

Birthdays

- 4: Joy Schneider
- 4: Sarah McGahee
- 5: Morgan Griffin
- 6: Jennifer Wooten
- 6: Matthew Wooten
- 15: John Caldwell, Jr. 15: Shawn Thomas

Anniversaries

12: Tommy & Kathy Boyles

Rooted In Faith

Oh what a beautiful sight we all enjoyed as we traveled through the "Ridge" section of South Carolina on March 9th. Peach trees in full bloom showed us one the wonders of God's creation. Everyone should plan to take this journey next Spring and travel on to a wonderful lunch at Shealy's restaurant in Batesburg-Leesville (a treat you will never forget!)

We will take a break during the Holy month of April and plan for an interesting event in May. Listen up for further details.

God's blessings to all.

Children's Church

Our focus over the last few months has been the Fruits of The Spirits. We explained every fruit with their attributes in detail. As we continue in the Spring we are looking forward to decorating clay pots, planting in our pots, and checking on the growth! Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:50am. Palm Sunday our children will participate in service so we will not meet. However, we will have a special gathering on Easter Sunday morning.















Family Ministries

As we prepare for Easter do we have child like faith - are we thinking, "He's coming TODAY!" Let me make this more personal – am I thinking "He's coming TODAY!"

While I prepare my heart and mind for Easter I do wonder – what IF Jesus is coming today? When He arrives will I be willing to climb the tallest tree to make sure I can see Him just as Zacchaeus had done? What if He says He's coming to MY house today?! Am I ready? Oh goodness, I've got to clean, shop and clean some more. While I'm busy getting things done will I think to ask my family and friends to come over and meet Jesus? Will I invite the cashier and the bag boy to come too? There's a homeless couple who stand on Fury's Ferry will I think to pick them up on the way home so they can meet Jesus? Will I be like Martha and Mary cooking His favorite meal (or at least try since cooking isn't my gifting) or will I want to grab my notebook and Bible and be ready to sit at His feet hanging on His every word?

Am I ready if Jesus is coming today? I can say - YES - *Jesus is my Lord and Savior!

So, what will I do to prepare to celebrate what Jesus has done for me? Will my thoughts be on who He is? While I'm cleaning the house and shopping will I think of inviting others? As I head out to church will I ask the couple who stands on Fury's Ferry if they would like to go to Church to meet Jesus? Will I ask others to have dinner with our family around the table this year?

What if "He's coming TODAY?" Are you ready?

I'd like to invite you and your family to join us on Sunday's as we worship and study God's word together. Debbie

*John 3:16 New International Version (NIV)

16 For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Preschool - Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Easter egg Hunt: Our annual Easter egg hunt will be April 12th at 5:30. The center will close & refreshments will be served at 5:30pm. The hunt will start promptly at 6:00pm. The toddlers & twos will hunt for eggs in the "garden", all three/four year olds will hunt on the Walton Way side front lawn & older children will hunt on the Milledge Road side. We are asking for plastic egg donations and candy. Please leave your donation at the front desk no later than 4/7/2017.

Muffins with Mom: Muffins with Mom and Grandma will be April 25th starting at 9:30. We will begin with chapel and transition to your child's room for refreshments. Please join in on the fun. We are trying to let all moms know how much we appreciate you for entrusting us with your children!

VBS: We are spreading the news about VBS! Please look for registration forms soon and be sure to sign your child up. Some children did not get a t-shirt last year because their parents did not sign them up. Our goal is that each and every child gets a VBS t-shirt this year. You can register online on the Woodlawn Website. You may also pay the \$10.00 donation online to offset the cost of t-shirts and VBS supplies.

Ballet: The ballet girls will have their dance recital Sunday May 20th and 21st at Augusta University Grover C. Maxwell Performing Arts Theatre. You must have a ticket to get in. The tickets are \$16.00 for adults and \$12.00 for children under 12. Please support our ballet girls if possible!

