



**WOODLAWN FORREST
CHURCH OF CHRIST**
1515 N. Barack Obama Blvd
P.O. Box 1651
Valdosta, GA 31603-1651
229-242-7628

Ministering Evangelist:
Leroy Butler, Jr.

Elders:

Alfonso Breeden
Leroy Butler, Jr.
Steve A. Myers, Sr.
James C. Shearry, Sr.

Deacons:

Charlie Black
Willie C. Ferrebee
Harry L. Howell, Sr.
Marcus J. Pride

**Associate Minister &
Minister of Maturity:**
Andre R. Norwood

Ladies Ministry:
Gloria A. Butler

SUNDAY SERVICES

7:30am Radio Program
WHLJ 97.5 FM
11:00am Live Worship
4:00pm Sunday School
(Virtual)

WEDNESDAY

7:00pm Live Bible Study

SERVICES OFFERED:

- In-Home Bible Studies
- Private Open Bible Studies at the church building
- Bible Correspondence Courses
- Transportation to and from the services.
- Counseling (*marital and personal*)

THE HERALD

Theme: “Keeping Christ At Our Core in 2024”!

Our theme last year (2023) was influenced largely by the fact that we had survived COVID and were even able to prosper in significant ways. Though our attendance fell to a third of what it had been prior to covid, our income remained steady and even showed a significant increase. Our personal bonds grew stronger, and our faith was fortified. Not only did we survive but in many ways we thrived. So, last year we decided to celebrate and emphasize the fact that we were ***Fruitful and Flourishing, Planted Like a Tree in 2023.***

This year we have been operating under the theme, ***Keeping Christ at Our Core in 2024.*** I believe most of those who failed to remain faithful and fell away during the difficult and dangerous times of the pandemic did so because they failed to anchor their faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus made a forecast in Luke 6 that if we would build our spiritual houses upon the bedrock of His teachings, we could survive the storms that come to try the foundations of our spiritual houses.

Our focus for the entire year of 2024 has been to emphasize who Christ is, what He does and what he provides for our salvation and our sanctification. He summed up the situation when He said in John 15:5, “...Without me you can do nothing.” We crafted a limerick to remind us of this essential idea which says, *“Keeping Christ at the core of our faith and affection keeps us all moving in the right direction.”* We explained that the right direction is toward the center of God’s will and purpose. The further we move toward the center the less likely we are to “fall off the edge.”

As you look back on 2024, what is your assessment of your progress. Are you closer to the center of God’s plan and purpose for your life? Are you more like Christ in the essential skills and habits of a mature disciple? Has your love for God grown deeper? How about your love for other disciples? Are you more concerned about the lost among us?

The Love Connection and L-640 (Luke 6:40) Mature Discipleship Program is designed to help you acquire the core values/characteristics of Christ. Being conformed to the image of Christ is God’s plan for every believer (Romans 8:29). The Holy Spirit is working in you and me to achieve this but it will not happen without our cooperation and participation. The theme for 2024 was a way of reminding us of that fact. The word “Keeping” in our limerick and theme was meant to remind us of our part. The *faith* has been *once delivered* but we have to keep it (Jude 1:3). The *unity of the Spirit* has been divinely crafted and inspired but we have to keep it (Ephesians 4:3). *Keeping* involves “fighting” and so we are commanded to *fight the good fight of faith*. It involves “laying hold on eternal life” and so we must keep a firm grip on what we have been given. (1 Timothy 6:12).

In a few days we will move into another year if God says the same. We will adopt a new theme, but it will not highlight a new or novel purpose. Our purpose remains the same. As I have explained before, themes help us to focus on priorities and to highlight those things that are the *few* things over which we must be faithful (Matthew 25). We look forward to sharing that theme with you on the eve of the new year. Grace and Peace!

