

Winns' Messenger

Published for Members and Friends of Winn's Baptist Church
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Dear Church Family,

Though we think of our mothers year-round, with Mother's Day coming up, we tend to consider the role that they play and the difference that they make with extra thought and focus. Sadly, not everyone was blessed with a good mother. Even though mothers more naturally fall into their role that fathers do, in some cases, sin is so deep in a woman's life that it overrides the maternal instinct that most women have and leads them to do great harm in the lives of those that they brought into the world. Most mothers at least try to do well. With our society so far from biblical truth, many who want to do well don't have a framework of truth to work within, so many of their efforts fall short or are counterproductive.

Thank God for the Christian mom! Her natural inclinations to love and nurture are guided by the truth of God's word, and her efforts result in untold good in the lives of her children. My own dear mother turns 90 this month. I was blessed by a godly father who taught us to live by truth and principle and set a wonderful example in that direction. But it was from my mama's life that I learned the most about truly being the hands and feet of Christ. She had her hands pretty full raising four kids on a tight budget, but she never let that swop her from investing herself in other people's lives. She often ministered to elderly people who were struggling, (and still does!), took groceries to people in need and took in teenagers who needed a stable place to be. One year, a tenant farm family lived on the farm across the dirt road from us. She brought them clothes. Every day that the children got on the school bus, they were wearing those clothes. I don't know what they would have done without them.

On top of all that, she did her very best with the one rebellious child that she had, praying for him regularly. He did eventually come around and has been leading groups of God's people for over four decades.

If you didn't have a godly mother, do what you can to break that cycle. If you did, make good on the investment that she made in you!

Praising my heavenly Father and for my godly mother,
Pastor Jeff

Honoring Our Living Legacy

Barbara Bowen, Missions Committee Chair

History is all around us in Virginia, but you wouldn't know by looking that Winn's played a significant role in that story. The 1776 and 1910 buildings are long gone, and few relics of that time remain. Yet, if you dig a little deeper, the foundations of our fellowship and faith shine as bright now as they did 250 years ago.

Agriculture was the lifeblood of Colonial Virginia when Separatist Baptist preachers John Waller, Samuel Harris, and James Read founded our church on July 4, 1776, so planting was a familiar concept. The work was literally backbreaking as they were relentlessly pursued, persecuted and imprisoned for preaching without a special license.

Yet, these men of faith stepped out boldly to spread the Gospel despite the cost. By the end of his earthly life, the man formerly known as "Swearin' Jack" Waller had baptized more than 2,000 people, assisted in the ordination of 27 ministers, and established 18 churches.

Forty-four pastors have continued to run that race with a focus on evangelism, missions and Bible teaching that has not wavered in all this time. Today, we are still strongly committed to **praying, going, and doing** to accomplish the missionary task at home and abroad.

Praying. Winn's has championed many missionaries over the years, including Drew and Leasa Decuir who served in Papua New Guinea and the Gilow family who were sent to Tanzania. We now have the potential to lift up many more through our recent partnership with the International Learning Center. Field Personnel Orientation Class 1.26 was commissioned in March 2026 and has taken the first steps in missionary journeys to witness in seven affinities* and the Deaf community.

Going. While Winn's members have stepped out to plant a few local churches, many more have answered the call to support evangelism activities far from the comforts of home. Some have made trips to Nicaragua to help minister to local youth while others have journeyed to India to work with Pastor Mindi's CHRIST Like (CLC) Ministries. Over the past 20-plus years, the second partnership has yielded much fruit with a namesake church in Nallabilli and financial gifts being multiplied to enable his team of about 30 pastors to win lost souls in villages and tribal areas. We are pleased to share that the Missions Committee is in the initial planning stages for another visit to India in 2027.

Doing/Sending: Winn's connection with Pastor Rick Via's World Reach Partnerships started long before we began providing funding for their evangelism activities. Members like Barbara Melton and William and Tina Word developed strong ties with the ministry and the Words have served alongside Pastor Via on past mission trips. Our financial gifts have helped send teams of volunteers to spread the gospel in every corner of the earth, from Argentina to Zambia, while new initiatives with Samaritan's Purse and Word of Life International Ministries are opening more opportunities to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

As we prepare to celebrate a milestone birthday with our nation, we remember that Winn's was there "in the beginning" and will continue to focus on being a beacon of light in a dark world.



* American, South Asian, Central Asian, European, North Africa and Middle Eastern, Asia Pacific Rim and Sub-Saharan African



We would like to invite you all to our Awana Awards Night on Wednesday May 20th at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary. Come out and help us celebrate all the hard work our kids have done this club year. Many of the children have earned awards this year for learning God's word and completing their Awana handbooks. We will have ice cream following the Awards Ceremony in the Fellowship Hall.



