# WISE BAPTIST NEWS

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

**July 8, 2025** 



## Dear Church Family & Friends.

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrates the founding of our country in And religious liberty. Thomas Jefferson considered his authoring the Virginia Statute for

Religious Freedom as his greatest contribution. An inscription beside his grave says that.

Our religious freedom needs to be protected. From anyone forcing their particular religious views on everybody else.

One always-controversial subject is prayer in schools. One side sees itself as for God. That same side also sees those who oppose prayer in public schools as anti-God.

Personally, I am very much for prayer. It is a lifeline of faith and communication with God.

However, if prayer is led by a teacher in a public-school classroom, what kind of faith does that teacher have? What if you are opposed to that kind of faith? What if you approve, but twenty other parents disapprove?

Who decides who is "qualified" to lead in the prayer?

It gets complicated.

In my opinion, the guarantee of religious liberty protects everyone. From those with different religions imposing their beliefs on anyone else.

The Apostle Paul says, "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3:28)

Love. Pastor Mike

#### How to Join Wise Baptist Church:

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

† Transfer of Letter

† Watch Care

† 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

Desire to be connected to our Church family without official membership

### MPORTANT DATES

Bible Study Wed, July 9, 7pm

No Wed. evening meals or Choir Practice during the summer

> **Holy Communion** Sunday, JULY 13 11am

Special Called Business Meeting Wed, <u>July 16</u>, 7pm

Cookie Donations \*needed by July 28

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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** 

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



## <u>WEDNESDAY</u>, <u>JULY 16</u> <u>7:00pm</u>

There will be a
special called business meeting
in the sanctuary
to elect & commission
a Pastor Search Committee.
Please plan to attend.



Thank you to the volunteers who helped clean the church before and after the CLSP mission teams the past three Saturdays:

Mike Winters, Matt Meade, Billie Harris, Bavid Luther, and his daughters Madison and Natalie, Kathy Osborne, Jack and Marsha Tolbert, and Johnny Robinson. They willingly gave up their Saturday mornings to perform hard work in service to the mission teams, and deserve a round of applause! And thank you, John Ponish, for providing the leadership and dedication necessary to make this happen.

God bless you, every one! (to paraphrase Tiny Tim)

~ Diane Cornett

# This Week's Scripture:

**Galatians 3:26-28** 

"...for you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is no Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

### As you pray, please remember... {

David & Sandy Mullins, Frances Sturdavant, Judy Sturgill, Janes Hughes, Grace Allio, Brenda Lee, Kathy Helton, Jim Sturgill, Wanda Baird, Travis Dutton, Donna Raines,



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), 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).



# JULY 20 & 21! BROWN BAG

**MINISTRY** 

WBC will be packing 60 - 70 food boxes on <u>Sunday, July 20</u> and delivering these to homes in Wise County on Monday, JULY 21.

<u>Please contact</u> Billie Sue Harris or Debbie Collins if you are available to help **deliver** boxes or pack them!

# Cookies Needed!

Becky Curtis (coordinator of the Fairgrounds Back to School Giveaway) is requesting donations of large packages of cookies by **JULY 28!** 

Cookies can be placed in the box in the hall near the elevator.

Thank you for your generosity!!



### BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, MUSIC



# Nappy Anniversary!

Jeff & Kathy Dotson	July 11
Steve & Margie Horton	July 14
Adam & Nicole Sexton	July 16
Ethan & Lily Elkins	July 18



# Being Faithful Stewards

Faithful stewards recognize that God owns it all. Once we accept & understand this foundation of stewardship, we can grow and mature in gratitude, contentment,

patience, generosity, & faith.

May we all long to grow to be faithful 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 & offerings may be mailed to Wise Baptist Church, PO Box 777, Wise VA 24293, or brought by the Church anytime during open hours.

"In all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:6

# WBC Music Ministry



We have covered 4 ways of growing in our Christianity through: Staying eager to change, Learning for real growth - not the accumulation of knowledge, Being generous, and Investing in the next generation.

Today, we will cover: Read and LISTEN to new voices, Volunteer at your church and local mission organizations and Share your testimony.

The Bible is always going to be the Bible, but each and every day, you have theologians and scholars who are reading and publishing new ways to think about different passages. Will you agree with everything that they write? I hope not, but it will get you thinking about it and may cause you to think a bit different on certain subjects. You may know the Bible, but unless you have reason to question, you will never REALLY know what you believe or think you believe.

