

The Woodland Echoes

Christmas Musical Presentation and Potluck

Please join us for an annual Woodland tradition on Sunday, December 14th at 4:30 p.m. The Children who have been working so hard on their Christmas musical will be performing in the sanctuary at 4:30 p.m. We will also celebrate our annual Christmas Potluck directly following the performance around 5:30 p.m. Please bring a dish to share according to the following designations.

A – I: Meat/Main Dish

J – R: Side Dish

S – Z: Bread OR Dessert

Search Committee Selects Candidate for Woodland

The Search Committee is very pleased to announce that a candidate has been selected to be Woodland's new minister. The candidate that has been selected has agreed to come to Woodland and final negotiations are underway. The committee will seek approval from the Board this Sunday. Following approval from the Board, the congregation is asked to confirm this candidate as well. To do that, you will have the opportunity to meet her on Wednesday, December 17th. We will have a reception for her in fellowship hall from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Following the reception you will be asked, as the congregation, to confirm her as the candidate as Senior Minister at Woodland. We will then be able to issue her a formal letter of calling.

This is a very exciting time for Woodland. The Search Committee has worked diligently to find the person we feel is a good match for Woodland. We are sure that once you meet our candidate you will be very pleased. She has many outstanding gifts for ministry and will be a great partner in ministry with Woodland. Please do your best to join us on December 17th. Jackie Diachun is coordinating the reception, so if you are able to help with set-up, clean-up, or by bringing a treat, please let her know (266-5062).

~The Search Committee

Thoughts from the Road

We have now entered into the season of Advent, which is the first season of the Christian liturgical year. Even though the secular calendar says that our year is coming to a close, in the church we are just beginning. Advent means a new leg of the journey of faith. Like the start of many trips, we begin in anticipation of what lies ahead.

Although all of us are at different stages in our faith journeys, we are not alone on the path. We walk together with God and with our church family. Advent provides an opportunity for our individual paths to merge and for us to walk to Bethlehem together.

In this season of hope, we can share with one another our hopes for what Woodland Christian Church can be in this new year. In this season of peace, we can make peace with one another, seeking and offering forgiveness for any wrongs we have committed or experienced in the past year. In this season of joy, we can know the joy of a people who believe that God comes to us in surprising ways, even in a lowly manger. In this season of love, we can live in ways that reflect the call to love God, neighbor, and self.

Advent is a part of the journey that we have walked before, but each year brings new yearnings for hope, peace, joy, and love. Although the walk can be made as individuals, the trip is more exciting and fulfilling if we share it with other travelers. So, come and travel with the members and friends of Woodland Christian Church!

~Lisa Davison

Choir Rehearsals

The Woodland Choir will rehearse at 7:00 p.m. on the Wednesday nights of December 10th and 17th. We will focus primarily on the Christmas music for the service of Lessons and Carols for December 21st, but will also cover anthems for other services. This is an excellent time for new members to join or for previous members to re-join. Hope to see you there!

H.U.G.S. of Thanks!

Thank you SO MUCH for the H.U.G.S. offering that you provided. As a community of faith we raised \$200 to be given to the HOPE Centers for Men and Women, as well as the physical donations we had of Hats, Underwear, Gloves and Socks. We continue to live into our mission and our calling when we participate in these ministries and thank you for supporting such a giving organization.

Thank you for Thanksgiving!

A special note of thanks to those who helped with the Thanksgiving Dinner with the community on Friday, November 28th. Whether you provided food, or were physically helping out on that Friday, we are so grateful that Woodland is able to provide this kind of ministry to the Lexington Community. We hope it was a true blessing, and a part of your faith journey that you will truly cherish. Your loving hearts and helping hands were much appreciated. Thank you again for your time, your effort, your recipes, your warm smiles, your kind remarks, your delicious dishes, and being a special part of Woodland's family!

