



**WINNS CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
3088 HOWARD P ANDERSON ROAD
HALIFAX VA 24558**

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March/April 2025

On Friday, February 28th, our president met with the leader of the Ukraine to hopefully create a viable solution between Russia, the Ukraine, and Europe. It didn't go as planned, as the two disagreed on the final terms. So regardless where you are on the political spectrum, we definitely need to continue to pray for our leaders, and the leaders around the world. That there could be a way forward to peace.

However, there was a different thing that I found interesting about the meeting. President Zelensky didn't wear a suit to the oval office. What I found remarkable about this is that it didn't seem to bother President Trump. When our president first saw Zelensky, he joked and said, "He's all dressed up today", but then he quickly added, "I do like your clothing by the way". But later, in front of the press, a reporter named Brian Glenn asked Zelensky about his clothing, he said, "Why don't you wear a suit...you're at the highest level office in this country, and you refuse to wear a suit". The reporter seemed offended by Zelensky's clothing, but President Trump didn't seem to mind, he quickly responded to the reporter, saying, "I don't know if you two like each other, but I think he [Zelensky] is dressed beautifully."

In other words, on Friday, someone came into the president's office not wearing a suit...and the president didn't mind, but a reporter did. I found this really remarkable because I've heard many pastors use the illustration that we should get dressed up for church, because we're in God's presence...so it's like going to see the president in the Oval Office, we should wear our best. Men should wear suits and women dresses. I've heard this illustration so many times, even by pastors who are my friends, and from people I really respect.

That being the case...I don't think the oval office illustration is Biblical. I find it fascinating that when this scenario just played out in real life, our president wasn't the one upset...instead it was one of the reporters in the press corp.

I imagine the same is often true with God. God isn't as concerned with what folks are wearing...but some of his followers get easily offended if folks don't dress the way they think they are supposed to, or the way they did when

they grew up. This causes them to question other folks apparel, when there are much bigger matters at stake.

The Bible never says we should dress to impress for church...in fact, Jesus was kind of upset at the way the Pharisees cared more about how they looked on the outside than the inside. In Matthew 23, he said,

"Everything they do is for show. On their arms they wear extra wide prayer boxes with Scripture verses inside, and they wear robes with extra long tassels... For [they] are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside [they] are filthy—full of greed and self-indulgence! ²⁶Blind Pharisees! First wash the inside of the cup and the dish,²⁷ and then the outside will become clean, too." (v. 5 & 25, NLT).

As far as what the Bible says about what we should wear to church, there are a couple of passages to note:

- In 1st Timothy 2:9, Paul advises women to dress modestly.
- In Romans 14, Paul reminds believers to try not to cause others to stumble, and this can sometimes affect how we dress.
- In James 2:1-4, James warns about showing favoritism based on how someone is dressed.
- In 1 Corinthians 11, Paul was talking about men not covering their head...what most commentators think this Paul was referring to is men wearing headdresses to look kind of like the Roman emperor or officials...and Paul said this made them look like women...so basically men shouldn't dress as women.

Those seem to be the guidelines for how we are to dress. And I think some of this comes under Christian freedom. In the Garden, God didn't tell Adam and Eve what to eat...he simply told them NOT to eat the fruit from the tree at the center of the garden. Adam and Eve could pick the rest of the menu for themselves.

So...as far as church attire...if you want to dress up in a suit, that's fine. If you want to dress down...it seems to be fine, as long as it is modest and does not cause others to stumble, and isn't some form of cross-dressing.

At the end of the day, just as it was at the meeting in the oval office, there were a lot bigger issues at stake than what the folks were wearing...the same is true for when we come to church, there are much bigger spiritual issues at stake. So let's not be like the reporter causing unnecessary division.

Pastor Jim.



Winn's Creek will be doing another Hee Haw. It will take place on Saturday, March 22nd from 6PM – 7:30PM. Please make plans to come. A love offering will be taken during the even for SBC Send Relief, and it will be marked to go specifically towards Hurricane Helen relief.



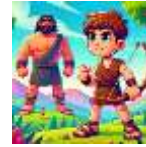
Adult Choir Practice will continue to have an interesting schedule in March due to Pastor Jim sometimes needing to go to Pennsylvania to help his mom. On the weeks that Jim may need to be away, choir practice will be after hee haw practice. We hope to return to normal in April. Here is what the schedule will look like

It will look like this:

Date	Event	Choir
Tue March 4	Hee Haw – 7PM	Choir at 8PM
Wed March 12	Liturgies 7PM	Choir 730PM
Tue March 18	Hee Haw – 7PM	Choir at 8PM
Wed March 26	Liturgies 7PM	Choir 730PM



Winn's Creek will be celebrating the Lord's Supper on Sunday, April 13th, during the morning worship service. It is being moved back a week due to the revival. Please make plans to attend.



Our Sunday Evening Bible Study on Bible Characters continue each Sunday Night at 6PM.



Our next quarterly business meeting will be Sunday, April 27th, at 6PM.

Our Next Deacon/Wives Meeting will Be Monday, February 14th at 7PM. (This is due to the Revival taking place the week before).


Dan River Baptist Association
 In partnership with the Baptist General Association of VA and the Barnabas Partnership, presents:

Equip 2025 Church Leadership Training

Breakout Sessions:

- Discipleship 101
- Community Connections
- Reaching Dads & Families
- Raising the bar of your Church's Deacon Ministry

This is a free conference. To pre-register call the DRBA office at 434-572-2608.


 KEYNOTE SPEAKER
MATT THORNHILL
 "The Future of Your Church is Already in Your Pews"

Sat. April 5th 9AM - Noon

**First Baptist Church,
815 N. Main Street, South Boston VA**

The DRBA has put a lot of work into this conference, please make plans to attend. Let Pastor Jim know if you want to pre-register.



