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# Grace and Peace to you



## Preparation For Worship

By Rev. John E. McKenzie

West Hills Presbyterian Church (WHPC) is characterized by worship that is clearly centered on the Triune God of the Bible and can be characterized as being simple, spiritual, and reverent. It is worship that is clearly identifiable as “Reformed & Presbyterian” with deep historical roots and even deeper biblical roots. WHPC only includes biblical elements in biblical proportions in the service, and even the structure of worship (or order of worship) is also rooted in the Bible as we saw last month. This month we will begin examining the individual elements we use during the service.

In preparation for worship, we begin at 10:50AM with “Welcome and Announcements,” “The Striking of the Hour,” and “Prelude.” The welcome and announcements should take place **before** rather than during the service and should be kept to a minimum. Information about upcoming programs, reports from visitors such as Trail Life USA or American Heritage Girls, and so on are not biblical elements of worship. They are appropriate during this time as *long they do not disturb the spirit or flow of corporate worship*, which will begin with the call to worship.

Then, we have the striking of the hour. It is an audible reminder that we need to prepare for corporate worship when the congregation will meet with the Triune God of heaven and earth. It marks off the time to follow as a special time. This would be an appropriate time for silent individual prayer, which would not be appropriate after the service begins since all the activities of public worship on Sunday should be **congregational** in nature.

Next, we have the prelude. We use quiet, sacred music that calms and quiets the busy and burdened soul. It prepares us to silence the noise of life that still echoes in our minds so we can hear the call to worship from God’s Word, which is the first element of the worship service proper. Next month, we will discuss the call to worship and the elements of the cycle of praise that we could call “The Adoration of God”.

In the coming month, be mindful of the purpose and use of the time we call “Preparation For Worship.” It is important because it gently ushers you to the entryway of the place where heaven and earth meet every week in the event we call worship. *Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*[I heavily relied upon Terry Johnson’s ‘Leading in Worship’ for the content and form of this article. For a more thorough reading on this matter, I suggest reading the source material: Johnson, Terry. Leading in Worship: A Sourcebook for Presbyterian Students and Ministers Drawing upon the Biblical and Historic Forms of the Reformed Tradition. Tolle Lege Press, 2013. pp. 23, 315.]*

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### Easter Sunday Children's Worship: Journey To Jerusalem

Sunday, April 16th for 3 yr olds through 5th grade: (Ages Expanded for Easter). A special Children's Worship service entitled "Journey to Jerusalem" will be presented by Mitch Townley, Children's Director, during the Easter morning worship service. This presentation will allow children to go on a guided tour through the recreated sites and events of "Holy Week". Make sure your children and their friends are here for this memorable "you are there" experience, as the Easter Story is brought to life.



**Palm Sunday Processional** – All children are invited to participate in the Palm Sunday Children's Processional on Sunday Morning, April 9<sup>th</sup>. Send your child to the 1st-3rd grade classroom (Room 99) that morning, for their instructions. Children will march in at the beginning of the worship service, place their palm branch down near the steps and then find and sit with their parents. Parents will need to let the child know where they are sitting and be prepared to guide them to their pew.

**Camp Bethel (Wise, VA) Registrations Now Being Taken.** WHPC is once again (13th year) encouraging children to attend summer camp at Camp Bethel in Wise, VA. Our week for camp is called "Jamboree" and is June 5<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Jamboree is for children ages 8-12. Please feel free to invite friends. Bus transportation is provided to and from camp. Cost: \$275 if you register by April 23<sup>rd</sup>. \$100 Scholarships available through WHPC. Registration brochures are available from Mitch Townley and online at the camp website. Please do not register directly with the camp but go through WHPC for a group discount. [www.campbethel.com](http://www.campbethel.com)



- **Help Send a Good News Club Child to Camp.** The WHPC Good News Club ministry at West Hills Elementary School is seeking to provide summer camp scholarships for five Good News Club children so they can attend Camp Bethel this summer. Such a scholarship would allow each child to attend camp at a greatly reduced rate. We would like to raise \$1000 by May 15, 2017. If you would like to assist with this support raising effort, your check needs to be made payable to WHPC with the notation of "GNC Camp" written on the memo line. You may send your contribution to the church or put it in the offering plate. If you would like more information please contact Mitch Townley, Director of Children's Ministry.



