

## Winn's Creek Baptist Church NEWS

3088 Howard P. Anderson Rd., Halifax VA 24558

Rev. Jim Kopco, Pastor

434-476-6181

[www.winncreek.org](http://www.winncreek.org)

434-222-9688

October 2016

### The Pastor's Corner

October 31<sup>st</sup> is usually the time that people celebrate Halloween. Children dress up and go trick or treating from door to door. Adults sometimes get to wear costumes to work. The stores sell a lot of chocolate and candy.

During the Sunday morning worship service, we've been going through the book of Nehemiah. Nehemiah chapter 9 tells us of something that happened way back on October 31<sup>st</sup> of 445 B.C., before Halloween was ever celebrated. Instead of gathering to collect candy...the Hebrew people gathered to worship God. They spent a lot of time confessing their sins...and then the leader prayed one of the longest prayers in the Bible.

In the beginning of the prayer, they remembered the stubbornness of their ancestors, and their refusal to follow God. But the people were still hopeful; even though they and their ancestors had been disobedient, they prayed,

*...But you are a God of forgiveness, gracious and merciful, slow to become angry, and rich in unfailing love. You did not abandon them,*  
Nehemiah 9:17 (NLT)

These people had been through a lot. Many were taken captives into other lands. Those who had returned to Jerusalem worked hard at the rebuilding, while facing war, opposition, and famine. And now, through it all, they asked for God's forgiveness. They presented one request in verse 32, saying:

*"God...do not let all the hardships we have suffered seem insignificant to You."*

It's so easy when we think about how vast the universe is...it's easy for us to feel insignificant. Way back on February 14<sup>th</sup> of 1990 (Valentine's Day), the spaceship *Voyager* took a picture of Earth from about 4 billion miles away. A scientist named Karl Sagan looked at that picture, and he wrote the following:

*"The Earth is a very small stage in a vast cosmic arena. Think of the endless cruelties visited by the inhabitants of one corner of this pixel on the scarcely distinguishable inhabitants of some other corner, how frequent their misunderstandings, how eager they are to kill one another, how fervent their hatreds. Think of the rivers of blood spilled by all those generals and emperors so that, in glory and triumph, they could become the momentary masters of a fraction of a dot.*

*Our posturing, our imagined self-importance, the delusion that we have some privileged position in the Universe...are challenged by this point of pale light. Our planet is a lonely speck in the great enveloping cosmic dark. In our obscurity, in all this vastness, there is no hint that help will come from elsewhere to save us from ourselves".*

Science looks at the universe and says we're insignificant, we can't stop doing bad things to each other, and no one is going to come to help.

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### (The Pastor's Corner *continued*)

The Bible tells us that God created us...and even though we've sinned and fallen short...He sent His Son to us.

The problem isn't that no one came. The problem is people haven't recognized it. The Bible puts it this way:

*"He [Jesus] came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. They are reborn – not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God. So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son. John 1:10-14*

We have reason to be thankful. We matter to God. He sent His Son to come to Earth, and pay the price for our sins. We just need to recognize and accept Him.

Pastor Jim



**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**Norma Jean Henderson is excited about her new granddaughter, Huntleigh Reid Henderson, born on August 18<sup>th</sup>.**



On Sunday, September 4, we were blessed to witness the believer's baptism of Brandi Conner Abbott. Brandi is the wife of Rob Abbott and mother of Hannah and Conner. At her request—and with the affirmation of the congregation—she was also received into membership at Winn's Creek Church



IN LOVING MEMORY

*Clara H. Montgomery Puckett*

*December 25, 1925 – September 9, 2016*

*Michael Lee Laughorn*

*July 9, 1994 – September 17, 2016*

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### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

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

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Connie Gail Womack – B
- 5<sup>th</sup> Lauren Fears – B
- 6<sup>th</sup> Scott Ashby – B
- 7<sup>th</sup> John Clinton Francisco – B
- 8<sup>th</sup> Kathleen Murphy – B
- 9<sup>th</sup> Tony Epps – B
- Rico & Mary Elizabeth Magnotto – A
- 10<sup>th</sup> Pat Riley – B
- 15<sup>th</sup> Nicholas Pyle – B
- 16<sup>th</sup> Judy Lorello – B
- 17<sup>th</sup> Monica Plainte – B
- 20<sup>th</sup> Kristina West Lloyd – B
- 27<sup>th</sup> Vivian Sweeting – B
- 28<sup>th</sup> Estelle McLaughlin – B
- 31<sup>st</sup> James & Alice Clayton – A

### STOP HUNGER NOW!

On the afternoon of Sunday, October 16,  
our church will partner with First Baptist  
and four other churches to do a Stop  
Hunger Now food packing project. This  
will be carried out from 5 - 8 p.m. at

First Baptist  
Church, South  
Boston. For  
complete  
information, see  
Pastor Jim.



