

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

December 6, 2016

A place for faith and fellowship with family and friends.



Dear church family and friends,

“Let There Be Christmas”...our Christmas cantata and program...there are not adequate words to describe it! It was breathtaking, inspiring, worshipful, and memorable. I did not want it to end. There were piano and harp solos, individual and group songs, handbells, and choreographed music, and then the cantata. A highlight is always the triumphant ending, the “Hallelujah Chorus”!

Our cantata is a ministry to our church and community. It would not have been possible without the passionate and careful leadership of our Minister of Music and Youth, Leigh Clark. Thank you, Leigh! It would not have been possible without the patient and faithful attention of our accompanist, Susan Mullins. Thank, you Susan! Thanks to each person who had a part: singers, ringers, instrumentalists, choreographed presenters, narrator, sound operator, folks who set up, preparations for the fellowship, those who attended, and for the prayers and support of our congregation.

I am not a musician, but I have had enough musical experiences in life to appreciate the value of music and, therefore, the music ministry that Leigh has developed over the years. Though I have only been here five years, this cantata and program had to be the best!

The first musician was Jubal (Gen. 4:21), who played the harp and flute. The Psalms, 150 of them, are the hymn book of the Old Testament. Luke 2:14 is part of a song where the angels announce the birth of our Savior. The Last Supper, which points to Jesus’ death, was observed by the disciples, after which they sang a hymn. Finally, in Revelation 4:7-8, our Risen Savior is worshipped as the hosts of heaven sing, “Holy, Holy, Holy”.

Listen for the music of Christmas this season and all seasons. You are invited sing and hear that music with us.

Love, Pastor Mike

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

IMPORTANT DATES

Kindred Spirits
December 6, 6pm

Children’s Christmas Program
December 11, 4pm

Christmas Dinner
December 14, 6pm

Reception for Leigh & Mark Clark
December 17, 3pm

Children’s Christmas Caroling
December 18, 5:30pm

Church-Wide Christmas Caroling
December 21, 7pm

Candlelight Communion
December 24, 11pm

Christmas Day Service
December 25, 11am

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DEACONS 2016-17

Jerry Baird	393-0923
Gil Blackburn	328-0046
Jeff Dotson	393-8417
Ron Helton	393-6145
John Kennedy	328-5013
Matt Meade	393-9177
Mike Osborne	365-0968
Edgar Owens	328-6129
Daniel Ray	328-2483

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 6 - Kindred Spirits...Join us Tuesday as Linda Bailey teaches us how to make snowmen! We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 6pm. Bring \$5, a snack & a friend.



Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, Dec. 11, 4pm

"God's Christmas Rainbow"

CHRISTMAS DINNER

We will have our annual Christmas Dinner on Wednesday, December 14 at 6pm...featuring our 3rd annual "Tacky Christmas Sweater" Contest! Please bring a side or dessert. Meats, drinks & bread will be provided.



TRAIN DISPLAY!

Jim & Sherry Collie graciously invite you to visit their Christmas train display anytime between now & after the New Year. Call them at 276-328-5133 to set up a visit.



Jewels of Alpine Europe Tour

Join Mike & Carolyn Strouth May 1 - 13, 2017 for a 13-day guided tour...

"Journey from Switzerland's mountain-lined Lake Lucerne to France's inspiring Lake Annecy. Take in the picturesque Chamonix Valley & stroll along Italy's Lake Como. Then, cross Liechtenstein & hit the winter wonderland of Innsbruck before heading to Munich, the lively capital of Bavaria."

Contact Mike Strouth at 865-394-8930 or amstrouth@gmail.com if you are interested.

As you pray, please remember...

Pat Boggs, Ray and Carolyn Jones, Artie and Clifford Bailey, John and Kay Wright, Pat and Fred Adkins, Bea and Glenn Hill, all the cancer patients in our area, and our men and women in the military.



Hospitalized: Wesley Kennedy (Florida), Irene Black (NCH Rehab), Kim Boggs (Nashville)

Our Shut Ins: Elizabeth Davidson (Heritage Hall - Wise), 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).

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



Children's Christmas Caroling Sunday, December 18

We will meet at the church bus at 5:30pm & travel to Bear Creek Subdivision to carol from house to house.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Many thanks to Kathy Dotson & everyone who helped with our Parents' Night Out on December 3! We had 12 wonderful volunteer helpers & 17 energetic children!

END-OF-YEAR GIVING

As we look back over the year 2016, we can see how richly God has blessed us. His greatest Gift was His only Son! It is a good time to consider what we will give back to God. Your giving is vital to the ministries of Wise Baptist Church. Won't you consider an end-of-year gift to WBC? Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, December 17

Please plan to join us on

Saturday, December 17

at 3:00 pm

as we honor Leigh & Mark Clark

and express appreciation

for her 19 years

of Music and Youth Ministry

at Wise Baptist Church!



