



# PASTOR'S NOTES

## We Believe: Last Things

**God, in his own time and in his own way, will bring this world to its appropriate end and his kingdom to its full glory.**

God is not aimless in his timing, and he has purpose for us in this journey between the two comings of Christ—purposes that are for the eternal good of those who love God and are called by him (Rom 8:28–30). And, if we have the eyes to see it, we'll see that what we long for physically, we already possess spiritually as citizens of Christ's kingdom.

We must, then, keep in mind that we study the last things not to satisfy our curiosity about the future, but to transform the way we live in the present. Thus, we miss the mark if we approach the study of the last things with:

1. A "that's for them" attitude.
2. An "unlock the code" attitude.
3. A "Breaking News with CNN" attitude.
4. A "my way or the highway" attitude.

At the end of the day, there is far more unity than disunity in Christian Eschatology—and ultimately, where the unity is, is where the greatest hope and encouragement is.

### *5 Pillars of Christian Eschatology*

1. **Jesus Christ reigns over his kingdom, and it will have no end.** (cf. 2 Samuel 7:12-13)

God has fulfilled his promise; Christ is currently seated on his throne in the heavenly places, reigning over his church—who is seated with him—and over all of creation as the Lord of Lords at whose name every knee will bow and tongue confess.

2. **When someone dies, their soul persists in a sensible state either in the presence of the Lord or in Sheol, or hell as it is today.**

<sup>6</sup> So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, <sup>7</sup> for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup> Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. (2 Corinthians 5:6-8 ESV)

3. **Jesus Christ will soon return personally, visibly, and gloriously to judge the living and the dead, gathering his people to himself and bringing his reward with him.** (cf. Mat 24:29-31)

The ultimate reward of eternal life with God is equally shared by all (the parable of the day laborers); the lesser, but still glorious, rewards given to us by Christ for our obedience in the power of the Spirit will be varied and for the increase of our joy expressed in worship (parable of the talents).

4. **Every human being will be resurrected; some unto eternal judgment, others to eternal life.** (cf. Mat 25:31-33, 46)

Hell will be a place of soul-crushing emptiness, despairing loneliness, and bitter darkness. Death is no escape for the wicked, for they too will be resurrected and face God's justice for all of eternity.

But better realities are in store for those in Christ. We will have actual bodies, but such that have been untouched by sin. Our resurrected bodies will be imperishable, glorious, and powerful.

There will be no more inner war between the flesh and the Spirit, but our resurrected flesh will perfectly keep in step with the Spirit, fully manifesting his fruit in our lives. By his supernatural power, the Spirit will make us partakers of the divine nature to the highest degree possible such that our resurrected bodies will be fully conformed to the glorious image of Christ.

5. The fullness of Christ's kingdom comes to fruition in the new creation. (cf. Rev 21:3–5a)

"God will be the end (fulfillment) of our desires. He will be seen without end, loved without sting, praised without weariness. And this duty, this affection, this employment, will, like eternal life itself, be common to all." – Augustine

Seeing the full essence of God's glory in heaven, those in Christ will also enjoy the fruitfulness of the glorified life in the physical, new creation (cf. Amos 9:13-15).

### **Three Implications for Today**

In light of the Bible's teaching on last things, we ought to . . .

1. Live with a sense of urgency and focus, disciplining the body as we wage war against the flesh. (1 Corinthians 9:24-25 ESV)
2. Rest in the certainty of Christ's kingdom and not get overly captivated by the politics of kingdoms passing away. (Ps 20:7-8 ESV)
3. Mourn death for what it is—a curse—but do so with hope, encouraging one another with the truth of Christ's return. (1 Thess 4:13-18)




# MeadowBrook CHURCH

Sunday, June 14, 2026 • Pastor Randy Gunter  
mbchurch.com



*HE WHO TESTIFIES  
TO THESE THINGS SAYS,  
"SURELY I AM COMING SOON."  
AMEN.  
COME, LORD JESUS!  
THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS  
BE WITH ALL.  
AMEN.  
REVELATION 22:20-21 ESV*

 **CONNECT** *people to Christ and His church*



**FRIDAY, JUNE 26**  
**STUDENTS & FAMILIES**  
**Night at the Ballpark!**  
**ROME EMPERORS vs GREENSBORO GRASSHOPPERS**  
 Advent Health Stadium | Rome, GA  
**Ticket Cost: \$15 per person**  
 Register at [MBCHURCH.COM](http://MBCHURCH.COM) to secure your spot!

