

Whiteland Church of Christ

Sunday, December 23, 2018

Elders

Stan Davis
(317) 507-1936

John Fletcher
(317) 695-3803

Ed Tichenor
(317) 412-2416

Minister

Ronnie Hewitt
(317) 966-2029

Deacons

Jeff Dannemiller
Finance
(317) 908-0882

George Hewitt
*Outreach &
Involvement*
(317) 514-1347

Mickey McDaniel
Youth Group
(317) 509-7561

Order of Worship

Bible Hour – Following communion, elementary aged children are invited to participate in a lesson geared toward their age groups in the library (exit the back of the auditorium then to the left). **Babies & Toddlers** – There is a staffed nursery/toddler room following communion (exit the back of the auditorium then to the right).

~ All children can be picked up at the end of worship. ~

Call to Worship – Lonnie Hewitt

997 O Come, All Ye Faithful

Welcome – Ed Tichenor

Prayer – Ronnie Sutton

1001 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

379 If That Isn't Love

Communion & Offering – Chris Turnmire

1003 Silent Night! Holy Night!

Scripture Reading – Charlie Weaver (Psalm 98:1-3)

Message – Ronnie Hewitt

“The Christmas Story”

Invitation – 927 Why Keep Jesus Waiting?

(Elders & Minister Upront)

Announcements & Closing Prayer

1017 Away in a Manger

Guests

Welcome and know that we are thankful you have chosen to worship with us today! Please stop by the Welcome Table in the foyer for additional information and to provide us with a record of your attendance. If there is anything, we can do for you, or any questions we may answer, please let us know. Again, thank you for choosing to worship with us!

PLEASE

Silence your
cell phone



Assistive
Listening
System
Available

Upcoming

Dec	
23	Building Fund Collection
31	New Year's Eve Party
Jan	
5	Area-Wide Singing & Chili Supper
6	Start of Hearts for Souls 2019
8	Visitation Group
12	Men's Breakfast
20	Outreach & Activities Planning
22	Visitation Group
26	Women's Brunch
Feb	
9	Men's Breakfast
10	Couple's Valentine Dinner
12	Visitation Group
16	Family Game Night
23	Women's Brunch
26	Visitation Group

Celebrations

Birthdays

23 – Heath Price
29 – Joe Lasiter

Anniversaries

27 – Cliff & Inez Dailey (55 yrs)



Serving this Week

Greeters: Benny & Gayle Stephens

Nursery: Kara Littleton & Lori Fletcher

Bible Hour: Carolyn Dollens
(next week: Kayla Green)

Shut-in Communion: Ed Tichenor

Cleaning 12/27-12/29: Hewitts

PRAYER REQUESTS

We are here to pray for you!



We believe in the power of prayer & are a praying family. If you have a need, please let us know. You can fill out a prayer request form at the Welcome Table or send us an email at: prayerrequest@whitelandchurchofchrist.com.

Christian Statom (Homework Help) has retrocollis and is scheduled to see a specialist in January to decide what steps to take to improve his health.

Bud Taylor is not doing well.

Kathy Hanshaw is having knee surgery at OrthoIndy on January 23rd.

Della Turnbull's mother, Georga Mack, is struggling with mental & physical problems.

Laura Leach as she recovers from an aneurysm and seizures. (Friend of the Littletons/Greens)

Teachers Needed

We are looking for teachers for the next quarter. Please see Angie Turnmire if interested. Even if you on the fence, you're encouraged to see Angie and get some more information.



New Year's Eve Party

We hope you will join us Monday, December 31st for games, food, fellowship, ushering out the old & bringing in the New Year. Bring your favorite games, finger foods & snacks to share. Feel free to invite others; all are welcome.

Area-Wide Singing & Chili Supper

Let's start the new year off by singing with our brothers/sisters from area congregations. Mark your calendars now for January 5th at 5pm. We will have a chili supper immediately following. If you're interested in helping with the chili, please see George Hewitt.

Hearts for Souls 2019

Hearts for Souls is what we call our outreach ministry. Now that we have ample storage, in 2019, we will be going full force with our efforts. Beginning January 6th, we will start collecting numerous items all year long. We will immediately begin collecting new gloves/hats/scarves and new shoes. Please do not bring in used items. As you bring in items, please place them in the totes just outside the coat closet. More information will be given in the weeks to come.