Dear Leigh **CLARK**,

We'd just like to **TAKE 5** to tell you how **EXTRA** special you are! Wow! 19 years of ministry at Wise Baptist Church!! So many memories...

- * **100 GRAND** choir rehearsal
- * **HOT TAMALES** at El Castillo and Mi Finca
- * Shopping **SPREES** on **5TH AVENUE** in New **YORK** (or was that shopping at Walmart in Norton for Operation Christmas Child?)
- * Watching all of those **SUGAR BABIES** grow up into **SMARTIES** & head off to college or jobs
- * Attending countless sports events to support our youth when they **SKOR** & to encourage them when they have **BUTTERFINGERS**
- * **GOOD & PLENTY** fun & worshipful times on youth retreats & mission trips
- * Telling lots of **WHOPPERS** after those senior adult bus trips - (but what happens on those trips, stays on those trips...!)
- * Directing amazing Christmas cantatas—20 in all! Why, with all of those **WHATCHAMACALLIT** musical instruments each year, it's just like listening to a **SYMPHONY!**



We've shared many **SNICKERS** and sometimes tear, but we thank God that we could minister together these many years!

HUGS & KISSES & MOUNDS of love—

both **NOW & LATER!**

Christmas is a time for giving...

Camp Bethel and Southwest VA Partnership

Camp Bethel has served our community for 77 years. Giving is down significantly. They currently have critical financial needs that will need to be met or their future may be in doubt. Many people receiving this newsletter have personally benefitted from the ministry of Camp Bethel. You may have attended camps as a child, driven through the Christmas light display, attended various events or fellowships, etc. If you would like to give to this ministry, you can donate to:

Camp Bethel Ministries
P.O. Box 390
Wise, VA 24293

Another important ministry is the Southwest Virginia Partnership (SWVP). It is sponsored by Virginia Baptist churches. The coordinators, Tony and Jan Johnson, have spoken in our church several times. People from Wise Baptist have served on the SWVP board and on various SWVP projects. Some in our church have benefitted from their services. 500 people travel from all over the state to our region to engage in: construction and service projects for the elderly, disabled, and less fortunate. Many mission teams are housed and fed in the building operated by the SWVP. Each year they take on 40 projects, at an average cost of \$1,500 each. If you would like to give to support this ministry, you can donate to:

Southwest Virginia Partnership, Inc.
P.O. Box 145
Nickelsville, VA 24271

Handmade Christmas Ornaments

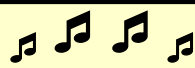
See Sherlene Hall to purchase Christmas ornaments made by women in India. All proceeds will be used for local mission projects. Small ornaments are \$8, large are \$12.



ADVENT SEASON...



- ⇒ Join us on Sunday as we continue the season of Advent. This Sunday we will celebrate the JOY of Christ.
- ⇒ We will also continue our tradition of The Jesse Tree with our children in worship.
- ⇒ We will celebrate the coming of the Christ Child with a special Christmas Eve Communion service at 11:00 pm.
- ⇒ Christmas Day is on a Sunday. We will share a special time of worship at 11am at Wise Baptist Church.



From Leigh

What a joy to have Brad Morris home this weekend! He is doing so well with his school/work in Ohio. But, I miss him and cherish the opportunity to “catch up” and to sing together. I am thankful to Martha and Gil for hosting him in their home.

I would like to say a special word of thanks to the Jubilation Ringers for sharing their music at The Inn on Friday. We had a great crowd!

Susan Mullins, Mike Osborne, Dave Belcher, Teresa Adkins and Sherlene Hall deserve a huge shout-out this week! Their work for the cantata is often done “out of sight”. But, it would not be possible to have a program of that caliber without these willing, faithful people. Thank you!

It was a blessing to have a house full of family. Mark and I know how precious it is to have our parents active and healthy enough to travel in for special moments. Thank you for the gracious welcome that they always receive at Wise Baptist Church.



The cantata was so wonderful. The choir worked so very hard to prepare this cantata for this church and community but mostly it was a gift to honor God. What a beautiful gift! I am grateful and humbled to be their leader.

I am really struggling to write this week because of the conflicting emotions that I am experiencing—the euphoria of a glorious night vs the realization that my ministry here is coming to a close. Let’s make every moment count!

On Sunday, the choir and Misty will provide our music for worship. On Sunday afternoon, plan to be here at 4 pm for our children’s Christmas program. You don’t want to miss out!

On December 18, Casey Mullins and Anna Clark will be home to share some music with us during worship:!) And, the choir will sing “He is the Rock” and the “Hallelujah Chorus” will serve as the benediction. It will be a glorious day!

