

Winn's Creek Baptist Church NEWS

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July 2015

The Pastor's Corner

During the month of July our country celebrates freedom. We are blessed to be free, and there are so many things we can do and so many opportunities for us. In fact, all of this freedom can sometimes lead to confusion among Christians when it comes down to making decisions.

Most of us face many hard decisions, such as: career paths, relationships, and things regarding our health. We often want to know God's plan. Some people say, "I'm just trying to follow God's will."

On the other hand, sometimes there will be people who have had a dream or supposedly heard a voice...and they say it's God's will for them to do something terrible. It may be clear to almost everyone that what they're doing is in violation of scripture, but they refuse to listen because they say that it's "God's Will." They've internalized their own desires, and now they use "God's Will" as an excuse to sin.

There are even more who, in frustration over a lack of clear direction, just let "fate" decide. They may set up a system for a sign, like Gideon. Or they may roll the dice...or even open their Bible to a random page and read one verse. Surely this isn't the best way to try to hear from God!

So what are we to do in these situations? How can we help? I think the best thing is to explain the different ways in which the term, "God's Will" is used. This will help clear up the confusion. There are three major ways this term is used in the bible.

First, we have God's sovereign will. This is God's ultimate plan that determines everything that will happen in the universe. For example, look at Daniel 4:35; here we read:

"All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven And among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand Or say to Him, 'What have You done?'" (NLT)

God's sovereign will is what will happen regardless of what we do. Just as God keeps the planets in their orbits, His sovereign will is going to unfold whether we like it or not. It's God being God...He's in control.

Second, we have God's moral will. God's moral will is revealed to us through the Bible and the working of the Holy Spirit. God has told us what is right and what is wrong. We are to be obedient to God's moral will. Paul put it this way in Romans 2:18:

"...and know His will, and approve the things that are excellent, being instructed out of the law." (NLT)

After this, we have God's individual will. From time to time, God will clearly call out a person for a specific task. For example, God called Jonah to go to Nineveh. God called Paul to Macedonia. During the book of Judges, God called certain leaders to bring the people back into obedience. In Genesis 24, God even helped Abraham's servant find a wife for Isaac.

The question is, what do we do if we don't have a clear calling from God? When we're not sure what to do? The answer is fairly simple. If there is no clear calling, then we faithfully follow God's moral will. We continue to be obedient to what we know

God wants of us. And we rejoice in this freedom that God gives us to make decisions.

For example, even King David, who knew that it was God's will for him to become the next King of Israel, didn't act immediately on that information. At least twice he had the opportunity to kill King Saul. But in each of these incidences, David said that it wasn't for him to kill the Lord's anointed. David knew that he would eventually be king, but he let it happen in God's way, and on God's timetable. Even when David knew God's will, he didn't force it to occur through his own power.

God will work His ultimate will. Our calling is to be patient and faithful.

Pastor Jim

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JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

(To add a name, please contact Joani Layman, 434-476-7982)

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- 2nd Russell & Brenda Ashby – A
Cody Henderson – B
4th Marie McLaughlin – B
6th Tony Duffey – B
10th Sophie Everett Lloyd – B
Matt Comer – B
Steven Conner – B
13th Matt Gunn – B
14th Carolyn Dressler – B
16th Matthew Eanes – B
17th Courtney Epps – B
18th Phyllis Dawson – B
19th Jakob Jones – B
20th Josh Paynter – B
22nd Brianna Fears – B
Adam West – B
23rd Karen Shiner – B
Renee Powell – B
24th Mitzi Gunn – B
27th Charles Fears – B
Dylan Plainte – B
28th Buster & Phyllis Dawson – A
Julie Kopco – B
Chelsea Gunn – B
Joe Martin – B
31st Chase Cole – B
Boo Conner – B
Nancye Mode – B



Ministering at IMPACT VIRGINIA

Thanks to everyone who provided money, food, and assistance for the lunches at Impact Virginia in Danville on June 22-26. We were able to feed the crew above each day at noon. The crew built a wheelchair ramp for Buddy Barber (also pictured above).



*You are invited
to a baby shower
for Joey and Amanda Ambrose
and their baby boy
on Sunday, August 2nd,
from 1:30-3:00 p.m.
in the Fellowship Hall.*

*They are registered
at Target and Wal-Mart.*

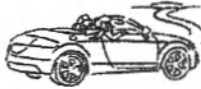
Come "CHILL OUT" at the Third Sunday Fellowship Meal on Sunday, July 19, after morning worship.

Don't spend a lot of time over a hot stove....just fix something cool and easy, and bring it to share for lunch. Think salads - sandwiches - finger foods, that sort of stuff. Beverages will be provided.

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Thank you for responding with such love and generosity to help Randy and Laura Tingen and their family. Over \$2700 was raised at the Benefit, and many boxfuls of non-perishable foods were donated and taken to their home. The Song Service was a real blessing to all who attended, and we just appreciate everyone's help so much.

Please continue to lift up Laura and her family in your prayers as she battles leukemia and its complications.



'JOURNEY OFF THE MAP' (VBS 2015)

Family Cookout - July 5th – 5:00 p.m.

VBS Sessions – July 5-8 – 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Vacation Bible School will begin on Sunday night, July 5th, with a 5 p.m. family cookout at church, followed by regular VBS from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Kids ages 3-18 are invited to share in the fun in this four-day Bible journey. We'll have music, Bible stories,

recreation, crafts, food, and lots of fun with old and new friends. VBS is just great--come join us!!

QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 6:00 P.M.

Your presence and participation are important.
Please make this a priority!



JULY SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

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

Wednesdays (unless otherwise announced)

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

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

Sun., July 5	5:00 p.m.	VBS Kick-Off Cookout for everyone
Sun.-Wed., July 5-8	6:30-8:30 p.m.	VBS for ages 3-18 – "Journey Off the Map"
Sun., July 19	after church	Third Sunday Fellowship Meal. Please bring "cool foods"
Sun., July 26	6:00 p.m.	Quarterly Business Meeting

PLAN AHEAD:

Sun., August 2	1:30-3:00 p.m.	- Baby Shower for Joey & Amanda Ambrose & their baby
Sat., August 8	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	- Bloodmobile