Winter Retreat

Woodland's 2009 Winter Retreat will be held at the Cathedral Domain on January 23rd – 25th. The retreat begins with dinner on Friday evening and concludes with worship on Sunday morning. The retreat is open to all Woodland members and friends. The cost this year has been set at \$120. This year's retreat will include free time to relax and be alone, as well as time together with the group. Deadline for registering for the retreat is Sunday, December 14th. Call Laura Phillips (963-5141) or email her at laura@pmdllc.net for any questions or to register!

Advent Devotionals

Advent is upon us! There are many activities, meetings and suppers going on during this busy time of year, but we also hope that this is a reflective time of year as we each consider the season of Advent, a time of expectation for the Christ child. To help us all remember, and to help us live into this expectation Woodland has provided Advent Devotionals, *Partners in Prayer*. There are

enough Advent devotionals for one for each family/couple and you are encouraged to enjoy these throughout the season of Advent. You are encouraged to pick up a copy of the booklet at each entrance to the sanctuary or on the table outside the church office.

No Worship Explorers in December

The leaders of Worship Explorers and the ministerial staff have made a decision that affects families who have children 1st grade and up. Normally we have Worship Explorers on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, but during the month of December we will not have Worship Explorers. Advent is such a family friendly time and focuses on the family, so we want to make sure we are affirming that time together. Please look for the new Children/Youth Bulletins which may help children/youth to stay focused on the service, and celebrate the time you have to worship with your children. It truly is a blessing to be a part of the faith experience and journey of a child! Look for information to come soon about our Worship Explorers schedule for the new year.

Gifts for HOPE

The Complete Circle will be giving gifts to the HOPE Center for Women this month. There are many places and people in need and we at Woodland help and support when we can. If you would like to be included in this effort by contributing any of the gifts listed below. Please bring them to church before December 17. We will be having our December Pot Luck and meeting that day and will take the gifts to the HOPE Center. We will have a box included with the HOPE Center donation box in the Fellowship Hall for this collection. Items need are:

- ibuprofen
- Tylenol
- cough drops
- alka- seltzer cold
- Tussin CF-cough syrup

Thank you for any help you may be able to give.

~Complete Circle

**Special Christmas Offering
Christian Care Communities
14th and 21st**

For the last few years Woodland has provided a special Christmas Offering to the Christian Care Communities. Christian Care Communities is Kentucky's largest faith-based not-for-profit provider of affordable housing and long-term care for Older Adults. Founded in Louisville in 1884 to care for widows and orphans, Christian Care primarily serves Older Adults through an extensive network of retirement communities, including independent living apartments and patio homes, assisted living, and skilled nursing care. Building on their faith heritage, Christian Care's vision is to be Kentucky's premier provider of Older Adult services. I had the chance to speak with Bill Schiphorst, Director of Church Relations, and Christian Care Communities are so grateful for what Woodland has continued to offer through the years during our Christmas Special Offering. Please take time to consider whether you might be able to make an additional offering to this organization. We will be accepting these offerings Sunday, December 14th – Sunday, December 21st. Please note the special envelopes provided in those week's bulletins and this Echoes.

Vases

If you purchased flowers for the sanctuary, and then took these beautiful arrangements home with you –**WE NEED THE VASES BACK!** Please bring back your vases from those arrangements ASAP so that we can continue to provide flowers for the sanctuary on Sunday mornings! If we do not receive these vases back we are then having to purchase vases out of pocket, and may have to suspend our flower arrangements. If we bring our vases back, there is no concern – so please bring them back!

Complete Circle

The Complete Circle will hold their Christmas potluck luncheon at noon on Wednesday, December 17th. All are welcome.

HOLIDAY POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

The advent season is soon upon us and once again we will decorate the sanctuary with poinsettias. If you would like to participate by purchasing one or more of these plants, please complete this order form and return it with payment to the church. The cost is **\$8 per plant**.

I wish to purchase _____ poinsettias (**\$8 each**) or contribute \$_____ to the flower fund in

Memory of:

Honor of:

Your name: _____

Please make checks payable to Woodland Christian Church (memo: Poinsettias) place in offering at church or mail to Woodland Christian Church, 530 East High Street, Lexington 40502.