**55+ GRANDCAMP**  
**WEDNESDAY, JULY 1**  
**10:00 AM - 1:30 PM**  
**COST: \$10 PER ADULT**



Grandparents, bring your grandchildren (**K-5th grade**) for a special day designed for the young and old! GrandCamp will feature engaging activities, Bible devotions, and a time of worship to strengthen faith and create lasting memories across generations. **REGISTER on the App or [mbchurch.com/55plus](http://mbchurch.com/55plus)**

MeadowBrook Young Adults  
**DWELL RETREAT**  
**JULY 7-10 • OCOEE, TN**



Join us for Dwell Retreat — a high-energy trip packed with white water rafting, deep friendships, and powerful moments in God's word! We will dive deeply into the beautiful doctrine of our union with Christ and explore how it shapes our daily lives!  
**Cost: \$200 | Register by JUNE 28th at [mbchurch.com](http://mbchurch.com)**

 **GROW** *them as disciples and equip them to*

*Welcome* If you are our **GUEST**, we'd like to **CONNECT** with you! Please fill out a **CONNECTION CARD** and stop by **GUEST CONNECTIONS** for a **FREE** gift!

**WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK!**

**TODAY**  
 8:00-8:20 am - Sunday Morning Prayer Time - W105  
 9:00 & 10:30 am - Worship - Worship Center  
 9:00 & 10:30 am - Life Group  
 9:00-11:30 am - MeadowBrook Kids - Kids' Theater  
 9:00-11:30 am - MeadowBrook Preschool

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24**  
 6:00 pm - God's Heart for the Nations - Café '59  
 6:30 pm - Middle School Girls Bible Study - Dining Hall  
 6:30 pm - Middle School Boys Bible Study - Clark Hall  
 6:30 pm - Well Summer Bible Study - Conference Center

**life group**  
*Life together for the Kingdom of God*

**9:00 & 10:30 AM**

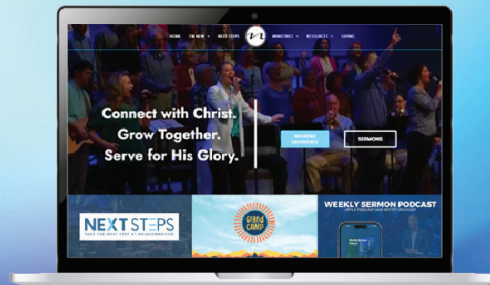
Take the next step toward finding Christ-Centered community at MeadowBrook by visiting a Life Group. For a listing of our classes, pick up a Life Group booklet at Guest Connections.

**2026 DAILY BIBLE READING**

June 21 - Isaiah 26	June 25 - Isaiah 30
June 22 - Isaiah 27	June 26 - Isaiah 31
June 23 - Isaiah 28	June 27 - Isaiah 32
June 24 - Isaiah 29	

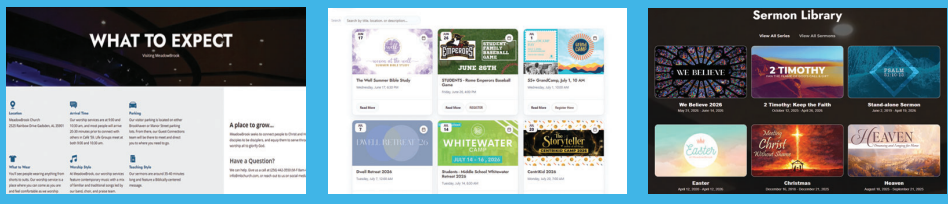
 **SERVE** *through missions, ministry and worship*

**Have You Visited Our New Website?**



We're excited to introduce the new MeadowBrook website! Designed to be faster, easier to navigate, and mobile-friendly, it's your hub for worship service information, events, ministry updates, sermon archives, online giving, and more.

Take a look today at [mbchurch.com](http://mbchurch.com) and explore all the new features. We'd love your feedback as we continue making improvements!



*Prayer Needs*

Cancer/Treatments: Rob Morris, Kyle Hughes, Margie Martin, Robert Darnell, Aiden Beck, Larry Hill, Jamye Ingram, Anna Rae Wilson, Tiki Kemp McConnell, Charles Wells, Bonnie Pierce, Scott Watford, Sabrina Freeman, Sharon Tillison, Paul Roberts, Carol Collins

Ongoing Needs: Bebe Pruet, Chris Burnette, Lloyd & Diane Matthews, Susan Mize, Lola-Ruth Adams, Landon Cunningham, Archie Wade, Max & Denise Dover, Peggy Brizendine, Kathy Thompson, Jimmy & Delores Thompson, Lavelle Ogletree, Danny Maddox, Robin Roberts, Ron Crawford, Phil Causey, Janet Maise, Rita Tipton, David Draper, Reese Robinson, Charlotte Taylor, Lindsey Rakestraw, Laura Hoge, Tim Davis, Gary Alexander, Karen Ragan, Linda Roy, Joan Henry, Linda Dees, Gerry Grant, Dorothy Hand, Kenny Cahall, Rita McClure

- Derell Reaves - recovering from foot surgery
- Freida Payne - recovering from knee replacement surgery
- Gene Gunter - recovering from knee replacement surgery