



Our Vision

To launch and strengthen a fleet of Christ-following communities who are compassionately sailing through a turbulent culture toward a deeper amazement of God's grace.

Three Implications of Our Amazement

(Indications of the Amazement we already have, as well as catalysts for deeper amazement.)

Exploring

If we are amazed, we will **Explore** God's Grace through digging into Scripture and applying it to the story of our personal and corporate journey.

Experiencing

If we are amazed, we will **Experience** God's Grace through acknowledging our desperation and submitting it to the forgiveness and power of His intervention through Christ, resulting in an authentic relationship with Him as well as others in community, and experiencing daily transformation as a result.

Expressing

If we are amazed, we will **Express** God's Grace by fully engaging with life, worshipping on an everyday basis, communicating the liberating gospel of grace to others, living lives of compassion within and outside the walls of the church, all in an environment of creativity and calling.



One Church, Multiple Locations

Rockrimmon Campus

290 E. Woodmen Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80919

Woodmen Heights Campus

8292 Woodmen Valley View, Colorado Springs, CO 80908

Service Times

Saturdays 6 pm, Sundays 8:45 & 11 am

Video Café; all services (Rockrimmon)



Heading Home

Christmas 2009



Welcome to Woodmen!

Woodmen Valley Chapel (WVC) is one church with multiple locations, Rockrimmon and Woodmen Heights. You will notice as you worship with us today, that while we have pastoral and worship arts teams at both locations, our communities are connected via live video-cast in order to worship together as one church body on both sides of the city. Although geographically separated, both communities are expressions of WVC in every way: the vision, the passion and the invitation to live authentically and abundantly through faith in Jesus Christ.

If you're new to Woodmen...

1. Fill out the tear-off portion of this bulletin and stop by Guest Central

We'd like to greet you personally and answer any questions you may have, as well as offer you a special 'thank you' gift for making Woodmen part of your weekend. Guest Central is located on the lower level of the Worship Center at Rockrimmon or in the Atrium at Woodmen Heights.

2. Grab the Holiday Issue of *The Woodmen Journal* and visit our website

The Woodmen Journal is our bimonthly magazine filled with stories on what's happening to and through our community. We invite you to flip through the pages and discover what may bring tears, laughter, reflection or amazement at what God is doing. For an in-depth look into all that's going on at WVC, be sure to also visit our website at woodmenvalley.org.

3. We offer a safe place for your children at KidsCove!


We are committed to teaching your children about the Good News of Jesus Christ in a safe, secure environment, offering age-appropriate, biblically-based curriculum. KidsCove, for ages birth through fifth grade, runs concurrently with the weekend adult services.

4. Check out Connections Bookstore & Café ... with free

At Connections, you'll find a vast selection of gifts, books, CDs, messages and Pikes Perk Coffee! We're located on the lower level of the Worship Center at Rockrimmon and in the Atrium at Woodmen Heights or online at connectionsbookstore.com. All proceeds benefit the ministries of WVC.

Giving Report

	Received	Budgeted
Giving Weekend of 12/13/09	\$ 199,003	\$ 170,000
Giving Year-to-Date	\$1,709,083	\$1,870,000
	Received to Date	Total Needed
Capital Fund	\$ 43,170	\$ 849,000

 Give securely online at woodmenvalley.org/onlinegiving

Past Sermons & More

Visit woodmenvalley.org/listenonline for MP3s, podcasts, sermon notes and more, or stop by Connections Bookstore & Café for messages on CD.

Upcoming Events

Winter Camp Christmas Packages (Camp Dates March 5-7, 2010)

• Offer ends Monday, Dec. 21

Give your middle or high school student a Christmas gift that lasts for months, saves you money and builds excitement! Register for our biggest event of the year, and get a shirt, hat, and sunglasses for FREE! Visit woodmenyouth.com or stop by the Winter Camp table after services.

OASIS Family Night

• Friday, Jan. 8, 5:30–8:30 pm, WH Auditorium

Oasis is a unique way for your family to refresh in faith and fun! Join us for worship, game shows and more! Optional dinner served at 5:30 pm—\$1/person. Visit woodmenvalley.org/oasis for more information.

Small Group Launch

• Jan. 17, 24, 31, 11 am–12:30 pm, RRWC 107

This course is the primary means for you to get connected into a small group at WVC. Sign up at woodmenvalley.org/smallgroups.

