



Woodstock Presbyterian Church **This Week**

November 30, 2014



This Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent. The word “Advent” comes from a Latin verb *adventio* which means “to come.”

In the Christian calendar, Advent refers to the time when we celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ. In some ways, it has double significance. First, Advent recalls the coming of Jesus Christ as the child born in Bethlehem. Second, it also speaks of Christ’s coming again at some unknown time in the future when he will judge the world in power and victory.

The message of Advent is often summarized by John the Baptist’s exhortation: “Prepare the way of the Lord” (Matthew 3:3). This call implies getting ourselves ready to meet Christ—a time of reflection and self-examination.

During Advent and the Christmas season this year, I have decided to speak on the theme: **Gifts That Endure**. Most of us can remember the childhood experience when one of our Christmas gifts got broken all too soon! Such speaks of the durability of the most of the goods offered by this world.

So, what lasts? What endures? Well... look at the gifts from God that are represented by the Advent candles.

We begin this first Sunday of Advent with the Gift of Hope.

Until next time, Pastor Don Esa



Joys and Concerns

*“Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.”
(Romans 12:15)*

Joys: the time decorating the sanctuary and meal offered by Glenda McCullough
Healing: Mike Mumbauer’s mother Adeliene Mumbauer (brain cancer); Sue Mumbauer’s father Bud Aiken (cancer); Mike Mumbauer (strep throat); Pablo Mercado (recovering at home from blood clots in leg); Judy Haworth (continued strength as her chemo therapy treatments end and Judy places her future in God’s hands alone); Donna Moore’s friend Sharon Gwaltney (recovery from colon cancer surgery); Sharon Shuda’s brother Don Goss; Judy’s Haworth’s cousin Joyce (cancer); Richard Cowan (ALS); Rebecca Blackwell and her husband Wayne (Alzheimer’s)
God’s help, protection, guidance: Traveling mercies for those traveling during the holidays; for the lonely, sick, and hurting at Thanksgiving; Serenity Shuda (college search); Sharon Shuda, Kim and Jim Galloway in their job searches; Barbara and Bill Stillion’s granddaughter Katie and her husband Matt (Liberia deployment to help in Ebola crisis); curbing Ebola around the world; college students Ashley Moore, Jayna Mumbauer; war against ISIS in the Middle East; our military personnel
Homebound: John Graul, James Ray
Woodstock/Trinity Churches, PCUSA: Our Session, Pastor Esa, June Cowan and new music leaders and upcoming cantatas

**Worship
This Week
Advent
9:00 a.m.**

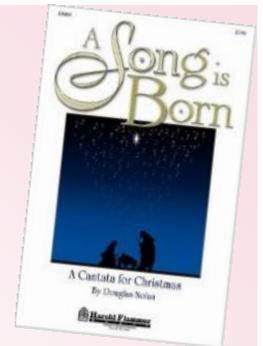


Gifts That Endure: Hope
Lamentations 3:19-26; Titus 2:11-14

“...we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.” (Titus 2:13)

**Sunday,
November 30
7:00 p.m.**

**Woodstock choir’s
Christmas cantata**



A Song Is Born by Douglas Nolan features beautifully crafted carol arrangements along with best-selling seasonal anthems, creating a pleasing and meaningful holiday worship experience.



It takes \$1487 each week in contributions to meet the budget at Woodstock Presbyterian Church, including the additional \$393 payment on the loan for the new roof. Recent offerings received:

Oct 26:	\$816.00
Nov 2:	\$2777.05
Nov 9:	\$482.88
Nov 16:	\$804.00

The session has asked each giving unit in the church to consider giving an additional \$5 per week over their regular church contribution to meet the loan payment on the new roof. Many have responded. Thank you for your continued support of your church.



Woodstock Presbyterian Church
345 Arnold Mill Road Woodstock, GA 30188
770-926-0074 OurChurch@WoodstockPCUSA.com
Office Hours: Wednesdays 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Rev. Don Esa: 770-617-7676; Pastor@WoodstockPCUSA.com
Prayer team leader: Kathy Alston 770-926-6004
Pianist: June Cowan
Choir Director: Glenda McCullough
Administrative Assistant: Dyan Ransom [Unsubscribe](#)

In December, the Session of Woodstock church will set the church's budget for 2015. Please help the Session by submitting a stewardship commitment form for 2015.

The session has asked each giving unit in the church to consider giving an additional \$5 per week over their regular contribution to the General Fund to meet the loan payment on the new roof.

Your completed form can be dropped into the offering plate during November.

Thank you for your continued financial support of your church. God will bless our efforts as we give to support his work.



**Woodstock Presbyterian
Church**
Woodstock, Georgia



Stewardship Commitment for 2015

Name(s): _____

I (we), in gratitude for all that God has given us, plan to financially support the ministry and mission of Woodstock Presbyterian Church for the year 2015. (This is a faith promise and not binding in any way.)

Total amount for 2015's General Fund: \$ _____

Total amount for 2015's Roof Fund: \$ _____

(The session asks that you consider an additional \$5/week for the roof fund.)

I (we) plan to give: (circle one)

- yearly
- monthly
- weekly

Signature: _____

I (we) also will assist with my (our) time and talents in the following areas of ministry:

- Evangelism (contacting visitors/outreach efforts)
- Worship (liturgist, choir, usher, greeter)
- Christian Education (Sunday School, youth activities)
- Mission and outreach (planning, publicizing local and global mission)
- Building and grounds (upkeep and maintenance)
- Congregational care (calling on those in need)
- Technology (computer support; Sunday AV projection)
- Other: _____

Thank you for your commitment to your church's ministry!