

WISE BAPTIST NEWS

A PUBLICATION FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF
WISE BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Mike Winters, Pastor
Donna Hutchinson, Music Director
Dr. Ray Jones, Jr., Pastor Emeritus

November 26, 2024

A place for faith and fellowship with family and friends.



Dear Church Family & Friends,

Someone once said that much of life is “grief work”. That may sound depressing, but it really isn’t. Grief acknowledges the loss of people who are important to us. We grieve because those people have added much to our lives.

Ray Jones, Jr., former pastor of Wise Baptist Church, died on Friday, Nov. 22. He pastored here for 27 years (1982-2009). He and his wife, Carolyn, had a significant ministry here. Raised two children, Amy and Dwight.

The Apostle Paul spoke to a congregation that was grieving in I Thessalonians 4:13-18. He says we are to grieve, but not like unbelievers. In other words, grieve with hope. Grieve with knowledge of who we lost, but also with what God has added to our lives.

We are a congregation in grief. We feel the loss greatly because Ray and his family meant so much to our church and community.

As we approach Thanksgiving, we can be thankful for what Ray and his family added to all of our lives. Grieve with hope! To God be the glory!

Love, Pastor Mike

IMPORTANT DATES

**No Activities
Wed, Nov. 27**

**Advent begins!
Sun, Dec. 1, 11:00am**

**Town Tree Lighting
Mon, Dec. 2, 6:00pm
(WBC Handbells
will be playing)**

**Christmas Cantata
Sun, Dec. 15, 7pm**

**Annual Christmas Dinner
Wed, Dec. 18, 6pm**

**Christmas Breakfast &
Film “The Shepherd”
Sun, Dec. 22, 9:30am**

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DEACONS 2024 - 2025

Debbie Collins	393-3875
Jeff Elkins	393-5700
Ron Helton	393-6145
Stan Kunigelis	870-2227
Lewey Lee	393-5370
Matt Meade	393-9177
David Mullins	870-0005
Ruby Salyers	870-0590

Deacon Emeritus:
Bob Adkins

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



Pastor Ray Jones, Jr.

January 26, 1943 -

November 22, 2024

Rev. Dr. Ray Jones, Jr., age 81, slipped into the arms of his savior on November 22, 2024.

Ray graduated from Halls High School in Knoxville, TN, Carson Newman University, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and received his Doctorate of Ministry from Lexington Theological Seminary.

Ray was the former pastor of Pond Run Baptist Church (Echols, KY), Ehrhardt Baptist Church (Ehrhardt, SC), Main Street Baptist Church (Lake City, TN) and Wise Baptist Church (Wise, VA), where he pastored for 27 years and affectionately called "the little red brick church in the county seat of Wise."

Ray was preceded in death by his parents Ray Jones, Sr. and Opal Jones, and his wife of 57 years, Carolyn Jones. Ray is survived by his son, Dwight Jones (Carolina), daughter Amy Bridges (John), grandchildren, Alexandra Lovell (Alex), Daniela Hammonds (Austin), DJ Jones, Martin Jones and Emily Bridges; and his great-grandsons, Milo and Oliver Lovell. He is also survived by his brothers, Doug Jones (Brenda), Greg Jones (Donna), Mark Jones (Debbie), Jeff Jones (Laura); nieces and nephews, Matthew Jones, Andrew Jones and Elizabeth Jones; and his brother-in-law H.C. Sumter (Janice). Mimi, his faithful poodle companion of 13 years, was a beloved part of his life.

A funeral service will be held at Wise Baptist Church, Wise, VA, followed by interment at Wise Cemetery. Arrangements are pending and will be announced in the coming days.

As you pray, please remember...



Family & Friends of Ray Jones, Brenda Lee, Jamie Hopkins, Donna Raines, John & Kathy Kennedy, Jordan Joseph (grandson of Virginia Ebert), Jim Sturgill, Natalie Luther, Billie Harris, Paula Dobis & Family, Vicki Stephens, Lala Baylor & Family, Robert Price & Family, Brandon Winters, Rachel Weller & Family, Rick Meade, those affected by Hurricane Helene & Hurricane Milton, Jim & June Dotson, Cyrus Jones, Karen Ponish & Family, Wanda Baird, Donna Hutchinson & Family, Jane Hughes & Family, Matt Meade, Andy Johnson (Cyndi Newlon's brother), Lorna Wherry & Brian Plester (siblings of Brenda Kunigelis), Mike Smith's sister Lynn, Beth Snodgrass, doctors, nurses & all medical/pharmaceutical personnel, law enforcement & emergency personnel, all the cancer patients in our area, and our men & women in the military.

Our Shut Ins: Andrew Johnson (Cyndi Newlon's dad) - Appalachia, VA

***If you know of other prayer concerns, please contact the church office (328-6247).**

With Heartfelt *Sympathy*

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and many friends of Pastor Ray Jones, Jr. who passed away on Friday, Nov. 22. Please remember Dwight and Amy and their families, as well as Ray's brothers, and please remember each other during this time of loss.