Mark your calendars for Family Game Night!
Wednesday, June 3rd at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall.
Bring your favorite board game and snack to share.

Good Morning, Church Family!

We have had a great year in Youth Group! We have had a good number of students each week and there has been a good bit of spiritual growth as well. May 13th is our last session until Fall, and we are making the most of it for Jesus! As a whole, summer ministry at Winns will look a little different this year and I believe that the change will be helpful in freeing us up to serve and grow in other ways. We will still have events this summer so stay tuned for that.

I have been mentioning that we are having our annual Graduate recognition on Sunday May 17th. That is only a few weeks away and I haven't heard from many graduates yet. I don't want anyone to be left out so please let me know if you or your student is graduating in the Class of 2026 whether it's from High school or College. We want to make it special for each family and recognize the accomplishments of each that have worked so hard to complete their degrees.

We just had our 4th Young Adults Community Group, and I have to say that we have an awesome group of young adults! We have been following a twice-a-month schedule that seems to be working really well for everyone. I have even heard that a few wish that we would have this every week! That's really encouraging to hear! Please be in prayer that our group will be able to reach others who desperately need Christian community. We already have 4 or 5 of our 20+ that aren't part of Winns, and I think that this has been a much-needed addition for our 20 somethings. I really enjoy this group, and they are growing closer to God and each other. It is really refreshing to see their openness and vulnerability – their realness. It's humbling and inspirational! Please pray for our group. We want to be everything that the Lord Jesus would have us to be for Him and others! I absolutely love being a part of what the Lord is doing here at Winns!

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Doug

Good morning Church Family,

As we wrap up this wonderful season of student choirs, I can't help but reflect on how beautifully it all came together. Month after month, our church was filled with joy, song, and energy as these young voices grew in confidence and praise. I'm deeply thankful to all the leaders and families who committed to this journey. From those first rehearsals to our final presentations, the Little Lambs, Masterpiece Kids, and Set Apart Student Worship Team have truly shined.

As we close, remember how uplifting it was to hear them sing—and the joy they brought us all. The joy of the Lord was indeed our strength, and your applause and cheers were well-earned. I know it brings the Father joy to hear the students come to him in song. Until next season, let's carry that joy forward!

Caleb



We've got a big birthday coming up and want you to be a part of the celebration. Mark your calendars to join us on July 4th and 5th for a weekend of fun, fellowship, and thanksgiving for all God has done in and through our church over the past 250 years. We'll kick off the weekend of festivities with a community fair featuring food, crafts, music, period games, and more. On Sunday, we'll return to "the hill" for a special homecoming service and gather in the Fellowship Hall afterwards for lunch with our church family and special guests. Look for more details as plans are finalized to mark this milestone event in a big way!

Memorial Day Word Search

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

AMERICA
CEMETERY
CEREMONY
FLAG
HOLIDAY
HONOR

MAY
MEMORIAL
MILITARY
PARADE
PATRIOTIC
REMEMBER

RESPECT
SACRIFICE
SALUTE
TRADITION
TRIBUTE
WREATH



JinxyKids.com

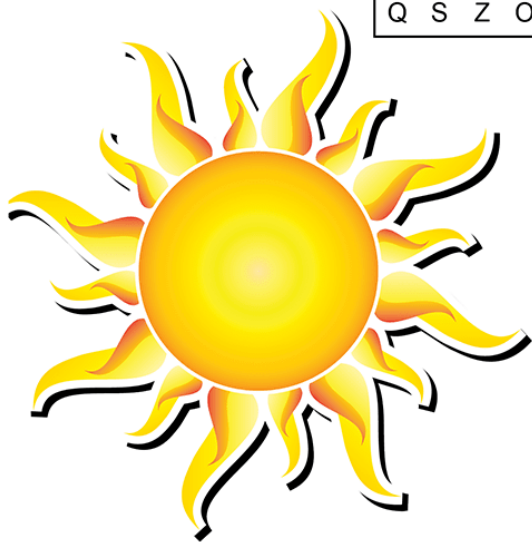
Name: _____ Date: _____

DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the
vocabulary words
in the grid. Look
for them in all
directions including
backwards and
diagonally.

SUMMER FUN

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

AUGUST
BASEBALL
BEACH
CAMPING
FRISBEE
GAMES
GARDEN
GRASS
ICE CREAM
JULY



JUNE
OCEAN
OUTDOORS
PARK
PICNIC
PLAY
SANDALS
SHORTS
SNORKEL
SUNSHINE
SWIM
THUNDER
VACATION
WATERMELON

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Address Service Request

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. P Good
morning, Church
family:



Church Office Closed Memorial Day May 25th 2006