially during the holidays.
- Civil leadership—pray for upright leaders at all levels of government.
- Parents—pray for God's guidance and blessing for parents as families strive to navigate these turbulent times.
- Young people worldwide—Evil abounds in this world and our young adults need continual prayers to resist temptation and recognize the deceit of evil.
- School teachers, administrators and staff as the school year progresses.

Please make known your prayer needs.

## <u>December Birthdays</u>

Joe Campbell Curtis Thompson Dec 1 Dec 4



**Christy Snell** Jack Lisle

Dec 26 **Dec 29** 

Abe Elizondo

Dec 31

**Darla Thornton** 

**David Burris** 

Dec 24 Dec 25

## **December** Anniversaries

Nathan & Andrea Keller Dec 15 **Bob & Betty Lane** 

Dec 23



Dec 30 Dec 31

Jonathan & Joslyn—January 6, 2024

Jonathan Dunson & Joslyn Kessler will be married at Heritage Park Baptist Church in Webster, TX on January 6, 2024—5:00 pm.

Event details and registry for the happy couple can be accessed at:

theknot.com/jonathanandjoslyn



## **ADDITIONAL STUDY OPPORTUNITIES**

## <u>Tuesday - Westworth Men's Group (1st & 3rd Tuesdays)</u>



Current study:

The Apostle Peter—his life & ministry
All are invited to join us in this research. Come
share your knowledge. Help us learn from
Peter's life how we can better serve God.

Next Meeting: → JANUARY 2024 ←7pm, Activity Bldg.

The men's group will break until after the new year.

#### Wednesday Night Bible Study—Weekly @ 7pm

# "Surprising When Constantine turned upside dow

"Surprising Facts about Church History"

When Constantine became Emperor of the Roman Empire the world turned upside down. Almost three hundred years of suspicion and persecution came to a screeching halt. Not only did Christians have the freedom to worship, but soon Christianity would be the statereligion. However, freedom is never free. On Wednesday night we will

explore the cost of the Christian's new found freedom. It was not exactly what you think it was. David Keller

#### Thursdays Women's Virtual Bible Study

Each week — 7:00 pm via Google meet Current Study:

<u>Gideon–Your Weakness. God's Strength</u> by Priscilla Shirer

For information regarding materials and access (web-site and passcode) contact:
Tracy Robertson at 817-308-0554— or—
snowgirIntx@yahoo.com



This study is also paused until January, 2024.

### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Date** Today—December 17 Trustee in charge for December: Eric Kreger

COMING WEEKS				
A/V	Susan Flaherty			
Lesson	Nathan Keller			
Reading	John Snell			
Bible Story Kids Church	Curtis Dunson Sherri Dunson & Tracy Robertson			
Communion	Mike Lisle			
Prayer	Sharold Ferris			
Songs/Close	Eric Kreger			
Usher	Brian Flaherty			
Open	Randy Fetters			

#### **COMING WEEKS**

Date	Dec 24	Dec 31	
Open	Eric Kreger	<b>Curtis Dunson</b>	
Usher	Bill Jones	Randy Fetters	
Songs/Close	Eric Kreger	<b>Curtis Dunson</b>	
Prayer	David Keller	Max Lisle	
Communion	Mike Lisle	David Keller	
Bible Story Kids Church	Max Lisle / David & Hettie Keller	5th Sunday— no children's church	
Reading	Sharold Ferris	Jaedon Snell	
Lesson	Max Pratt	Max Pratt	
A/V	Christi Kreger	Susan Flaherty	

Communion Preparation December: Stacey Fetters

#### What we want you to know about Westworth Church of Christ

We believe the gospel of Jesus Christ is the most important message for everyone in the world. Christ's message of salvation is packed with blessings for individuals, families, and community. Our mission is to share His gospel.

Our message comes from the inspired word of God. We teach that we are all sinners, and need saving from our sins. We are not saved by our own goodness or merit, but by the grace of God through our faith and obedience to the Gospel of Jesus. Jesus came to be our savior.

#### We believe...

- Jesus is the Son of God (John 11:27).
- in the Gospel Invitation (Matthew 11:28-30).
- the confession of our faith leads to our salvation (Romans 10:9-11).
- Godly sorrow turns a person away from sin to living a righteous life (Luke 5:32, 2 Corinthians 7:10).
- Baptism is one's new birth; when we bury the sinful man and rise up into a new spiritual life (Romans 6:3-5, 1 Peter 3:21-22).
- by living a faithful life God is glorified (Hebrews 13:15-16).

You are always welcome here. If you have any questions, or would like to know more about our beliefs please contact any member, call Max Pratt directly, or call the church office or to arrange time with him.

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Minister: Max Pratt— (325)718-9987

Trustees: Curtis Dunson Brian Flaherty

Eric Kreger Curtis Thompson

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Worship Services: Sunday, 10:00 am

Website: www.westworthcoc.org

Email: Westworthchurch@sbcglobal.net

Facebook Group: Westworth Church of Christ

(https://www.facebook.com/westworthcoc/)