

Rev. Mike Winters, Pastor  
 Donna Hutchinson, Music Director  
 Lloyd & Carlie Tomlinson,  
 Youth Directors  
 Dr. Ray Jones, Jr., Pastor Emeritus

# WISE BAPTIST NEWS

A PUBLICATION FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF  
**WISE BAPTIST CHURCH**

December 5, 2023

*A place for faith and fellowship with family and friends.*



*Dear Church Family and Friends,*

Legendary NFL coach, Vince Lombardi, once said, "We didn't lose the game. Time ran out before we pulled ahead!"

I like that. It is not denial. Or wishful thinking. It says important things. Beyond the obvious:

It is not over.

The final chapter has not been written. There can be a new, better chapter.

We can learn and grow.

The Cross of Jesus seemed to say we lost. Evil won. Executed the best Person the world ever saw. There was no future. No hope.

Instead, the Resurrection of Jesus loudly proclaimed, "No!" A new chapter has begun. Better. With a better ending.

Remember that lesson when life shouts that the Christian faith has already lost. It seems to say that time has run out. And that everything good (including Christian faith) has lost. Permanently.

Don't buy that lie. God's time has not run out! What He started in Jesus' life, death and resurrection will be completed in the end.

Believe it. Live it. All the way. Together, with the people of God.

"But thanks be to God! He gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ! (I Cor. 15:57)

*Love, Pastor Mike*

## IMPORTANT DATES

**POTLUCK Meal, Bible Study, Choir Practice**  
**Wed, December 6**  
**6pm**

**Second Sunday of Advent**  
**December 10**  
**11am**

**Coffee & Friends**  
**Sun, Dec. 10, 6pm**

**Christmas Cantata**  
**Sun, Dec. 17, 6:30pm**

**Christmas Dinner**  
**Wed, Dec. 20, 6pm**

**Candlelight Communion Service**  
**Sun, December 24**  
**11pm**

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## DEACONS 2023 - 2024

John Mark Adrian	328-5564
Jeff Cantrell	275-9427
Debbie Collins	393-3875
Jeff Elkins	393-5700
Butch Hutchinson	393-5008
Stan Kunigelis	870-2227
Lewey Lee	393-5370
David Mullins	870-0005
John Ponish	870-1593

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



### *Annual Christmas Dinner*

*Wednesday,  
December 20, 6pm  
Fellowship Hall*

**\$10 per person**  
**turkey, ham, broccoli, potato casserole,  
cranberry casserole, salad, rolls, desserts**

*\*Please SIGN UP by calling Terry  
(276-870-2712), or using your  
Communication Card on Sunday mornings.*



### *Stewardship - Bless and Be Blessed*

*"In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and  
He shall direct thy paths." ~ Proverbs 3:6*

May you be blessed, through your caring heart, your desire to reach the lost, your giving attitude ... all through being stewards of God's Work here at Wise Baptist Church.

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.

*As you pray, please remember...*



Gil & Martha Blackburn, Family of Chris Rose, Brian, brother of Brenda Kunigelis, Kathy Osborne & Family, Susan Smith & Family, Savannah Adams, Jim Sturgill, Clyde Vance, Jean Aker, Linda Burgess, Wanda Baird, Family of Jeanne Stallard, Phyllis Hatcher, Jim Dotson, John & Kathy Kennedy, Wendy Adrian & Family, Megan (Burton) Douglas, Rev. Michael Weller, Brenda Lee, Edgar Mullins (Grace's brother), Rowyn Malott (great-niece of Teresa & Billy Glines), Harold Stallard, Mike Smith's sister Lynn, Beth Snodgrass, Adele Plester (Brenda Kunigelis' sister-in-law), Lorna Wherry & family, (sister of Brenda Kunigelis), Natalie Luther, Russell, Miles & Mason Wampler, Ray Jones & family, 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) - Lakeland, FL

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

### *The Jesse Tree*

**Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24**



During each Sunday of Advent our children will be invited to decorate the Jesse Tree during worship. Each ornament represents people & events that God used to prepare the world for Jesus. Afterwards, during Children's Church, the children are invited to make their own Jesse Tree ornaments that they can use at home.



**Only 12 days until our  
CHRISTMAS CANTATA (Dec. 17) !**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*You  
are  
invited!*

*Coffee & Friends is  
always a good idea!*



Dear friends,

We would like to invite you to come over to our house for dessert & coffee (apple cider, etc.) on Sunday evening, Dec. 10.

