

January/February 2021

We made it through 2020! But there are still many difficulties ahead. Think back to February of this past year. Who would have thought how much our world has changed in just the past 10 months?

A lot of things are different. And many of us are waiting for things to go back to the way they were before the pandemic. But we're not there yet! We are still waiting.

It can be easy to become discouraged during the waiting...

- Waiting to be able to gather with family and friends.
- Waiting for school to get back to normal.
- Waiting for work to get back to normal.

Life can be hard!!! I get frustrated at my glasses fogging up because of my mask. I don't know how many times I've dropped my glasses because I take my mask off forgetting to remove my glasses. I've already broken one pair.

I'm sure it's even more frustrating for people with kids in school, people working in healthcare, or people who own businesses or work in restaurants. It's hard when you've got to make all of these changes and there are so many additional burdens to face just to get the work done.

All of this makes me think back to one of the first messages that I heard when I came to school in Virginia...the late Dr. Falwell used to preach at the first convocation service of every school year...and his message was based on the book of Joshua...about being strong and courageous. He would say, "You can tell the measure of a man by what it takes to discourage him".

The question is...how do we have courage when times are so tough?

The answer still comes in waiting. As Christians...we know that God is in control. So even in the tough times...our job is to wait on Him. We see this multiple times in scripture...

Psalm 27:14

Wait patiently for the LORD. Be brave and courageous. Yes wait patiently for the LORD.

Psalm 31:24

Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the LORD!

Ultimately, the battle belongs to the Lord. Sometimes in our lives, the victory doesn't come before our days on Earth are completed. But that doesn't mean that the victory isn't coming.

As believers, we have the hope of Heaven! This will still stand regardless what happens here on Earth. And so, we are content to wait.

At the end of the day, we know that this current world is not our home...we are looking forward to a new homeland...a place with our Father in Heaven.

In days like these...we look forward to Christ's return. We don't know when that will be. It may be soon. Or we may physically die before that day comes. Either way, our hope remains the same. We know that Jesus is still coming back.

We have the same hope of the saints of old...as recorded in the Bible by the author of Hebrews, when he said, "*These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had the opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one...*" Hebrews 11:13-16.



CHURCH DIRECTORY

If you haven't picked up a new church address directory, there are still copies available. They are available in the vestibule, the overflow room, and we will also try and put a few copies outside for those who come to the drive in worship services.



PRAISE BAND

Winn's Creek has restarted the praise band. If you would be interested in being a part of it, please let Debra or Matthew know. Thanks!

Winn's Creek Sunday Services are at 10:30AM

Winn's Creek Continues to have a number of Sunday service options.

- Sanctuary service with masks and social distancing.
- A more casual service in the fellowship hall with video from the sanctuary and a new kids coloring lesson and bulletin each week.
- Parking lot service. You can hear the service on 88.1FM on your car radio in the parking lot.
- Online at www.winns creek.org

Special Services/Meetings

January 3rd, 2021	Communion
January 10th, 2021	Nominating Comm.
January 24th, 2021	Business Meeting
February 1st, 2021	Deacon's Meeting



Mini Choirs

To practice safe social distancing...Winn's Creek is going to split the choir into three groups. The three choir groups will practice on Wed. nights at 6:30PM. Participants will only need to come each third Wednesday that their group practices. If you'd like to sing in one of our new mini choirs, please let Carolyn know. Thank you!

The Mini Choir schedule is as follows:

Choir Number	Rehearsal date	Service date
3	Jan.6; Jan.13	Jan. 17
1	Feb. 10; Feb.17	Feb. 21
2	Mar.10; Mar.27	Mar. 31
3	Apr. 7; Apr. 14	Apr. 18
1	May 5; May 12	May 16
2	June 9; June 16	June 20
3	Jul. 7; Jul. 14	July 18
1	Aug. 4; Aug. 11	Aug. 15
2	Sept.8; Sept.15	Sep. 19
3	Oct. 6; Oct. 13	Oct. 17
1	Nov. 10; Nov.17	Nov. 21
2	Dec. 8, Dec. 15	Dec. 19



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The members of the nominating committee will be calling folks to fill positions for the new year. We realize with the way things are with the virus, some of the positions may not be utilized immediately. However, please be open to serving. We would like to have the positions filled so we are ready when things return to normal.



JANUARY



BIRTHDAYS / ANNIVERSARIES

4th Mike & Pat Spencer - A
Doris Hupp - B

7th Garnett Hall - B

9th Adam Layman - B

10th Zachery Epps - B
Alice Clayton - B

13th Robert Conrad - B

15th Tyler Hudson - B

24th Kitty Holt - B

25th Joanie Layman - B

26th Cindy Cole - B

27th Kasey Martin - B
Joshua Martin - B

31st Danny Owen - B

IF YOU HAVE A BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY
THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE INCLUDED ON
OUR NEWSLETTER LIST,
PLEASE LET PASTOR JIM KNOW.
YOU CAN EMAIL OR TEXT HIM
THE INFORMATION.
THANKS!



FEBRUARY

BIRTHDAYS / ANNIVERSARIES

4th Bruce Barksdale - B

5th Jason Claiborne - B

6th Dorothy Kinder - B
Hannah Abbott - B

7th Stephanie Elliott - B

8th John Ambrose Sr. - B

9th Ann 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

17th Dalyn Barksdale - B

18th Phil & Wanda Saunders - A

25th Maranda Gunn - B

26th Curtis Grove - B

28th Linda Conner - B