### WORSHIP AT WHITE OAK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

- Thank you for turning off cell phones during the worship service.
- Nurseries for children 3 and under are provided in the Sunday School Annex wing (suspended until further notice)
- Restrooms are located on the right side of White Oak Hall.
- Listen to sermons on our website at http://www.whiteoakarp.org/Sermons.html.

#### **WELCOME**

We welcome you to the worship God, in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and are grateful you're visiting with us. Our hope and prayer is that the Holy Spirit will minister to you through the preaching of God's Word, the sacraments, hymns, and prayers.

If you're so inclined, please complete a contact information card located on the back tables. There is also a prayer request card for your requests, and they may both be placed in the offering basket, which is also on the table.

We look forward to meeting you following the worship service!

### **ABOUT WHITE OAK ARP**

White Oak Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church has been worshipping since 1836 and was organized as a congregation in 1848 in Coweta County. Our congregation is part of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian (ARP) denomination (arpchurch.org). We hold to the Westminster Confession of Faith and emphasize the following:

- The Bible is the Word of God; the only infallible rule of faith and practice.
- God Is the Creator and sovereign ruler of the universe.
- Jesus Christ is the Son of God and the only Savior from sin.
- The Holy Spirit enables us to begin and continue to live the Christian life
- Salvation is by God's grace and is not earned but is received through faith.

WHITE OAK ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2796 Gordon Road Senoia, GA 30276 770-253-7904 • www.whiteokarp.org

THE ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH arpchurch.org



Call to Worship is directed to the

leader. It is a call to focus mind, heart, and

people by God through the worship

intention on the

worship of God.

#### **P**RELUDE

#### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MEDITATION** Isaiah 64:1-2

"O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would guake at your presence – as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil-- to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!"

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

#### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

# † THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 24

Minister: The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

People: Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

Minister: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

People: Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!

Minister: Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

All: Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory!

Amen.

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

In Bulletin

# THE INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

† Those who are able, please stand.

Music is part of | + HYMN worship throughout scripture. It lifts us up and expresses our joy and celebration. Each hymn connects to the parts of worship around it.

# The King of Love My Shepherd Is

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. Ps. 23:1



- 5. Thou spread'st a table in my sight; thine unction grace bestoweth; and O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth.
- 6. And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never: Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

# The Earth and Its Riches



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#### **CONFESSION OF FAITH - THE NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets;

And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### **† CATECHISM**

Heidelberg Catechism, Question #21

What is true faith?

A. True faith is not only a sure knowledge by which I hold as true all that God has revealed to us in Scripture; it is also a wholehearted trust, which the Holy Spirit creates in me by the gospel, that God has freely granted, not only to others but to me also, forgiveness of sins, eternal righteousness, and salvation. These are gifts of sheer grace, granted solely by Christ's merit.

#### **† OUR RESPONSE**

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.

World without end. Amen. Amen.

**PSALTER WORSHIP** (Psalm 24)

"The Earth and its Riches"

In Bulletin

SACRAMENT OF INFANT BAPTISM

GOSPEL READING

Mark 13:24-37

John Hemphill

Question & answer catechisms help teach

Itruths.

and reinforce biblical

The Gospel reading usually comes from the lectionary and is designed to focus our attention on the greatness and Work of Jesus.

# PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Father God, we thank you for your abundant promises which are secured for us in Christ Jesus. We rejoice that in the fullness of time He came into the world in fulfillment of your Word. As we await His return, we confess our many sins and our disregard for the urgency to be ready and serving as we wait! Give us grace to put away lesser things and live for your glory and kingdom. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

#### **SILENT CONFESSION**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND COMFORT

Ephesians 2:4-5

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SPECIAL MUSIC "One Bright Star" Darrell Hester

& Kathy Thompson

SCRIPTURE 1 John 4:7-12

**SERMON** "Hope for the Hopeless" Rev. Dr. John Cook

† **HYMN** "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" In Bulletin

#### † PRAYER & BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace."

#### SUNDAY NIGHT WORSHIP 6:00 P.M.

Join us for evening worship as we return to David's wilderness experiences and see what life lessons they had for him and have for us. It was during this time that David was forged into the king that he would become.

The Sermon is where we explore scripture together and corporately encounter Christ.

\* HYMN

God always gets the last word in our encounter of worship. The benediction is His blessing as we go out together.

# O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

"The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins," declares the LORD. Is, 59:20



## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

You are invited to share in a project to place poinsettias in White Oak Hall during the Christmas season in honor of, or in memory of a loved one or friend. The plants will remain in White Oak Hall through the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

The price is \$12.99 per 8-inch plant. The deadline to purchase is Sunday, Dec. 13. Donors may take their poinsettias home after the Christmas Eve Service.