ORDERS DUE: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14th.

November 2008 General Fund Update:	
Revenue	\$15,722.69*
Expenses	14,195.73
Over/(Short)	(\$1,526.96)
Monthly Revenue needed to maintain 08-09 Budget:	\$17,042.90
* Does not include Arts Fair Income or House Income & Expenses	

*Church
Calendar and
Advent
Celebrations*

Sunday, December 14
Third Sunday in Advent

- 9:30 A.M. - Sunday School
- 9:30 A.M. - Choir Rehearsal
- 9:30 A.M. - Kids Kare
- 10:45 A.M. - Worship Service
- 12:15 P.M. - Board Meeting
- 4:30 P.M. - The "Story" of Christmas Children's Musical
- 5:30 P.M. - Potluck

Monday, December 15

- 10:00 A.M. - Prayer Group

Tuesday, December 16

- 7:00 P.M. - Elders' Meeting

Wednesday, December 17

- 12:00 P.M. - Complete Circle Potluck
- 5:30 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. - Reception for Prospective Minister
- 7:00 P.M. - Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, December 21

- 10:45 a.m. - Lessons and Carols

Wednesday, December 24

Christmas Eve

- 7:00 P.M. - Candlelight Communion Service

Thursday, December 25

Christmas Day

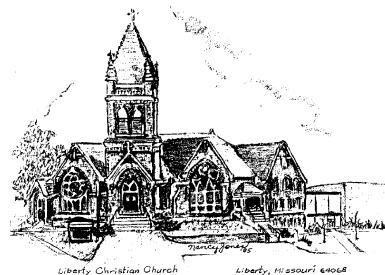
Church Office Closed

The Christian Church of Greater Kansas City

And

Liberty Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)



Cordially invite your presence and prayers

For the

Ordination to Christian Ministry

of

Laura Ann Phillips

On the eighteenth day of January

Two Thousand and Nine

Three o'clock in the afternoon

Liberty Christian Church

427 East Kansas

Liberty, Missouri

(816) 781-3621

Reception at the Church following the Service

Please contact Laura if you have any questions about travel arrangements and or local arrangements in Liberty, MO.

Staff Gifts

Dear Woodland,

In this season of being thankful for all that is given to us, I would like to extend an invitation for Woodland members and friends to remember the staff of Woodland Christian Church by giving them a monetary gift for Christmas, as is customary. The amount received will be divided based on responsibility and seniority. Through Sunday, December 20, if you would like to give a financial "gift" to the employees and staff of the church, please note on the memo of a check or on the outside of an envelope if giving a cash contribution "staff gift". This can be given in the offering plate, sent to the church or dropped off at your convenience.

Thanks you.

Dave Woods, Moderator

E-Minders

We are changing the day that the church office sends out our Weekly E-minders. Please look for your weekly E-minder on Wednesdays instead of Fridays. Hopefully this will help people to prepare and look ahead more without getting caught up in the Friday bustle before the weekend. This also means that any information you would like to share in the E-Minder needs to be to Loretta, at the church email, by Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m. If you would like to be added to this email list, please send a request to Loretta at woodlandchurch@qx.net to start receiving your E-minder or are presently on the list and would like to be removed.

Gulf Coast Trip with Habitat for Humanity

Have you been inspired by our Youth Group working in Louisiana, or by others who have helped with Hurricane Recovery efforts? Would you like to be more involved with Habitat for Humanity? Volunteers from Lexington are currently planning a trip down to the Gulf Coast to help with Hurricane recovery and are looking for more help. The group will be working in

Pass Christian Mississippi and in Southeastern Louisiana during the week of January 11th. The cost of the trip is \$20 per day (that includes food and accommodations). If you are interested in going on this trip, please contact Charlie Denham at charlesdenham@hotmail.com or at 859-254-3919. Please feel free to contact Laura with any questions.

