NY/	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
WOODLAWN United Methodist Church		CLOSED 1	Preschool 6:30am-6PM	Preschool 6:30am-6PM Pre-School Chapel  Midweek Prayer & Reflection 12:00 (Noon)  Bible Study - 5:15pm Choir Practice - 6pm	Preschool 6:30am-6PM 4	Preschool 6:30am-6PM 5	6
JANUARY	7 Communion & Baptism of the Lord Sunday/Renewal of Our Baptismal Vows Mark 1:4-11 Sunday Service @ 11AM	Preschool 6:30am-6PM 8	Preschool 6:30am-6PM	Preschool 6:30am-6PM 10  Pre-School Chapel  Midweek Prayer & Reflection 12:00 (Noon)  Choir Practice - 6pm	Preschool 6:30am-6PM 11	Preschool 6:30am-6PM 12	13
Birthdays  01/02 - Conrad Goodwin  01/03 -	John 1:43-51 Sunday Service @ 11AM	CLOSED  ******  MARTIN LUTHER  KING JR. DAY  HAVE A DREAM	Preschool 6:30am-6PM 1	Preschool 6:30am-6PM 17  Pre-School Chapel  Midweek Prayer & Reflection 12:00 (Noon)  Choir Practice - 6pm	9:00am - Christ Food Pantry  WEEK OF PRAYER GIRSTAN UNITY 2024	Preschool 6:30am-6PM 19  WEFK OF PRAYER GIRSTIAN UNITY 2024 TOOL SHALE BOY, THE SARRIES AND AND ADDRESS AND ADDRES	WEEK OF PRAYER GRISTIAN UNITY 2024
Huddy Hatcher	Mark 1:14-20 Sunday Service @ 11AM  WERKOF  PRAYER  GRINTLAN  UNITY  2024	Preschool 6:30am-6PM 2.2	Preschool 6:30am-6PM 22	Preschool 6:30am-6PM Pre-School Chapel  Midweek Prayer & Reflection 12:00 (Noon)  Choir Practice - 6pm  PRAYER CHRISTIAN UNITY 2024	Rooted In Faith TBD  WEEK OF PRAYER GRESTAN UNITY UNIT	Preschool 6:30am-6PM 26	27
CELEBRATE!!	28  Mark 1:21-28  Sunday Service @ 11AM	Preschool 6:30am-6PM 29	Preschool 6:30am-6PM 30	Preschool 6:30am-6PM  Pre-School Chapel  Midweek Prayer & Reflection 12:00 (Noon)  Choir Practice - 6pm	Preschool 6:30am-6PM 1	Preschool 6:30am-6PM 2	3
BIRTHDAYS				lav	ruari	1202	24

Junuary 2024

# School Specials Schedule:

Music - Monday Mornings



- Soccer Shots Tuesday Mornings
- Chapel Wednesday Mornings
- Art Fridays PreK, K3, & Young 3's

**Service Project:** We will be collecting Adult & Youth gloves, hats, scarves, and socks for our Food Pantry Client. We will be accepting items all month long.

**SAFETY ISSUES:** Please when entering and exiting the building, <u>DO NOT ALLOW</u> other people to enter or exit the building unless a staff member is present.

**NEED:** We are in need of clean, plastic grocery bags for the Food Pantry and the Center.

#### **Reminder:**

Please make sure that your children have enough diapers and wipes each week!

#### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

Monday - January 1st - Woodlawn Preschool will be <u>CLOSED</u> in observance of New Years Day. We will reopen, Tuesday, January 2nd.

Monday - January 15th - Woodlawn Preschool will be <u>CLOSED</u> in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday. We will reopen, Tuesday, January 16th.

Please feel free to contact the office during normal business hours at

(706) 738 - 2546

You can also email us after hours at the emails below:

woodlawnaugustaumc@gmail.com or cuppe4567@gmail.com

Finally it was time to crown the tree with its star and we all watched as little Billy the youngest of the five stood on the shoulders of one of the wisemen and placed the star at its pinnacle and as one of the shepherds plugged in the lights. The tree worked its magic as a hush fell across that room and the only sound heard was the happy sounds of the baby still wrapped up in his mother's arms. "Why does that tree have a star on top of it?" little Charlie asked. And for the first time the mother who had sat quietly with baby in arms spoke up and said "Cause Charlie that star was how everybody knew where to find the Baby Jesus." And her words had barely been spoken before little Charlie chimed in "So the baby Jesus got here tonight before Santie Claus did." And his mother looking at we three kings, the shepherds, and the angel with blonde hair and back at her 5 little ones and the baby in her lap all gazing up at that star replied "Oh yes he did Charlie....yes he did."