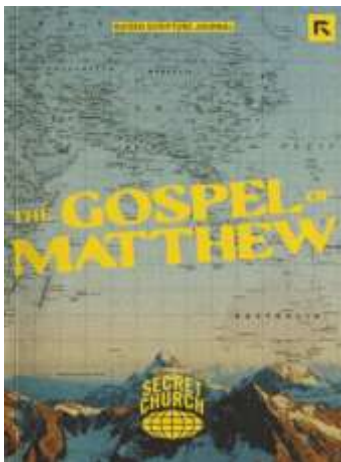
Winn's Creek Spring Revival will be Sunday, April 6th through Tuesday, April 8th. Our guest speaker will be Pastor John Lewandowski from Second Baptist Church. We will have an 11AM service on Sunday followed by a potluch fellowship meal. There will be no Sunday Evening, but there will be services on Monday & Tuesday evenings at 7PM (April 7th & 8th). We hope to see you!



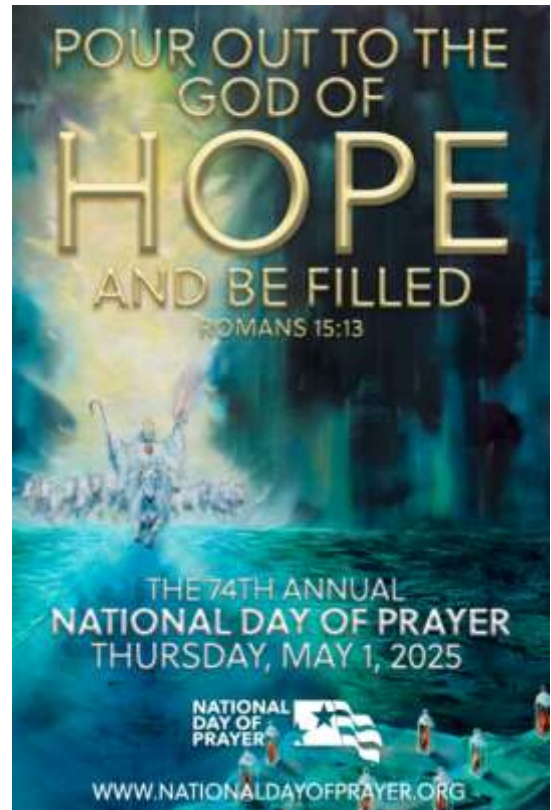
Winn's Creek's Easter Cantata, "I Surrender All", will take place during the Sunday Morning service on April 20th. Please make plans to attend.



Winn's Creek & Bethel Baptist will continue to have our joint community Easter Sunrise Service. This year it will be here at Winn's Creek. Pastor Sean McGuire of Bethel Baptist will be doing the morning message. Following the service, we will have a light breakfast in the fellowship hall. This service will take place at 6:45AM Sunday, April 20th. It will be outside weather permitting, and if inclement weather, it will be moved inside.



Winn's Creek will be hosting a Secret Church simulcast on Friday, April 11th from 7PM-1AM. Please come a little early to get your booklet and some snacks. If you haven't signed up yet, please let pastor Jim know ASAP if you want to come. Thanks!



The 2025 National Day of Prayer will be Thursday, May 1st at Halifax Country Club. More details will be coming soon.



Winn's Creek is planning an Easter Egg Hunt for the children. The date and details are not finalized yet, but we will get you the details soon.

GREETERS	
March 2 nd	Owen Satterfield
March 9 th	Ricky Loftis
March 16 th	Crystal Blanks
March 23 rd	Joan Boutwell
March 30 th	Stover Owen
April 6 th	Owen Satterfield
April 13 th	Ricky Loftis
April 20 th	Crystal Blanks
April 27 th	Joan Boutwell



MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 2nd Richard Epps - B
Phil Saunders - B
- 4th Doris Hupp – B
- 6th James & Debra Stewart - A
- 9th Afton Ledyard – B
Debra Stewart - B
Shirley Duffey - B
- 15th Pam Paynter – B
- 16th Jimmy Landrum - B
- 17th Wanda Hubbard - B
- 18th Patricia Martin – B
- 19th Jennifer Riley - B
- 21st McKenna Owen - B
- 23rd Helen Barksdale – B
- 24th Avery Clements - B
Sadie Clements - B
Cecilie Rudder - B
- 25th Zoe Talley – B
- 26th Jacob Fears – B
Trudy Epps – B
- 27th Calvin Smith – B
Shyanne Clardy - B
- 29th Wally Cole - B
- 30th Anthony Turner - B
Hannah Grace Lloyd - B
- 31st James Henderson - B



APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 3rd Sarah Lloyd - B
- 4th Tony Turner – B
Caroline Hall - B
- 6th Doris Emerson - B
- 7th Eddie Martin, Jr. – B
- 8th Wanda Saunders – B
- 9th Kelly Henderson - B
- 11th Ann Fears – B
Pat Spencer – B
- 12th Skylar Martin - B
- 13th Jason Dickerson – B
- 15th George & Billie Jean Baylous - A
Mitzi Gunn - B
- 17th Brenda Ashby – B
- 18th David Shiner - B
Eddie D. Martin - B
- 19th Jonathan Hudson - B
- 20th Joshua Cook - B
Darryl Dawson - B
- 24th Betty Dickerson - B
Michelle Epps - B
David & Michelle Epps - A
- 25th Owen Satterfield – B
Diana Hall - B
- 26th Eddie & Patricia Martin - A
- 27th Samantha Rather - B

If you would like a name added to the birthday/anniversary list, or there is a change to be made, please see Carolyn Landrum.