If you wish to participate, <u>please take an order form and envelope</u> from the basket on the back table. Please <u>make checks</u> payable to WOARP and note "poinsettia" in the memo line. Return your order form to the basket or leave in the Church Secretary's office. Thank you.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

Class/Ages	Teacher	Location	Topic
2 & 3 Year Olds	Renee Willis	Choir Room	Old Testament
	Tabatha Mauriello		Narratives
Pre-K &	Sally Estes, Tasha Schroeder	Bell Classroom	God Leads His
Kindergarten	Susan Sloan, Eileen Zito		People
1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Cindy Ward	Pressley	God's Peoples
	Amanda McLeod	Classroom	Stories
			in Genesis
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Andy Hemphill, Stacie Headley	Upstairs above	God's Grace in
	Johanna Wessells	the Church Office	the Law
Middle School	Joanne Wasdin	Upstairs in	Acts
6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Melinda Hemphill	White Oak Hall	
High School	Jake Wasdin	Upstairs in	Why We Can
9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Adam Wade	White Oak Hall	Trust the Bible
Westminster	Bobby Alford	Church Sanctuary	Amos
Class			
Adult Class	David Didier	White Oak Hall	Judges

# **Quotes on Christian Hope**

There is no Christian Gospel if history simply unwinds into a meaningless puddle, if the cosmos simply escapes into a cataclysmic black hole, or if the universe finally dies of exhausted energy. Without belief in a biblical eschatology, there is no Christian hope. Without a sense of perfect moral judgment in the end, the human heart is homeless.

Albert Mohler

Our Christian hope is that we are going to live with Christ in a new earth, where there is not only no more death, but where life is what it was always meant to be.

- Timothy Keller

Christian hope does not promise successful days to the rich and the strong, but resurrection and life to those who must exist in the shadows of death. Success is no name of God.

Righteousness is.

— Jürgen Moltmann

"Hope" is the thing with feathers -That perches in the soul -And sings the tune without the words -And never stops – at all

- Emily Dickinson

# **ADVENT**

Today is the first Sunday of Advent. Advent comes from the Latin word for "Coming" or "Visitation." The Advent season comprises the four weeks before Christmas. It is an old tradition dating at least as far back as the 400's, when the church observed a period of preparation and penitence leading up to Christmas. In the Christian church, it is a season of expectant waiting and preparation that is designed to help Christians to remember the long, long wait of the Jewish people who were waiting for the coming of the Messiah.

Advent is a time when we prepare our hearts and our minds for the coming of God's Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. The Advent season focuses on remembering Christ's first coming at Christmas, and then also anticipating Christ's second coming and soon return.

### **CHURCH CALENDAR**

Today		First Sunday of Advent
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Sunday Morning Worship Service in White Oak Hall
	11:00 a.m.	Nursery Available
	6:00 p.m.	Sunday Evening Worship Service in White Oak Hall
Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study in White Oak Hall
Wednesday	6:30 p.m.	Senior High Youth Group Meets in White Oak Hall
,	•	Choir Practice in the Church Sanctuary
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Men's Prayer Group Meets
December 6		Second Sunday of Advent
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Sunday Morning Worship Service in White Oak Hall
	11:00 a.m.	Nursery Available
	6:00 p.m.	Sunday Evening Worship Service in White Oak Hall
December 8	9:30 a.m.	Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study in White Oak Hall
December 9	6:30 p.m.	Senior High Youth Group Meets in White Oak Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice in the Church Sanctuary
December 10	9:30 a.m.	Christmas Shoppe Set-up & Organize in White Oak Hall
		Men's Prayer Group Meets
December 11	9:30 a.m.	Christmas Shoppe in White Oak Hall
·		

<u>GIVING</u> - The offering plates are on the back tables by the sound board. You may put your gift as you arrive or when you leave. You may also continue to give in these ways....

3 ways to give: **ONLINE** www.whiteoakarp.org, **MAIL** 2796 Gordon Road, Senoia, GA 30276, **IN PERSON** Sunday Morning Service or Tues. – Thurs. at the Church Office



Our prayers and sympathy are extended to Nan Williams, whose fiancé Dennis Chastain passed away Sunday, November 22, 2020.

