

Winn's Creek Baptist Church NEWS

3088 Howard P. Anderson Rd., Halifax VA 24558

Rev. Jim Kopco, Pastor

434-476-6181

www.winncreek.org

434-222-9688

February 2015

The Pastor's Corner

The marching band at Liberty University has an interesting warm-up. All of the instrumental members line up in a semi-circle, while the percussion stands at attention in the middle, and the guard members stand up front in a line holding hands.

The musicians play what appears to be a tuning note, but this note is also the first note of, "*Be Thou my Vision*". After they have finished the tuning note, they sing the first verse of the hymn *a cappella*, in parts.

After the band has finished singing the last note of the first verse, they pick up their instruments and play another verse of the song. The arrangement basically builds and becomes really loud...and then it gradually gets softer, and they end playing a quiet arpeggio that eventually finishes on the same tuning note with which they began.

It's a really moving song. There are a couple of people that have actually posted copies of the warm-up on *YouTube*, and you can see that there are a handful of people, even members of the band itself, that end up crying before the song is finished.

Most of you are probably familiar with the words:

Be thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;

Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

The sad thing is almost no one ever sees the warm-up. It's just part of practice. I've often wished that just once during the year, the band, instead of doing their normal field show at halftime, would line up in

a semi-circle and play this arrangement of "*Be Thou My Vision*" and let the crowd sing along during the second verse.

Now I'm not saying that I don't like the field shows. I marched in LU's band in '98 and '99, so I know how much work goes into them. But to me, the warm-up really portrays what the school is about – Glorifying Christ!

But after thinking about it, maybe it is better this way. Our faith isn't a show that we perform for other people. It's who we are because of what Christ did for us. Our faith isn't seen in a performance. It's seen in what we do when only God is watching.

In Matthew 6, Jesus put it this way:

5 "*When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get.*" **6** *But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. Matt 6:5-6 (NLT)*

Pastor Jim

From the Social Committee

Third Sunday Fellowship Meal
Sunday, February 15
-after church-

Please bring foods to share which you would usually be having at home on a Sunday.
Beverages will be provided.



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FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

AND ANNIVERSARIES

(To add a name, please see Joani Layman.)

- 1st Wayne Holt – B
- 4th Bruce Barksdale – B
- 5th Jason Claiborne – B
- 6th Dorothy Kinder – B
- 7th Stephanie Elliott – B
- 8th John Ambrose Sr. – B
- 9th Anne Jones – B
- 10th Gladys Dodson – B
- 11th Carol Ann Fears – B
- 13th Kathy Ambrose – B
- 14th Brittany Perkins – B
- 15th Mary Margaret Francisco – B
- 16th Amelia Clements – B
Tommy Paynter – B
- 17th Dalyn Hudson – B
- 18th Phil & Wanda Saunders – A
- 21st L.C. Nichols – B
- 23rd Sabrina Conner – B
- 25th Maranda Gunn – B
- 26th Orpha Nichols – B
Curtis Grove – B
- 27th Cody Wright - B
- 28th Linda Conner - B

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER CHOIR

Would you like to sing in a combined choir for the Halifax County observance of the National Day of Prayer on May 7? If so, there will be a meeting for all interested persons on Tuesday, February 10, at 7:00 p.m. at the Church of God in South Boston.



The Adult Choir will begin practicing the Easter cantata, "Finished" at choir practice on Sunday, February 1, at 7 p.m., and will work on this music

each Sunday evening until it is presented on Easter Sunday (April 5). If you would like to sing with the choir for the cantata—even if you don't want to make a "full-time, permanent" choir commitment—we'd love to have you. Not sure? Just drop in for a choir practice session and see what it's like. Visitors are always welcome!

COLLINGSWORTH FAMILY CONCERT

On Saturday, April 4th, The Collingsworth Family will present a gospel music concert at 6:00 p.m. at the Halifax County High School. Reserved seats are \$20 each, general admission is \$10 each. You may purchase tickets from Hollis Owen (434-476-2588).

The website for this talented Christian family is www.thecollingsworthfamily.com. Check 'em out, and then plan to come and enjoy the concert.