This leads to the next point about volunteering at your church. If you are older and have been involved in our church for X number of years, YOU have knowledge and wisdom and experience to back that up. You need to share that with others who are not as experienced as you are. Why keep that all for yourself? The only way you are going to be able to share it, is to VOLUNTEER. No younger person is going to walk up to you after worship and ask you how you feel about a certain topic, but if you are in a Bible study group, they might. Young Christians are questioning Christians and we need to have answers for them.

And this then naturally leads to sharing your testimony. You may not always have that opportunity in your normal, everyday life of reaching out to others, but if you are active in our church, you "tell" that testimony by your activities and works that you do. You can speak your testimony in smaller groups, in Sunday School or even on mission trips. (See last week's newsletter about being involved in missions and being the person that visits with others and talks).

Peace, love & joy, Donna





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<u>JULY 2:</u> B - Tabi A - Ray	<b>l</b> tha Ray & Jennifer Spenilla	2 <u>7pm</u> - Bible Study online ONLY 7/2 NO Fellowship Mea or Choir Practice during summer	<b>3</b> Is	4 HAPPY 4th!	5
Appa	lachian Servic	e Project —			B - Peggy Bowling	<b>→</b>
6 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship onsite/online	7 Piecemakers, 9:30am	8	9 7pm - Bible Study	10	П	12
- Children's Church B - Lu Elworth B - Jayda Hutchinson B - Riley Smith A - John & Kathy Kennedy		B - Rick Meade B - Maverick Mullins B - Andrew Sexton	<b>NO</b> Fellowship Mea or Choir Practice during summer B - Wilma Graham	S B - Marybeth Adkins B - Jennifer Spenilla B - Erra Sutherland	B - Kenny Bowling B - Lloyd Tomlinson B - Sandy Yun A - Jeff & Kathy Dotson	B - Braden Hall
13 8:30am - Deacons' mtg. 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship onsite/online - Children's Church - Holy Communion	l 4 Caring Friends, 9:30am A - Steve & Margie Horto	B - Ayden Browning n B - Lily Sexton	B - Cheryl Estep B - Elora Thompson B - Landon Whittaker A - Adam & Nicole Sex	17 1:30pm - Laurels Ministry	B - Charlie Hibbitts B - Will Sturgill A - Ehtan & Lily Elkins	19  B - Wayne Isaac
20 I0am - Sunday School I1am - Worship onsite/online - Children's Church  BROWN B - Carlie Tomlinson	Piecemakers, 9:30am  BAG  B - Vicki Stephens	22 B - Dave Belcher	23 7pm - Bible Study  NO Fellowship Mea or Choir Practice during summer  A - Doug & Betty Do	ls B - Debbie Collins B - Bonnie Owens	B - Susie Blanton B - Oscar Raile A - Kenny & Peggy Bowl A - John & Diana Robert	
27 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship onsite/online - Children's Message  B—Allen Cantrell B - Cam Chisenhall	28 Caring Friends, 9:30am Deadline for Cookie Donations B - Ron Helton B - Oliver Ray	29	30 7pm - Bible Study NO Fellowship Mea or Choir Practice during summer  B - Melisssa Blackburn		B = Birthday A = Anniversary	If your birthday or anniversary is not included, please call the church office at 276-328-6247

### **Volunteers this Week**

Deacons On Call	7/6 - 7/12	Lewey Lee, David Mullins
	7/13 - 7/19	Ruby Salyers, Jeff Elkins
Building Stewards		Ron Helton, Scott Snodgrass
Instrumentalists		Susan Mullins, Susan Smith
Sunday School Greeters	July	Linda Burgess
Children's Church	July 13	Jennifer & Cub Mullins
	July 20	John Mark & Isabella Adrian
Offering Ushers	July	Ron Helton Team
	August	Jeff Dotson Team
Tellers	July	Don Newlon, Oscar Raile
Wed. Night Meals	August	Matt Meade, Mike Strouth NO Fellowship Meals during the summer





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 (will resume in the fall) Bible Study Choir Practice (will resume in the fall)	6:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:30 pm		
Thursday	Laurels Ministry (3rd)	1:30 pm		
Saturday	Men's Bible Study (will resume in the fall)	7 - 8 am		

### **Rev. Mike Winters Contact Information**

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

Wise, VA 24293 **E-mail:** mikewinters@wisebaptist.com **Phone:** 276.328.6247 **Cell:** 540.280.5598

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





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## Thought for the Week:

The greatest freedom of all comes from knowing Jesus.