

Winns' Messenger

Published for Members and Friends of Winn's Baptist Church
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July 2021

Dear Church Family,

As July the 4th approaches, it is in the eyes of many, a celebration of freedom. Sadly, the freedoms that we've enjoyed so long as a county are under a fierce and unrelenting attack. As stewards of a precious gift, we should work to maintain those freedoms where and when we can.

We here at Winn's, with our birthday being the same year and day as the nation's, also celebrate another form of freedom, one which cannot be taken from us. Jesus said in John, chapter 8, *"Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave to sin. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. Therefore, if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed."*

While men can rob us of political freedom, they cannot take our spiritual freedom! We have that from the moment we embrace the sacrifice that Christ made and count it for our very own, with repentance and in gratitude. For 2000 years, evil men have burned bibles, church buildings, and individual believers. Though they can take some of the outward trappings of that freedom away, they cannot take away the actual freedom. That dwells deep within us. When our earthly bodies cease to function, we are free to leave them behind, and free to enter a place that He has prepared for us. There we can live freely for all eternity!

So, as July 4 approaches, let us enjoy the political freedom that has been handed to us by those who went before us, at a great cost for many of them. May we resolve to do what we can to in turn pass the freedom to those who come behind us. As we do, let us make up our minds that we will be even more joyful regarding the freedom that Jesus provided for us, at great cost to both Him, and our Father in heaven. When we pass this freedom to others, we can do so with confidence that it can never be taken away. Those who receive it will be free; indeed, forever!

Free to love,
Pastor Jeff

Set Apart Student Worship Team ends their season on a HIGH NOTE....

I cannot say enough about our Set Apart Student Worship Team! They have made such a difference in so many lives during this past year! I am so grateful for each student and their hearts for this ministry and for our Seniors!!

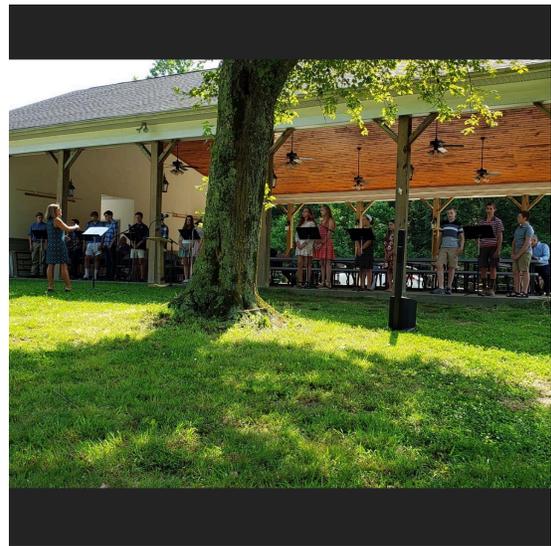
We ended our year with going to visit Mr. Bill Kramer and his friends at the Verena on Wednesday, May 26th AND Mr. & Mrs. Dean Martin and their neighbors, Roger & Ellen Briggs on Wednesday, June 2nd. Both visits were so special and meant the world to all of us!

The students finally had a little normalcy when they led our "Graduation Service" on Sunday, June 13th on the hill.... what a blessing it was to see 18 students leading worship and praising the Lord!! We ended our year with a wonderful PARTAY at the Pavilion on Wednesday, June 16th! Our plans for the fall are to still be able to visit and sing to our Seniors once a month 😊 Set Apart will start back on Wednesday, September 15th from 5:30 – 6:30!
I hope everyone has a wonderful, relaxing summer!! Enjoy the pictures!

Love you all!
Mrs. Kathy







Women's Ministry

October 15th – 16th, 2021
Extraordinary Women Conference
Lynchburg, VA



Watch for more information this month!

Good Morning Church, Family & Friends:

The last week has been really hard. Many of you probably already heard the news that we are no longer pregnant, but I wanted to share the story in the hopes of encouraging others and also to thank you for your continued prayers asked on our behalf – we are very grateful for your love and support.

Last Monday Kimberly woke up in terrible pain and had tremendous nausea. She thought that she might have a kidney infection, that didn't end up being the case. Her Mom took her to the doctor, as I was driving the Children's Ministry kids to camp. I got a text halfway there that they couldn't find a heartbeat, but they were sending her up for an ultrasound to check her status. I kinda knew then that something was very wrong, and I prayed, asking God to restore our baby back to life – because He's all-powerful, so it was very possible for Him to do that. That's not the way things shook out unfortunately. When I called at lunch to ask for an update, Kimberly didn't answer, but texted asking if she could talk to me on the way home from camp instead. I knew then that our baby had passed away. We were 16 weeks along and already had the genetic testing done and found out that we were having a boy, supposedly with no complications. We had already announced the results and were really looking forward to when our baby boy would join us in December. I didn't tell Caden yet, because I wanted him to enjoy his week at camp, but inside I was devastated. Not being able to be there with Kimberly made it worse too. As we loaded up from lunch to complete our trip to Eagle Eyrie – the Shuttle broke down! What a day...but thankfully a mechanic was able to drive out and quickly get me back on the road. Thankfully, the other vehicles with us made it possible for me to head back and for them to readjust luggage and passengers and they still fit! Thank You Jesus! I needed to get home and they needed to get to camp! The first day was really hard, but we reached out to people via text, phone calls, and Facebook – which got the prayers rolling. I want to thank you for praying for us. We could really tell and still can. We have lost 3 now, but this was much further along than the first and second ones were. We hadn't announced those times so there was a loneliness involved that wasn't present this time. We are so grateful for all the prayers because it really did help a lot! Many people reached out, and you could tell those miscarriages are not all that rare sadly. Statistics say 25% to 33% of all pregnancies end before birth due to miscarriage – that is an absolute staggering number! Thankfully, those babies are in heaven, just like King David's baby that he had with Bathsheba. One day we will see our son and our other two and all of you will see your children that you have lost. Nothing is ever lost to Jesus. We might not see them here, but they are very much alive in Heaven and eventually we will be reunited with them! God is so good – no matter the situation – He is always good. If you ever need someone to talk to about your loss, we've been there and will gladly listen. God bless you and stand strong for Jesus and in the hope of the Resurrection!

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Doug



1st - 5th Grade Sunday School

July 11th from 12:00pm - 3:00pm

Fellowship Hall

Pizza, Popcorn, and the movie Zootopia



CAMP - THE BEST WEEK OF THE YEAR!

What makes camp the best week of the year you ask? There is worship every day, quiet time with God every day, bible study every day, singing praise every day, all in a beautiful setting only God could have created.

I love going to camp with our kids and leaders and having the time to focus on God and having intentional conversations with each other.

This year camp focused on walking as Jesus walked. As usual CentriKid did a fantastic job of making this a part of every activity during the week.

I would like to thank all of our camper parents for sending your children this year. A great big THANK YOU goes out to our adult chaperones for giving so generously of yourself and your time. I could not do it without you.



*The one who says he remains in Him should walk just as He walked.
1 John 2:6*

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