

Winns' Messenger

Published for Members and Friends of Winn's Baptist Church

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Dear Church Family,

I often tell visitors that join us for Easter or Christmas, that we celebrate whichever holiday all year round. Another holiday that we can add to that list is Thanksgiving! A grateful heart enhances every aspect of our lives. It makes a huge difference in our relationship with the Lord and with each other. It also stands out in a world where most people are more focused on what's wrong than what's right. Whether we get a chance to actually tell them about the One who has given us grateful hearts or not, open gratitude can sometimes set the stage for follow-up, or at the very least, expose them to a different perspective

When I ask someone how they're doing and they say something along the lines of "just another day," I usually reply with "every day is a gift." Many of you know that I spend significant amounts of time (and money!) in the dentist's office. I've now expanded that out to the oral surgeon's place of business. While stretched out on the chair awaiting yet another procedure, a lady stepped in the room to get something and politely asked me how I was doing. I replied enthusiastically that I was great! She went on to say that they most often say that they would rather be somewhere else. I told her that I too, would rather be somewhere else, but since I had problems with my teeth, I was very glad to be there! A cheerful countenance and a grateful heart leave little breadcrumbs of Jesus everywhere we go!

Having said all that, let me wish you and yours a wonderful Thanksgiving Day. As I do so, may I also encourage you to make every day a day of thanksgiving!

Gratefully His and yours,
Pastor Jeff

Many Hands, One Mission to Make Disciples

Barbara Bowen, Missions Committee Chair

In church life, many hands truly do make light work of tasks that would be too much for any one person. We see that principle at work throughout our ministries as Winn's members regularly join forces to get the job done.

That same cooperative spirit has an even greater impact when applied to home and foreign missions. Active outreach becomes both possible and powerful when believers use their spiritual gifts to strengthen one another. Together, we give, serve, and encourage each other to grow in faithfulness.

World Reach Partnerships is one of several organizations we support financially to help extend our reach around the globe to places we may never go. In the past year alone, their teams have traveled to Argentina, Burma, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, and Uganda to share the gospel in parks, bus stations, hospitals, churches, and anywhere else God opens doors.

Founded 30 years ago by **Rick and Janet Via**, the Botetourt-based nonprofit began with a focus on revival meetings and Bible conferences across Virginia. As the Lord expanded their vision, they began receiving invitations to travel internationally and soon saw Him stirring the hearts of their children, who joined the ministry as well.

Here at Winn's, we're blessed with leaders who are also cultivating a heart for missions within our own church family. That includes sound teaching designed to equip us as disciples who make disciples. In the coming weeks, we'll hear from two guest speakers who will help us better understand how we can be more actively involved in the missionary task.

- **November 16:** *Pastor Rick Via* will share an update on how God is using his family of missionaries to bring the gospel to those with limited access to this life-saving message.
- **December 7:** *Mark and Barbara Stevens* will speak about their work training new missionaries at the International Learning Center in Rockville.



Look for more updates next month on some of the exciting activities your Missions Committee has planned for 2026!



Many thanks to everyone who turned out on Oct. 11th to kick off the mission's house and parsonage renovation projects. The team pitched in to remove old furniture and trash from both homes. They also initiated much-needed deck repairs on the mission's house and removed carpet in the parsonage. It was a great start, but we've got a long way to go. Look for more volunteer opportunities in the months ahead!





CHILDREN'S CHURCH IS BACK!!

We will be offering a Children's church starting Sunday, November 2nd for 1st - 5th grade students. Those students interested in joining us will be dismissed from the service after the "offertory prayer." This will allow them to have praise and worship time with their families. Mrs. Dana and Mrs. Sandy will meet them in the back of the sanctuary. Children's church will take place downstairs in the big room. At 10:45 students will be released to their Sunday school classes. **Once a student comes downstairs they will remain downstairs until a parent or guardian comes to pick them up.**



WRAPPERS NEEDED!!

