

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.
- Nursing Mothers room available.
- Restrooms are located on the right side exit by the choir loft, down the stairs to the right and or on the left and right side of the main hallway in the new building.
- Listen to sermons on our website at <http://www.whiteoakarp.org/Sermons.html>.

WELCOME

We welcome you to 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 of the pews. There is also a prayer request card for your requests, and they may both be placed in the offering plate.

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 (Church) • 770-304-3792 (Pastor's Study) • 770-254-0777 (Assoc. Pastor)
www.whiteoakarp.org

THE ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
arpchurch.org



WHITE OAK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Peace

HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED...

PRINCE OF PEACE.

ISAIAH 9:6



DECEMBER 8, 2024

PRELUDE

Bokhee Min Lee

MEDITATION

Micah 5:2-5

“But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace.”

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

8:30 Service:

The Hitt Family

11:00 Service:

The Wade Family

† THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 16:7-11 Selections

Minister: I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

People: Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure.

Minister: For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your Holy One see corruption

All: In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are Pleasures forevermore.

† PSALTER (PSALM 89:1-6)

Psalter No. 89A

“The Lovingkindness of the Lord”

vv. 1-4

† 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. Amen.

Call to Worship is directed to the people by God through the Worship leader. It is a call to focus mind heart, and intention on the worship of God.

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

Advent: Be Part of a Beautiful Tradition

Advent marks the beginning of the Christian Liturgical Year—a season of hope, peace, joy, and love as we remember the anticipation of Christ’s coming.

One of the most cherished parts of our Advent worship is the lighting of the Advent Wreath, symbolizing the light of Christ in our lives and in the world.

We invite you, your family, or your group (class, committee, or friends) to take part in this meaningful tradition. Whether you’re a longtime member or new to White Oak, this is a wonderful opportunity to lead the congregation in focusing on the heart of the season: Jesus Christ.

Available times to serve include:

December 15 (both services)

December 22 (both services)

Sign up today in the Lobby and claim your place in this special celebration!



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA SALE CONTINUES



The White Oak tradition of purchasing a Christmas poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one is continuing this year! The sale will end Sunday, December 15.

The plants will be placed in the church sanctuary and will remain there until the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, after which you may take your plant home. Each plant is \$18. To purchase a plant, stop by the small table in the upper lobby to pick up an ordering envelope. After filling out the order, please return the completed order, with payment to the square basket provided on the table.

WHITE OAK 175TH ANNIVERSARY CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT SALE

White Oak 175th anniversary Christmas ornaments are available for purchase in the lobby. The cost per ornament is \$10. 100% of all money collected will go towards purchasing benches for the playground. Contact Mary June at 770 845 5286 (maryjunewade@gmail.com) with any questions.



The Confessional Teaching on 'Improving Our Baptism'

Larger Catechism Q. 167. HOW IS OUR BAPTISM TO BE IMPROVED BY US?

A. The needful but much neglected duty of improving our Baptism, is to be performed by us all our life long, especially in the time of temptation, and when we are present at the administration of it to others; by serious and thankful consideration of the nature of it, the ends for which Christ instituted it, the privileges and benefits conferred and sealed thereby, our solemn vow made therein; by being humbled for our sinful defilement, our falling short of, and walking contrary to, the grace of baptism, our engagements; by growing up to assurance of pardon of sin, and of all other blessings sealed to us in that sacrament; by drawing strength from the death and resurrection of Christ, into whom we are baptized, for the mortifying of sin, and quickening of grace; and by endeavoring to live by faith, to have our conversation in holiness and righteousness, as those that have therein given up their names to Christ; and to walk in brotherly love, as being baptized by the same Spirit into one body.

Take a moment to recall the last time you observed a baptism. It was likely during a worship service. The pastor surely took time to remind the congregation of what baptism is and what it represents. Once the sacrament had been administered, the congregation may have responded with a promise or in some situations with applause. It was a special moment for the one being baptized and his or her family. But if you're a believer, it was intended to be special for you too.

Christians believe baptism is a means of grace for the one being baptized. What some do not realize is that baptism is also a means of grace for believers as they observe the baptism of others.

Ligonier Ministries 2017

† CONFESSION OF FAITH		Apostles' Creed
Minister: Christian, what do you believe?		
All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.		
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen		
† 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.		
SACRAMENT OF INFANT BAPTISM		John Marshall Wade
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM		Luke Eidson Tidwell
HYMN	"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"	Hymn No. 168
WORSHIP IN GIVING	(PLEASE PLACE PRAYER/VISITOR CARDS IN OFFERING PLATES.)	
† DOXOLOGY		Hymn No. 382
Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.		
† OLD TESTAMENT READING	2 Samuel 7:1-17	Rev. Ronny Hull
PRAYER OF CONFESSION	Father in Heaven, if You should mark iniquities, who could stand? Truly, we have not lived as Your word directs us, yet we ask that You would not rebuke us in Your anger. Our sins have troubled our souls, so we ask that, for Christ's sake, You would have mercy on us. Encouraged by the certainty of Your gracious Word, and confident in the perfection for Christ's sacrifice we boldly come, asking for promised forgiveness. In our Savior's name we pray, Amen.	
		Based on Psalm 130

Question & answer catechisms help teach and reinforce biblical truths.