We look forward to you joining us on from 6:00 - 7:30pm!

Feel free to call Terry (276-870-2712) or use the sign-up posters in the foyer, hall & fellowship hall.



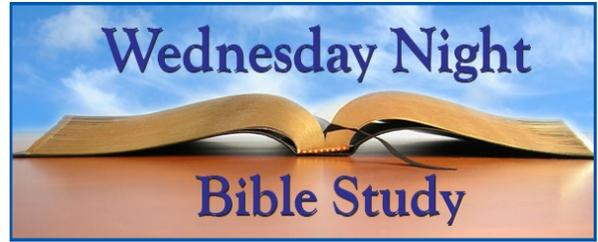
*Love, Mike & Terry*



*Scripture  
for the Week:*

**1 Corinthians 15:57**

“But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!”



Join us tomorrow evening for  
POTLUCK at 6pm &  
Bible Study at 7pm!



**AS WE REFLECT ON HOW VERY  
BLESSED WE ARE AT THIS TIME  
OF YEAR,  
REMEMBER...**

our Wise County Food Bank & WBC  
Grab-n-Go Ministries!

Nonperishable items can be placed

in the white

containers by

the

elevator.



**20 days until Christmas...**



# BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, MUSIC

## Happy Birthday!

December 5 Heath Chisenhall  
Kevin Dotson  
December 7 Brittany Criswell  
December 9 Robert Baird  
December 10 Penny Greenwood  
Jane Hughes  
December 11 Jessica Crutchfield  
December 13 Damel Calvert  
December 14 Jim Sturgill

## Happy Anniversary!

December 7  
John & Karen Ponish  
December 11  
John Mark & Wendy Adrian



## WBC Music Ministry

### Preparing Our Hearts for Christmas: A Christ-Centered Celebration

As the festive season approaches, it's easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of holiday preparations. From decorating our homes to finding the perfect gifts, the true essence of Christmas can sometimes be overshadowed by the glitter & glamour. This year, let's take a moment to refocus our hearts & minds on the reason for the season: the birth of Jesus Christ.

**Reflect on the Gift of Christ** Christmas is a celebration of the greatest gift ever given to humanity—Jesus Christ. He came into the world not with fanfare & opulence but humbly, in a manger, to bring hope & salvation to all. As we prepare for Christmas, let's reflect on the profound impact of Christ's birth & life on our own lives.

**Create Meaningful Traditions** Incorporate Christ-centered traditions into your holiday routine. Whether it's reading the Nativity story on Christmas Eve, attending a candlelight service, or volunteering at a local shelter, these activities can help us remember the selfless love of Jesus & inspire us to spread kindness & compassion.

**Share the Joy of Christ** Christmas is a time of joy, & what better way to celebrate than by sharing that joy with others? Reach out to those who may be lonely or in need, & extend the warmth & love that Christ exemplified. A simple act of kindness can make a world of difference to someone during the holidays.

**Embrace the Peace of Christ** Amid the festivities, take time to experience the peace that Christ brings. Set aside moments for prayer, meditation, or simply being still in His presence. Let His peace fill your heart & home, creating a sanctuary of calm in the midst of the seasonal rush.

As we prepare for Christmas, let's remember to keep Christ at the center of our celebrations. Wishing you a blessed & Christ-filled Christmas!

*Joy, Peace and Love, Donna*



**A BIG THANK YOU to  
Karen Ponish & the  
Children's Ministry Team  
for coordinating the  
Birthday Party for Jesus  
on this past Saturday!**



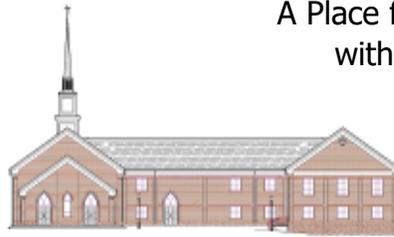
This is how much I love you!