Our Sunday School Teacher who had disappeared briefly suddenly appeared and before he could say a word without hesitation, our friend the angel whose harsh and judgmental words had by now turned to tears began singing as we all began to one by one join her, "Silent Night, Holy Night all is calm all is bright, Round young virgin mother and child, Holy infant so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace..."

The house echoed with the carol's words as our Sunday school teacher who was now joined by the Daddy entered the song filled room. They had secretly unloaded the gifts and groceries at the front of the house. The Daddy, his hands smelling of his goats approached each one of us. He humbly grips the hands of the wisemen, shepherds and the angel and thanked us for coming. And the angel without hesitation enthusiastically said," Oh no sir. Thank you sir, Thank you."

The children followed us to the door and told us to come back soon. As our station wagon wound its way down that dirt driveway that December night, one bright Star looming through the vehicle's windshield seemed to light the way for we three kings, the shepherds, the angel and our Sunday School Teacher.

And as we made our way home that chilly December night, in the silence and the holy hush there was not a doubt in any of our minds as to who had brought Christmas to whom.



## THE TIDINGS

### **Woodlawn United Methodist**

Established 1889

### Living Nativity

The ramshackle Victorian house was situated outside of town and by all appearances all her pride was long lost. Many of her windows were missing and in their place crumpled up faded newspapers were her only defense from the elements. Her front porch was warped from neglect and lack of paint and like Boo Radley's scary house in To Kill A Mockingbird, it shouted STAY AWAY! As we meandered up the dirt road drive up to the house in the back seat of our Sunday school teacher's station wagon on that cold December Day, he reminded us of why we were there. WE were there "to bring Christmas" to those inside.

The back of the station wagon was filled with carefully and colorfully wrapped packages and Piggly Wiggly bags filled with groceries collected from the congregation. A Cedar tree was tied to our vehicle's roof and as the tree bounced up and down as we hit the washed out gully that was the drive up to the house, "The Little Drummer Boy" kept rhythm on the radio. The boys in the front seat of the Station Wagon were soon to play shepherds in our church's Living Nativity that coming Sabbath night. I had been chosen as one of the three Wisemen and "we three kings" found ourselves in the back seat with the only girl accompanying us on our mission of mercy.

Appropriately, she had been chosen to be an angel and as her carefully rolled long blonde tresses framed her face it was obvious why.

Reaching our destination as we got out of the station wagon while our teacher made his way up the front steps, the angel in our midst made a pronouncement to the shepherds and we three kings, "Mom says this family are poor white trash." Her snobby words lingered in the air as we made our way up the front steps.

Our Sunday School teacher's knock at the door echoed throughout the house as the the sound was overcome by the sudden rush of children's footsteps. As the door creaked open their unwashed but beaming faces welcomed us in. The smell in the house was the same barnyard smell that permeated the air when the station wagon doors had been flung open. Out of the group of five children, a little girl's voice was heard to say, "Daddy's outback feeding the goats. and the donkey and Mama said to come on in because Santa Clause is coming tonight."

Bearing the tree, as we made our way to the back of the house, the dimly lit hallway echoed with a baby's cry. Entering the room where the fireplace humbly offered the only heat in the house, the baby lay wrapped in a tattered blanket in his mother's lap. She smiled at us as our Sunday school teacher introduced each one of us and asked where we could situate the Christmas Tree. While we placed it in the opposite corner from where she sat cradling the baby, the five children watched in wonder as we began to attach the multicolored lights to the trees branches. "We never had a Christmas Tree before," the little girl who had greeted us upon our arrival confessed.

As the angel unpacked the ornaments, the shepherds and wisemen assisted the five children in placing them on tree. (Continued on Back Page)



Grace and Peace,
Pastor Sonny Mason



Prayer Group will not be meeting until further notice.
The Prayer List will be sent out weekly via email to inform everyone of the Prayer Requests. If you have any prayer requests, please contact Pastor Sonny at bernardsmason@aol.com

### **Pastor**

Bernard "Sonny" Mason

Preschool Director Elaine Cupp

**Senior Ministries**Joan Satcher

Family Ministries
Debbie Hixon

**Director Of Music**Phillip Streetman

**Financial** Larry Wiggins

Church Office: 706-738-2546

woodlawnaugustaumc@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant Jeremy Froebel



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!!

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea,
wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking,
'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews?
For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' - *Matthew 2:1-2*