

## GOD IS NUMBER CONSCIOUS

Occasionally the accusation “you are just number conscious” flies. If we emphasize the importance of attendance, we may justify mentioning it by saying that numbers represent souls. That is true, but there is no need to be ashamed of number consciousness.

The Holy Spirit chose the wording of the Bible (cf. 1 Corinthians 2:13). He chose the noun *arithmos* (from whence comes “arithmetic”) eighteen times in the New Testament, with five occurring in Acts. Each time the word is used, God is counting. In Acts, God is keeping track of the numbers being converted and the numbers making up the community of the converted—the church. *Arithmos*, in the literal sense, means to count, reckon, sum, or number (Kittel, *Theological Dictionary of the NT*, Vol. 1, 461). In these passages, *arithmos* is used literally and specifically—“the number of the men came to be about five thousand” (Acts 4:4), “a number of men, about four hundred, joined him [Theudas]” (5:36); “the number of the disciples multiplied greatly” (6:7); “a great number” believed (11:21); and the churches “increased in number daily” (16:5). Aside from Gamaliel’s Acts 5 speech, the Acts passages report numerical growth in the early church.

Gearing programs and preaching at all costs (compromise) to optimize attendance figures is not right. Truth offends and turns away some. That primitive church had a large number of enemies and detractors. While many submitted to immersion, some resorted to throwing stones (Acts 7:58; 14:19). Early Christians were tarred, run over, beaten, imprisoned, burned alive, fed to lions, exiled, and otherwise mistreated. While this was sporadic, it was often intense. They had a number of enemies, yet through living hope (1 Peter 1:3) they worked at their mission and God gave the increase (1 Corinthians 3:6). All the while, Heaven kept count.

Long before the cross, God said, “Behold, all souls are Mine” (Ezekiel 18:4). He is in every delivery room. He hears every baby’s cry, watches every skinned knee, is privy to every child’s fear, and sees every sinful word and action. He was there at the moment every individual crossed the line from “safe” to “separated” (cf. Isaiah 59:2). As Creator and Redeemer, God rightly marks down every instance where a person goes from “separated” to “saved.”

So let’s think like God, pursue evangelistic opportunities, teach the truth, and the number of disciples will increase. Be number conscious. —Neal Pollard, Denver, Colorado

### 1 SAMUEL CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX

H U B S H T R A N S A I R D O L	ABISHAI	ERRED
C H O O S P B A H R I C E R S U	ABNER	EVIL
H I D E L N I C O Y U L H N E A	ABODE	FACE
B I I E E S T Z M O I T E I B S	ACHISH	FETCH
A R T R S E T E A V E V E I S T	AFRAID	GIBEAH
C A R T F R N E E L I R S R O H	AROSE	HITTITE
E I R E I E U R R R A H R O P E	BOLSTER	MASTER
S T R A I T S C D R A E V E N D	BROTHER	NEITHER
T R I C E V E M G I E L V I D O	CHOSEN	PLAYED
R A P M A P A D R I P H E I M B	CRIEST	PURSUE
N A P I S S S E A L B U T D L A	CRUSE	RETURN
E E P U T S H I V V E E E O F O	CURSED	SAUL
S I S E R T R O T C I Y A R R O	DAVID	SMITE
U P R O I S I P A L A D A H U B	DELIVER	SPEAR
R U N E H C U F I L L I S S U E	DRIVEN	VOICE
C A N T E C L E P E D E S O R A	ENEMY	ZIPH

