

Winns' Messenger

Published for Members and Friends of Winn's Baptist Church

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October 2026



Dear Church Family,

I grew up in North Florida as air conditioning was not yet present everywhere. You wouldn't buy a chocolate bar in a convenience store in the summer because it would be melted. It was not until I started into ninth grade that I attended a school that had A/C. I always worked jobs that were outside as well. So, most of my life, I have been well acclimated to the heat. I'm here to tell you that a lot of that has worn off! I'm an incurable outdoor person, so I'm still out in it, but in this season of my life, I am happy to see the season of the year change! I'm very grateful for the summer. As a person that lives close to the land, I appreciate that much good happens during the warmest part of the year. While I wouldn't wish summer away, as I said, I am somewhat relieved to have the cooler temperatures rolling our way!

We need to see our individual lives, as well as family and church life, in seasons. Each season has its own blessings and challenges. Don't wish any part of it away. As seasons pass, thank God for what it brought and embrace what will be coming with the new season. Some are heavier on the ups, some the downs, but they can all be good when we walk through each one holding the hand of our loving Heavenly Father. Let's look at our lives as an adventure with our Dad, and with a grateful heart, make the most of it.

Gratefully His and yours,
Pastor Jeff

Standing Firm with the Family of God

Barbara Bowen, Missions Committee Chair

The people of Winn's have stood at the crossroads of destiny on many occasions throughout our 250-year history. Today, we and other Christians are approaching another pivotal moment.

By the time you read this, we'll be well into this year's 40 Days for Life campaign and looking ahead to the November vote on the proposed "reproductive rights" amendment to the Virginia Constitution. Our leaders have done a great job educating us about the true meaning behind the wording on the ballot, so I won't cover that same ground here.

Instead, I want to highlight the importance of our peaceful, educational presence at Planned Parenthood in the weeks leading up to that vote. The Winn's group will be on the sidewalk from 9 to 10 a.m. on October 16 for an hour of structured prayer.

**PRAY
TO END
ABORTION**
 40DAYSFORLIFE.COM

Our presence offers an opportunity to speak compassionately about the value of every human life and to share resources with those facing unplanned pregnancies. It also gives us an opportunity to pray for all those directly and indirectly affected by this practice.

If you aren't able to join us on our assigned day, please set aside time to pray for the unborn before the fall campaign concludes on November 1. Prayer keeps us rooted in our desire to follow God's will and can have a powerful Kingdom impact when Christians gather with a shared purpose. According to 40 Days for Life, more than 26,000 lives have been saved through its vigils since 2007 (current as of September 15).

Our financial and prayer support for the Pregnancy Resource Center and East End Pregnancy Center is another important way we can help these women and men learn about life-affirming options. Each year, your gifts help these nonprofits provide counseling, practical assistance, and other services that equip parents to meet the challenges ahead.

If you'd like to participate in this year's vigil or learn more about our partnerships with these ministries, please contact Jenna Brauer.

Good morning, Church family!

I am enjoying the first cool snap of the Fall and thanking God for it! Our Youth Group has gotten off to a great start. We are 3 sessions into our Fall semester, and we have had a great time studying the book of Daniel and focusing on how it's important to not just go with the flow and go along to get along, but rather to always stand up for what's right, no matter the cost. Our students have really enjoyed it too! The book of Daniel is one of my favorite books of the Bible because it shows God's ultimate power in delivering his servants from otherwise certain death. God is very impressive and I am so glad that He gave us the record in His Word to look back on and draw strength from. Our Young Adults community group has been going really well too. If you know any 6th through 12th graders send them my way on Wednesday nights at the pavilion across the street at 6:30 until 8:00pm. And if you know any seniors in High school through 20-somethings let them know that we meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 6pm. We have been meeting in the FH due to the heat, but we are about to transition back to the pavilion because the weather has improved so much.

We find ourselves in a very strange weather pattern this year. It's being referred to as a "super el nino" (not sure why all the Spanish names for weather stuff – we need to get President Trump on that! Haha) It has caused the Pacific Ocean to be really volatile while the Atlantic has been unusually calm. While that's good as far as hurricanes go for the east coast, there is some question about potential winter weather this year being more icy. That being said, it's a good idea to go ahead and source any firewood, sidewalk salt, snow shovels, etc. Preparing ahead of time is wise. If you ever want to talk about preparedness just let me know!

Keep on being faithful to Jesus and trusting Him with all your heart. May God bless you as you follow Him.

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Doug

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U.S. P Good
morning, Church
family: