Pastor

Donna Hutchinson

Music Director

WISE BAPTIST NEWS

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

August 19, 2025



Dear Church Family & Friends.

Last things. For me as pastor at Wise Baptist Church. Leading Communion (August 3). book removed from bookshelves in my office. Turning off the lights for the last time. My last Wednesday night

Bible study (Aug. 20) My last newsletter article (today). My last Pastoral Letter (today). My last sermon (Aug. 24).

My working relationship with Donna Hutchinson, our Music Director. She has been a great blessing to me, personally! Her energy. Her love for God and our people.

To sum it up. It means a change of a fourteen-year relationship with the dear people of Wise Baptist. I have some sadness about that. But also, gratitude. To have the privilege of leading and being the people of God at Wise Baptist Church. Together. Thank you for that opportunity.

The last Book written in the New Testament is the book of Revelation. It begins with a phrase that not only sums up the book of Revelation, but the whole Bible. Revelation I:I, "The Revelation from Jesus Christ..."

In this life, last things or endings can turn into beginnings. The crucifixion of Jesus ended His life. But it made way for His resurrection. A new beginning.

Endings involve grief. Beginnings invite hope for the future.

I am thankful for the past fourteen years with you as your pastor. Terry and I have prayed and discovered a new beginning, beyond August 24. It means being a good steward of the abilities God has given us. It gives us hope for the future.

What are the endings in your life? And the new beginnings God is giving you?

With great love and affection, Pastor Mike

How to Join Wise Baptist Church:

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

† Transfer of Letter † Baptism

Transfer membership to Wise Baptist Church 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

IMPORTANT DATES

Fellowship Meal Wed, Aug. 20 6pm

Bible Study Wed, August 20, 7pm

Annual Church Business Meeting Wed, August 27, 7pm

Christmas Cantata Rehearsals Begin Wed, Sept. 10, 7:45pm

INSIDE

| Prayer Requests | Pages 2 | |
|------------------|-----------|--|
| Announcements | Pages 2-3 | |
| Bdays/Anniv. | Page 4 | |
| Search Committee | Page 5 | |
| Opportunities | Page 6 | |
| | | |

DEACONS 2024 - 2024

| 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**

ANNOUNCEMENTS





PLEASE WELCOME

THE NEWEST MEMBERS

OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY!



This Week's Scripture: Revelation 1:1-2

The revelation of Jesus Christ that God gave Him to show His slaves what must quickly take place. He sent it and signified it through His angel to His slave John, who testified to God's word and to the testimony about Jesus Christ, in all he saw.

Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to Greg, Kimbery & Lalah Lyon as well as to David & Sandy Mullins in the death of Greg's mother, Betty Lyon. Betty passed away August 17 after a recent diagnoses of ALS. Please keep this family in your prayers.

As you pray, please remember...

Wilma Vanover, Greg, Kimberly Lyon, David & Sandy Mullins & family, Brenda Lee, Jerry & Wanda Baird, Alan Adkins, David Luther, Carlie Tomlinson, Irene Humphries, Mike Smith, Megan Moody, Wendy Adrian, Terry



Winters, Bonnie Aker, David & Sandy Mullins, Frances Sturdavant, Janes Hughes, Grace Allio, Kathy Helton, Jim & Judy Sturgill, John & Kathy Kennedy, Jordan Joseph (grandson of Virginia Ebert), Natalie Luther, those affected by Hurricane Helene & Hurricane Milton, Jim & June Dotson, Cyrus Jones, Donna Hutchinson, Andy Johnson (Cyndi Newlon's brother), Lorna Wherry & Brian Plester (siblings of Brenda Kunigelis), 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

Giving is an Act of Worship

Our stewardship of God's work at Wise Baptist Church is an opportunity of spiritual

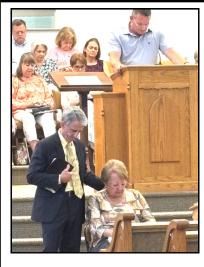


sacrifice. Our stewardship is an opportunity for each of us to express our love and gratitude to the One who has given us everything. And our stewardship allows us to be a part of God changing lives and souls.

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

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10

ANNOUNCEMENTS





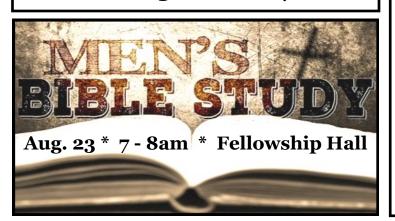
On Sunday, August 17, we celebrated the ordination of Ruby

Salyers to the Deacon Ministry of Wise Baptist Church. Ruby was presented with a white hand towel to represent the example that Jesus set for us when He washed & dried the disciples' feet, and to represent the servant role of Deacons as mentioned in 1 Timothy.



Ages 5 - Grade 4

Every Sunday, during Worship!





August 19, 2025

Dear Church Family and Friends,

I have so loved serving as your church secretary these past nine & a half years! Thank you for your patience!

And what great working conditions! Mike as my "boss" & Donna has my coworker! We have laughed & cried & prayed through many situations as we have done ministry & done life together!

Also, I have really enjoyed working alongside Matt Collins this week, & excited that he has been hired as our new church secretary!

I am so very thankful that Mike & I get to live in Wise and still worship & serve with all of you. I love each of you so very much!

In His love, Terry



FRIDAY, AUG. 29 11AM-3PM

POWELL VALLEY NATIONAL BANK
WALK-INS WELCOME



Make new friends & join old friends for Bible study & fellowship each Sunday morning at 10am!

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, MUSIC

Nappy Birthday!

August 19 Rose Kennedy August 20 Teresa Adkins

Holden Osborne

Cindy Elkins

August 21 Suzanne Baird

Cindi Farmer

Paul Phillips

Sutton Polly

August 22 Alex Hall

August 23 Jeff Sturgill

August 24 Jerry Baird

August 25 Linda Bailey

Brenda Lee

August 27 Lainey Addington

August 28 Lisa Blankenbecler

Megan Moody



Scott & Beth Snodgrass

August 21

It's not too late to be a part of our 2025 Christmas Cantata!



WBC Music Ministry

stressful. We all need that.



The final days are here of Mike and Terry's pastorate and I am really sad. We have such a fun time in the church offices during the week. We joke and laugh and have a wonderful time while working. I sure will miss that, but I know that they NEED to have a retirement that is less demanding and all-encompassing and much less

I know things will be much different, but I am open to change and change can be good. Change, just for the sake of change is not good, but change allows us all to grow.

My whole life is changing! My work life will find change in the pastorate and secretary position, but my home life is also changing. On Thursday, I will be taking Jayda up to Radford and dropping her off for the semester. I'm really not ready for that. She and I have developed a routine at home. Sometimes I cook, sometimes, she is forced to cook because I just say I'm tired. We handle household chores by dividing them up. It has worked well for us since Butch died.

Now, I am struggling with both home and work life. I know that it will just take some getting used to, but in the meantime, if you see me more "scattered" than usual, just know that I am praying to get through this transition time.

Our pastor search committee is working hard to determine what we need in a pastor and find someone who is a good fit for us. Please keep praying for them because we know God already has someone picked out for us, we just have to find them.

Pray for me and Matt as he starts a new tenure as church secretary. There are lots of things that are requited in the offices that most people have no idea about. The secretary does not just type up the bulletin and newsletter – there is so much more in that job that unless you are here, you just don't think about.

So, as I often say, just PRAY! Pray for our church and the leadership, pray for our new secretary, pray for our pastor search committee, our new deacons and for me.

Peace, love & joy, Donna

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Pastor Search Committee Update

Dear Church Family,

On behalf of the Pastor Search Committee, (the Committee) I want to take a moment to share an update with you. The Committee has begun its work with prayer, careful discussion, and a shared commitment to seek the Lord's direction in every step of this process.

We held our first meeting on July 23, 2025, where the following officers were elected: Jeff Elkins, Chair; Jennifer Sturgill Mullins, Vice-Chair; and Ron Helton, Secretary.

On August 6, 2025, we met with Andy Barnes, Field Strategist for the Baptist General Association of Virginia's Southwest Region. Andy provided us with general guidelines for the pastor search process and has graciously agreed to assist us in arranging pulpit supply for Sunday morning services during the search.

At our meeting on August 13, 2025, the Committee began discussions towards arriving at a Pastoral Profile that will be used to solicit candidates. In the near future, the Committee will solicit the congregation's input to help shape this profile.

If you know of an individual who would like to be considered as a pastoral candidate, please have that person forward a résumé to: Pastor Search Committee

Wise Baptist Church

P.O. Box 777 Wise, VA 24293

or email it to jeff@jeffelkinslaw.com.

I want to assure you that we take this responsibility very seriously, knowing the importance of finding the shepherd whom God has already prepared for our church. While we desire to complete the search as soon as practically possible, we are equally committed to moving only in accordance with God's perfect timing. We trust that His plan for our church is both good and sure, and we want to be faithful to follow it.

We ask for your continued prayers for unity, wisdom, and discernment as we review candidates, seek input, and listen to the Lord's leading. Please also pray for the pastor God is preparing for us—that his heart will be ready to respond when the Lord calls him here.

Thank you for your patience, encouragement, and faith as we walk this journey together. We will continue to keep you informed as our work progresses.

In Christ,
Jeff Elkins
Chairperson, Pastor Search Committee

| Volunteers this Week | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------|---|--|--|
| Deacons On Call | 8/17 - 8/23 | Matt Meade, Ruby Salyers | | |
| | 8/24 - 8/30 | Ron Helton, Stan Kunigelis | | |
| Building Stewards | | Ron Helton, Scott Snodgrass | | |
| Instrumentalists | | Susan Mullins, Susan Smith | | |
| Sunday School Greeters | August | John Mark & Isabella Adrian | | |
| | September | David & Sandy Mullins | | |
| Children's Church | August 24 | Lisa Blankenbecler, Ann Wade | | |
| | August 31 | The Adrian Family | | |
| Offering Ushers | August | Jeff Dotson Team Matt Meade, Mike Strouth | | |
| Tellers | August | | | |
| Wed. Night Meals | 8/20 | Tacos or Fajitas, Rice, Beans | | |
| | 8/27 | Hamburgers, French Fries | | |
| Wed. Cook Teams | 8/20 | <u>Donna'a Team:</u> Debbie Collins, Trish Folds-Bennett, Susan Mullins | | |
| | 8/27 | Don Newlon and Deacons | | |



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

Rev. Mike Winters Contact Information

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

E-mail: mikewinters@wisebaptist.com **Phone:** 276.328.6247 **Cell:** 540.280.5598

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

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

BACK TO SCHOOL





Like us at: Wise Baptist Church

Thought for the Week:

What are the endings in your life? And the new beginnings?