Scripture for the Week: *2 Corinthians 5:17*

"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas

Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, 11:00 am
Jesse Tree, Advent Candles

Dec. 2, 6:00pm
Handbells at Town Tree Lighting

Dec. 15, 7:00 pm
Christmas Cantata & Reception

Dec. 18, 6:00 pm
Annual Christmas Dinner

Dec. 22, 9:30 am
Christmas Breakfast & film, "The Shepherd" (No Sunday School)

Dec. 24, 11:00 pm
Candlelight Communion Service



Norton Cinema

Directed by Dallas Jenkins
of "The Chosen"

The Heart of Christmas

Sunday, December 1

6-8:30pm

Camp Bethel
(Dining Hall)

*Local Makers * Children's Story

* WBC Cantata Choir * Cookie Decorating

ALL AGES WELCOME!



WBC TIMELINE

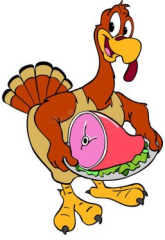
1899 → 2024

**Is your name on the
Wise Baptist TIMELINE?**

Be sure to check out the church timeline posted on the hall wall near the kitchen door! There are watercolor markers available, so you can add your name & when you first started coming to Wise Baptist.

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, MUSIC

Happy Birthday!



November 28	T. Ray Maine
December 1	Jeff Dotson
	Brenda Kunigelis
December 2	Lalah Grace Lyon
	Landon Tolbert
December 3	Teresa Glines
December 4	Nathan Lee
December 5	Heath Chisenhall
	Kevin Dotson
December 7	Brittany Criswell

Happy Anniversary!

December 3	Cub & Jennifer Mullins
December 7	John & Karen Ponish



Stewardship, A Divine Responsibility

God is the Owner. We are the managers. We must oversee His assets for His benefit. Our prayer is for discernment of what God wants done with His assets and then carry out His will. May we all at Wise Baptist Church give abundantly, sacrificially, and joyfully.

For those who cannot physically attend Sunday morning worship services in the sanctuary, your tithes and offerings may still be mailed to Wise Baptist Church, PO Box 777, Wise VA 24293, or brought by the Church anytime during open hours.

*"For everything comes from You, and we have given
You only what comes from Your own hand."
1 Chronicles 29:14*

WBC Music Ministry



Thanksgiving is this week and so very much has run through my head today about what I am thankful for and what I have thanked God for. The first list is much more plentiful than the last. I just don't think about thanking God for the "little" things in life, although I should. So, here is my top 10 list:

For my parents, grandparents and the loving, Christian home I was raised in.

Although sometimes I'm not so sure, my siblings. For the most part, we got along well and only had a few skirmishes. They have helped me tremendously since May, being my back-up and supporting me when I didn't think I could do it.

My friends. I have some great friends, both here and afar. They have loved me even when I am unlovable or don't take the time for them. They love my children and support them, even without me knowing it.

My choir. Oh, if you only knew how much they love and help me to focus on the important things.

My church family. Even before Butch's death, many of you consistently checked on him and the girls throughout his "confinement". He would get phone calls, notes, cards and all those little things that meant so much to him and to me.

Living in the heart of the Appalachian region. Most of you know that I am pretty well-travelled and I wouldn't live anywhere else. The people, the weather, the terrain, the beauty that we have here.

My pastor. I am so thankful for Mike (and Terry). He is a good friend; he always has something comforting to say when I am down or lonely or troubled. Although we disagree on some things, he is a rock in his belief in God and he actually "practices what he preaches". Sometimes this is hard to find in this day and age.

My former pastor, Ray Jones. What can I say about this man that others haven't said? He was my mentor, my friend and my cheerleader for 20+ years.

My husband. For 50 years, we were together (and you all know that I'm only like 52 or 53 now, right?) We married while I was still in high school and for the most part, we had a remarkably great marriage. I always kidded him that we had, however, many "good years" and 2 or 3 bad ones. Yes, we fought, we argued and I stomped around the house many times, but he was always there, as I was for him. We loved, we laughed, we travelled, raised a family, we LIVED!

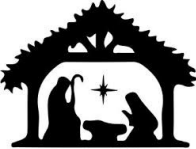
Jesus Christ. Have you ever thought of where you would be if God has not sent His Son? Would you be a Jew? A Gentile? But, God did send His Son to the world to save ME! He came to save me! Yes, that is a mighty big thing and I can't wait to spend eternity with Him in Heaven. I would love to have you join me.