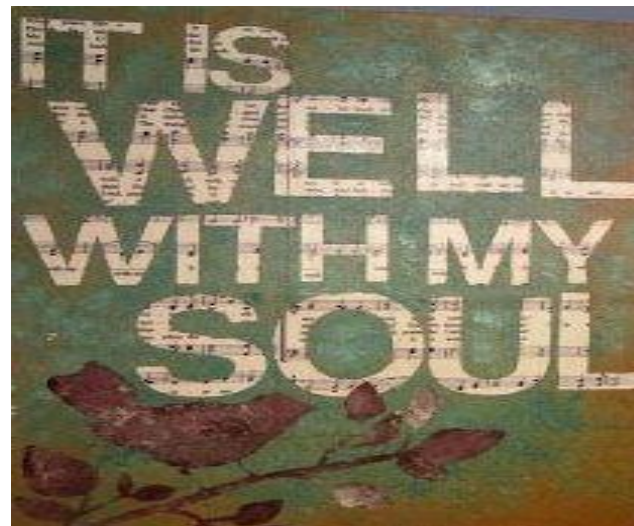
### 😊 Special Days 😊

#### Happy Birthday, August!

Denise Crayton	1	Lydia Frazier	2
Kathryn Jones	5	Lynn White	6
Perry Comeaux	14	Clement Beauvais	16
Sharwanda George	19	Roger Elliott	29
Olena Gauvin	31		

#### Happy Anniversary, August!

Tim and Colleen Wertz	9
Roger and Alwilda Merritt	11
Wilbert and Nancy Davis	22
Ernie and Melissa Maiwald	26



## WOODBIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST



13815 Surrey Drive  
Woodbridge, VA 22191  
703-494-5721

**August 19, 2018**

### Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

### Elders

Eric Anthony Ernie Maiwald  
Michael Neal Lee Porter  
Tim Wertz

### Deacons

Perry Comeaux Jason Cottoner  
Keith George Dan Medina  
Niles Wedge

### Minister

Ernie Maiwald

### Associate Minister

Keith George

*The Woodbridge elders recommend the following  
Bible translations for our public worship and study:  
New King James Version, King James Version and  
American Standard Version, 1901*

**Welcome, Visitors!**

Thank you for coming to worship with us today. You are our honored guests. We are a Bible church with Bible aims relying on God's word as our only authority. We invite you to join us in worshipping through:

- o singing (Eph 5:19)
- o praying (I Tim 2:1-2)
- o studying (II Tim 4:2)
- o giving (I Cor 16:2)
- o remembering our Lord's sacrifice through communion (Acts 20:7).

We want to have a record of your visit. Please complete the visitor's card that is in the pew before you and place it in the collection basket or hand it to one of our members.

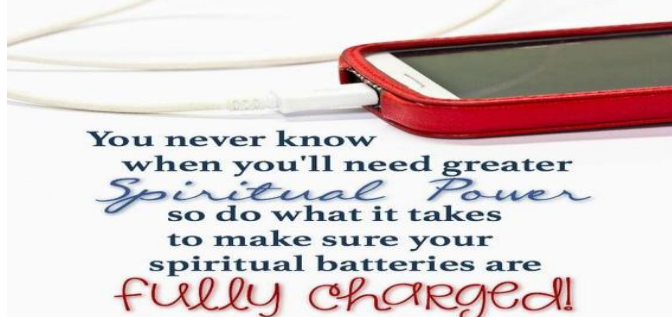
If we can be of service to you, in any way, please let us know. And please visit with us again soon. We look forward to seeing you.

**Daily Bible Readings**

		Morning	Evening
Epistles	August 19	I Corth 15 - 16	I Corth 15 - 16
The Law	August 20	Exodus 9 - 12	Exodus 9 - 12
History	August 21	I Samuel 26 - 31	I Samuel 26 - 31
Psalms	August 22	Psalms 45 - 47	Psalms 45 - 47
Poetry	August 23	Job 31 - 32	Job 31 - 32
Prophecy	August 24	Jeremiah 17 - 21	Jeremiah 17 - 21
Gospels	August 25	Mark 11 - 12	Mark 11 - 12

**Bible Class Schedule for the Week**

<b>Week of August 19</b>			
Sunday	Lesson 164	1 Kings 2	
Wednesday	Lesson 165	1 Kings 3	
<b>Week of August 26</b>			
Sunday	Lesson 164	1 Kings 4	
Wednesday		Wednesday Night Singing	



