

Rev. Mike Winters
Pastor
Leigh Clark
Minister of Music & Youth
Dr. Ray Jones, Jr.
Pastor Emeritus

WISE BAPTIST NEWS

A PUBLICATION FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF
WISE BAPTIST CHURCH

August 23, 2016

A place for faith and fellowship with family and friends.



Dear church family and friends,

Wow! Sunday was a hard day! Leigh Clark, our Minister of Music and Youth, resigned after serving Wise Baptist Church for 19 years. I will miss her presence in our church. I love Leigh as a minister, friend, and person. She brings unusual passion and gifts to our music, youth, mission trips, and a host of other areas. I want to personally and publicly thank her for her long service to and through our church.

Our task for the next few months is to grieve this loss of Leigh and Mark in the life of our church. Next, we need to celebrate what God has done in and through Leigh and Mark. Finally, we must remember the calling of God to be the church and continue His kingdom work.

We grieve the loss of the presence of both Leigh and Mark. Grief is about change. We do not like change. Yet, the Bible reminds us that life is grief work. The writer of Ecclesiastes tells us "There is a time to mourn." Jesus did not apologize when He wept at the death of his friend, Lazarus. Therefore, I invite you to grieve well. Acknowledge and name your feelings. Then, offer them to God. Take time to say your goodbyes.

We will celebrate the presence of God in and through Leigh. Mark, ministered in important ways, too, as a Sunday School teacher, Deacon, choir member and in many other ways.

When something unexpected happens, especially when a significant minister leaves, there is the immediate thought... "What now?" The answer to "What now?"... has been, is, and always shall be... God... and serving to advance His Kingdom.

Therefore, my friends, let us grieve, celebrate, and be the church!

Love, Pastor Mike

IMPORTANT DATES

Annual Business Meeting
August 24

Benefit Concert for Kara Kennedy
August 27

Breakfast for Sunday School Teachers & Substitutes
August 28

Church-Wide Ice Cream Fellowship
August 28

Parents' Day Out
September 17

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DEACONS 2015-16

Jerry Baird	393-0923
Gil Blackburn	328-0046
Dan Helton	328-6086
Ron Helton	393-6145
John Kennedy	328-5013
Lewey Lee	328-3845
Matt Meade	393-9177
Edgar Owens	328-6129
Daniel Ray	328-2483

How to Join Wise Baptist Church:

Express one of the following to the Pastor during the closing hymn:

- † **Transfer of Letter** Transfer membership to Wise Baptist Church
- † **Baptism** Desire to express faith in Christ through baptism
- † **Statement of Faith** Baptized believer not on a membership roll
- † **Watch Care** Desire to be connected to our Church family without official membership

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Children's Ministry Team is sponsoring a

Church-Wide Ice Cream Social!

Sunday, August 28, 4 pm

Bring your favorite homemade ice cream and/or homemade cookies—our CHILDREN will be the judges & prizes WILL be awarded! Please contact Wendy Adrian, call the church office or sign up on your Communication Card in Sunday's bulletin.



As you pray, please remember...

Kara Kennedy and family, Wanda Baird, Tony Hill, Irene Black, Papa Joe Smiddy, Ray and Carolyn Jones, Artie and Clifford Bailey, Archie and Joanne Kennedy, Elizabeth and Susan Davidson, John and Kay Wright, Pat and Fred Adkins, Bea Hill, all the cancer patients in our area, and our men and women in the military.



Hospitalized: Clifford Bailey, Mountain View, Susan Davidson, Norton Community Hospital

Our Shut Ins: Hazel Dixon (Mountain View), Archie Kennedy (Heritage Hall—BSG), Martha Gilliam, Eddie Culbertson, Vernoy Bolling, Peggy Tolbert (Heritage Hall—BSG), and Florine Pennington (The Laurels).



*Let Us
watch the kids
for awhile!*

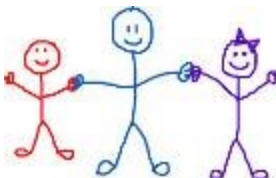
The Children's Ministry Team of Wise Baptist Church would like to extend a "gift" to parents of children ages 0—Grade 6!

On Saturday September 17, from 10am—3pm, there will be activities planned at the church for the children, including lunch, games, recreation & crafts. Plenty of adult supervision will be provided.

If your child(ren) would like to participate, please sign them up on the Communication Card in your bulletin. You may also contact Donna Hutchinson (donnahutchinson@usa.net) or call the church office at 276-328-6247.

Ministry Opportunity!

If you would like to serve in the Nursery during Sunday Morning worship several times this year, please sign up on your Communication Card or contact Susie Clasby at 276-275-8945 or susieclasby@yahoo.com



DON'T MISS!!

Benefit Concert for Kara Kennedy
Shriners' Building,
Norton, VA
August 27 at 4pm



Our Sunday School Teachers & all substitutes are cordially invited to a breakfast in their honor!

