

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 20, 2016

A place for faith and fellowship with family and friends.



Dear church family and friends,

Goodbyes are hard. Leigh Clark wraps up nineteen years of service through Wise Baptist Church. Her imprint, love, passion, attention to detail, and forward-thinking have been felt not only in the areas of Music and Youth, but in every part of our church. I lack words and language to fully express myself here. Thank you, Leigh!

Leigh, you have been a colleague and friend who helped acclimate this “new kid” to our church five years ago. We have had many conversations about ministry and life. I will miss those times and our times of serving together. I will miss you! I believe we worked well together and complemented each other. (I complimented you and you complimented me! Ha, ha!)

Leigh and Mark are a team. Each shared their unique talents and gifts with us. Both are dear friends. Mark served as a Deacon, Sunday School teacher, Choir member and soloist to name only a few areas of service. Thank you, Mark! I will miss you!

Leigh and Mark are not dying. Both will still be nearby. We remain friends and Christian family. But, there is a significant change. It is a kind of death...of what was. Leigh will no longer have the role of Minister of Music and Youth at Wise Baptist, nor will Mark be serving here. Those changes will be felt in every part of our church.

Nineteen years...that is a good chunk of anyone’s life. January 1st will be different. We grieve the change. We give thanks for blessings Leigh and Mark brought into our church. We anticipate what God is going to do in their lives and the life of our church.

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

Caroling at the Laurels
December 21, 7pm

Candlelight Communion
December 24, 11pm

Christmas Day Service
December 25, 11am
(no Sunday School)

New Year’s Day Service
January 1, 2017
(no Sunday School)

Youth/Parents Planning Meeting
January 2, 6pm

Deacons’ Meeting
January 8, 8:30am

Children’s Ministry Team
January 8, 4pm

Leadership Team Meeting
January 12, 6:30pm

Church-Wide Birthday Party
January 15, 12noon

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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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO EVERYONE!!



You are cordially invited to attend a birthday party in your honor on Sunday, JANUARY 15 at 12:00 noon. That's right—we will be celebrating **EVERYONE'S** birthday at once at a church-wide Birthday Party following our morning worship service on January 15.

The Missions Committee will be serving a lasagna, salad & garlic bread lunch to help raise funds for future mission projects. The Children's Ministry Team will provide dessert (Birthday Cake), decorations and entertainment. There will be 12 tables (or more) set up in the fellowship hall - one for each month of the year. You can sign up on the Communication Card in your Sunday bulletin or contact Susie Powers.

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 & family, Irene Black, 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), Elizabeth Davidson (NCH, Norton)

Our Shut Ins: 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).

MANY THANKS to Butch Hutchinson for driving the church bus to Bear Creek Subdivision for the Children's Caroling event on Sunday evening! Thank you also to the parents & adults who went along - we had a great time caroling door-to-door & then enjoying hot chocolate at the Winters' home!

WINTER BIBLE STUDY!



Jan. 4—Feb. 22 at 7pm

"Malachi: Overcome Complacency"

Malachi speaks to our natural, human tendency to coast and drift, spiritually. He helps the people overcome doubt and discouragement and find their way back to God. Join Pastor Mike as he leads this timely Bible study.

Thank you to all of those who have been involved in our children's ministry during 2016!! The Children's Ministry Team will be meeting to continue making plans for 2017 at the Winters' home on Sunday, January 8 at 4pm.



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!

From the Personnel Committee about Future Staffing Needs:

Leigh concluded her ministry on Dec. 18. Therefore, steps are being taken to address needs in the areas of Music and Youth. Music is a very important part of our church and we are fortunate to have talented individuals to step up and fill in. Donna Hutchinson agreed to lead the choir, temporarily, until the Personnel Committee recommends a more permanent Music Director. Buster Brown has also agreed to help when he is in town. We look forward to what God is going to do in our church as we continue to worship and serve Him with the gifts He has given us.



Wise Baptist Church also values our youth and the Youth Ministry. The Personnel Committee will also address the need for a Youth leader. Volunteers will help fill in while we search for a more permanent leader. This is an occasion for parents, youth and the church to step up as we follow God's leadership for our church.

Please join us as we pray for the God's direction and wisdom.



