

The Westworth Word



#### 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's Message

Speaker— Max Pratt

Scripture Reading: Luke 15:11-32

# Lesson: Which is Worse Open Rebellion or Self-Righteousness?

- THE CONTEXT OF CHRIST'S PARABLES
  - THE YOUNGER SON'S DISRESPECT & OPEN REBELLION
- A REPENDANCE LEADING TO SUBMISSION
- THE OLDER SON'S JUDGMENTAL ATTITUDE AND CONDEMNATION
- THE JOY AND SORROW SIN BRINGS

# A CALL TO PERSEVERE

"Dear friends, remember what the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ foretold. They said to you, 'In the last times there will be scoffers who will follow their own ungodly desires'. These are men who divide you, who follow mere natural instincts and do not have the Spirit. But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit. Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life."

Jude 20-21

I feel that Jude was very prophetic about our present day. The news around the globe includes the ungodly actions of people. Scoffers and mockers are abundant today. The basic Christian values and moral standards are being maligned and rejected by more and more people. I heard from a Christian Radio Station in Ireland that there is a fast-growing decline of Christianity. When the apostles taught the first generation of Christ's disciples, they encouraged the church to not let their guard down. They revealed that the natural desires to satisfy the carnal nature could and would prevail over living Spirit-filled lives.

Like the disciples of the first century, we must be building up our faith in the Lord Jesus. Working to strengthen our faith is surely a task that need not be neglected. There are spiritual practices of prayer, Bible reading, meditation upon the Word of God, sharing in the fellowship among believers and coming together to worship the Lord, remembering His sacrifice upon the Cross; can build us up in the Lord. Let us not grow weary in the spiritual disciplines that can save our souls from the grasp of Satan.

To the Christians we who were wavering in their faith, the letter of Hebrews gives a calling to remain steadfast and unmovable:

"Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful." Heb. 10:22-24

# ...ONGOING...

DONUTS AND DEVO'S (D&D) weekly at 9:00 am in the activity building.



Each week Max leads a brief bible study prior to morning worship services. Material is provided to support the discussion, help us remember the infor-Devolionals mation and put it into practice.

> This time also includes coffee and donuts. Everyone is encouraged to invite guests and join the study. Ad-

ditional fellowship and study time is always a blessing. If you've not yet joined this study...hope you can make it soon.

Any time is the perfect time to join in this weekly additional study and fellowship time with brothers and sisters in Christ.

- Food Items for Southside Church of Christ food bank Next delivery will be in August. Please keep this good work in your plans for sharing the bounty we receive from the Lord. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. This is definitely a blessing to both giver and receiver.
- WORDS-OF-WISDOM—A number of signs are available. Bring back the one you currently display and swap for a different one, giving someone else the opportunity to use the one you return. Signs are in the activity bldg.



#### **Upcoming - - -**

August 8—Forest Park Train Ride—Several youth and some parents will join the younger set for a ride on the historic Forest Park Train. More information on page 6.

August 11—Trustee's meeting. Immediately following morning worship services. If you have questions or concerns for our leadership, please be sure to speak with one of the trustees.

August 18—3rd Sunday fellowship lunch. Add this to your calendar now and enjoy the good food and fellowship that are always part of these gatherings. The last 3rd Sunday of Summer.

**School Starts**—from early to mid August. Some start-date info for local school districts is on page 6.

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:

**David Burris** — David 's surgery to replace the plate in his head has been scheduled for August 15 at UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. Dave has had some very rough days recently, with extreme migraine headaches. Please continue prayers on his behalf, as well as Tracy and the whole family.

**Ralph Gray**— Ralph underwent surgery to repair a "leaky" colon last week. He is doing as well as can be expected, but still has another surgery and a lengthy recovery ahead of him. We have word that Ralph knows we are praying for him and he is deeply grateful. Please continue to pray for Ralph and Paula as they take all the steps necessary for Ralph's complete recovery.

**Randy Mason**—Teena Whitecotton Mason's husband. (Teena grew up in this congregation.) Randy was taken off life support last Sunday, and passed away on Monday morning. The Celebration of Life service was on Saturday, 8/3, at Springtown Church of Christ. Please continue your prayers for Teena and the entire family as they move forward through the grief and loss.

**Joyce Ferris**—Sharold's 90 year-old mom. She recently had a bad fall that left her with a spinal cord injury, resulting in confinement to a wheelchair. After a short time at home, and a short time in a rehab facility, she will now go back to her son's home and be cared for there. Please pray for comfort and healing for Joyce and for her son Danny and his family, who will be caring for her.

**Wanda Reynolds**— Wanda continues to have some less than optimal days as she strives to return to her "energizer bunny" status/strength. Please keep Wanda in your prayers for a return of her strength and stamina.

**Sharold and Julie Ferris—Julie** - please continue prayers for stability with no growth in the nodule they are monitoring. **Sharold** continues preparation for back surgery. He is doing well. Please pray for his overall health.