### **SERVING TODAY**

**DEACONS OF THE MONTH:** JOSH BUSBY & DARRELL HESTER

**ELDER OF THE MONTH:** BILL MINTON

**PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY:** 

INITIAL CONTACT: JOHN & CHARLOTTE HEMPHILL (770-254-1263) BACK-UP CONTACT: FORREST & CAMMY TIDWELL (770-304-9585)

Small hearing devices are available from an usher or Deacon for those

wishing to use them.

Church Office Hours This Week: Tuesday - Thursday (8:30 a.m. - 5PM)

# **NURSERY WORKER SCHEDULE**

November 29	Tabatha Mauriello, Tanya Roberts, Johanna Wessells
December 6	Megan Fraser, Rob Gentry, Stacie Headley

### LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE & GENERAL FUND OFFERING

Attendance	Worship (11:00 a.m.)	90
	YouTube Views	32

## **GENERAL FUND REPORT**

Date	Weekly Giving	
11/8/2020	\$ 7,665	

# **MATTERS FOR PRAYER**

# **WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS:**

Pray for the lost and dying around us and our witness to them.

**Homebound**: Joy Bowers

**Sick/Recuperating**: Bea Boswell, Bill & Diane Conaway, Dianne Jackson, Shirley Kirbow, Betty Newby, Betty Rogers, Tammy Boswell, Denise Vermilya, Lisle Bowers, Mary Effie Bridges, Amy Thompson, Amanda McLeod, Jim Emerson

**Military**: Travis Coggin, Kevin Cook, T. J. Hemphill, Jack Ward, Noah Wilson-Sizemore (Jill Wilson's Grandson)

# Nursing Home Christmas Shop 2020

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we will not be able to be on-site at Newnan Health and Rehab for our annual Christmas Shop as we have in years past. Therefore, this year we will be coordinating a modified version of the Christmas Shop. We will be doing the shopping on behalf of the residents using their lists, which will be provided to us through the Activities Director at Newnan Health and Rehab.

We will set up the "Shop" in White Oak Hall and our volunteers will take a resident's list and do the shopping for them. The gifts will then be wrapped as in the past, and we will take all the gifts to Newnan Rehab staff for delivery to the residents.

# How can you help with the Christmas Shop?

<u>Donate:</u> Now until December 10th - Donate new and/or like new gift items. Donations may be dropped off on the table labeled "Christmas Shop Donations" in the back of White Oak Hall next to the kitchen.

<u>Volunteer:</u> Join us in White Oak Hall on **Thursday, December 10** or **Friday, December 11** (or both) to help organize merchandise and shop for the residents.

# Suggested gift items needed:

**Men:** Multi-Purpose Tools, Wallets, Flashlights, Socks, Gloves, Hats, Bedroom/House Shoes **Women:** Bedroom/House Shoes, Scarves, Jewelry, Purses or Bags that zip closed, Wallets, Blankets, Gloves

**Children:** Games, Toys, Craft Items, Lunch Boxes, Gloves, Scarves, Hats, Playdough, Puzzles, Sports Items

**Household Items** – Coffee Mugs (for Men & Women), Picture Frames, 2021 Calendars **Christmas Décor** – Christmas Picture Frames, Ladies Christmas Socks, Christmas Ornaments, etc.

NOTE: Administrators from Newnan Rehab ask that we <u>NOT</u> offer lotions, soaps, liquids, perfumes, candles, or candy/food items.

# Mark your Calendars!

Thursday, December 10, 9:30 a.m. – Set up and organize merchandise – White Oak Hall

Friday, December 11, 9:30 a.m. – Shopping Day – White Oak Hall

For more information, please contact: Eileen Zito -- 404-218-6944

Dianne Minton – 404-683-3568 Billie Gentry – 404-606-9936

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PARKING AT THE CHURCH:**

We are happy to announce that the new parking lots are now paved and ready for use. However, they are not yet lined. You will need to enter the parking lots from the lower area by the bus barn still using the entrance way on the east side of the church. Please do not drive on any unpaved areas in the construction site. This should eliminate the need to park across Gordon Road. Thank you all for your cooperation over the past months.

Many of you may want to look at the construction progress, but please do not go into the construction area as there are many holes and other trip hazards.

### **CHURCH DIRECTORIES:**

The remaining new Church Directories are in the Church Secretary's office. Please feel free to stop by and pick yours up during regular office hours. One directory per family.

### WHITE OAK HALL CLOSED ALL SATURDAYS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE:

Saturdays are being set aside to clean and disinfect the building for Sunday services.

### **PRAYER REQUESTS:**

Do you have a request for prayer? If you would like something put on the prayer/ praise list you can put a card in the offering plate on the back table, or email it to Bill Minton: bdminton@bellsouth.net.