Joy, peace & love, Donna

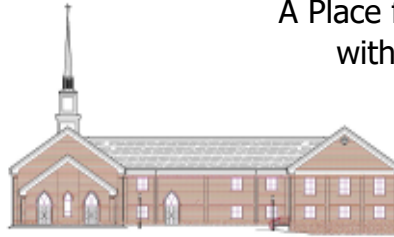


December 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 8:30am - Deacons' mtg. 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship onsite/online - Children's Church 6:30pm - Cantata Practice</p> <p>B - Jeff Dotson B - Brenda Kunigelis</p>	<p>2 Piecemakers, 9:30am Town Tree Lighting, 6pm</p> <p>B - Lalah Grace Lyons B - Landon Tolbert</p>	<p>3</p> <p>B - Teresa Glines A - Cub & Jennifer Mullins</p>	<p>4 6pm - POTLUCK Meal 7pm - Bible Study 7:30pm - Choir Practice</p> <p>B - Nathan Lee</p>	<p>5 B - Heath Chisenhall B - Kevin Dotson</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 7 - 8 am - Men's Bible Study Fellowship Hall</p> <p>B - Brittany Criswell A - John & Karen Ponish</p>
<p>8 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship onsite/online - Children's Church 6:30pm - Cantata Practice</p>	<p>9 Caring Friends, 9:30am</p> <p>B - Robert Baird</p>	<p>10 B - Penny Greenwood B - Jane Hughes</p>	<p>11 6pm - Fellowship Meal 7pm - Bible Study 7:30pm - Choir Practice</p> <p>B - Nathan Lee B - Jessica Crutchfield A - John Mark & Wendy Adrian</p>	<p>12 B - Damel Calvert</p>	<p>13 B - Damel Calvert</p>	<p>14 7 - 8 am - Men's Bible Study Fellowship Hall</p> <p>B - Jim Sturgill</p>
<p>15 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship onsite/online - Children's Church 7:00pm - CHRISTMAS CANTATA & RECEPTION</p>	<p>16 Piecemakers, 9:30am</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 6:00 pm Annual Christmas Dinner</p>	<p>19 A - Shane & Susan Mullins B - Marsha Tolbert</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 7 - 8 am - Men's Bible Study Fellowship Hall</p>
<p>22 9:30am - BREAKFAST & film "The Shepherd" (no Sunday School) 11am - Worship onsite/online - Children's Church B - Dallas Kennedy B - Jon Kennedy</p>	<p>23 Caring Friends, 9:30am</p> <p>B - Sherlene Hall</p>	<p>24 11:00 pm Candlelight Communion Service</p> <p>B - Jim Collie B - Carolyn Strouth B - William Sturgill B - Lois Tveit</p>	<p>25 <i>Merry Christmas!</i></p> 	<p>26 B - Linsay Allio B - Diana Roberts B - Miles Wampler</p>	<p>27 B - Nova Greene</p>	<p>28 7 - 8 am - Men's Bible Study Fellowship Hall</p>
<p>29 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship onsite/online - Children's Church</p>	<p>30 Piecemakers, 9:30am</p> <p>B - Paul Maine</p>				<p>B = Birthday A = Anniv.</p>	<p>If your birthday or anniversary is not included, please call the church office at 276-328-6247</p>

A Place for Faith and Fellowship
with Family and Friends



Volunteers this Week

Deacons On Call	11/24 - 11/30	Lewey Lee, David Mullins
	12/1 - 12/7	Ruby Salyers, Jeff Elkins
Building Stewards		Ron Helton, Scott Snodgrass
Instrumentalists		Susan Mullins, Susan Smith
Sunday School Greeters	November	David & Sandy Mullins
	December	Ashlee Taylor
Children's Church	12/1	Karen & John Ponish
	12/8	Jennifer & Cub Mullins
Offering Ushers	December	Jeff Dotson Team
	January	Ron Helton Team
Tellers	December	Matt Meade, Mike Strouth
	January	Cliff Carson, Jeff Dotson
Wed. Night Meals	11/27	No Activities
	12/4	POTLUCK Meal
Wed. Night Cook Teams	11/27	No Activities
	12/4	<u>Volunteers</u> needed for set up & clean up

WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday	Sunday School	10:00 am
	Worship	11:00 pm
	Christmas Cantata Rehearsal	6:30 pm
Monday	Piecemakers (1st & 3rd)	9:30 am
	Caring Friends (2nd & 4th)	
Wednesday	Fellowship Meal	6:00 pm
	Bible Study	7:00 pm
	Choir Practice	7:30 pm
Thursday	Laurels Ministry (3rd)	1:30 pm
Saturday	Men's Bible Study	7 - 8 am



Rev. Mike Winters Contact Information

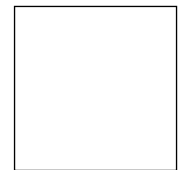
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Wise Baptist Church
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Like us at:
Wise Baptist Church

Thought for the Week:

*Choose which habit to
discontinue or continue.*