Sunday, August 28

9:00 am

Fellowship Hall

Wednesday Night Program

Join us on Wed. nights for a time of fellowship and spiritual renewal!

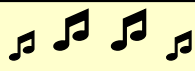
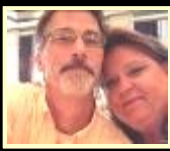
August 24, 2016

6:00 pm	Fellowship Meal
6:45 pm	Annual Business Mtg. Children-in-Action Nursery
7:45 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal



The Children's Ministry Team will meet at 4pm on Sunday, September 11 at Terry Winters' home.





From Leigh

I am so thankful that Andi Kilgore was able to lead us in worship through music yesterday morning. It has been a blessing to know and love her for many years. She is one of my many “second daughters”! She has developed into a wonderful young lady. I know that you will join me in praying for her and for her new life chapter. She will be missed!

I also want to thank Marty. The song by Hillsong, *Oceans*, was a special request by Kara when she woke up. I can’t imagine how difficult it was for him to spend hours preparing to play it for us on Sunday. But, I’m certain it also served as a *balm* for his hurting heart. Praise God she is alive and at home!

Sometimes I get so caught up in “my little world” that I lose track of my blessings. My time is spent complaining or wishing. When, all the while, there are so many people—not strangers, but friends—who are going through REAL, life altering issues. I am worried about pleasing people or about proving myself and being accepted while others are dealing with cancer or divorce or death or loss of a job. My troubles pale in comparison.

This week I am going to spend my time praising God for Who He is and for what He has done for me. I will be grateful for my life, my work, my family, my friends, and my health and less worried about pleasing people. I will spend more time in prayer for those who are hurting. Please let me know how I can pray for you.

Thank you to everyone for the kind, loving, and affirming words and hugs yesterday after worship. My decision to leave WBC was difficult. I look forward to these next months of serving together.

Cantata rehearsals will begin on August 31! If you are interested in singing in the 20th annual Cantata on December 4, please know you are welcome!

I give thanks for each of you and for this church. I am praying for you this week; pray for each other, too.

Blessings, Leigh



August 23	Jeff Sturgill
August 24	Jerry Baird
August 25	Linda Bailzy
	Brenda Lee
August 26	Julie Large
August 28	Megan Cling



NEW FALL BIBLE STUDIES!

- ◆ **The Little Book of Biblical Justice**
Everyone has their own ideas of what is just & fair. Mark Clark will explore the more important question of what the Bible teaches about justice & how we can apply that today.
- ◆ **The Gospel of Mark: People Responding To Jesus”**
Join Pastor Mike as he guides us through the Gospel of Mark where we will see Jesus through the eyes of the people Jesus met. Then we will be invited to meet Jesus & walk with Him daily.
- ◆ **Overload**
“Nobody is immune to stress...” but “God’s not going to let you sink, and He is going to see you safely to the other side.” Teresa Adkins will be teaching the second half of Joyce Meyer’s book on coping with stress.

Preview of new Bible Studies - Wed., Aug. 31, 6:45pm
6-Week Bible Studies - Wednesdays, Sept. 7 - Oct. 12, 6:45pm



Thank you, Carla, for dinner last night! Kim Hall will provide our meal next week. Thank you, Bryon Burton, for your leadership with our youth!

On Sunday, August 28, I encourage all of the FLOCK members to come out at 4:00 pm for the Ice Cream Social sponsored by the Children’s Ministry Team. It will be a lot of fun. Weather permitting, we can have some spikeball, can jam, and corn hole fun as well! Dinner and youth will begin at 5:30 pm.

Last night our lesson focused on Bartholomew Nathanael, one of Jesus’ disciples who struggled with and overcame prejudice. Our scripture was John 1:43-51. Philip had just been called by Jesus to “follow me”. He told Nathanael about it and Nathanael replied, “what good could come from Nazareth?”. Philip urged him to go and see for himself. Thankfully, he did just that! Imagine what he would have missed if he let his prejudice determine his thoughts about Jesus. Prejudice sees only the surface and will blind us from the truth. Exposing the Truth confronts prejudice and causes it to crumble. Jesus is the Truth and He is our example for how to treat one another. Nathanael had to let go of his prejudice in order to be a Christ follower. We must do the same!

Dear Church Family,

August 21, 2016

Today I am announcing my resignation as Minister of Music and Youth effective on the 30th of December. I have wrestled on and off with this decision for nearly two years. After much prayer and conversation with Mark, I am certain that it is time for a new chapter in our lives. I am very sad, but, I am not afraid because I know God is faithful.

Wise Baptist Church is a wonderful place filled with loving people. I have served this church for nearly 19 years. WBC hired me in Nov. of 1997 at, I believe, either \$25 or \$50 per Sunday. I am thankful to Pastor Ray for helping me to hear God's calling and to this church for affirming that call on my life to fulltime ministry in September of 2001. Many churches won't affirm a woman's call to ministry. But, Wise Baptist has been a place where people can see and understand things very differently and still choose to worship and serve together. I pray that will continue to be true. For the most part, I have been supported and loved in my calling and in my ministry.