Evangelist LeRoy Butler, Jr.—Minister



January's

DAILY BIBLE READING AGENDA

Date	New Testament	Old Testament
Wednesday, 01/01	Matthew 1	Genesis 1-2
Thursday, 01/02	Matthew 2	Genesis 3-5
Friday, 01/03	Matthew 3	Genesis 6-7
Saturday, 01/04	Matthew 4	Genesis 8-19
Sunday, 01/05	Matthew 5:1-20	Genesis 11-12
Monday, 01/06	Matthew 5:21-48	Genesis 13-15
Tuesday, 01/07	Matthew 6:1-15	Genesis 16-18
Wednesday, 01/08	Matthew 6:16-34	Genesis 29-20
Thursday, 01/09	Matthew 7	Genesis 21-22
Friday, 01/10	Matthew 8	Genesis 23-24
Saturday, 01/11	Matthew 9:1-17	Genesis 25
Sunday, 01/12	Matthew 9:18-38	Genesis 26-27
Monday, 01/13	Matthew 10:1-15	Genesis 28-29
Tuesday, 01/14	Matthew 10:16-42	Genesis 30
Wednesday, 01/15	Matthew 11	Genesis 31-32
Thursday, 01/16	Matthew 12:1-8	Genesis 33-34
Friday, 01/17	Matthew 12:9-32	Genesis 35-36
Saturday, 01/18	Matthew 12:33-50	Genesis 37-38
Sunday, 01/19	Matthew 13:1-23	Genesis 39-40
Monday, 01/20	Matthew 13:24-46	Genesis 41-42
Tuesday, 01/21	Matthew 13:47-58	Genesis 43-44
Wednesday, 01/22	Matthew 14	Genesis 45-46
Thursday, 01/23	Matthew 15:1-20	Genesis 47-48
Friday, 01/24	Matthew 15:21-39	Genesis 49-50
Saturday, 01/25	Matthew 16	Exodus 1-3
Sunday, 01/26	Matthew 17	Exodus 4-5
Monday, 01/27	Matthew 18:1-14	Exodus 6-7
Tuesday, 01/28	Matthew 18:15-35	Exodus 8-9
Wednesday, 01/29	Matthew 19	Exodus 10-12
Thursday, 01/30	Matthew 20:1-16	Exodus 13-14
Friday, 01/31	Matthew 20:17-34	Exodus 15-16



If you gave your 2024 contributions by check, if you used the church envelope, or if you gave online and would like a **GIVING STATEMENT** for tax purposes, please sign the list beside the News Bulletin Board, located across the hall from the Finance Office. Please include your phone number to be contacted in case of additional information. Do so before February 2nd. Statements are printed only when requested.

Sick & Shut-in



“I was sick and you visited me . . .”

Matthew 25:36 NKJV

✠ MEMBERS IN HOSPITAL/NURSING HOMES ✠

- B/Russell **Berrian**, Holly Hill Nursing Home* BLG #2
- S/Dorothy **Hamilton**, Lake Haven Nursing Home* BLG #5
- S/Rosa **Jones**, Heritage House Nursing Home* BLG #2
- S/Jeniece **Myers**, Lake Haven Nursing Home* BLG #1
- B/Calvin **Strickland**, Tuscaloosa, AL BLG #1
- S/Betty **Yearby**, Holly Hill Nursing Home* BLG #1

* Nursing Homes all in Valdosta GA

✠ SICK OR ELDERLY MEMBERS AT HOME ✠

- B/Henry **Barnes** BLG #5
- B/James E. **Bell Jr.** BLG #1
- S/Frankie Mae **Berrian** BLG #2
- S/Lucinda **Brown** BLG #4
- S/Marjorie **Collier** BLG #1
- S/Glorice **Ferrell** BLG #4
- B/Robert **Gervin, Jr.** BLG #1
- S/Arleen **Golden** BLG #2
- B/Kenneth **Hallback** BLG #5
- S/Louise **Harden** BLG #1
- S/Robbie **Hester** BLG #2
- S/Barbara H. **Jones** BLG #2
- S/Mary **McKinnon** BLG #1
- B/Bennie **Morris** BLG #2
- B/Solomon **Sanders** BLG #2
- S/Rosa & S/Benita **Settles** BLG #2
- S/Betty **Vann** BLG #1
- S/Mary S. **Williams** BLG #4 ✠

“PLEASE REMEMBER TO **PRAY** FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN AS WELL AS THOSE WHO ARE BEREAVED, GRIEVING THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE. SEND THEM A CARD, GIVE THEM A CALL. YOU NEVER KNOW JUST HOW MUCH IT COULD MEAN TO THEM.”



January Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1st - Kenneth Hallback
- 1st - Iyana Myers
- 2nd - Pleamon Campbell
- 3rd - Deirdre Lee
- 4th - Marcus Pride
- 7th - Timothy Kelsie, Sr.
- 8th - Teretha Nicole Lott
- 9th - Renee' Darden
- 9th - Annie R. Major
- 9th - Mary McKinnon
- 12th - Lativia Stringer
- 13th - Eric Brantley, Jr.
- 13th - Nya I. Johnson
- 13th - Franklin L. Kier, Jr.
- 14th - Kaden Johnson
- 18th - Elaine Wrice
- 20th - Christopher Lott
- 20th - Kameron Myers
- 21st - Zion Carter
- 21st - Kelan Hill
- 22nd - Michael Bradley, Jr.
- 22nd - Timothy J. (TJ) Thompson
- 24th - Esther Alexis
- 24th - Benita Morris
- 25th - Cathy Scott
- 27th - Eric Davis
- 28th - Isabel Blagman
- 29th - Robert Gervin, Jr.



23rd - Charlie & Patricia Black, 42-years. ■



Woodlawn's Limerick

WHO AM I?

I am a Vital Link in God's Love Connection,
 Worshipping and Witnessing to show my Affection,
 Working and Serving so that my Light will Shine,
 Walking Circumspect so as to Redeem the Time,
 I am a Vital Link in God's Love Connection. ♥



☞ Saturday, January 18th, 2025

Shumate Street Church of Christ in Quitman has chosen for their **Ladies Day Program**. Breakfast served at 8am, lunch served after program.