## Summary of March Women's Circle

**Why do we need elders?** Our Circle lesson for March, Titus 1:5-9, helps us answer that question. In verse 5 Paul says that he left Titus in Crete so that Titus might put what remained in order and appoint elders in every city. Verses 10-14 give us a picture of the condition of the church in Crete at that time: many were insubordinate, empty talkers, and deceivers. They were teaching things they ought not to teach and as a result it was upsetting whole families. Is that why we need elders at WHPC?

Paul goes on to list the qualifications of elders in verses 6-9. Many of these qualifications are listed in 1 Timothy 3 as well.

### Qualifications of Elders









- Above reproach (criticism, blame, accusation, rebuke)
- The husband of one wife (a one-woman man, faithful to his wife)
- Children are believers (older man who has raised Godly children who are believers)
- **Not** open to debauchery (wickedness, sin, corruption, immorality, self-indulgence)
- **Not** open to insubordination (disobedience, rebelliousness, defiance)
- God's steward (good manager of God's gifts and resources)
- **Not** arrogant (prideful, haughty, self-important, conceited, egotistical)
- **Not** quick-tempered (volatile, hotheaded, temperamental)
- **Not** a drunkard (uncontrolled in his desire for liqueur or alcoholic beverages)
- **Not** violent (aggressive, brutal, cruel)
- **Not** greedy for gain (covetous, materialistic)
- Hospitable (friendly, warm, welcoming, generous)
- Lover of good (desires what is right)
- Self-controlled (able to maintain equilibrium in all circumstances)
- Upright (decent, honest, respectable, moral, principled, honorable)
- Holy (righteous, devout, godly, pious, pure, virtuous, faithful)
- Disciplined (self-controlled, restrained, well-organized)
- Hold firm to the trustworthy Word as taught (must know and obey God's Word)
- Able to give instruction in sound doctrine (assumes he knows the Word and able to teach)
- Able to rebuke those who contradict the Word (will stand up to those who contradict sound teaching)

This list describes the perfect man. Why? Because Christ wants the very best for His Bride—the Church. Isn't this the list of qualifications you would want for a husband for your marriageable daughter? When a father is asked to give his daughter away in marriage, he desires to hand her over to a man that will continue to protect her and provide the very best for her—just as he has done up to that point.

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# April 2017

						Prayer Gathering 10am	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> Sunday School 9:30am <b>Worship 10:50am</b> WM Council Mtg Prayer Gathering 6pm	<b>3</b> Monday Night Care Group 6:30pm	<b>4</b>  <b>Marsha Rhyme</b>	<b>5</b> Family Dinner 5:30 Adult & Children Programs 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm  <b>Dan Anderton Debbie Kinnard Mitch Townley</b>	<b>6</b> Good News Club 1:45pm Night Circle 6:45pm	<b>7</b>	Prayer Gathering 10am Deacon's Work Day 9am	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> Sunday School 9:30am <b>Palm Procession</b> <b>*Communion/</b> <b>Worship 10:50am</b> Prayer Gathering 6pm  <b>Dot Self</b>	<b>10</b> Monday Night Care Group 6:30pm Session/Deacon Mtg. 7pm	<b>11</b> Women's Day Circle 10am  <b>Linda Mowles</b>	<b>12</b> Family Dinner 5:30 Adult & Children Programs 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm	<b>13</b> Good News Club 1:45pm	<b>14</b> <b>Good Friday</b> Office Closed	Prayer Gathering 10am  <b>Jama Overton</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> Sunday School 9:30am <b>Worship 10:50am</b> Prayer Gathering 6pm  <b>Easter</b>	<b>17</b> Monday Night Care Group 6:30pm Blue Star Moms 6:30pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Family Dinner 5:30 Adult & Children Programs 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm  <b>Stephanie Bruffey</b>	<b>20</b> Good News Club 1:45pm	<b>21</b> G.A.P. 11am	Prayer Gathering 10am	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> Sunday School 9:30am <b>Worship 10:50am</b> Prayer Gathering 6pm	<b>24</b> Monday Moms 10am Monday Night Care Group 6:30pm	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Family Dinner 5:30 Adult & Children Programs 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm  <b>Emalee McCord</b>	<b>27</b> Good News Club 1:45pm	<b>28</b>	<b>Women's Spring Brunch 10am.</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> Sunday School 9:30am <b>Worship 10:50am</b> Prayer Gathering 6pm				<b>*Communion is the second Sunday of every month.</b>	<b>Did we miss your birthday? Please call the church office 865-693-2031.</b>		

## Announcements & Prayer Needs:

**2017 FLOWER CALENDAR** is available on the bulletin board across from the elevator. If you would like to provide flowers for the sanctuary, please sign your name on the designated date and note if you are giving the flowers “in honor” or “in memory” of a loved one. The cost is \$50. Please make your payment to the church marked “Flowers”.