ReNEW Wellness Bootcamp

• Jan. 20–Mar. 17 (M–W–F), 6–7 pm, RR Gym

Looking for a New Year's fitness program? Our certified instructors will guide you through a complete fitness program to get you in shape and build skills for a healthier life style. Visit woodmenvalley.org/sports for more information.

Premarital Workshop

• Jan. 23–Mar. 13, 6–7:30 pm, RRWC, Rm 107 (All couples)

• Mar. 20–Apr. 10, 6–7:30 pm, RRWC, Rm 114 (Additional sessions for blended family couples)

This workshop is designed to help you build a strong foundation for your marriage. Visit woodmenvalley.org/premarital for more info and to register.

Winter GriefShare Workshop

• Jan. 28–Apr. 29, 8 am–noon, RRWC, Rm 107

GriefShare is a grief support group comprised of people who have experienced the loss of a loved one. It is designed to help individuals cope with the searing pain of loss in their lives while unlocking their emotions for healing. To register, visit woodmenvalley.org/griefshare.

Holiday Church Office Hours

• Dec. 24/25: closed; Dec. 28–30: 9 am–3 pm; Dec. 31: 9 am–noon; Jan. 1: closed

RR = Rockrimmon Campus • WH = Woodmen Heights Campus

RRWC = Rockrimmon Worship Center • RRCC = Rockrimmon Community Center

RRSC = Rockrimmon Stone Chapel • WVVC = Woodmen Valley Chapel

To find out more about everything going on at Woodmen, visit us online at woodmenvalley.org or pick up the latest copy of *The Woodmen Journal*.

Christmas Eve Serving Opps December 19/20, 2009

ROCKRIMMON

Childcare

- 6 pm 8 pm

Usher

- 12 pm 2 pm 4 pm 6 pm 8 pm

Greeter

- 12 pm 6 pm 8 pm

Guest Central

- 10 am 12 pm 6 pm

Campus Guide

- 10 am 12 pm 2 pm 4 pm 6 pm 8 pm

WOODMEN HEIGHTS

Childcare

- 6 pm 8 pm

Usher

- 12 pm 2 pm 8 pm

Greeter

- 8 pm

Hospitalization

If you or a loved one will be hospitalized and would like prayer or support, contact Terri at 719.388.4974 or tdole@woodmenvalley.org.

Prayer Requests/Comments

- I am going through a difficult time and would like to discuss being connected to a Stephen Minister.
- Please invite others to pray about this.
- Please keep this request confidential.



**December 19/20, 2009 • Senior Pastor Matt Heard
Part 3: Heading Home ... With a Thankful Song, Luke 2:20**

Obscure middle eastern shepherds. That's all they were. Nothing spectacular about their lives ... or their careers.

An ordinary, mundane night at work with the flocks in the hills outside Bethlehem. That's all it was. Nothing noteworthy about the evening.

A dirty livestock cave carpeted with a couple of feet of sheep manure and wallpapered with hundreds of years of soot from bedouin fires. That's all it was.

A teenage Jewish girl away from her family on a trip with her husband about to give birth to a child that wasn't his. To anyone strolling by, no hints of historical significance on the horizon, just continued embarrassment. That's all it was.

A scooped-out water trough with some ragged, hastily prepared cloths layered in anticipation of cushioning what most would assume would be an obscure, ordinary peasant baby. That's all it was.

Really? You know better. At least in your head you know that's not all it was. But how about in your gut — in that area of your life that connects with the stuff of your days. Do you know it there?

We know the events we commemorate and the Savior we celebrate at Christmastime are anything but ordinary. But how adept are we at carrying their significance into our lives?

During these weeks of the Christmas season (no, not just the "holiday season"), we're going to try retracing the steps of the shepherds after they witnessed the historical events we are celebrating. Luke, a first century physician turned historian, summed it up by saying that *"the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen ..."* (Luke 2:20).

What did they return to? Work ... relationships ... stress and anxiety as well as rest and celebration ... just making it through some days and enjoying other ones. Bottom line, they headed home. But, as they headed home, they were different because the events of that night were anything but ordinary.

That's actually the same path we're to take, once we come in contact with the Christmas story, whether it's for the first time or the thousandth time. We head back home ... with Christmas in tow.

continued →