Inclement Weather

If bad weather forces a change or cancellation of any of Woodland's services, events or activities, a message will play on the church voice mail. Just call 266-3416 and listen to the message. If there has been any change, the message will tell you about that change. An attempt will also be made to share the information via e-mail, but that may not always be possible.

Lexington Theological Seminary Lay School of Theology Spring 2009

Course meets from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Saturday in the Fellowship Hall at LTS. Registration is \$40 for each course or \$110 for all three courses in a semester. You can register for the course and pay for your course registration on-line at www.lextheo.edu.

Session I: January 10, 17, and 24 - Church, Scripture and Authority Across the Centuries with Dr. Ian Levy, Associate Professor of Theology.

The class will examine questions of authority in the Church relative to the place of Holy Scripture, ecclesiastical traditions, and the development of doctrine.

For more news about
Woodland and an extended
Church Calendar
visit our webpage at:
www.woodlandchristianchurch.org



530 E. High Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40502
859-266-3416
woodlandchurch@qx.net

At Woodland, we

Welcome all

Open our hearts and minds to God's direction for us

Overcome our human imperfections to spread God's love

Deepen our faith in Jesus Christ through worship, study and communion

Love, celebrate and nurture God's children

Act to better God's world

Need the gifts and vision of others to join with our own

Depend on God and each other through prayer and fellowship.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Woodland Members in our Continued Concern

Sara Allison, Sarah Anderson, Beulah Bell, Isabelle Brumfield, Lydia Brumfield, Sara Bushnell, Gertrude Cole, Lucille Cox, Ednagrace Cranfill, Oscar Drury, Blake Eames, Lee Garner, Ken and Mabel Gould, Mary Haney, Anna Lee Hopkins, L.G. Osborne, Ethel McQueary, Hallie Meyers, Morgan Newby, Harris Parke, Bonnie Phillips, Robert Rountree, Mary Stephens, Louise Thompson, Martha Vimont, the family of Debbie Rickerd.

Other Friends in Our Concern

Reed and Vernell Albertson (grandparents of Trish Stover), Jeri Barnes (mother of Dan Barnes), Leslie Boyd (daughter-in-law of Jeanette Boyd), Sally Brown (sister of Jennifer Brown), Mary Charles, Vicki Clarke (friend of Deb James), Sidney Cranfill (brother of Ednagrace Cranfill), Dottie Dunlap (friend of Janet Brumfield), Ronnie Goodwin (father of Sandy Holbert), Katy Gorta (aunt of Dianne Chiles), Linda Hampton (cousin of Pat Dugger), Lucille Heaton (neighbor of Clifford Millard and Dave Woods), Joy Heines (friend of Anna Gayle Parke), Judy Henry (friend of Laura Trippy and Phyllis Crume), Ray Ishmael (father of Jeffrey Ishmael), Dwight Janzen (friend of Sarah Anderson), Deborah Jennings (friend of Harris Parke), Judy LeForce (friend of Lee Ball), Lora Kay Lucas (daughter-in-law of Jeannette Lucas), The family of Mattie McClean (sister-in-law of Mary Haney), Sue Patterson (friend of Cliff Millard), Leta Poore (mother of Sherry Poore), Justin Rawlings (nephew of Missy Rawlings), Bette Shelley (mother of Janice James), William T. Smith, Fred Stocker (father of Scott Stocker), Martha Stocker (mother of Scott Stocker), Rose Stogsdill (friend of Norma Crockett and Jackie Ricard), Roselle Stubber (sister of Sam Halter), Alma Vitatoe (grandmother of Sherry Poore).

How to contact us:

530 E. High Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40502
859-266-3416
woodlandchurch@qx.net

Serving Woodland:

**Rev. Dr. Lisa Davison Senior
Interim Minister**
davison@qx.net or 859/312-9696

Laura Phillips, Associate Minister
woodland.laura@insightbb.com

**Marsha Charles, Student
Associate Minister**
mcharles@aarepo.com