**Cheyanne Vickers**—Please continue your prayers for Cheyanne's safety and increased faith as she gets closer to completing Army Basic Training in South Carolina. She should be back with us before school starts. John Snell reports she is getting somewhat "homesick" for family and friends. Please keep her in your prayers.

**Our "New" Brothers & Sisters**—Please keep those recently baptized, in your prayers for strength and growth in the faith, as well as all Christians for stamina to "run the race" successfully.

**Kim Turner**—Kim reports that her daughter Sara has recently started a new job and was looking forward to different experience and new opportunities.

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

Please continue prayers for Sara and her daughters, Blakely and Emma, for improved family situation/circumstances as well as prayers for Kim and her role in their lives.

**Max** - Recovery from his knee replacement is progressing as expected He continues exercises to gain more flexibility and complete healing. Please continue to pray for Max's healing and comfort.

John and Samantha Jewell et al—They are now in Costa Rica, where they hope to learn how to help combat child trafficking for application in Malawi. Please keep the whole family in your prayers for success as they continue to try to make a difference for God. (more info in "Bits & Pieces", pg .7) Andy and Lauren Jewell—Lauren is expecting. Reports are they are having a girl who they plan to name "Cora". Please pray for their young family. Families of Bob Lane, Samuel Flaherty, Joyce Gray, Nolan Williams and Randy Mason—Please continue your prayers for each of these families. The prayers that are offered are, no doubt, heard by God and felt by the families.

**Those in assisted living** and unable to meet with us regularly:

- ◆ Pat Straw ◆ Jane Whitley ◆ Joyce Bennett ◆ Ernie Brawley Please include prayers for:
- Israel and Ukraine—A cease to the war there and safety of Christian brothers and sisters and innocent civilians.
- Church growth and leadership—worldwide and especially here. Pray for the wisdom needed by our leaders to help us be the beacon of light for the world.
- Civil leadership—pray for upright leaders at all levels of government worldwide.
- Parents—pray for God's guidance and blessing for parents as families strive to navigate these turbulent times.
- Young adults/couples who are beginning their adult walk, pray that they discern
  the truth and always seek God's will.
- Children who may be food insecure while not in school.

Please make known your prayer needs.

<sup>6</sup> Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. <sup>7</sup> Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup> Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.



### AAALLLLL ABOOAARRD!



Soon the younger ones get their "reward" for a job well done during the Spaghetti Supper.

They have scheduled a ride on the Miniature Train in Forest Park/Trinity Park.

This 5-mile, 40 minute

train ride will be a great adventure and we can't wait to hear the reports on their day in the park.

The excursion is scheduled as follows:

DATE: Thursday, August 8, 2024

TIME: 10:00 am

All youth group members and parents are welcomed to join this nostalgic train ride. For more information, please check with Susan Flaherty. I remember the excitement of this ride when I was young. Makes me want to join them!

You can read more about this train and its history at : https://forestparktrains.com

# Wait... What happened to Summer?

Here we are ... it's already August! All our young people will soon face the daily grind of school for another 9 months (or more).

We are proud of each and every one of them and pray for a successful and stress-free 2024-2025 term.

Here are some of the area school district start dates:

August 7—Castleberry ISD (no joke... AUGUST 7)

August 13-Fort Worth ISD, Lake Worth ISD

August 14—Azle ISD, Northwest ISD, Springtown ISD

# Bits & Pieces



Samantha's latest blog can be read at:

Border Run – HUGS for Tomorrow (hugs4tomorrow.org)

You can always keep up with their work here:

Hugs4Tomorrow.org

Hope you are taking the opportunity to enjoy Samantha's skills as a writer and story teller. The latest blog (website noted above) takes you along on an 8 hour bus ride, just to cross the border into another country, then within hours, board the bus again to return to Costa Rica—It's a Visa thing.

John is planning a "quick" trip to Malawi in late August if all can be arranged. It has been almost a year since they were there last, and Snoden continues to plea for John's return to see the progress that has been made, as well as provide personal direction and plans for the future. Samantha may stay in Costa Rica with the family considering this is still a new environment and they may not want to leave 3 young adults (all under 20) for a week to ten days under the circumstances.

Then, possibly in September sometime, they will be briefly back in the states to report on the trip and all that is happening in Malawi.

Please keep them all in your prayers for successful efforts and of course safety for the whole family, as well as all those who are working with the kids in Malawi.