- ⇒ **Dec. 21** - Fellowship Dinner (6pm), followed by caroling at the Laurels
- ⇒ **Dec. 22, 23** - Church Office closed
- ⇒ **Dec. 24** - Candlelight Communion, 11pm
- ⇒ **Dec. 25** - Christmas Day Service, 11am (No Sunday School)
- ⇒ **Dec. 26-28** - Church Office closed
- ⇒ **Dec. 27** - No Newsletter this week
- ⇒ **Dec. 28** - No activities
- ⇒ **Dec. 29-30** - Church Office open 9am - 12pm
- ⇒ **Jan. 1** - New Year's Day Service, 11am (No Sunday School)
- ⇒ **Jan. 2** - Church Office closed
- ⇒ **Jan. 4** - Fellowship Meal, 6pm
Bible Study led by Pastor Mike, 6:45pm
Choir Rehearsal, 7:50pm



YOUTH / PARENT PLANNING MEETING-

Monday, January 2, 2017, 6pm

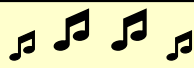
Winters' Home

All youth (grades 7 - 12), youth leaders, as well as parents & grandparents are welcome to join us on Monday, January 2 at Pastor Mike's & Terry's home at 6pm for 2017 brainstorming, planning & pizza! Bring your calendars!



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.



From Leigh

Well, it's hard to believe that 19+ years have come and gone! It has been a wonderful journey. Mark and I have loved and been loved by so many. Aaron and Anna were raised and nurtured here. We have many beautiful memories and some painful memories of our time with this fellowship of believers.

Friday night, Mark and I drove over to Kingsport to get out of the house for a little while. On the way home my phone rang; it was Pastor Ray. He and Carolyn called to say that they were sorry that they could not be at the reception on Saturday, but that they would be praying for us because they understood the emotional part of ending a long ministry. Ray and I recalled with great joy the years of ministry together. We were a "heck of a team", Ray said. I whole-heartedly agree. Working with Pastor Mike for the past 5 years has also been a tremendous blessing. He is an exceptional pastor and friend.

The reception on Saturday was beautiful. The love and affirmation for us from our friends was so touching. The food and fellowship was wonderful. The extravagant gift of the mandolin was so unexpected and awesome! Mark and I sat and read all of the lovely cards and letters written to us by many of you. We cherish those kind and thoughtful words and gifts.

The music ministry has grown and flourished because WBC is very blessed with wonderful musicians. The sanctuary choir is awesome and they are faithful in their role to lead worship each week. We have also grown in the areas of contemporary music and hand bells. It was so fitting to have the choir sing "He Is The Rock" and the "Hallelujah Chorus" on my final Sunday. "The Rock" has been a congregational favorite for years and it has a great message: *"My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteous. He is the Rock of Ages...the Chief and Cornerstone."*

What a blessing to have Casey Mullins and family join us in worship on Sunday morning. I always loved making music with Casey and I have such great memories of his time in youth and as a ministry intern with us at WBC.

I am a "privately emotional" person. I was holding it together until Anna began singing "Winter Snow". But, the realization that she wouldn't sing for WBC again was just too much. I also became emotional at the end of the service as I tried to express my gratitude. All of the hugs and tears at the end of the service were very special. I sat alone in my car crying in the parking lot for quite a while when I left the sanctuary because it is hard to say "goodbye" to people you love.

Know that Mark and I love you and are praying for you—the congregation, teachers, leaders, Deacons, youth, children and the future of this wonderful church—and especially for Mike and Terry.

Our friendship continues—please remember that! As always, I am praying for you. I treasure your prayers, as well.

Blessings and Love, Leigh



December 20	Bryan Crutchfield
	Marsha Tolbert
December 22	Dallas Kennedy
	Jon Kennedy
	Rick Mullins
December 23	Buster Brown
	Sherlene Hall
December 24	Jim Collie
	Carolyn Strouth
December 25	Lilyanna Harden
December 26	Linsay Allio
	Diana Roberts
December 27	Bea Hill
December 29	Patsy Boggs
	Vernoy Bolling
December 30	Paul Maine
December 31	Cameron Driver
January 2	Scott Snodgrass
January 3	Eileen Cantrell
	Caleb Godsey
January 4	Mark Collins
	Hazel Dixon



December 31

Jeff & Cindy Elkins

"Let There Be Christmas"

ARC-TV made a video recording of the Christmas Cantata. It will be airing this month. DVD's are available for purchase (\$20).

Call 276.679.4000 to place your order.



What great memories I will cherish forever of our many FLOCK adventures! My prayers are with you and know that you will see me at your events and special occasions! Thank you to Mark and Bryon for your love for this special group of people! I love you, FLOCK! #foreverFLOCK





We had a number of folks travel to Boone on Dec. 9 & 10 to help at the Operation Christmas Child Processing Center.



Thank you Leigh & Mark for 19 years of ministry at Wise Baptist!



