

Winns' Messenger

Published for Members and Friends of Winn's Baptist Church
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October 2024



FREE FALL FESTIVAL



OCTOBER 31ST
6:00 – 8:00 PM
AT



WINN'S BAPTIST CHURCH

(12320 WINN'S CHURCH ROAD IN GLEN ALLEN)



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FOR MORE INFO OR DIRECTIONS: 798-5512 OR WWW.WINNSBC.ORG

Dear Church Family,

Friendships play a vital role in propagating the gospel, and in encouraging fellow believers. Therefore, I would like to offer some thoughts on making friends. There are all levels of friendships, from casual to very close. Some come about in a short period of time, others over years. Often times these relationships form because two people are much alike, and occasionally because they are so different! Almost always, there is a commonality, such as being on the same team, working at the same place, or enjoying the same activities. Some people are very quick to make friends, others very hesitant to do so. Shyness prevents some from engaging other people.

Noting all of these variables, most people have a friend or two, and some have many. One way that God uses friendships is having His followers share His love with their friends. People are much more likely to listen to a trusted friend than any other kind-hearted person. We have to be mindful, that because of the commonality aspect of friendships, we can find ourselves surrounded by people who are fellow believers. Now, please understand that I'm all for having Christian friends! But knowing the power of friendships to introduce people to the Lord, we should have some relationships with people who aren't fellow believers. I'm a proponent of making friends for the purpose of sharing our faith. It is not disingenuous at all. I see all people as, in some way, my superior. They may know something that I don't, have talents that didn't come my way, have insights into matters with which I have no experience, and the list goes on and on. While I have something that I want to share with them, I am also hoping to learn from them. I try to see strangers as potential friends that I haven't met yet.

Which brings us to making friends. While outgoing people will do this more naturally, we can all do it. Often, the one who has fewer friends has closer bonds with the friends they do have. Proverbs 18:24 tells us that to have friends, we must be friendly. Push out of your comfort zone and make a friend! At church, and the upcoming Fall Festival, look for people that you don't know and introduce yourself! You can always catch up with old friends later. We are in the people business; let your actions be in line with that!

Grateful for old friends, and looking for new ones,
Pastor Jeff

Good morning, Church family,

We have so much to be thankful for as God's children! I'm always thankful for the change in the seasons. The creativity of God just makes me smile. To know that when we look at this beautiful Creation, we wouldn't even know that it is fallen. I really wish that we could see what it should look like in its full glory after the curse of sin is removed. Thank God one day we will! Just recently, a long-time church friend, Clint Alley, went to be home with the Lord after a 24-year battle with cancer. Clint was told that he had 5 years to live in the year 2000, but God had other plans! He had been a member here at Winns for about 7 years or so, but he had such an amazing impact on those that had the privilege of meeting. One thing I know for sure – Clint is with Jesus and the sights that he must be seeing must be breath-taking! I look forward to seeing Heaven eventually too. We have so very much to be thankful for. Thankful that God loves us, that we have another day of life, and that we get to do life together with our Father!

1 Corinthians 2:9 NKJV

(9) But as it is written: "EYE HAS NOT SEEN, NOR EAR HEARD, NOR HAVE ENTERED INTO THE HEART OF MAN THE THINGS WHICH GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."

Always keep this life in the proper perspective. This is not really our true home; we are only here for a relatively short time. It is eternity that we should be preparing for the most. Thank God that this life is not all that there is!

Philippians 3:20-21 NKJV

(20) For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, (21) who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

Can't wait for that day! And we need to be making the very best of each day that the Lord gives us between now and then. And that includes making sure that we share the Lord with our lost and dying world. Carry on for Jesus! Full steam ahead!

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Doug

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**For the month of October , we will be “Filling Cans” to offset the cost of shipping boxes and buying items
Items can be placed in the bin at the “Welcome Center.”**