

TheWill

October 2016

Monthly Newsletter of
God's Will Christian Church

Mark Your Calendar

All Month

**Pastor Appreciation
Month**

Sunday School at 9:45

10.2
New Members
Orientation

10.9-11.13
New Members Class

10.14-15
Men's Retreat

10.29
Youth
Harvest Night

Pastor Appreciation Month

October is an exciting time in our ministry. We have the opportunity to celebrate our wonderful Senior Pastor as well as our Assistant and Executive Pastors. Pastor Adgerson is a dedicated shepherd who is committed to loving and serving his assigned flock. Pastor Adgerson is the founding pastor of our great church. He has served as the angel of this church since its inception in 2005.

All throughout the month, we will have opportunities to express our appreciation to all our Pastors for all they do to support us and serve the kingdom of God.



Getting to Know Your Pastors

Where were you raised?

Pastor A: NW, DC
Asst. Pastor: NW, DC
Ex. Pastor: SE, DC

Do you have any hobbies?

Pastor A: Playing basketball
Asst. Pastor: Boxing and bike riding
Ex. Pastor: Playing any type of game

What's your favorite TV show?

Pastor A: Law & Order
Asst. Pastor: Andy Griffith Show
Ex. Pastor: Murder She Wrote

What's your favorite song?

Pastor A:
Asst. Pastor: Blessed Assurance
Ex. Pastor: Right now, it is I Will Trust in You by Lauren Daigle

What book are you currently reading?

Pastor A: Maximizing Manhood
Asst. Pastor: Draw the Circle
Ex. Pastor: Draw the Circle

What's your favorite vacation spot?

Pastor A: Nags Head, NC
Asst. Pastor: Williamsburg, VA
Ex. Pastor: Anguilla

What's your favorite sports team?

Pastor A: Washington Redskins
Asst. Pastor: Washington Redskins
Ex. Pastor: by default, NY Giants



GWCC Welcomes Our New Members!

We are growing! We are excited to welcome some new members to our family. We welcome the following members:

Chase and Breana Day and family Francis Lennon

Please be sure to introduce yourself when you see them in service.

Weekly Activities

Morning Prayer Conference Call

Daily 7:00AM

Weekly Bible Study Conference Call

Wednesday 7:00-8:00p

Men's Bible Study Conference Call

Tuesday 7:00-8:00pm

Conference Number:

712-775-7031 Access Code: 443-268-839

Women's Bible Study Conference Call

Monday 7:30-8:30pm

857-232-0158 Access Code 262390



A Bit of Wisdom

Pastor Clarke

2Corinthians 5:17

...“The old life is gone; a new life has begun.”

About 12 years ago, my aunt gave my family a poodle named Fred (Frederique). One of her coworkers owned the dog but had to give the dog away because they were moving. Instantly, we recognized that the dog had some issues and may have previously been abused. He was afraid to walk around the house, was easily frightened, and never really bonded with us. We tried to hug and pet him to let him know we loved him and were happy he was a part of our family. We had a huge yard for him to run in but he was always too scared, it seemed, to leave the porch. Fred seemed to be depressed. He really didn't know how good he had it! He couldn't enjoy all of the benefits in his new life because he seemed to be preoccupied by what had taken place in his previous life.

I thought about Fred this morning as I listened to a song by Tenth Avenue North called “You Are More”. Some of the lyrics are:

**But don't you know who you are,
What's been done for you?
Yeah, don't you know who you are?**

**You are more than the choices that you've made,
You are more than the sum of your past mistakes,
You are more than the problems you create,
You've been remade.**

Many of us are so focused on our past that we cannot enjoy the freedom and the benefits that have been given to us because of Christ's sacrifice. Like Fred, we walk around defeated, scared, and depressed. I challenge you to walk in the authority given to you. Be reminded that you are a new creature in Christ. You have a new mind! Old things are passed away. Everything is new.

If you are wondering what happened to Fred, he died. He stood next to us outside, saw a car coming down the street, looked up at us, and then took off running in front of the car. I guess it was all too much for him. The past has a way of closing in, if you let it.



Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry.

– James 1:19

Pastoral Thought

Thank You For Listening

Ralph Nicolson is regarded as the father of listening. He describes four levels of listening. As you read the four levels below, determine at which level you usually listen.

Level 1-Listening TO...Internal Listening. At this level, when we listen to others we mostly listen to our inner dialogue, thoughts, feelings, and what we plan to say once the other person has finished speaking. We focus on ourselves, our conclusions, our thoughts about the person/subject of conversation, and what the subject means to me. Unfortunately most listening happens at this level where it tends to be all about us.

Level 2-Listening FOR...Focused Listening. At this level we begin to authentically listen as we focus on what the other person is saying. We lock on to their dialogue and suppress our temptation to correct, give our opinion, give advice, or offer another perspective as soon as they

finish. We become truly present and give the other person the gift of being understood.

Level 3-Listening WITH...Intuitive Listening. At this level, we pay attention to what is not being said through these cues: inflection, pauses, changes in tone and energy, the eyes, and body language. We listen with our gut and allow intuition to speak to our soul.

Level 4-Listening to the Holy Spirit. This is the deepest level, where we intersect what the person is saying/not saying with an openness to what the Spirit of God is saying to us. This level requires great discipline and focus, yet provides pastors and ministry leaders a way to become conduits of God's grace to others.

After reading the different levels, at which level do you usually listen? What tips have you discovered that help you listen at levels?