Worship

December 18, 2016



TRUTH is joined by Casey Mullins on guitar, as well as Noah Hall, Marty Kennedy, Rachel Bailey, Kristen Osborne, Leigh Clark & Anna Clark.

Diana Roberts & Kim Hall lead the Jesse Tree devotional for the children (of all ages!)



Anna Clark sings
"Winter Snow"



Lighting the Advent
Candle
Cahoon Family



December 14...
the Annual Church-Wide
Christmas Dinner was well-
attended!



The children had fun
caroling door-to-door &
handing our candy canes
& Christmas cards to
the residents in Bear
Creek Subdivision on
December 18!





January 2017

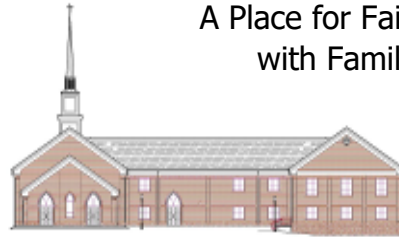
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>New Year's Day Service</i> 11am	2 Church office closed Youth / Parent Planning Meeting, 6pm Winters' Home B. Scott Snodgrass	3 B. Eileen Cantrell B. Caleb Godsey	4 Dinner 6pm Bible Study 6:45pm Choir 7:50 pm B. Mark Collins B. Hazel Dixon	5 A. Mike & Terry Winters	6	7 B. Brian Wills A. Jack & Marsha Tolbert
8 Deacons-8:30 am B. Bret Chisenhall	9	10 B. Ruby Salyers	11 Mission Team 5pm Dinner 6pm Bible Study 6:45pm Choir 7:50 pm	12 Women on Mission, 2pm Leadership Team Meeting, 6:30pm Winters' Home B. Eden Mullins	13 B. Joyce Horne	14
15 Jan & Tony Johnston share at 11am service CHURCH-WIDE BIRTHDAY PARTY  12 noon	16 B. Susan Mullins B. Beth Snodgrass	17 B. Steve Collins A. Ray & Carolyn Jones	18 Dinner 6pm Bible Study 6:45pm Choir 7:50 pm A. Jeff & Eileen Cantrell	19	20	21
22	23 B. Scott Harris	24 B. Jim Dotson B. Carolyn Jones B. Edgar Owens B. Gary Smith	25 Dinner 6pm Bible Study 6:45pm Choir 7:50 pm B. Wanda Baird B. Shirlee Barnette B. Billie Harris B. John Roberts	26 B. Ray Jones, Jr. B. Lulia Maine B. Garrison Sheppard	27 B. Macey Sheppard	28 B. Regina Carson B. Lance Collie B. Toni Thacker
29 B. Rebecca Osborne B. Mike Strouth	30 B. Andrew Conway	31		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:	12/18-12/24	Matt Meade, Jeff Dotson
	12/25-12/31	John Kennedy, Mike Osborne
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:	12/25	Mike & Rebecca Osborne
	1/1	John Kennedy
Nursery:	12/25	No Nursery
	1/1	Landon Elkins, Bonnie Owens
Children's Church:	12/25	No Children's Church
	1/1	Debbie Collins, Nancy Stalnaker
PA:	12/25	Oscar Raile
	1/1	Noah Hall
Tellers:	December	Cliff Carson, Mike Strouth
	January	Martha Blackburn, David Mullins
Ushers:	12/25	Edgar Owens*, Gary Smith^, John Thacker^, Roger Viers, Harold Witt, Jerry Baird, Stan Kunigelis
	1/1	Youth *Offertory Prayer; ^Choir Ushers)
Wed. Serving Teams:	12/21	Linda Bailey, Karen Ponish, Ruby Salyers
	12/28	No activities
Wed. Meals:	12/21	Soups & Sandwiches
	12/28	No activities
Children-in-Action:	12/21	Will not meet (Church-Wide Christmas Caroling)
	12/28	Will not meet

Please contact a member of the Personnel Committee or the church office if you would like to serve!

A Place for Faith and Fellowship
with Family and Friends



WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

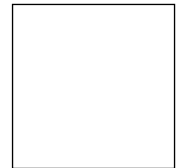
Sunday	Sunday School	10:00 am
	Worship	11:00 am
	Youth	6:00 pm
Monday	Piecemakers (will recess in December)	9:30 am
	Caring Friends (will recess in December)	
	Singing Sunbeams (starts again 1-16-17)	4-5 pm
Wednesday	Mission Ministry Team (1st)	5:00 pm
	Fellowship Meal	6:00 pm
	Adult Bible Study	6:45 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

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



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

Thought for the week:
Live the Good News of
Jesus' birth!