IMPACT VIRGINIA

Danville VA – June 21-27, 2015

IMPACT is a one-week construction mission opportunity for teenagers, with a focus on home repairs for those in great need. Each day begins and ends with a worship celebration. This is an opportunity to help those in need, meet other teens, learn new skills, learn more about Jesus, and have a GREAT time.

Any teen and parent interested in going, please plan to meet after church on Sunday, February 8. This will be a short question and answer session. Lodging for IMPACT will be at Averett University.

(Received as an email from a friend)

Don't Take It Easy

by Charles R. Swindoll

(Read Psalm 90)

Last fall one day at the church, I spotted a visiting gentleman who was shaking hands with a half-dozen folks he'd never met before. Then he looked at me, and with a grin and a twinkle, he whipped out his hand. It was a hand you could strike a match on, toughened by decades of rugged toil.

"You look like a man who enjoys life. What do you do for a living?" I asked.

"Me? Well, I'm a farmer from back in the Midwest."

"Really? I guess I'm not surprised, since you've got hands like a tractor tire."

He laughed . . . asked me a couple of insightful questions, then told me about his plans for traveling on his own.

"What did you do last week?" I asked.

His answer stunned me. "Last week I finished harvesting 90,000 bushels of corn," he said with a smile.

I then blurted out, "Ninety thousand! How old are you, my friend?"

He didn't seem at all hesitant or embarrassed by my question. "I'm just a couple months shy o' 90." He laughed again as I shook my head.

He had lived through four wars, the Great Depression, sixteen presidents, ninety Midwest winters, who knows how many personal hardships, and he was still taking life by the throat. I had to ask him the secret of his long and productive life. "Hard work and integrity" was his quick reply.

As we parted company, he looked back over his shoulder and added, "Don't take it easy, young feller. Stay at it!"

The Bible is filled with folks who refused to take it easy. Remember our friend Caleb, who, at age 85, attacked the Anakim in the hill country and successfully drove them out

(Joshua 14)? Or Abraham, who had a baby (well, actually Sarah did) when he was "in his old age" . . . he was 100, she was 90 (Genesis 21)? Or Noah or Moses or Samuel or Anna, the 84-year-old prophetess . . . significant people, all.

Age means zilch. Wrinkles, gray hair, and spots on your hands, less than zilch. If God chooses to leave you on this old earth, great. If He makes it possible for you to step aside from your work and move on to new vistas with fresh challenges, that's also great.

And whatever else you do, don't take it easy!

"No disease is more lethal than the boredom that follows retirement" (Norman Cousins).

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*Lee and Lisa Davis
invite everyone to share in their joy as
they celebrate their tenth wedding
anniversary with a
Renewal of Marriage Vows.
The ceremony will take place at church
on Saturday, February 21, at 2:00 p.m..
A reception will follow.*

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TUBING ENTHUSIASTS: Keep an eye on the Sunday bulletin for details about an upcoming trip to Liberty University to go tubing sometime in February. This is open to all ages.

GAME NIGHT
Saturday, March 7th, 7:00 p.m. "until"
For all ages

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sundays (*unless otherwise announced*)

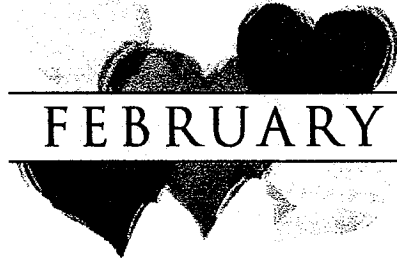
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study
7:00 p.m. Adult Choir

Tuesdays

7:30 p.m. Praise Team practice (2nd & 4th Tuesdays)

Wednesdays (*unless otherwise announced*)

7:00 p.m. Men's & Women's Bible Study
8:00 p.m. Adult Choir



Sun., Feb. 1 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir begins cantata practice
Sun., Feb. 8 after church IMPACT VA information session for interested teens/parents
Tues., Feb. 10 7:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice
Sun., Feb. 15 after church Third Sunday Covered Dish Meal
Tues., Feb. 24 7:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice

PLAN AHEAD –

Sat., March 7 – 7:00 p.m. – Game Night for all ages

Sun., April 12-Wed., April 15 – Spring Revival – Rev. Adam Blosser speaking