## WREATHS OF REMEMBRANCE THANK YOU

I am so grateful for my White Oak Church family. We had a great out-pouring of support for our veterans this year. To everyone who purchased a wreath or several wreaths, I thank you so very much. And to the gracious volunteers who gave their time to help put them together and on the gravesites, I could not have done it without you. You are a great crew to work with too! And, I can't thank Cammy enough for going the extra mile to help me and keep track of the wreaths on their journey.

We actually have a nice little nest egg for next year. We purchased 62 wreaths and at the moment I have one left, but I am sure it will be put to good use when decorating our church for Christmas.

Thank you all, again. Melanie Whitehead

### NOMINATIONS FOR THE WOMEN'S MINISTRIES HELPER TEAM

Nominations for the Women's Ministries Helper Team are now open. All female members are encouraged to nominate a member(s) to serve on the Helper Team.

Please read the following when considering nominees:

The leadership of the organization shall be known at the Women's Ministries Helper Team (WMHT) of WOARP Church.

### Purpose:

The Women's Ministry Helper Team exists to enfold the women of our church, friends, and visitors, into the life of the church through: Bible studies and discipleship groups, prayer, leadership training, service opportunities, women's retreats, and fellowship gatherings with the purpose of encouraging caring friendships that are rooted in God's righteous love for us, in Christ Jesus, and supporting the work of the Shepherding elders of WOARP church.

#### Qualifications:

The Women's Ministries Helper Team will be composed of women who are mature in Christian faith and known for their acts of service in the Christian community. These women must be members of White Oak ARP Church and approved by the current WMHT and the Session WOARP Church.

The Helper Team shall reflect a diversity of ages and lengths of time in membership at White Oak ARP Church. The candidate for the WMHT may be the wife of an elder; however, no more than half of the WMHT shall be constituted of elders' wives.

#### Roles:

The WMHT will include one woman appointed to each Shepherding Group. Therefore the number of WMHT members may vary based on the congregational needs of number of Shepherding groups. Each member shall also serve on one of the sub-committees established by the team.

Copies of the Women's Ministries Constitution are available on the table at the exit door of White Oak Hall. You are encouraged to take a copy and read it before choosing a nominee(s) and/or accepting a nomination.

Your nominations should be submitted no later than Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> to Sally Estes, Tanya Roberts, or Margaret Hunter.

Nominees will be put before the women of the church for a vote to fill four vacancies.

Your prayerful consideration is needed in nominating and electing women to enfold the women of the church, friends, and visitors into the life of the church.

### Contact information:

Sally Estes Tanya Roberts
psestes@att.net troberts1021@gmail.com
770-252-5435 770-870-8883

Margaret Hunter mmh1119@hotmail.com 770-253-1958

#### CHURCH WORKDAY INFORMATION

The Deacons and The Building Committee are holding a joint church workday on **Saturday, December 5th at 8am**.

The workday will have two aspects. There will be a focus on gathering and disposing of leaves and planting the landscape buffer along the east property line as required by the new building site plan.

The buffer planting will mostly consist of putting 165 trees/shrubs into drilled holes and covering with mulch. All of the plants are 7 gallons in size.

You may want to bring shovels, rakes, blowers and water.

There will be plenty of work to go around, so if you are able, please don't miss this opportunity to fellowship and work one with another while improving the church grounds.

### **BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Good Morning, some things you can expect in the coming weeks:

The foundation walls will be backfilled.

The initial plumbing will be laid out and inspected.

The slab foundation will be poured.

Finally, the framing and drying in of the building.

Thank you once again for your prayers and patience. As always, if you have any questions regarding the project, please reach out to any Building Committee Member.

#### **MISSIONS UPDATE:**

# Michael and Laura Cochran - UK/England

Our church plant now has over 20 people meeting for worship. We started a catechism class to teach the children who are attending. Our congregation has a wonderful spirit of unity and desire to serve.

We are grateful the Lord has provided a good group of believers and has added 2 more families to our church, while opening doors in the city. In an unexpected blessing, He has brought our church another minister, the Rev. Tim Dalton, from our sister denomination (IPC). We appreciate the help and energy he brings to our church and are excited to see how he and Michael will use their gifts to expand the Gospel presence of our church in the community.

For a new church plant, we are astounded by the progress we've seen. It's exciting how Gloucester EPC is being used by God in so many ways! In this season of Thanksgiving, our hearts are filled with thankfulness. We pray the Lord will richly bless each of you and fill your hearts with thankfulness for His mercies to us all in Christ Jesus.