**Assignments**

	19 August	26 August
Announcements	George	Maiwald
Song	Beauvais	Comeaux
Prayer	Kent	Lake
Preside @ Table	Lake	Kent
Assisting	Wertz	Beauvais
Assisting	Wilson	Caples
Assisting	Mike Ambrose	Comeaux
Prayer	Johnson	George
	19 August	26 August
Evening Worship*	George	Maiwald
Announcements	George	Maiwald
Song Leader	Beauvais	Comeaux
Prayer	Spiess	Caples
Communion/Prayer	Lake	Kent
	22 August	29 August
Wed. Evening Worship	George	Maiwald
Announcements	George	Maiwald
Song Leader	Beauvais	Comeaux
Invitation	Neal	Wedge
Prayer	Comeaux	Chris Dollard

*Notes:*

1. *Please arrange for a substitute if you are unable to perform an assigned duty.*
2. *Notify Tim Wertz and Karla Anthony of any changes.*
3. *Transportation. If anyone would be willing to help with transportation to and from services on Sunday and Wednesday, please see Niles Wedge.*

	August	September	October
<b>Prepare Communion</b>	Johnson	Lake	TBD
<b>Building Lockup</b>	Anthony	Maiwald	TBD

<b>Mens Breakfast</b>	9/8/18	8:00am	OC Buffet
<b>EDP Meeting</b>	9/8/18	9:30am	Building
<b>Gospel Mtg</b>	10/28-10/31		
<b>Qtrly Potluck (Zone 2 hosting)</b>	10/28/18	Noon	Building

**Helpful Contact Addresses:**

Church building: [www.woodbridgechurchofchrist.com](http://www.woodbridgechurchofchrist.com)  
 Minister: [preacher@woodbridgechurchofchrist.com](mailto:preacher@woodbridgechurchofchrist.com)  
 Associate Minister: [churchofchristgospelpreacher@gmail.com](mailto:churchofchristgospelpreacher@gmail.com)  
 Bulletin: [obxchca66@gmail.com](mailto:obxchca66@gmail.com)  
 Facebook: WOODBRIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST

**For our Prayers**

**New**

- **Robbie Burch** (Chelsea Anthony's brother) fell off a 25 foot roof last week. He broke his nose and two vertebrae in his back.

**Condolences**

- **The Hamilton Family** (friends of Tom and Lynn White) for the loss of Gloria Hamilton.

**Update**

- **Becky Klein** is scheduled for surgery for skin cancer near her eye and plastic surgery to repair the area on September 7.

**Assisted Living**

- **Gayle Swabb** (Betty's Place - Manassas)
- **Charles Swabb** (Betty's Place - Manassas)

**Continued Prayers for Family and Friends:**

- **Sandra Lauriano** (co-worker for Kennetha Marbury) cancer
- **Lucille Goolsby** (Sue Bilbrey's sister-in-law) cancer; hospice care
- **Lenny Skutnik** (Crohns)
- **OT Martin** (Ernie's dad) Alzheimer's
- **Jesse Medina** (Dan's brother) pulmonary hypertension
- **Johnnie Thompson** (Perry Comeaux aunt) Long Term Care
- **Jan Dunlap** (Linda Skutnik's sister)
- **Jean Long** (Sue Bilbrey's sister) brain tumor
- **Angelica Garcia** (friend of Linda Skutnik) acute leukemia
- **Sammie Thompson** (Perry Comeaux's cousin) cancer
- **LaVetta Sterrett** (Babara Frazier's aunt) abdomen bleed
- **David Jackson** (friend of the Marbury's) lung cancer
- **Gerald Morningstar**-(Sherry Wright's dad)
- **Gerrie Fleener** (Jody Medina's mom) knee replacement.
- **Vanessa Davis** (Davis' Great Granddaughter) Kawasaki Disease
- **Tim Williams** (Friend of the Crayton's) Stage 4 Cancer

**Continued prayers for our members**

Bobbie Girard	Alwilda Merritt	Colleen Wertz
Deb Neal	James Roberson	Sue Bilbrey
Betty Caples	Sherry Wright	Dan Medina