

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



From
Pastor Hal

RENEW
A Fresh Walk with God
Psalm 51:10



After the wonderful weekend, we enjoyed at White Oak Hill, it's only right we begin this newsletter in the book of Psalms. The Hebrew title of the collection of Psalms is Tehilliim (Praises or Book of Praises). Our church family could write a book praising the Lord for His infinite goodness to us this year. Psalm 146 is a Psalm written by David to give praise to God and appreciation for what God had done in the king's life.

Psalm 146:1-2 "Praise ye the Lord. Praise the Lord, O my soul.
While I live will I praise the Lord: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being."



This past weekend was such a blessing! The Sonshine Club hosted a Christmas dinner Saturday evening. The food was amazing (Thank you Johnson family & Charles)! Then we enjoyed a wonderful devotion by Arlene Brown, bingo, and sang some Christmas carols. Truly, the Lord is good and worthy to be praised! The next day at 8:30 on Sunday morning the Perrys started unloading their massive speakers, elaborate sound system and started preparing to lead us in praise. The Holy Spirit could be felt in the morning service as the Spirit of Christmas filled the sanctuary. Jesus Christ was magnified, glorified, and we were edified. What a service! Sometimes when something particularly good happens I will say something like, "That was awesome sauce in a bottle." Well, Sunday we were served some awesome sauce from Heaven. Thank you Lord and thank you church for an amazing weekend. "I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being!" The service was live-streamed and is online if you would like to see it.



Dave Francis is the former director of Lifeway Christian Resources. He studied the healthy habits of 400 vibrant churches (the term vibrant is used to identify a church that has grown at least 5% for 3 consecutive years). His research revealed that 87.5% of these churches conducted Sunday School classes in a time period next to their worship service. The S.S. hour is a time of Bible teaching and making disciples in these VIBRANT churches. Our White Oak ministry host Sunday School classes for all ages. But I've noticed only half of our church congregation take advantage of these small group sessions. May I encourage everyone to take advantage of the wonderful, godly Sunday School teachers that the Lord has given to our church. These teachers study each week and diligently prepare to make us sharper ambassadors for Jesus Christ. After spending 167 hours in the world, our families must develop godly friendships and hear God's Word. The church becomes a healthier body of Christ when we invest in Sunday School. May I challenge each reader of this newsletter to set a goal for 2022. To find a Sunday School class and be faithful. Here's a thought to challenge all of us. Next year the average student will get 1,008 hours of secular teaching in their school (6 hours times 168 days), watch 1095 hours of prime-time television (medlineplus.gov), and another 1095 hours of various screen time entertainment (medlineplus.gov). That is a total of 3,198 hours of secular education (equivalent to 19 weeks). Our children need the godly teaching found in a Sunday School class. It will make our families spiritually stronger. It will make White Oak Hill Spiritually stronger. Please pray for God to lead you to one of these great classes next year.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Every weekend is full of Christmas activities for all ages. Please get a calendar to reserve your place and enjoy some Christmas cheer. But let me share a few of these events in more detail.



The church family business meeting is this Sunday after the morning service. As much as I disdain Sunday business meetings, it does afford the opportunity for more members to be involved. Many of you work during the week and can't make it on Wednesday. There are several important items to discuss. I hope every member of the church will be here Sunday as we celebrate God's blessing and God's leading in our church.



The church has scheduled our annual Christmas caroling for Wednesday, December 15th. Carolers will leave the church at 6:00 p.m. to lift up their voices and encourage the many people who can't come to church.



The Christmas card exchange and soup social will take place on December 19th. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer of the church for soup, sandwiches, and dessert. There will be servers in the Family Life Center, but we need some food!!

Please sign the sheet if you would be willing to prepare soup, sandwiches, or bring a dessert for this special Christmas event.



The church will host its annual Christmas Eve Candlelight service on December 24th. The service will begin at 6:00 p.m. It's a great way to celebrate Christ's birth and it's a great way to get the kids' eyes off of the presents under the tree.



In closing, let me say that I am writing this newsletter on the 80th anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack. We salute all of our military and remember the price paid at Pearl Harbor. The battle was real in 1941 and the battle is real in 2021. One was physical and the other is spiritual. I want to remind you of what I wrote last week. We need doorkeepers! I deeply value all of the wonderful servants of God who have faithfully carried the serving torch for so many years. Many of them are having health issues that hinder their ability to serve next year. The work of God needs you!! We wouldn't expect an 80-year-old sailor to serve on a ship. And it's unfair to expect our elderly to carry the load at church. Let me encourage everyone, but especially the younger age Christians, to find a place and hold a torch for Jesus Christ.

*There's a clever young guy named Somebody Else,
There's nothing this guy can't do.
He is busy from morning till way late at night,
Just substituting for you.

Love in Christ,
Rev. Hal W. Jones III
Pastor Hal Jones
Galatians 2:20

You're just asked to do this, or you're asked to do that.
And what is your ready reply?
Get Somebody Else to do that job,
He'll do it much better than I.

So much to do in the weary old world-
So much and workers so few,
And Somebody Else, all weary and worn,
Is still substituting for you.

The next time you're asked to do something worthwhile,
Just give this ready reply:
If Somebody Else can give the time and support,
My goodness, so can I!

*Illustrations For Biblical Preaching, Michael Green, pg.331

Church Attendance	
December 1st	
Wednesday Night	60
December 5th	
Sunday School	96
Sunday Morning Worship	181

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

MISSIONS CORNER!

Please pray for these missionaries!



Dear Pastor Jones & White Oak Hill Church,
Thank you for the opportunity to
fellowship with you & share
the ministry of Moldova with you.
Thank you for your prayers &
support. We appreciate you.
May the Lord bless you as you
serve Him this Christmas season!
In His Service, Violet & Hanna
Psalm mt. 6:33



Stephen &
Jenna Arnold

REACHING ISRAELI
BACKPACKERS WITH
THE GOSPEL

*Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God
for Israel is that they may be saved. ROMANS 10:1*

Thank you for supporting
Jenna and me! We
are honored to be an
extension of your
ministry as we share
the Gospel with
Jewish people in Brazil!

In Messiah,
Stephen and Jenna


CHOSEN PEOPLE
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