

W.O.N.
White Oak Newsletter
White Oak Hill
Evangelical Free Church



From
Pastor Hal

RENEW
A Fresh Walk with God
Psalm 51:10



Harry Ironside said, "Thanksgiving is the enemy of discontent and dissatisfaction"

After the first thanksgiving in the new world (America), the pilgrim chronicler Edward Winslow wrote "...by the goodness of God, we are so far from want, that we often wish you partakers of our plenty." Governor William Bradford organized a feast to celebrate surviving the harsh winter and reaping the Pilgrim's first corn crop. Governor Bradford, along with the other settlers, sitting alongside the native American Indians, joined together to celebrate for three days. That year was 1621. This is 2021 and God is still good to His children. While we may not have eaten our meal for three days (maybe you did); we can still share in some of the same thoughts as the first settlers in the New World.

- We have survived a harsh climate the last two years. Many of our friends and family left for their eternal home while we still remain to run our race for Jesus Christ.
- Like the pilgrims, many of us have adopted a new way of living. Along with a host of lifestyle changes, we have learned to worship online, navigate the World Wide Web, and order necessities online.
- Inflation may pound us like the angry winter of 1620, but we overcame the elements to enjoy a bountiful feast of food and fellowship last week. For many Americans, it was the first time families gathered together in a very long time.
- We have learned and become more thankful for the gift of good health.
- Lastly, we give thanks to our God for His infinite goodness!!
- I hope this newsletter finds you doing well. May we keep our heart of gratitude as we navigate a world so full of confusion and chaos.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 "In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."



Let's draw our attention to the month of December. I can't help noticing on social media that many people in the church family are very excited about the Christmas season. Trees are on full display, fireplace hearths are fully decorated, and the many-colored lights decorate various houses. Your homes are beautiful and it's great to see all of the pictures. Thank you for sharing them on the internet. This past Sunday evening over 30 decorators made sure the church was decorated for the Christmas season. Wreaths were hung, new trees placed, poinsettias positioned, and the baptismal area was decorated to celebrate the birth of The King. The church looks awesome! A special "THANK-YOU" to everyone who stopped to serve this past Sunday. You're amazing! And we couldn't have done it without you.



The December calendar is full of activities for the church family. There is an event for all ages. From shopping to singing! Those events will start this Saturday in the Family Life Center. Close to fifty people have already signed up for the Sunshine Club Christmas dinner at 5:00 p.m. We certainly appreciate the Johnson family serving us. Please give them a hug this weekend and thank them for their servant's heart. And it's not too late to come! Call the office and let us know to put your name on the list. Brother James McKeel reminded me that we need some people to serve as officers in the Sunshine club next year. It's such a rewarding ministry. Would you pray about leading our Seniors group in 2022?

DOORKEEPERS NEEDED!



Did I use the word serve? Soon we elect officers and teachers to serve in the church in 2022. Please let me know if there is an area in the church you would like to serve the Lord. We need your help!! Please don't sit on the sidelines for Jesus. There is so much to do for the King of Kings. Call me if your name is not already on our list to serve Jesus next year. There is a place EVERY MEMBER can serve. . The psalmist writes in Psalm 84:10 "For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wickedness."

Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Everybody can be great... because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love." Whatever our gifts are and whatever God has enabled us to do, we have a responsibility as believers to use those gifts for the building up of his Kingdom. May the Lord come and find us faithful in 2022!!



Don't forget to set your alarms for the special Christmas Music service at White Oak this Sunday. The Southern Gospel music group, The Perry's, will be leading us in Christmas praise this weekend. The service starts at 10:30 a.m. Let's invite all of our friends and family to the service. It's going to be GREAT!



After the morning service next Sunday (December 12th) the church will meet to discuss the officers, teachers, and the budget for 2022. It's a great time to keep informed about the direction of the church. I will give an update on Bailey Christian Childcare during this family meeting. Hopefully, you will be encouraged as we discuss the wonderful things taking place at White Oak Hill Free Will Baptist Church!

Love in Christ,

Rev. Hal W. Jones III

Pastor Hal
Galatians 2:20

| Church Attendance | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| | |
| <u>November 23rd</u> | |
| Tuesday Night | 42 |
| <u>November 28th</u> | |
| Sunday School | 90 |
| Sunday Morning Worship | 147 |

Schedule of Services

Sunday

In-Person

Sunday School at 9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 AM

On-Line

Sunday Morning Online Service at 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Online Service Only at 6 PM

Wednesday

7 PM - Prayer, Praise & Bible Study
Engage Youth, Propel Kids & Nursery

WOH Services can be seen on either:

Facebook - Hal Jones page
White Oak Hill Free Will Baptist Church - Website
White Oak Hill Free Will Baptist Church YouTube

FAMILY HAPPENINGS



Mimi Reeves became an American citizen in October! She shares, "I'm very excited to be a US citizen.

Over the years, I have deepened my love for this country and the people of this country."

Tammy Lancaster continues to recover since her brain injury in March 2015. She is presently putting in 12-hour days of meetings and packing for Stateside while continuing to keep up with the housework. This is a huge praise!



The Driscolls announced they are expecting another baby! Pray for Debbie to have a good pregnancy and their baby

to grow and be healthy.



The Trifonov family and many of the IM missionaries in Bulgaria gathered in early

October to celebrate the marriage of Trif & Vanya's daughter, **Monika Ruseva** (Trifonov).



Victoria Paffile (Little) and her husband **Bryse** recently visited the Simmons in Kenya. It was a

time to reunite with old friends in familiar areas where Victoria ministered a couple of years ago.