Serving God through this church has been an honor. I poured my heart and soul into my ministry through music - the choir, TRUTH, children's choirs, handbells and the Christmas cantata - my ministry with the youth and everything else - children, adult and sr. adult activities, retreats, preparing meals, teaching Bible studies, mission trips, and even weed-pulling. I have represented this church and our Lord well in many places and on many occasions and I will continue to do so.

I love Wise Baptist Church and I have truly been blessed to work with two amazing Pastors - Ray Jones, Jr. and Mike Winters. Mark and I have this church to thank for so many blessings in our lives - the greatest of which is that both of our children came to know the Lord and were baptized in this place. We have made lifetime friends.

But, even good things must come to an end. I look forward to our remaining time together and especially to our 20th annual Christmas Cantata on December 4th. I will close as I do every week in my newsletter article - "I am praying for you this week; pray for each other, too". Blessings, Leigh

Read on Sunday, August 21, 2016 at the conclusion of the morning worship service by Rev. Leigh Clark, Minister of Music and Youth.



Julie Large & Jayda Hutchinson modeling their *CIA visors!
*Children-In-Action



Our children are always ready to help! Sunday, they handed out invitations to the church-wide ice cream social.



Oliver Ray
Age 6



Jayda Hutchinson
Age 9



Isabella Adrian
Age 2



Adrianna Aker
Age 5

Isabella Adrian helped give a special announcement about the Ice Cream Social



Always a blessing for TRUTH to lead in worship!

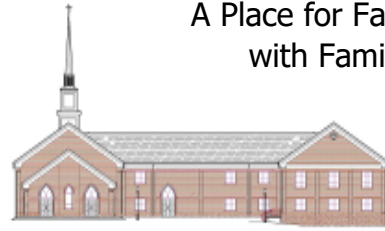
Pictured: Noah Hall, Rachel Bailey, Andi Kilgore, Leigh Clark

Not pictured: Marty Kennedy, Susan Mullins

Sunday was Andi's last time to sing with TRUTH before moving to Nevada.



A Place for Faith and Fellowship
with Family and Friends



Volunteers this Week

Deacons On Call:	8/21-8/27	John Kennedy, Dan Helton
	8/28-9/3	Gil Blackburn, Daniel Ray
Building Stewards:		Ron, Dan, Scott S
Instrumentalists:		Susan M., Susan S.
Worship Welcome Team:		Dave Belcher, Misty Belcher, Jeff Kiser, Oscar Raile, Daniel Ray
S.S. Greeters:	08/28	John Kennedy
	09/04	David & Sandy Mullins
Nursery:	08/28	Tammie Harding, Sara Johnson
	09/04	John Mark & Wendy Adrian
Children's Church:	08/28	Daniel & Tabitha Ray
	09/04	Donna Hutchinson
PA:	08/28	Marty Adkins
	09/04	Mike Osborne
Tellers:	August	Jeff Dotson, Mike Strouth
	September	June Dotson, David Mullins
Ushers:	08/28	Lewey Lee*, David Mullins^, Ron Swindall^, Bob Adkins, Stan Kunigelis, Matt Meade, Gary Smith, Mike Strouth
	09/04	Daniel Ray*, Donnie Bradley^, David Sheppard^, David Belcher, Kenny Bowling, Bryon Burton, Jeff Elkins, Roger Williams (*Offertory Prayer; ^Choir Ushers)
Wed. Serving Teams:	08/24	Jessica Crutchfield, Kathy Dotson, Angela Gervais, Gail Kiser
	08/31	Martha Blackburn, Linda Burgess, Kathy Helton, Susie Powers
Wed. Meals:	08/24	Hamburgers, French Fries
	08/31	Italian (Chicken Alfredo, Garlic Bread)
Children-in-Action:	08/24	Kathy Dotson, Julie Large
	08/31	Kathy Dotson, Julie Large

WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

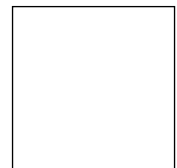
Sunday	Sunday School	10:00 am
	Worship	11:00 am
	Youth	6:00 pm
Monday	Piecemakers (1st & 3rd)	9:30 am
Wednesday	Fellowship Meal	6:00 pm
	Adult Bible Study	6:45 pm
	Youth Bible Study	
	Children-in-Action (Grades K-6)	
	Nursery (Birth-Preschool)	
	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	7:50 pm
Thursday	Women on Mission (2nd)	2--4 pm

Rev. Mike Winters Contact Information

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Phone: 276.328.6247 **Cell:** 540.280.5598

Phone: (276) 328-6247 Website: www.wisebaptist.com Email: wisebaptist@verizon.net Fax: 276-328-6204

Wise Baptist Church
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Like us at: Wise Baptist Church and at
Wise Baptist Youth

Thought for the week:
**Grieve the losses, celebrate the
gains and be the church!**