

Why Aren't Woodpeckers Brain Dead?

Why aren't woodpeckers extinct? This animal smashes its head against a tree all day long without ever "seeing stars." It does this without sustaining any damage. The more we study the woodpecker, the more amazing it proves to be.

Most humans are able to withstand about 20 times the force of gravity (g) for a few seconds. A constant 16 g for a full minute can kill us. In 1945, John Stapp endured an unheard of 46.2 g for a very brief time. Sadly, he suffered permanent damage to his vision from that test. In 1998, Indy race car driver Kenny Brack was involved in a devastating car crash. He was subjected to the highest recorded g-force ever survived—214 g (*Wikipedia*). The crash nearly killed him, and cost him 18 months in recovery.

Everything about the woodpecker is made to drive their beaks into wood as hard and efficiently as possible. They have special feet to grip the wood. They have stiff tail feathers to keep them stable while slamming against trees. They have extra strong neck muscles for optimum headbanging. Because of all these features, woodpeckers slam their heads against wood with a force of about 1,000 g, and they do this around 20 times per second and 12,000 times per day! With so much force, why in the world aren't woodpeckers blind and brain-dead?

The reason the woodpecker doesn't go blind is that it essentially closes its eyes right before it hits the wood. It has a special membrane (nictitating membrane) that closes over the eyes about a millisecond before contact. This membrane not only protects it from popping its eyes out but also from flying wood shards.

What about brain damage? Every part of the woodpecker's head is custom built to avoid major head trauma. Its beak is composed of very strong microscopic rod structures that also absorb some of the impact. At the back of the upper beak, there is more tissue than bone, which helps soften the blow. Strangely, at the back of the lower beak, there is more bone than tissue so that it doesn't cushion as much. Scientists think this channels the force through the lower beak and away from the woodpecker's brain.

Beyond this, the woodpecker is equipped with one of the world's strongest helmets. Its brain is encased in tremendously strong, yet spongy structure of beam-like bones. This bone formation acts like a helmet and cushions the blow, dispersing the force around the skull. All of these parts work together perfectly to protect the woodpecker's brain and keep it completely unharmed.

Cont'd on back

These characteristics blatantly defy evolution. All these features need to be fully formed and functioning at the same time. It simply must have a fully formed, reinforced skull structure to survive. It has to have an extra strong beak, tail feathers, and eye protection. It would only take one time for a woodpecker to slam its head against a tree to smash its beak, destroy its tail feathers, and pop out its eyes. If the 1,000 g or the overall damage didn't kill it instantly, then it would starve to death because of the damage it sustained. Partially evolved animals don't survive. Dead animals don't evolve.

The woodpecker screams of intelligent design. The reasonable explanation is that the woodpecker came fully formed, completely functioning, and entirely created. The words of Revelation 4:11 speak the truth about God: "*You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created.*" The clear design of the woodpecker gives due honor to God the Creator. We too should honor and worship God. —*Brett Petrillo*

LUKE CHAPTER ONE

D R E L P O E P R A N G D O I D	A A R O N	O R D E R
P E R F E C T E I S N R E D E A	A B I A	P E O P L E
C A V A D U J S T E R I M R C E	A N G E L	P E R F E C T
O A S E D O M O T S U C E I I A	B E L I E V E D	P R A Y I N G
U R Q W I S D O M R B V E N F D	B I R T H	P R I E S T
R O U C S L I S P R I E S T F U	B U R N	R E J O I C E
S K E P R I E S P L I C K E O J	C E R T A I N	S E E M E D
E C X T A R A B E S B H K R E A	C O U R S E	S P E A R
H I A H E R O D G G D E S E S I	C U S T O M	S T R I C K E N
W F R A L I B N O N R R U C N B	D E L I V E R E D	S U R E L Y
H F S R E T I R W I I O R E E A	D R I N K	T H I N G S
E O I O R Y N A H H N K E R C R	H E R O D	W A L K I N G
R N O R A A G I N T K I L T N A	I N C E N S E	W H E R E B Y
E I P R A Y E K A G R B Y A I E	I S R A E L	W H E R E I N
I T P O R D E R U C E I B I W P	J U D A E A	W I S D O M
N Y B E R E H W R F I L B N E S	O F F I C E	W R I T E

😊 Special Days 😊

Happy Birthday, September!

Natalie Comeaux	6	Candice Spiess	6
Beatrice Okiyi	9	Rosalyn Brown	12
Robert Lake	14	Lee Porter	15
Marshal Maiwald	18	Mark Caples	21
Gabriel Ambrose	27	Denise Porter	27
Christopher Neal	29	Barbara Frazier	30
Happy Anniversary, September!			
Niles and Katie Wedge			9

WOODBIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

September 9, 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	September 9	II Corth 6 - 8	II Corth 6 - 8
The Law	September 10	Exodus 21 - 24	Exodus 21 - 24
History	September 11	II Samuel 10 - 14	II Samuel 10 - 14
Psalms	September 12	Psalms 54 - 56	Psalms 54 - 56
Poetry	September 13	Job 37 - 38	Job 37 - 38
Prophecy	September 14	Jeremiah 32 - 36	Jeremiah 32 - 36
Gospels	September 15	Luke 1 - 2	Luke 1 - 2

Bible Class Schedule for the Week

Week of September 9			
Sunday	Lesson 169	1 Kings 8	
Wednesday	Lesson 170	I Kings 9	
Week of September 16			
Sunday	Lesson 171	I Kings 10	
Wednesday	Lesson 172	I Kings 11	

Announcements

Picture Board: We are working to update the member picture board. If you have had any changes in your family picture or have not had a picture taken please see brother Eric Anthony.

Assignments

	September 9	September 16
Announcements	Porter	Wertz
Song	Spiess	Wertz
Prayer	Merritt	Neal
Preside @ Table	Neal	Marbury
Assisting	Dukes	Gauvin
Assisting	Earwood	George
Assisting	M. Frazier	Johnson
Prayer	Marubury	Lake
	September 9	September 16
Evening Worship*		
Announcements	Porter	Wertz
Song Leader	Spiess	Wertz
Prayer	Chris Dollard	Dukes
Communion/Prayer	Neal	Marbury
	September 12	September 19
Wed. Evening Worship		
Announcements	Porter	Wertz
Song Leader	Spiess	Wertz
Invitation	Beauvais	Chris Dollard
Prayer	Johnson	Kent

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.

	September	October	November
Prepare Communion	Lake	TBD	TBD
Building Lockup	Maiwald	TBD	TBD

Mens Breakfast	10/13/18	8:00am	OC Buffet
EDP Meeting	10/13/18	9:30am	Building
Gospel Mtg	10/28-10/31		
Qtrly Potluck (Zone 2 hosting)	10/28/18	Noon	Building

Helpful Contact Addresses:

Church building: www.woodbridgechurchofchrist.com
 Minister: preacher@woodbridgechurchofchrist.com
 Associate Minister: churchofchristgospelpreacher@gmail.com
 Bulletin: obxchca66@gmail.com
 Facebook: WOODBRIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST

For our Prayers

Update

- **Becky Klein** is recovering from surgery for skin cancer near her eye and plastic surgery to repair the area on September 7.
- **Sarah Schilling** (Tammy Elliott's sister) is scheduled to see a neurosurgeon for her neck on October 16.

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
- **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
- **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
- **Margaret Jackson** (Niles Wedge's grandmother) Macular Degeneration
- **Lori Bennett** (friend of Logan Dollard) blindness

Continued prayers for our members

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