**PLEASE REMEMBER** that the church office needs to approve all note cards, articles, pamphlets, tracts, flyers, announcements, etc. before they are put on the foyer table, church bulletin board or wall/door sign holders.

### DEACON’S CHURCH-WIDE WORK DAY.

There will be a church-wide work day on Saturday, April 8th, 9am-Noon. There will be several projects so as many as can help will be greatly appreciated. If you know of any projects that should be added to the list, please inform a Deacon.

**Knoxville Handel Society** is a newly formed community choir presenting its first concert, *Messiah*. April 2, 7:30pm, at the Tennessee Theater. Several of our Sanctuary choir are in the choir. Groups of 10 or more receive 20% discount on adult tickets. Students K-12 are admitted free. Tickets available at:

<http://www.ticketmaster.com/event/18005259DOF92FFE?brand=tennesseethr>.

**Please Pray For:  
WHPC Family & Friends**

Clara Abercrombie  
Charlotte Anderton  
Margaret Duggan  
Betty Emery  
Al & Beth Grant  
Shirley Hedrick  
Fay Hontz  
Susan Joiner  
Henry McIlwaine  
Kane McAfee  
Sue McMillan  
Bob & Betty Mills  
Bill & Mimi Morrison  
Irene Price  
Alice Redman  
Keith & Cheryl Sowder  
Claudette Starr  
Robert Thio  
Mary Zitzman  
Our Elders & Deacons  
Our Church  
Our Missionaries  
Our nation/President

**Active Duty Military Personnel**  
Eric Abercrombie  
Jamie Morris wife of Rob Morris  
Kevin Bell  
Gabe Green



### Welcome to Our New Members

Joe and Jama Antol & children  
Cathy Arnwine  
Heidi Arvin  
Alan and Sarah Dockery & children  
Jordan and Nicole Hatfield  
Ed and Lisa Lee

(2-19-17 through 3-12-17)  
**Average Attendance - 132**  
**Average Visitors Attendance - 7**

**February 2017 Financial Report**

**Income**  
Actual Income for February: \$48,316.50  
Actual Income for Year-to date: \$69,478.50

**Expense**  
Actual Expense for February: \$43,059.78  
Actual Expense Year-to-date: \$79,808.79

**Summary**  
Current Month Income Exceeds Expenses by: \$5,256.72  
Year-to-date Expenses Exceeds Year-to-date Income by: **\$10,330.29**

Communion is normally served during worship hour on the second Sunday of each month. **This month Communion will be served on April 9<sup>th</sup>.**



**(Continued from Page 3- Women's Circle Study Summary)**

And that's what Christ wants for His Bride. Until the marriage supper of the Lamb, Christ is looking for godly man to take care of His Bride. He entrusts the elders to do that, just as a husband is to do that for his wife. This is a "noble task" with great reward.

**What is our responsibility then?**

- Pray for these men and submit to their leadership out of respect for Christ. They are not perfect. They struggle like all of us. Criticism is easy because none of us hits the mark of perfection. If you see an area where they can mature, pray for them and encourage them.
- Pray for their wives. Those of you who have been, or are, the wife of an elder know more than any of us how to pray. You know the pressures firsthand of what these men face. You see your husband 24/7; you know his weaknesses and his strengths. You also have the task of making and building a godly home and raising godly children.
- Pray for our children. Those little boys you see on Sunday morning are our future elders. Those little girls are the wives of our future elders. Pray for them and pray for their parents to model these traits in their home and shape them into godly men and women.
- We have been entrusted, like Titus, to appoint elders in our church. Look for men with these qualities and encourage them to serve. It's not an easy task.
- Lastly, pick out 5 of these qualifications that you think you need to work on in your own life. Then ask your family to list the 5 areas of your life that they think you need work on. These qualifications are not only for the elders—**these qualifications are for every believer!**

**Why do we need elders?** Because Christ needs men to be the "husbands" of His Bride. He wants the Bride to mature and be ready for Him. He needs elders to teach, to protect, to provide, and to love His Bride so she can be presented without spot or wrinkle, a mature Bride ready for the Bridegroom so that they might enjoy the marriage supper together.