Time: 9am to 12pm. Guest speakers Sis. Gloria Watkins - Atlanta and Sis. Glenda Allen - Tallahassee.

Theme: "Today is the Day! You Choose!" *Joshua 24:15 & Matthew 6:24*. Attire: Slate Grey & Burnt Orange.

☞ WFSECTS host **Sisters Annual Prayer Breakfast**, Saturday, February 15th 9:00am-11:00am.

☞ **38th Annual Church of Christ Ladies Lecture-ship Retreat**, April 10-13, 2025, sponsored by Country Club Drive Church of Christ, Fayetteville, NC, hosted by Sheldon Heights Church of Christ, The Chatham Avalon Church of Christ, and the Area-wide Churches of Christ in Chicago, IL. Theme: "Christian Women Surrendering ALL! (Philippians 3:7-16)". For additional information go to www.ladiesretreat.org

☞ **South GA Church of Christ Ladies Lectureship Retreat**, April 25-27, 2025 at Little Ocmulgee State Park and Lodge, McRae-Helena, GA. Theme: *My Cup Runneth Over, But With What*", *Psalms 23:5-6*. Conference Registration has begun. It is recommended that you register for conference prior to booking a room.

☞ Woodlawn Forrest **Ladies Day Program**

Save-the-Date! Saturday, June 14, 2025

PLACE: Kinderlou Restaurant (The Oaks)

TIME: 10:00am-12:00pm. 🌸



OPPORTUNITIES To Learn & Grow

7:30am "Back to the Bible" **RADIO PROGRAM**
WHLJ 97.5 FM

11:00am Sunday **WORSHIP**
In Person & Facebook Live

4:00pm Sunday **BIBLE SCHOOL**
Zoom Meeting ID 747 4195 1315

4:00pm Sunday, **Solid FOUNDATION Class**
Zoom Meeting ID 747 4195 1315

7:00pm **BIBLE STUDY Wednesday**
In Person & Zoom Meeting
ID: 814 6482 9808 Passcode: 573284

7:00pm **WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE**
In Person for ages 3-18

Keep in mind our Annual



Tuesday, December 31st
9:00pm—12:00am



Church Calendar

1st – New Year's Day.

5th - Usher Ministry Quarterly Meeting.

5th – Youth **Dollar Day\$**.

5th – Youth Ministry's **100 Envelopes**
Fundraiser Begins.

5th - Wellness Ministry holds **Blood
Pressure Screening** after Worship.

9th – Youth Council Meeting, 7:00pm.

11th - Clothes Closet Ministry Visitation.

11th – Meals-On-Wheels Ministry, 10:00am.

11th - L640 sponsors **MDA Ceremony**, 6:00pm.

12th - BLG #5, Meeting after worship in the
Conference Room.

12th – IMAGE Interest Meeting (TBD Zoom
or in-person)

19th - BLG #4 Meeting after Worship in the
classroom area.

19th - Clothes Closet Ministry meeting after
Worship, Conference Room.

20th - Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.

22nd - L640 Meeting, 6:00pm.

25th - Sanctuary reserved for Wedding.

25th - **Youth Registration** / Kick Off.

26th - Youth holds **Sweet Shop**.

29th - Youth Ministry Birthday Social. ■



Fourth Annual

Mature Disciple Award

Ceremony 6:00p.m.

Saturday, January 11, 2025

Valdosta State University

Center, Cypress Room

1203 N. Patterson Street

Valdosta, GA

Attire: Church Dress.

AWARD NOMINEES ARE:

- ◆ Audio Visual Ministry - Crystal **Lott**
- ◆ Baptismal Ministry - Debra **Martin**
- ◆ Body Life Group #1 - Wilma **Kitchen**
- ◆ Body Life Group #2 - Coretha B. **Shearry**
- ◆ Body Life Group #4 – Cynthia **Williams**
- ◆ Body Life Group #5 – Elaine **Wrice**
- ◆ Bulletin Board Ministry - Dafina Ife' **Turner**
- ◆ Clothes Closet Ministry - Lola **Breeden**
- ◆ Communion Ministry – Cynthia **Williams**
- ◆ Hospitality Ministry – Jackie **Neal**
- ◆ IMAGE Ministry - Crystal **Lott**
- ◆ Meals-On-Wheels Ministry – Deloris **Sermons**
- ◆ Pantry Ministry - Carma **Pickett**
- ◆ Sunshine Ministry - Vorise **Harris**
- ◆ Usher Ministry–Jimmy **Thomas**
- ◆ Youth Ministry – R. Nadine **Jackson**
- ◆ and the Outstanding Ministry Leader is
Barbara Williams.

WOODLAWN FORREST COUNSELING SERVICE

Dorothy Dye, Ph.D., Christian Clinical Counselor

For Appointment call 229-561-3808

*Woodlawn Forrest members, please take advantage
of this free service designed with you in mind.*