The Gloria Patri is an ancient hymn of praise to our Triune God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It has been part of the church's worship for centuries.

The offering is an act of thanksgiving and worship commanded by God. By giving our tithe, we demonstrate our dependence on the Lord, the maker and sustainer of all things.

From Greek *doxa*, (glory, splendor, grandeur) & *logos*, (word/speaking); short hymns of praise to God in response to His gifts to us..

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

Sin is a pervasive part of our lives, and we must confess our sin to God and then receive the forgiveness that Christ gave the Church the authority to declare.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND COMFORT

“May the God of peace cleanse you through and through. The promise is that our whole being—spirit, soul and body will be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” So, as we read 1 Thessalonians 5, rejoice, then, and give thanks as we receive forgiveness and healing in Christ’s name.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

+ **NEW TESTAMENT READING** Luke 1:26-38

SERMON “Rejoice in the Lord Always” Pastor Jonathan Holst

+ **HYMN** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Hymn No. 169

+ **PRAYER & BENEDICTION** 2 Corinthians 13:14

“May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of God the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.”

EVENING SERVICE (6:00 PM):

This morning we considered the announcement of our Lord’s birth. How should we respond to Christ’s first coming and death and resurrection? One of the more famous Old Testament prophecies tells us how, and this prophecy will be considered this evening in our 6PM service, Pastor Ronny will lead and preach.

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

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

With Thanks and Prayers for Bokhee Min Lee

It is with gratitude and thanksgiving to the Lord that we have enjoyed Bokhee Min Lee’s considerable musical abilities these past two and half years as pianist at White Oak. She has been a blessing and encouragement to all and has enhanced our worship. As Bokhee’s time with us draws to a close, let’s praise God for the season we’ve enjoyed with her. Please pray for our search for a new pianist.

Bokhee’s last day with us is Sunday, December 29, 2024.

- Personnel Committee

SEED Ministry – (update from Lee Shelnutt)

As you’ve no doubt heard, the Rwandan government started implementing the 2018 law that requires ministers to have an education and meet certain building codes for their church facilities. To date, nearly 10,000 churches and mosques have been closed by the government, and most of our students’ churches have been in that number. As you might expect, our students and their congregations are scared and disoriented, as they make valiant efforts to bring their buildings up to code.

This tough challenge is now becoming a blessed opportunity to walk alongside our dear brethren, as this new reality unfolds and the Lord shakes and ultimately, strengthens His Church. During my trip to teach, I had the opportunity to preach to over 600 believers whose buildings have been closed but who have been allowed to meet in the auditorium of Reach the Children of Rwanda’s Nyabihu Christian Academy. I and other team members have been able to encourage our brothers and sisters during these tough days. And, through the support of concerned donors, we are coming alongside four churches, financially assisting their efforts to meet code. One of those churches has now passed inspection and been reopened! Praise God!

As you see, these tough challenges are blessed and staggering opportunities. Pray the Lord would raise up at least two missionaries or missionary families to labor with us in Rwanda, deepening and furthering our work there.

Matters for Prayer

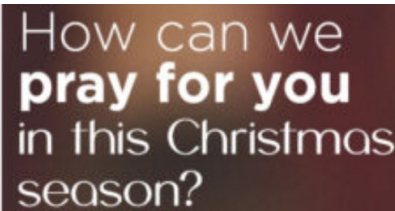
Prayer Focus: Pray that God would make us ever mindful of the needs of others .

Homebound: Joy Bowers, Inge Blount, Betty Newby

Sick/Recuperating: Bea Boswell, Dianne Conaway, Shirley Kirbow, Joe Black, Mary Effie Bridges, Sam Phillips, Emma May, Alison Newman, Charlene McDaniel, Alan Egerdahl, Forrest Tidwell

Expectant Parents: Micayla Clark, Katlyn (Robertson) Golemon, Helen (Ward) Crawford

Military: Jack Ward, Paul Lee (Son of Bokhee Min & Ken Lee), T.J. Hemphill



HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU? There are prayer cards on the back of the pews you can fill out and put in the offering basket. These are sent out to a group of people committed to pray for needs that are expressed. You can also email your prayer requests to Elder Bill Minton at bminton35@yahoo.com

CALLED ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TODAY

The Session has called an Annual Congregational Meeting for 9:50 a.m. on Sunday, December 8th. The Adult and High School Sunday School classes will be suspended for this meeting. The matters of business are: (1) Elect deacons, elders, a congregational chairman, treasurers, and a payroll clerk for 2025 - see nominees below. (2) Approve the 2025 budget. (3) Any other business being raised from the floor.