# December 2023



					1	2
					B - Jeff Dotson B - Brenda Kunigelis	<b>Birthday Party for Jesus</b> <b>3 - 4:30pm</b> <b>Fellowship Hall</b> B - Lalah Grace Lyon
<b>3</b> 8:30am - Deacons' mtg. 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship onsite/online - Jesse Tree - Children's Church - Communion 6pm - Coffee & Friends B - Teresa Glines A - Cub & Jennifer Mullins	<b>4</b> Piecemakers, 9:30am B - Nathan Lee	<b>5</b> B - Kevin Dotson	<b>6</b> 6pm - POTLUCK 7pm - Bible Study 7:45pm - Choir Practice B - Brittany Criswell A - John & Karen Ponish	<b>7</b> 6:30am - Men's Bible Study B - Brittany Criswell A - John & Karen Ponish	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> B - Robert Baird
<b>10</b> 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship onsite/online - Jesse Tree - Children's Church 6pm - Coffee & Friends B - Penny Greenwood B - Jane Hughes	<b>11</b> B - Jessica Crutchfield A - John Mark & Wendy Adrian	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 6pm - Fellowship Meal 7pm - Bible Study 7:45pm - Choir Practice B - Damel Calvert	<b>14</b> 6:30am - Men's Bible Study B - Jim Sturgill	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship onsite/online - Jesse Tree - Children's Church 6:30pm - CHRISTMAS CANTATA	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> A - Shane & Susan Mullins	<b>20</b> 6:00 pm  Christmas Dinner B - Bryan Crutchfield B - Marsha Tolbert	<b>21</b> 6:30am - Men's Bible Study Fellowship Hall B - Phyllis Hatcher B - Dallas Kennedy B - Jon Kennedy	<b>22</b> B - Phyllis Hatcher B - Dallas Kennedy B - Jon Kennedy	<b>23</b> DEC. 23: B - Sherlene Hall DEC. 24: B - Jim Collie B - Carolyn Strouth B - William Sturgill B - Lois Tveit
<b>24</b> 9:30am - Donuts & Coffee - The Chosen Christmas Special 11am - Worship onsite/online - Jesse Tree - Children's Church 11pm - CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION B - Linsay Allio B - Diana Roberts B - Miles Wampler	<b>25</b> Christmas Special  MERRY CHRISTMAS	<b>26</b> B - Linsay Allio B - Diana Roberts B - Miles Wampler	<b>27</b> NO ACTIVITIES B - Nova Leigh Greene	<b>28</b> 6:30am - Men's Bible Study Fellowship Hall	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> B - Paul Maine
<b>31</b> 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship onsite/online - Children's Message A - Jeff & Cindy Elkins					B = Birthday A = Anniv.	If your birthday or anniversary is not included, please call the church office at 276-328-6247

A Place for Faith and Fellowship  
with Family and Friends



## Volunteers this Week

Deacons On Call	12/3 - 12/9	Butch Hutchinson, John Ponish
	12/10 - 12/16	Stan Kunigelis, John Mark Adrian
Building Stewards		Ron Helton, Scott Snodgrass
Instrumentalists		Susan Mullins, Susan Smith
Children's Church	12/10	Karen & John Ponish
	12/17	Jennifer & Cub Mullins
Offering Ushers	December	Ron Helton Team
	January	Jeff Dotson Team
Tellers	December	Matt Meade, Mike Srouth
	January	Jessica Crutchfield, Ruby Salyers
Wed. Night Meals	12/6	POTLUCK Meal
	12/13	Meatloaf, Baked Potatoes, Veggies
Wed. Serving Teams	12/6	<u>Volunteers</u> needed for set up & clean up
	12/13	Teresa's Team: Pat Adkins, Linda Burgess, Eileen Cantrell, Susan Smith



## WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday	Sunday School	10:00 am
	Worship	11:00 pm
Monday	Piecemakers (1st & 3rd)	9:30 am
	Caring Friends (2nd & 4th)	
Wednesday	Bible Study via Fb Live	7:00 pm
	Choir Practice	7:45 pm
Thursday	Men's Bible Study	6:30 am
	Laurels Ministry (3rd)	1:30pm

## Rev. Mike Winters Contact Information

**Mailing Address:** 8915 Red Maple Dr.,  
Wise, VA 24293

**E-mail:** [mikewinters@wisebaptist.com](mailto:mikewinters@wisebaptist.com)

**Phone:** 276.328.6247 **Cell:** 540.280.5598

Phone: (276) 328-6247 Website: [www.wisebaptist.com](http://www.wisebaptist.com) Email: [tllwinters@gmail.com](mailto:tllwinters@gmail.com) Fax: 276-328-6204

**Wise Baptist Church**  
**P.O. Box 777**  
**Wise, VA 24293**



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

## Thought for the Week:

*God's time has not run out!*