# **August Birthdays**

Debbie Simco 04 Aug
Halleigh Robertson 07 Aug
Lillie Rollins 08 Aug
Sherry Yates 09 Aug



Floretta Hubbard 12 Aug
Kaytlyne Kirby 12 Aug
Jonathan Dunson 20 Aug
Jewlianna Snell 20 Aug

# **August Anniversaries**

**David & Hettie Keller** 

Ruston & Kaytlyne Kirby Curtis & Sarah Thompson

2 Aug 16 Aug 27 Aug





# Kids Pages

#### **Crossword Puzzle**

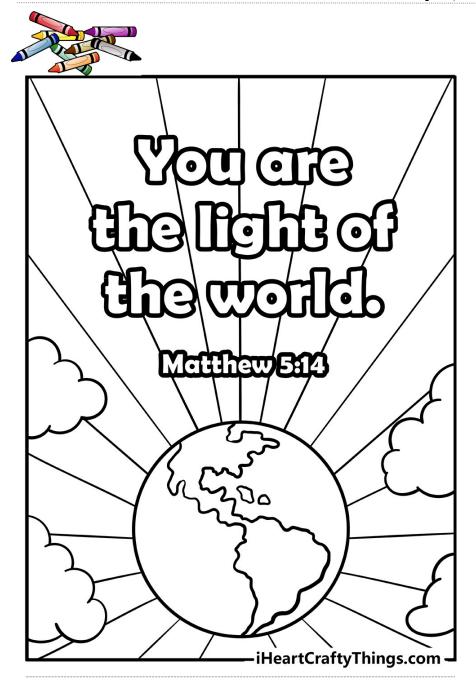
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### Down

- (2) Adam's second son
- (3) Cain's first son (Gen. 4:17)
- (4) Adam's first son
- (6) Adam's third son
- (7) What creature tempted Eve?
- (8) Cain lived in this land
- (10) First man
- (12) First woman

#### Across

- (1) Cain's occupation (Gen. 4:2)
- (5) The of Eden
- (6) Adam & Eve's first clothes (Gen. 3:21)
- (9) Because of sin the ground was \_\_\_\_\_ (Gen. 3:17)
- (11) Abel's occupation (Gen. 4:2)
- (13) Cain became a \_\_\_\_\_ and a vagabond (Gen. 4:12)



#### Memory verse:

**1 Corinthians 10:31** — Whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.

### SCHEDULED STUDIES

## Monday-Women's Virtual Bible Study

Weekly – 7:30 pm via Google meet

A new study topic is under consideration All ladies are encouraged to join the group

Participants gain so much more than a time of study. As with most of our activities, the fellowship and support in the group is immeasurable, and something to be treasured. If you want additional "Christian family time" this is a great opportunity.

For information regarding materials and access (web-site and passcode) contact: Tracy Robertson at 817-308-0554—or—tracyrobertson1966@gmail.com

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

Current Study: <u>If</u> by Mark Batterson. "Trading Your 'If Only' Regrets for God's 'What If' Possibilities"

Next Men's Group → 7pm, August 6, 2024 ←

The Men's group continues to review and consider the concepts presented in this book.



Many good conversations and biblical considerations are provoked when looking at things from someone else's viewpoint.

Join this group for additional insight and a time of fellowship.

# Wednesday Night Bible Study—Weekly @ 7pm—

Wednesday Night Bible Study group is currently studying the book of Hebrews led by David Keller.



Take advantage of another opportunity to fellowship with your Christian family while you study God's word and get thoughts on how to more effectively apply the word to your life. Hope you will join soon.

# WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Date	Today—August 4		
Open	Curtis Dunson		
Usher	Curtis Thompson		
Songs/Close	Curtis Dunson		
Prayer	Max Lisle		
Communion	Johnny Box		
Bible Story Kids Church	David Keller / Blair Montgomery & Sarah Thompson		
Reading	James Kreger		
Lesson	Max Pratt		
A/V	Christi Kreger		

Trustee in charge for August: Curtis Dunson

# COMING WEEKS

Date	Aug 11	Aug 18	August 25
Open	Eric Kreger	Mike Lisle	Curtis Dunson
Usher	Brian Flaherty	Jonathan Dunson	Bill Jones
Songs/Close	Eric Kreger	Mike Lisle	Curtis Dunson
Prayer	<b>Curtis Thompson</b>	Sharold Ferris	Max Lisle
Communion	David Keller	Max Lisle	Brian Flaherty
Bible Story Kids Church	Max Lisle / Susan Flaherty & Sherry Jones	Curtis Dunson / Sherri Dunson & Tracy Robertson	David Keller / David & Hettie Keller
Reading	Jonathan Dunson	Cooper Thompson	Jaedon Snell
Lesson	Max Pratt	Max Pratt	Max Pratt
A/V	Susan Flaherty	Sherry Yates	Susan Flaherty

Communion Preparation August: Donna Simco

# 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.

#### ৯৯৯ Leadership and Logistics ಇಳಳ

Minister: Max Pratt— (325)718-9987

Trustees: Curtis Dunson

Brian Flaherty Eric Kreger

Mailing Address: 5728 White Settlement Road

Westworth Village, TX 76114

**Office Phone**: 817-738-7536

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/)