Fall Registration: The phones are starting to ring and people are trying to register. If you are a parent of a three/four year old, please stop by the office to register your child up if you are keeping your child at Woodlawn Preschool in the fall. We pray that you are, but just need to know. It is our endeavor to make this a GREAT school year!

Cot Covers: All children are required by Bright from the Start to have a sheet to lie on and something to cover up with daily. The correct size for the sheet is the size of a crib sheet. Please be sure that your child has both of these items each day so that we can stay in compliance.

Extra Clothes, Diapers and Wipes: Please be sure that your child has a change of clothes, diapers, and wipes daily. You never know when they will be needed. Our goal is to allow parents to stay at work their entire shift but it is very difficult if the children do not have what they need while they are here at the center.

Older siblings in infant rooms: Parents if at all possible please take the older child to their class first. This will cut down on the amount of traffic in the infant rooms and it will also decrease the amount of germs being introduced in the rooms. The infants have the weakest immune systems of all of the children in the center. This is an effort to keep them well. Parents when entering the rooms please do not walk on the mats on the floor. Remember we are striving to give the best possible care to <u>all</u> of our children that are enrolled.

Master's Camp: Master's Camp is held for school age children. The cost for one week is \$137.00 in addition to a small activity fee. The activity fee will need to be paid in cash before the day of the activity.

Summer Camp: We are planning a big summer camp this year. Please stop by the office to sign your child up. We are also planning an end of the summer trip.

Preschool Graduation: Graduation will be held Friday May 26, 2017 at 9:30 am with light refreshments to follow. Good Friday: We will be closed Good Friday April 14th.

THE TIDINGS Woodlawn United Methodist



April 2017

Woodlawn United Methodist Church 2220 Walton Way Augusta, GA 30904 P: 706-738-2546 Fax: 706-738-0910 woodlawnaugusta.net

Welcome Woodlawn college basketball fans to the 2017 men's basketball Tournament Challenge. It's that time of year called March Madness! It's when all the talk about teams involves phrases like: body of work; good wins; bad losses; and of course the dreaded "bubble." But once the bracket is revealed, how -- the excitement of following your bracket begins.

Best of luck Woodlawn Bracketologists!

Lenten Madness

(Article written by Jonathan Rice, 2007... with minor edits and invitation from Rev. Jim)

Lent and March Madness have something in common—they both involve a lot of prayer. The two come around for a visit every spring, like young-adult children who look and act remarkably different yet acknowledge they're somehow related. Lent, of course, is the elder, quietly sober, disciplined, and sometimes penitential; March Madness (NCAA Basketball Tournament) can get hysterical as a #15 seed upsets a #2 on a last second 50 foot buzzer beater to win! Basketball Madness!

Each has a history—An early church father Irenaus of Lyons (c.130-200) said nothing about March Madness but makes reference in his writings to the already-established traditions of Lent, which in his time amounted to a few days of public penance.

Later, it's said, Pope Gregory the Great (c.540-c.604) expanded Lent to forty days (not counting Sundays) and then the practice on Ash Wednesday of smudging an ash on the foreheads of congregants to remind them us of sinful, human frailty—"You are dust and to dust you will return." (Genesis 3:19).

Not to be outdone by Lent, March Madness also claims a history, a CBS broadcaster Brent Musburger used it during his coverage of the 1982 NCAA Basketball Tournaments. The catchphrase is now commonly associated with Mardi Gras-like excitement of the college competitions. As exciting and dramatic as the basketball games may be, they seem to trigger bi-polar symptoms in our national psyche, mood swings from ecstasy to despair, and a surge in risk taking wagers in office pools across the land.

But, then sometimes life seems like a wager. So, in the middle of March Madness we encounter a "Lenten Madness." The basketball tournaments dramatizing the hopes and agonies of us all, reminding us that it's risky to desire an Easter Sunday.

Woodlawn faithful and sinful.... May March Madness offer us the opportunity to reflect on our own sinful and broken nature, our own mortality in the present of a holy God. And in doing so, bring about in us our own breath-taking, last second, buzzer beating, turn-around!

Now that's Madness!



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