It's time for our AWANA clubbers to shop for their families at the AWANA Christmas store. We need extra volunteers to wrap the gifts on our 2 store nights. Our T & T group will shop on Wednesday, December 3rd and our Sparks group will shop on Wednesday, December 10th. Helpers are needed from 6:30 - 8:00 pm each night. You can volunteer for one Wednesday or both. Contact Dana Osborne at dosborne@winnsbc.org to volunteer.



By Caleb Brauer, Director of Music Ministries

Hymns often describe the past and then point us to the hope of the future. In October we worshipped with a hymn entitled “Jerusalem” by CityAlight. The first 3 verses remind us of Jesus in Jerusalem, once acclaimed and then put to death. Verse 4 displays the glorious resurrection and points our attention to the coming day when Jesus will be on the throne in the New Jerusalem. As we enjoyed worship with these things fresh on our minds, we read Psalm 122:6-9:

(6) Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

“May those who love you be secure.

(7) May there be peace within your walls
and security within your citadels.”

(8) For the sake of my family and friends,
I will say, “Peace be within you.”

(9) For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your prosperity.

Let’s remember modern Jerusalem in our prayers as we also pray our ultimate hopeful prayer from Revelation 22:20-21:

(20) He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming quickly.”

Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

(21) The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.

When we worship together, we remember the things that Jesus has done and look forward to the future, “being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ.” (Philippians 1:6)

Here are the lyrics to “Jerusalem” by CityAlight:

See Him in Jerusalem
Walking where the crowds are
Once these streets had sung to Him
Now they cry for murder
Such a frail and lonely man
Holding up the heavy cross
See Him walking in Jerusalem
On the road to save us

See him there upon the hill
Hear the scorn and laughter
Silent as a lamb he waits
Praying to the father
See the king who made the sun
And the moon and shining stars
Let the soldiers hold and nail him down
So that he could save them

See him there upon the cross
Now no longer breathing
Dust that formed the watching crowds
Takes the blood of Jesus
Feel the earth is shaking now
See the veil is split in two
And he stood before the wrath of God
Shielding sinners with his blood

See the empty tomb today
Death could not contain him
Once the servant of the world
Now in victory reigning
Lift your voices to the one
Who is seated on the throne
See him in the new Jerusalem
Praise the one who saved us

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Welcome the two newest members of the Winns family Ivon James and Isla Jean! Tyler and Brittany Rick welcomed two very healthy babies Oct. 14th. All are healthy, transitioning well, and over the moon excited.



Good morning, Church family,

I want to thank all of you who have taken time out of your busy schedules to write us Pastor appreciation cards this month! It means the world to us! We have a great team here at Winns and I am grateful for all of you.

We had a great workday on October 11th and got a lot of stuff done at the Parsonage and the Mission House. Thank you for coming out to serve the Lord in helping with that!

We are having a great number of youth on Wednesday nights right now, it's a great time to tell others to join us if they are looking for a youth ministry to be a part of. So, if you know anyone that is 6th-12th grades make sure you mention us.

The weather has gotten cool on us on the hill, but we have been fine. The Fall Festival is coming up and after that we will attach the walls to the pavilion, and it will be much warmer. I'm looking for some guys to assist me in doing that on November 4th if you can help that afternoon, I'd really appreciate it.

We recently took the Youth to Drive Shack after church on October 19th and we had a blast! We had several students attend on Sunday that don't usually as a result. I love seeing that. It is important to be in church to grow closer as a family and to learn the Word together.

This December 5th – 7th we will have our annual Fall Youth Retreat at Camp WEAG. We will meet at church that Friday afternoon at 5pm and then eat at CFA on the way to Camp WEAG. We will have multiple sessions of small groups and three large group sessions where we will go through a new study called "Fearless" conquering fear that holds you back from serving God fully as He would have you to.

At Camp WEAG we also have a lot of field games and things that they have like GAGA ball, Barrel ball, Human Foosball, canoeing, bonfire, etc. The cost will be \$20/person. Plus, you will need money for CFA on the way. We will return after church on the 7th. I'll announce a return time as we get closer. It may be as church is dismissing, maybe early afternoon. The commute is 1:10 from church.

Keep your eyes on Jesus, stay in the Word, and pray for yourself, your family, your church, your Pastors, and our country. God bless you all!

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Doug

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