After **the Baileys'** first potential rental place was canceled due to religious affiliation, God provided a much better place for them in their church's neighborhood!

Perspectives on Missions

If you are anything like me, you grew up thinking missions was unique to missionaries and ministry to church leaders; and maybe because this is often the case. We often mistake missions as a career choice, or as an overseas ministry. But, when we think this way, we miss the invitation that is given to each of us throughout all of scripture; that is, the invitation to share the blessing of salvation to every nation and tongue.

Perspectives is a class for all Christians to obtain a deeper understanding of our purpose in Christ's mission of redeeming His people. As someone who is fundraising to go on the mission field, I found Perspectives extremely helpful for my future ministry, but I also found it is packed with the necessary understanding of God and His mission that is relevant to every Christian.

Neil Gilliland touched on this in his lecture when he said, "The church has belittled the majesty of God... we have to be intentional about seeing and appreciating God's majesty." Something that Perspectives did for me was helping me recognize how surprisingly little I noticed God in both the big and small ways; whether that be in scripture, creation, history, or even in my personal life. Neil went on to say, "The whole Bible is about His glory. The nations are counting on you to be changed by your growing understanding of the glory of God." This section of the lecture really challenged my thinking. If we



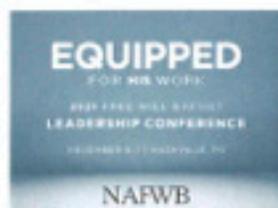
truly sought the magnitude of God, we would each be convinced and determined to share the Gospel.

Clint Morgan said, "If you understood your faith and if you were affected by your faith, you would be compelled to share." With a future in overseas missions, Perspectives helped me realize that we don't just reach souls so that they can spend eternity in Heaven. Yet, we reach souls so that the nations have the opportunity to one day know God fully and glorify Him whole-heartedly. If our pastors, Sunday school teachers, leaders, and laymen attended this class, I could only imagine that our churches would grow in both depth and discipleship.

The glory of God demands to be recognized, and if we never wake up to that reality we are missing out on the very purpose of our lives. If you want to be inspired by the work being done around the world, in a community with believers who are thirsty for God's Word, encouraged by lectures from accomplished speakers, reminded of God's glory, or perhaps discover your unique call in Kingdom work, then this class is for you.

—Emily Petty, IM Missionary to Japan

KRISTI JOHNSON TO SPEAK AT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



Kristi Johnson is scheduled to lead a seminar during the 2021 Leadership Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, taking place December 6-7. Her seminar topic will be "Leadership Matters Course: A Glimpse at Delegation". Pastors and church and ministry leaders from across the denomination will gather to explore the theme "Equipped for His Work," with an emphasis on church health.

WMO UPDATE

Thank you for partnering financially with IM by giving



to the World Missions Offering. We are excited and encouraged to share the current WMO total is \$483,605. Your gifts support ministries and partnerships focused on sharing the gospel with those who have never heard the Good News. To give, text "impartnerships" to (833) 245-7610 or visit iminc.org.

ETEAM & CMP SELECTIONS

We are excited to make both ETEAM and CMP selections for 2022. Please make sure your students are aware of all deadlines. We encourage you to choose a student to pray for as they raise funds and support for their designated mission opportunities. Visit iminc.org for more details.



STATESIDE MISSIONARIES

Several IM missionaries are currently on Stateside Assignment raising funds and support. Opportunities to meet and speak with churches and organizations are greatly appreciated. These services inform church members of each missionary's ministry so they will know how to specifically pray and partner with them.

Please contact any of the following missionaries by using the information below:

- Annabelle Ellis**
615-674-5440 • aellis@iminc.org
- Abby Walker**
615-588-8348 • awalker@iminc.org
- Emily Petty**
217-994-6274 • epetty@iminc.org
- Adam & Carol Duncan**
573-289-3560 • aduncan@iminc.org
- Sam & Lauren Riggs**
205-495-0997 • samriggs@iminc.org
- Nell & Mandi Morgan**
843-373-3612 • nmorgan@iminc.org
- Jack & Ashley Kettelman**
615-785-9351 • jkettelman@iminc.org
- Daniel & Kate Speer**
615-282-6879 • dspeer@iminc.org
- Tim & Kristi Johnson**
615-630-1323 • tjohnson@iminc.org
- Kenneth & Rejane Eagleton**
615-397-0728 • keagleton@iminc.org
- Daniel & Shelby Culwell**
931-980-2315 • dcullwell@iminc.org
- Shannon Little**
615-681-2854 • slittle@iminc.org
- Jaimie & Tammy Lancaster**
jlancaster@iminc.org
- Josh Provow**
jprovow@iminc.org

PRAYER FOCUS

- Please pray for the IM Board meeting taking place on December 7-8 at the IM offices in Nashville, Tennessee. Pray for wisdom, good fellowship, and productive time.
- Pray for Stateside missionaries currently traveling to churches to raise funds and support to return to their fields. Many of our missionaries to Japan are still in the States because Japan's borders are closed due to COVID. Pray the borders will open soon.
- Due to COVID, the Free Will Baptist church plant in Chame, Panama is struggling to pay off their church property. If IM can raise \$50,000, we have a partner willing to provide a matching gift of \$50,000! Pray we can meet this financial goal to keep the Chame church open.
- Many opportunities and projects are taking place to meet the needs of people around the world. Please pray for the partnership opportunities of both IM and The Hanna Project.

Your partnership in the gospel yields dividends around the world in lives changed and churches planted. If you'd like to discuss ways to see that impact continue long-term, call 1-877-767-7736 for information on Planned Gifts or Estate Planning.



Visit www.iminc.org for up-to-date news.