

# The Beacon

## focus

### Focus IN: *Our Journey...*

...together has begun. You have welcomed my family with open arms, filled our fridge with food, and made your way into our hearts with your love and kindness. My first Sunday as your pastor was a great day. The attendance, participation, encouragement, smiles and food were all wonderful, but what made the day great was to know that together we are embracing God's plan for the future.

I am trying to be a good listener since arriving at Woodland. I believe there is a good reason God gave me two ears and one mouth. As I have visited with you and listened there have been a few themes that seem to provide guidance.

**GROWTH** - There is a desire for growth. Our minds most often go to numerical growth. Before that happens we need to consider how we grow individually. I am praying that God will reveal in me how to grow not only as a pastor, but also as a husband, father and friend. I want to be the person God is calling me to be in every walk of life. Beyond this we need to grow spiritually. We must seek to be in tune with God, able to hear his voice. This happens through prayer, Bible study, walks along the lake, watching a sunrise. Regardless of how we do it, we must be able to hear God in order to know where he is calling us to go and what he is calling us to do. If we get this

right in ourselves others will see it, and I promise you, people will be drawn not only to Woodland, but to the Savior who you represent.

**UNITY** - Person after person has told me how great it is to see the church pulling together. Everyone wants to see this continue. Together we can accomplish things we never dreamed. For this to happen, everyone must continue to be willing to put aside their own agendas, not thinking about what is best for me, but what is going to make a KINGDOM difference. This will allow us to achieve God's vision for Woodland which will be so much greater than our own. Are you committed to being a part of the team?

**CALLING** - No matter what your stage in life, you have a purpose. God has placed a calling on your life. Everyone has something to contribute no matter how young, how old, how busy, how poor, how intelligent, or how many excuses we can come up with. What does God want you to contribute to your church family, to the Kingdom? Don't settle for an excuse. Seek God's answer for your role in Woodland's future.

Thanks for sharing your thoughts and your hearts with me.

Continuing to Listen,

*Greg*

Greg@WoodlandChurch.org • www.WoodlandChurch.org  
4434 Rainbow Dr. • Arrington, VA 22922 • 434-263-7744

### July Events

- July 4th, Observance of the Lord's Supper
- July 11th @ 8:30 a.m., Sunday School Council
- July 11th, 18th and 25th @ 9:45 a.m., New Believers Class
- July 11th @ 5:00 p.m., Young Adults Picnic on the River
- July 18th @ 6:00 p.m., Praise & Worship
- July 19th @ 7:00 p.m., Deacon's Meeting
- July 20th, 6:00—8:30 p.m., Youth Pool Party at Robert and Pat Saunders
- July 21st @ 7:00 p.m., Quarterly Business Mtg
- July 24th, Social Hall reserved
- July 29th—August 1st, Mission Trip

#### *Each Sunday we offer:*

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship

*Each Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m., we offer choir practice*

# Focus OUT: 2010 Mission Trip...

...is to Oak Hill Academy at Mouth of Wilson, VA. Woodland's group on mission will leave the afternoon of Thursday July 29<sup>th</sup> and return the morning of Sunday August 1<sup>st</sup>. The team will be some 35 strong! Please pray for the group as they venture West. Also, donations are needed to make the trip as productive for Oak Hill as possible!

If you have any questions, see Robert Saunders or Ken Gerke.

## Focus UP: "What does it mean to be a Christian?"

Beginning Sunday, July 11, our Pastor is leading a class for anyone who has been recently baptized, made a profession of faith or is considering what it means to become a Christian. We will meet during the Sunday School hour for three weeks (July 11th, 18th, 25th). Please let Greg know if you are interested in the class or have any questions.



**Youth** are an important part of any healthy church. Youth are NOT the church of TOMORROW. Youth are part of the church TODAY! During the Pool Party at Robert and Pat's on the 20th, there will be a time for Greg to LISTEN to what our younger generation has to share. **Youth**, plan to be there!



Responsibilities for June	
<b>Acolyte</b>	
4-Jul	Victoria Saunders
11-Jul	Patrick Saunders
18-Jul	Seth Umbarger
25-Jul	Sophie Harker
1-Aug	Taylor Ray
<b>Lay Reader</b>	
4-Jul	Patrick Saunders
11-Jul	Taylor Ray
18-Jul	Janet Page
25-Jul	Price Saunders
1-Aug	Jessie Scruggs

## July Birthdays

Jessica Massie	2-Jul
Brian Ray	3-Jul
Katie Cheape	5-Jul
Jaden Crickenberger	6-Jul
Raymond Ramsey	6-Jul
Tyler Ramsey	13-Jul
Christina Druen Cheape	16-Jul
Teaugean Crickenberger	20-Jul
Victoria Saunders	23-Jul
Tabitha Giles	25-Jul
Price Saunders	25-Jul
Clinton Willoughby	26-Jul
Landen Campbell	27-Jul
Gene Varnadoe	27-Jul

**Young Adults Picnic on the River**  
(18—30 year olds)  
July 11th @ 5:00 p.m.  
Murphy's River Retreat

Bring your family, your friends and your favorite picnic item and kick back beside, or in, the Tye River.

Get to know Greg and Kristie and discuss how Woodland is, and can be, relevant in your life! Questions and/or directions, call or email Greg.



VBS 2010 was a boot stompin' good time!

A BIG thanks to all the volunteers for reminding us all, "Need Answers? Ask God!"