I am praying for you this week; pray for each other, too.
Blessings, Leigh



- December 8 Brittany Criswell
- December 9 Robert Baird
- December 11 Jessica Crutchfield
- December 14 Jim Sturgill
- December 16 Irene Black
- Taylor Gardner



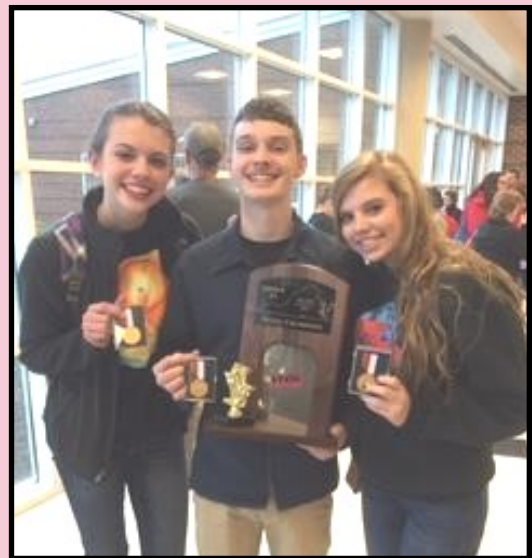
December 7 John & Karen Ponish

“Let There Be Christmas”

ARC-TV made a video recording of the cantata on Sunday evening. It will be airing this month. DVD’s will also be available for purchase.

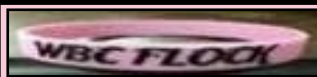
Call 276.679.4000 to inquire.

CONGRATULATIONS!



The Central One Act Team are once again State Champions! Way to go FLOCK members:

Emma Snodgrass, Noah Hall, and Mary Stuedemann!!



On Sunday, **December 11** you are invited to the FLOCK Christmas party. We will gather at the Elkins’ home from 6-8 pm. The menu is “finger foods” so bring something to share. We are also going to have a gag gift exchange—get creative!

Thank you to **The LIGHT** for a very meaningful and powerful performance of “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” on Sunday.



A wonderful crowd gathered at The Inn at Wise to hear The Jubilation Ringers on Friday evening.



"Let There Be Christmas!"...our 20th Annual Christmas Cantata!

Celebrating Advent



Volunteers this Week

Deacons On Call:	12/4-12/10	Daniel Ray, Edgar Owens
	12/11-12/17	Ron Helton, Jerry Baird
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:	12/11	David & Sandy Mullins
	12/18	Bob & Teresa Adkins
Nursery:	12/11	Abbie Crutchfield & Jessica Crutchfield
	12/18	Stephen & Julie Large
Children's Church:	12/11	John & Karen Ponish
PA:	12/11	Marty Adkins
	12/18	Mike Osborne
Tellers:	December	Cliff Carson, Mike Strouth
	January	Martha Blackburn, David Mullins
Ushers:	12/11	Bryon Burton*, Jeff Dotson^, Marty Kennedy^, Jack Tolbert, Clyde Vance, Gil Blackburn, Dave Belcher
	12/18	Kenny Bowling*, Steve Horton^, Matt Meade^, Daniel Ray, Johnny Robinson, Jim Sturgill, Bob Adkins *Offertory Prayer; ^Choir Ushers)
Wed. Serving Teams:	12/7	Kathy Dotson, Jessica Crutchfield, Angela Gervais, Gail Kiser
	12/14	Martha Blackburn, Linda Burgess, Kathy Helton, Brenda Lee, Susie Powers, Susan Smith, Ann Wade, Vickie Wells
Wed. Meals:	12/7	BBQ, Baked Potatoes, Cole Slaw, Salad (NO POTLUCK)
	12/14	Christmas Dinner (meat, drinks, bread provided; Please bring side dishes & desserts
Children-in-Action:	12/7	Diana Roberts, Terry Winters
	12/14	Will not meet

Wise Baptist Church General Fund Giving Summary 9/4/16 - 11/27/16

General Fund Receipts To Date	\$ 74,340
<u>General Fund Needed To Date</u>	<u>\$ 77,621</u>
Variance	(\$ 3,281)
Average Weekly Variance	(\$ 252)
Weekly General Fund Budget	\$ 5,971

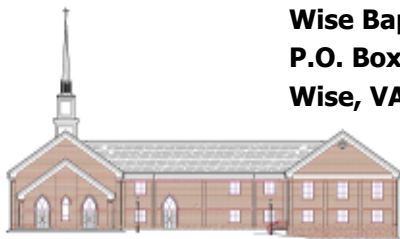
WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday	Sunday School	10:00 am
	Worship	11:00 am
	Youth	6:00 pm
Monday	Piecemakers (will recess in December)	9:30 am
	Caring Friends (will recess in December)	
	Singing Sunbeams	4-5 pm
Wednesday	Mission Ministry Team (1st)	5:00 pm
	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

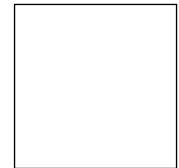
Rev. Mike Winters Contact Information

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E-mail: MikeWinters@wisebaptist.com
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
P.O. Box 777
Wise, VA 24293



A Place for Faith and Fellowship
 with Family and Friends



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

Thought for the week:
Listen for the music of
Christmas!