Rev. Mike Winters, Pastor Donna Hutchinson, Music Director Lloyd & Carlie Tomlinson, Youth Directors

Dr. Ray Jones, Jr., Pastor Emeritus

# WISE BAPTIST NEWS

#### A PUBLICATION FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF **WISE BAPTIST CHURCH**

**January 16, 2024** 



#### Dear Church Family and Friends,

What is the best argument for Christian faith? A place to start is with the word, argument. It assumes arguing with a non-believer. In order to win, you must defeat the other person.

They are seen as an "enemy". Things could get heated. Maybe even loud and angry.

Is that the best way to witness for Jesus?

There are lots of books about how to defend your faith. I Peter 3:15 is usually quoted. It says, "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect." A close look at this verse reveals several things.

Wait until you are asked to give reasons why you believe.

Recognize that others ask because they see hope in you.

Be prepared.

Speak with gentleness.

Show respect. Give the courtesy of listening.

Make it a conversation, not an argument.

The best "argument"? A life that reflects a love for Jesus and fellow human beings.

Love, Pastor Mike

#### How to Join Wise Baptist Church:

Express one of the following to the Pastor during the closing hymn:

† Transfer of Letter

† Baptism

† Watch Care

Statement of Faith

Transfer membership to Wise Baptist Church Desire to express faith in Christ through baptism Baptized believer not on a membership roll

Desire to be connected to our Church family without official membership

#### IMPORTANT DATES

**Choir Practice** Wed, Jan. 17, 6pm

**Bible Study** Wed, Jan. 17, 7pm

Men's Bible Study Thurs, Jan. 18, 6:30am

> The Chosen: Season 4 In theaters Feb. 4, 11, 25

#### INSIDE

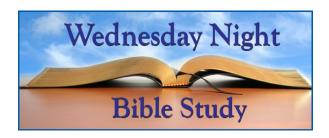
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#### **DEACONS 2023 - 2024**

John Mark Adrian 328-5564 leff Cantrell 275-9427 **Debbie Collins** 393-3875 leff Elkins 393-5700 393-5008 Butch Hutchinson 870-2227 Stan Kunigelis Lewey Lee 393-5370 870-0005 David Mullins John Ponish 870-1593

> Deacon Emeritus: **Bob Adkins**

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



Even though we are taking a break
from our Wednesday evening
Fellowship Meals during January,
Bible Study will continue at 7pm with
Pastor Mike! You are invited to participate
onsite or virtually with Facebook Live.



### Stewardship - Bless and Be Blessed

"In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths." ~ Proverbs 3:6

May you be blessed, through your caring heart, your desire to reach the lost, your giving attitude ... all through being stewards of God's Work here at Wise Baptist Church.

For those who cannot physically attend Sunday morning worship services in the sanctuary, your tithes and offerings may still be mailed to <u>Wise Baptist Church</u>, <u>P.O. Box 777</u>, <u>Wise VA 24293</u>, or brought by the Church anytime during open hours.

#### As you pray, please remember...

Chelsea & Sutton Polly, Andy Johnson (Cyndi Newlon's brother), Pat Winters (Pastor Mike's mom), Emmett Kidd (Karen Ponish's dad), Lu Ellsworth & Family, Gene Bishop, Gil & Martha Blackburn, Family of Chris Rose, Brian, brother

Blackburn, Family of Chris Rose, Brian, brother of Brenda Kunigelis, Kathy Osborne & Family, Susan Smith & Family, Jim Sturgill, Clyde Vance, Jean Aker, Linda Burgess, Wanda Baird, Jim Dotson, John & Kathy Kennedy, Wendy Adrian & Family, Megan (Burton) Douglas, Rev. Michael Weller, Brenda Lee, Edgar Mullins (Grace's brother), Rowyn Malott (great-niece of Teresa & Billy Glines), Mike Smith's sister Lynn, Beth Snodgrass, Adele Plester (Brenda Kunigelis' sister-in-law), Lorna Wherry & family, (sister of Brenda Kunigelis), Natalie Luther, Russell, Miles & Mason Wampler, Ray Jones & family, doctors, nurses & all medical/pharmaceutical personnel, law enforcement & emergency personnel, all the cancer patients in our area, and our men & women in the military.

Our Shut Ins: Andrew Johnson (Cyndi Newlon's dad) -Lakeland, FL

\*If you know of other prayer concerns, please contact the church office (328-6247).



Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to Chelsea Polly & Sutton Polly in the death of their sister, Caroline Brea, on January 13. Please remember Chelsea & Sutton in your prayers.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

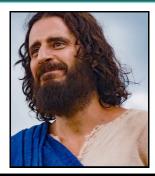
#### **SEASON 4**

#### Coming to theaters!

We will be getting a group together to go & see the next season of "The Chosen" - save these dates!

February 4, 11, 25

# The CHOSEN





Scripture for the Week:

#### 1 Peter 3:15

"But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."

# COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

www.EverBless.org https://the college companion.com

# 2023 Blessings

As we remember & celebrate God's many blessings in 2023, may we look for & cherish the blessings He has in store for 2024!

"The Chosen" Season 3 "Learning to Read Music" Class Martin Luther King Remembrance Service "Reading the Bible Through" Celebration "Inspirational Christians" Speakers 275 Quilts/Blankets Made for Eastern KY Ladies' Spring Retreat, Camp Bethel Diabetes Management Classes Flowering the Cross Easter Bonnet Sunday Senior Ladies' Tea Children's Snack & Paints Graduate Recognition Service Feast of Weeks Banquet Summer Mission Trip to Windsor, NC Brown Bag Ministry Interactive Worship Service (5 Senses) Church Picnic at Arrowhead Park Feast of Tabernacles Caring Friends Bazaar Donut Fellowships Pigeon Forge Quiltfest Trip Coffee & Friends at Winters' Home Christmas Cantata Annual Christmas Dinner Children's Birthday Party for Jesus Christmas Eve Breakfast

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion

#### BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, MUSIC

## Nappy Birthday!

January 17 Jim Hughes
Russell Wampler

January 22 Zero Kennedy
January 23 Scott Harris

Ava Mullins

January 24 Jim Dotson

Edgar Owens

Ali Stuedemann

January 25 Wanda Baird

Shirlee Barnette

Billie Harris

John Roberts

January 26 Ray Jones

Lulia Maine

January 27 Skip Dobis

Melody Mullins

## Nappy Anniversary!

January 18 Jeff & Eileen Cantrell

Dalton & Kara Parker

# CHILDREN'S Ministry Children, grades K-4

are invited to participate in *Children's Church* each Sunday! At the beginning of the 11am worship service, children will be taken upstairs for a lesson & craft. Thank you to all of our Children's Church teachers

who faithfully prepare each week!



Today, I am sitting in my living room with my curtains open (which is usual) and watching the beautiful snow come down and cover the ground, trees and everything here. There is a tree right outside and I have watched a couple of cardinals and a blue jay fighting over it. It's been a magical morning. My cats have also enjoyed this rivalry outside. Butch is in his recliner asleep. Jayda is in her room doina "something". It has been a very enjoyable morning.

Mike's sermon series has really got me thinking about what I truly believe. Do I believe in science or do I believe in the Bible, as it is written? After much thought and contemplation. I have decided that I do believe in both equally. Do I believe that God created the heavens and the earth? Yes, I do. Do I also believe in the "Big Bang Theory"? Well, yes, I do. Nowhere in the Bible does it say HOW God created all of this. There is no explanation because our human brains could not really comprehend all of this. Do I believe that God created this in seven days? Again, yes I do. Do I have any idea how long those 7 days were? I am sure that God does not go by our 24hour, 365 day calendar, so yes, I believe He did all of that in HIS seven days. What about dinosaurs and all the other things that science has discovered? Again, if God can create this beautiful earth, can He not create lots of other things that He did not reveal to us in the writing of the Bible? Do you think we could have comprehended these things back in Biblical times? It's hard to wrap our heads around now with all the technological advances we have made.

These thoughts have really cemented in my mind what I do truly believe. I really have enjoyed these thoughts and getting things right in my mind so I can accept the Bible as God's Word and also be fascinated by science and it's ever advancing technologies.

Joy, Peace and Love, Donna

Volunteers this Week			
1/14 - 1/20	Jeff Cantrell, Lewey Lee		
1/21 - 1/27	John Ponish, Debbie Collins		
	Ron Helton, Scott Snodgrass		
	Susan Mullins, Susan Smith		
January	Jeff Elkins		
February	Donna Hutchinson		
1/21	Susie & Chad Blanton		
1/28	Jessica & Brandon Crutchfield		
January	Jeff Dotson Team		
February	Jerry Baird Team		
January	Jessica Crutchfield, Ruby Salyers		
February	Cliff Carson, Jeff Dotson		
January	No Fellowship Meals in January		
	January February  January February  January February  January February  January February		



WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES			
Sunday	Sunday School Worship	10:00 am 11:00 pm	
Monday	Piecemakers (1st & 3rd) Caring Friends (2nd & 4th)	9:30 am	
Wednesday	Choir Practice (*during January) Bible Study via Fb Live	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	
Thursday	Men's Bible Study Laurels Ministry (3rd)	6:30 am 1:30pm	

#### **Rev. Mike Winters Contact Information**

**Mailing Address:** 8915 Red Maple Dr., Wise, VA 24293

**E-mail:** mikewinters@wisebaptist.com **Phone:** 276.328.6247 **Cell:** 540.280.5598

Phone: (276) 328-6247 Website: www.wisebaptist.com Email: tllwinters@gmail.com Fax: 276-328-6204

Wise Baptist Church P.O. Box 777 Wise, VA 24293





Like us at: Wise Baptist Church

#### Thought for the Week:

The best "argument" for Jesus is to love Him and others well.