

KINGDOM WORDS

A WSDA MONTHLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER

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COMMUNION - A CELEBRATION NOT AN OBLIGATION

Jesus started the tradition of communion. He instructed His followers to use bread and wine to remember the sacrifice He was going to make when He died for our sins on the cross (1 Corinthians 11:23-26). Jesus called Himself "the bread of life," which means that we're nourished by Him, we survive because of Him, and He satisfies us when everything else leaves us empty (John 6:48-51).

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Pastor's Corner

My Woodbridge Church family, as I thought of what to write for my first newsletter entry, I was led to Habakkuk 3. It is a song designed to be sung with deep emotion during times of worship. Verses 17,18 say, "Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls--Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation."

In a song designed to be sung during trying times, the prophet writes a song that talks about all the good things God has done! Rather than rehearsing the discomfort, the prophet writes about God's history of provision and faithfulness.

I think this is an excellent model for us to follow as we approach the Thanksgiving season. We protect our peace and rise above our challenges when we determine that our posture in hardship will be praise. We praise God that we have survived the challenges of the past and believe that the same God will give us grace and strength to walk boldly into the future.

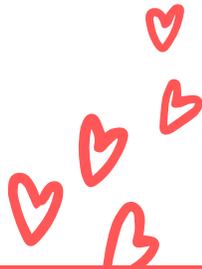
I invite you to enter the Thanksgiving season with a stubborn praise in your hearts. It doesn't matter WHAT is happening around me, I WILL praise the Lord!

Pastor Lola Moore-Johnston

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 - Josie Boone
- 3 - Ramon Meyer
- 5 - Ela Daisy Carey
- 6 - Terri Walker
- 8 - Vivienne McAdams
- 8 - Ryan Syler
- 9 - Mackenzie Cush
- 9 - Fredrick Melvin
- 12 - Martin Khonyongwa
- 14 - Brandon Lockhart
- 14 - Jhovanni Meijia
- 14 - Channel Whitter
- 14 - Robert (RJ) Gyasi
- 15 - Lenroy Chapman
- 18 - Alyshia Highfill
- 19 - Josie Cary
- 20 - Karlene McCalla
- 21 - Donald Thoms
- 26 - Rhonda Robinson
- 29 - Vanessa Baker
- 30 - Nancy Chilton

*Happy
Birthdays*



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

*Woodbridge
Church is 50*

In case you missed last week's service, Woodbridge Seventh-Day Adventist Church celebrated 50 years of existence! It was a wonderful celebration with appearances from former Pastors and Lay Pastors of the church. If you did not get an opportunity to share in the joy, you can see the program anytime on [the church's Facebook page](#) or on our [website](#).



COMMUNION, CON'T.

There's a connection between our nearness to Jesus, believing in Him, and being fulfilled by Him (John 6:35).

The early Church celebrated Jesus by taking communion, sometimes every day (Acts 2:42-46). They saw that every time they gathered around a table to eat and drink, it was a chance to recognize Jesus and thank God for all He's done.

Taking communion doesn't make you a Christian. It doesn't save your soul or get you to heaven.

God actually warns us about taking communion without considering what it means and why we're doing it. The intent is not for us to mindlessly perform a ritual, but to intentionally set aside time to remember what Jesus has done and why He did it (1 Corinthians 11:27-31).

It's not about the ritual or the method; it's about listening to Jesus and doing what He says. Communion is not an obligation, but a celebration.

Read the full article [here](#).

THE POWER OF PRAYER

Ellen White posed this question "What higher power can man desire than this - to be linked with the infinite God? {Pr 7.1} In the bible, we see Jesus teaching his disciples to pray and often wandering off to pray in solitude himself. Paul says to pray without stopping. James declares that the prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Our Sabbath School Quarterly continues, "Throughout the Bible, there is an emphasis on specificity in prayer. Prayer is not some vague longing of the soul. It presents God with specific requests." Most especially, we are called to pray for one another. "Both Samuel and Job emphasize the need for earnest, heartfelt, specific intercession. Samuel's words are quite strong. He cries out, "far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you" (1 Sam. 12:23, NKJV). We can almost hear the echo of Samuel's prayer in Job's words, "Oh, that one might plead for a man with God" (Job 16:21, NJKV). Pleading with God for men and women who do not know Christ is our work. (SSNET.org, 2020)

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him. 1 John 5:14-16

THANKSGIVING: MORE THAN A DAY

Thanksgiving Day in the United States is a day set apart by the national government so that Americans might express their thanks... The value of setting apart a day for giving thanks has been affirmed by many presidents, beginning with George Washington.

But sometimes I think we Americans do ourselves a disservice by identifying one day a year for gratitude. The danger, as I see it, is that we might not live thankfully all year round. Scripture calls us to a life of gratitude, not just a day. Colossians 3:17, for example, urges: "And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father."

Everything we do and say should have two basic characteristics. First, it should be done "as a representative of the Lord Jesus." The original Greek reads more literally, "in the name of the Lord Jesus." This does mean "as his representative," but it also suggests that we are to seek his agenda and to be committed to his purposes.

Second, we are to do and say everything "giving thanks" to God the Father through Jesus. We are to live each moment with an awareness of God's grace at work in our lives and in the world

To read the full article, click [here](#).

Communications in Ministry: Let's Work Together

The Communications Ministry team would love to hear from you! We want this newsletter to be filled with information about ALL the ministries and your ongoing and upcoming activities. If you need help with promotion, need general information about how communications can help you, or have a submission for a future issue of the newsletter, please email assistant@woodbridgesda.org.