*All adults and  
teens are invited  
to participate in  
these studies*

#### Sundays, 6 p.m.

– On September

4, we began The Good Book study on  
prayer, in the Sonshine Classroom.

**Wednesdays, 7 p.m.** – On September 28,  
our Wednesday Bible Study groups began  
another Ray Vander Laan DVD study. This  
series is a new one for us: **“Israel’s  
Mission: Becoming a Kingdom of Priests  
in a Prodigal World.”**



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

We rescheduled our October  
Bloodmobile due to potential Red Cross  
staffing issues. Donors who scheduled for  
October 8<sup>th</sup> have been contacted regarding  
the change to October 29<sup>th</sup>.

To volunteer on October 29, contact  
Joani Layman, 434-476-7982. To donate,  
call Joani, or schedule your own appointment  
online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org); on the first  
page of that site, enter Sponsor Code  
“WCBC” and this should take you directly to  
the page for scheduling an appointment.

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### COLLEGE STUDENT ADDRESSES

If you would like to brighten the day of some of our college students by sending them a card or care package, their addresses are below. If you know of any other students to be added to this list, please let Pastor Jim know. Thanks!

Cecilie Elliott Longwood University P.O. Box 384394 Farmville VA 23909	Mark Owen 2200 Clay's Mill Rd. Halifax VA 24558
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Mary Glasscock 1027 Azalea Ln. South Boston VA 24592	Matthew Owen Unit 463 Bluefiled College 300 College Ave. Bluefield VA 24605
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Chelsea Grove  
15 Taft Ave., Apt. 2  
Winchester VA 22601  
(most recent update)

Meghan Tally.  
Box 736  
1460 University Dr.  
Winchester VA 22601

Evan Owen  
The Master's Inn  
445 Mitchell Springs Dr.  
Altavista VA 24517

worship at 11 a.m. on Sunday, but to Sunday School as well.

Opening Assembly in the sanctuary starts at 9:45 a.m., and classes actually begin at 10 a.m. If you don't feel there's a place that is a "good fit" for you, or you possibly feel led to start a class, please talk with Pastor Jim or Ricky Loftis and share your thoughts. No one is too young—or old—for the Christian education and fellowship in Sunday School.

### **SPECIAL YOUTH EVENT!**



**Who Am I? Why Am I here?**

**What is the Meaning of Life?**

**October 9, 2016 3:00PM –8:00PM.**

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTH BOSTON 815 North Main St.**



**Music by King's Work**

AGES 12-18, FREE ADMISSION, GAMES,

PIZZA, MOVIE, MUSIC, AND

MESSAGE BY JAKE BYRD. PLEASE BRING



CANNED FOOD FOR GOOD SAMARITAN.

**\*Preregister by Sept. 30 [drba@embarqmail.com](mailto:drba@embarqmail.com)**

Sponsored by the Dan River Baptist Association Youth Advisory Committee.



**Guest Speaker Jake Byrd.**

### OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL NURSERY IS EMPTY!

Did you know that we have a Sunday School Nursery? This nursery is for babies up to 2 years old. The toddlers that used to attend the nursery have moved up to the next level of Sunday School, and Debra is wondering if people know that the Sunday School nursery is available so that parents can attend class?

Of course, these babies can't get to church by themselves, so we're encouraging their parents to consider coming, not only to

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## OCTOBER



### **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 – Christmas Cantata practice

### **Wednesdays** (unless otherwise announced)

7:00 p.m. Men & Women: DVD study "Israel's Mission: Becoming a Kingdom of Priests in a Prodigal World"  
8:00 p.m. Adult Choir

### **Thursdays** (unless otherwise announced)

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

Sun., Oct. 2      11:00 a.m.      Morning Worship & The Lord's Supper  
Mon., Oct. 3      7:00 p.m.      Deacons & Wives meet  
Thurs., Oct. 13      7:30 p.m.      Praise Team Practice  
Sun., Oct. 16      5 – 8 p.m.      **Stop Hunger Now food packing** at First Baptist  
Thurs., Oct. 27      7:30 p.m.      Praise Team Practice  
Sat., Oct. 29      10 a.m.-2 p.m.      **BLOODMOBILE (note date change!)**  
Sun., Oct. 23      3:00 p.m.      DRBA Annual Meeting – Alton Baptist Church

### **PLAN AHEAD:**

Sun., Nov. 6      6:00 p.m.      Quarterly Business Meeting  
Sun., Nov. 20      7:00 p.m.      **Community Thanksgiving Service** at Scottsburg Baptist Church