Visitation Group

The visitation group will meet again on Tuesday, Jan 8th at 7pm at Lougene Wooten's. All are welcome!

Men's Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfast is Saturday, Jan 12th at 9am in the Fellowship Hall. We hope you will join us for breakfast, fellowship and a short devotional.

Planning Session

Do you have any ideas for outreach efforts or involvement activities? Is there something you've been wanting to do but it hasn't been scheduled yet? Is there something you want to see more of? Now is the time for your voice to be heard. Join us Sunday evening, January 20th, immediately following evening service. We'll meet over in the Fellowship Hall.

The Inflatable Christmas | Tom Norvell | heartlight.org

One of the holiday decorations that has literally popped up on the lawns of neighborhoods throughout our community, and I suspect around the nation, is the inflatable. These inflatables declare with unmistakable fashion the coming of Christmas. In close proximity of our home, one can see an inflatable Santa, an inflated Rudolph, an inflatable Frosty the Snowman that stands fifteen feet tall and bounces in the breeze, and an inflated Merry Mickey Christmas. Some of these decorations have lights and some do not. Some even have fake snow falling and swirling. On one lawn, a passerby can see Joseph, Mary, the baby Jesus and at least one of the Magi safely enclosed in a colorful plastic bubble that lights up at night.

It's inflatable Christmas. Hmmm. An interesting concept. The inflatable Christmas is full of air. There is not much to it, at least not much of substance. It's decorative and is totally dependent upon air to make it appear as anything more than a piece of trash on the lawn. Pull the plug, and these inflatables collapse. The inflatable Christmas is for show. Drive through these neighborhoods in the daylight hours and these same displays usually lay flat and lifeless on the ground. Empty. Deflated.

The inflatable Christmas is temporary. Like most Christmas decorations, the inflatable Christmas is seasonal. Some displays will come down on Christmas Day. Some will be packed away the day after Christmas. Some will remain intact for a week or so through New Year's Day. Most, however, are completely out of sight by mid-January — except for those whose masters choose to leave their lights up all year, but only plug them in around Christmas, but surely even their inflatables will have to be put away when the lawn mower comes out. The inflatable Christmas can be a reminder of a more serious condition: the inflatable Christian.

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Concluded from page 3 / **The Inflatable Christmas** | Tom Norvell

The inflatable Christian is full of air. Not much content. Not much on the inside. Not much real conviction and very little substance. No depth. On the surface, they look good. Bright. Cheerful. Exciting. Colorful. However, they are filled by what is light and air. The inflatable Christian is only about the show. Just look at and admire them. Praise them for what appears to be really nice, but don't look on the inside. Appreciate them from a distance, but don't get too close or you may be surprised, disappointed, or discouraged.

The inflatable Christian is temporary. They only appear on special occasions. They are not around during the dark days of winter or the dry days of summer. During those times, they're busy with what the surrounding world says are the important things. However, when the season is right, and the message is pleasing, they show up ... dressed up, smiling, and looking good for the occasion.

The real Christmas and the real follower of Christ are not made of plastic and cannot be deflated by simply pulling a plug. The original Christmas was real, and a genuine follower of Jesus is solid in any season. The original Christmas has meaning, and a real Christian is consistent in their commitment in public and private. Jesus may have had inflatable Christmas and inflatable Christians in mind when He described the religious people of his day — the inflated religious folks — with terms like, "*Everything they do is done for others to see ... hypocrites ... blind guides ... whitewashed tombs*" (Matthew 23).

We have a choice of what kind of Christian we will be and what kind of Christmas we will have. Let's enjoy the season to the fullest. Let's remember the true meaning. Let's celebrate the story. Let's share the joy. Even more, let's live the life ... the real life, not the inflated one.

Facility Use

Did you know you can use the building for special occasions or borrow tables & chairs?

To check on availability, and to reserve a time, please see George Hewitt or email him at george@whitelandchurchofchrist.com.

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study 9:30am
 Sunday Worship 10:30am & 5:00pm
 Wednesday Bible Study 7:00pm

Connect

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Bulletin Information

bulletin@whitelandchurchofchrist.com

For the Record

Last Week's Attendance

Sun AM Bible Class	45
Sun AM Worship	106
Sun PM Worship	
Wed PM Bible Class	31

Last Week's Contribution

\$3,524



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