Ephesians 5:25-27 gives us the same picture, "Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her, that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the Word, so that He might present the church to Himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish."

**More thoughts on these qualifications in our April lesson!****Please pray for our current elders and leaders, their wives, and young children:**

Dr. Dick and Sharon Bowles, DJ and Emily Cimino (Josiah and Devin), Phil and Anne Moor  
 Bill and Linda Mowles, John and Janet Mullins, Gordon and Jill Rhyne (Molly and Jacob)  
 Fred and Suzanne Fowler, John and Michelle McKenzie (Elijah, Noah, Josiah), Mitch and Karen Townley  
 Grateful for Him and you! Julie Moore



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## A-B-Cs of our Christian Faith

- A All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23
- B Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! John 1:29
- C Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28
- D Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. James 4:8
- E Even so it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. Matthew 18:14
- F For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8
- G God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16
- H He that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. John 6:37
- I I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14:6
- J Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." John 6:29
- K Knock, and it will be opened to you. Matthew 7:7
- L Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth. Isaiah 45:22
- M My grace is sufficient for you. 2 Corinthians 12:9
- N Now is the favorable time, behold now is the day of salvation. 2 Corinthians 6:2
- O Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law. Psalm 119:18
- P Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. John 14:27
- Q Quicken me according to thy word. Psalm 119:154
- R Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him. Psalm 37:7
- S Seek, and you shall find. Matthew 7:7
- T The blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 1 John 1:7
- U Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

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- V Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. John 6:47
- W What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Matthew 16:26
- X Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. John 3:3
- Y You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20
- Z Zealous of good works. Titus 2:14

Submitted by Betty Emery

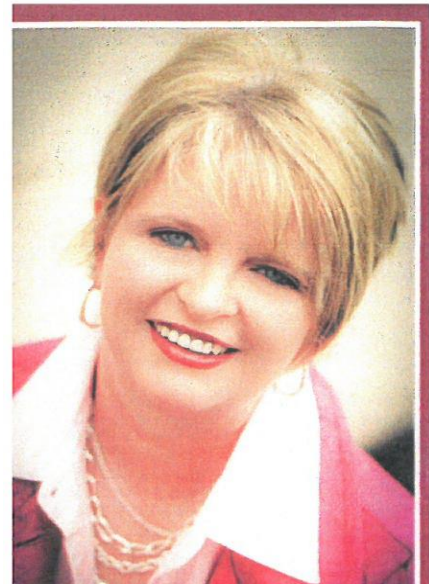
## *Divinely Designed And Faithfully Fashionable*

**Donna Rowland's** passion is to inspire women to develop an outward style that reveals their inner beauty. She believes we are all divinely designed by our Heavenly Father and she will show us, through an interactive and fun presentation, appropriate dressing based on body type, personal color and style analysis and how to honor Him by being faithfully fashionable in what we wear.

- Importance of inner beauty and outer beauty as Christian women
- Biblical references to beauty
- Learn to disguise less flattering features and accentuate the best
- Shopping tips for stress-free shopping

### Testimonials

- "We all came home more beautiful on both the inside and outside..."
- "Having Donna as a presenter was like getting a "party in a box!"
- "Not only did she do a great job instructing us about our best colors and styles she also created a gentle, Christ-like atmosphere where we felt such comradeship..."



**Join the Women's Ministry** at West Hills Presbyterian Church on **Saturday, April 29** at 10 am for a delicious lunch and fun interactive presentation by Donna Rowland. We encourage you to bring your friends and family with you.

**You won't want to miss this unique and inspiring event!**

*For those that would like to help defray costs of this event, an opportunity will be available at the luncheon.*

**Sign-up by Wednesday, April 26**

If you need childcare, let us know by Friday, April 14

Questions? Call Sharon Bowles 567-6379 or Ria Tyler 813-679-0672