The list of nominees is as follows:

- Elders Class of 2028:** Bob Abernathy Forrest Tidwell Patrick Ward
- Deacons Class of 2028:** Andy Hemphill Joe Roberts Haddon Schroeder
Joe Spooner
- Congregational Chairman:** Peter Loutzenhiser
- Treasurers:** Jason Headley & Todd Weaver
- Payroll Clerk:** Carol Robertson

As was the case last year so again this year members will be given one vote to approve the Class of 2028 for Elders and then a second vote to approve or disapprove the Class of 2028 Deacons. Votes will then be cast for the other offices. Ballot papers will be distributed to those Sunday School teachers unable to attend the meeting.

Thank You

Dear White Oak Church:

We wanted to thank you for your gifts, wedding shower, and prayers. We will hopefully be finishing the hand-written thank-you notes soon. We appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Daniel and Rebekah Hemphill

ADDRESS CHANGE

New Address & Phone Number: Reg and Jane Johnson
702 Wedgewood Lane
Newnan, GA 30265
Phone: 770-400-5767



SERVING TODAY

DEACONS OF THE MONTH: DAVE TROYER
BENJAMIN CLARK

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 (8:45 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

	8:30 AM Worship	9:45 AM Sunday School	11:00 AM Worship	6:00 PM Worship
Dec. 8	Sally Estes Tom Gridley Ben Sewell	J. Beatenbough Jannette Emmerick Joe Roberts	Priscilla Coffey Jill Fosnough Sherry Holst	Lynne Dodds Todd Weaver
Dec. 15	A. Beatenbough Cindy Ward Donna Weaver	H. Beatenbough Robin Sewell Joanne Wasdin	L. Beatenbough Karen Egerdahl Billie Gentry	Stacie Headley Melinda Hemphill

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:30 Church Service	55
11:00 Church Service	116
YouTube Views	49

CURRENT BUDGET INFORMATION AS OF NOVEMBER 24, 2024

	General Fund	Building Fund
YTD Budgeted Collections	\$ 638,725	
YTD Actual Collections	\$ 706,257	\$ 9,569
YTD Actual Expenses	\$ 631,858	
YTD Actual Difference	\$ 74,399	

Online giving available at <https://www.whiteoakarp.org/give>

Church Calendar

Today	Second Sunday of Advent 8:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Early Worship Service 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 9:50 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting in Church Sanctuary 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service 6:00 p.m. Sunday Evening Worship Service
Monday	7:00 p.m. Session Meeting
Wednesday	6:00 p.m. Middle & High School Youth Group 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice
Thursday	7:00 p.m. Men's Prayer Group
December 15	Third Sunday of Advent 8:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Early Worship Service 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service 6:00 p.m. Lessons & Carols Christmas Program
December 16	7:00 p.m. Missions Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m. Diaconate Meeting
December 17	5:00 p.m. Youth Progressive Dinner
December 18	6:00 p.m. Guys & Girls Bible Study
December 19	7:00 p.m. Men's Prayer Group
December 22	5:00 p.m. Church Wide Christmas Caroling

Upcoming Events

Lessons & Carols - 6PM	Dec. 15
Youth Progressive Dinner	Dec. 17
Church Wide Christmas Caroling - 5PM	Dec. 22
Christmas Eve Service - 5PM	Dec. 24

Note from Pastor Holst to Incoming Elders:

Elders elected to serve from 2025-2028 are invited to attend the stated session meeting at 7PM on Monday 9th December.

Sunday School Classes 9:45 AM—10:30 AM

<u>Class/Ages</u>	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Topic</u>
2 & 3 Year-Olds	Amy Coffee, Jill Fosnough	Rm. 116	A Sure Foundation: His Praiseworthy Deeds
PK/K: 4, 5, 6 Year Old's	Sally Estes, Annette Olsen, Susan Sloan, Eileen Zito	Rm. 115	Living in God's Family
1st & 2nd Grade	Amanda Beatenbough, Lauren Hitt	Rm. 113	Pleasing God
3rd – 5th Grade	Andy Hemphill, Jason Coffee	Rm. 112	God's Design for Worship
Middle/High School	Benjamin Clark, T.J. Sweetin	Rm. 203	Westminster Confession

Adult Classes

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Location</u>
First Samuel	Alan Egerdahl	Rm. 107
Church Officer Training Class	Rev. Jonathan Holst	Pastor's Study
Life Principles from the Kings of the Old Testament (Friendship Class)	John & Susan Sloan	Rm. 111
Romans 8	Todd Weaver	Rm. 206
The Lord's Prayer	Jake Wasdin	Rm. 208



Congratulations go Jack and Avery Ward upon the birth of their daughter, Lucy Belle, on Tuesday, December 3.

Lucy Belle weighed 7 pounds 3 ounces.

She is the granddaughter of Patrick and Cindy Ward, and the sister of Phoebe, Bridges and Haddon.



Y O U T H Progressive Dinner	<i>Tuesday, Dec. 17</i> 5 - 8PM	APPETIZERS	THE HEADLEY HOME
	Meet at the Manse at 5PM	DINNER	MANSE
		DESSERT/ GAMES	HADDON & MEL'S