PUBLICATION INFORMATION

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF WINCHESTER
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Website: www.fbcwinc.org

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES
The next TIE will be mailed in the beginning of September. Please email content to: office@fbcwinc.org by 10:00a.m. September 20th.

BULLETIN DEADLINE
The Church Bulletin is printed every Wednesday Morning. Please submit content to the Office Manager by Monday 10:00am . Email is: office@fbcwinc.org

PRAYER CHAIN
For our Prayer Chain Ministries please direct your prayer request(s) to: Mattie Fries at friesm@verizon.net

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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF WINCHESTER

LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Every Sunday we sing these words as we bring our offering plates to the altar, committing our gifts to God's use and glory. If we come to church regularly, the words might flow from our lips without much though to what we are singing. And yet these 25 words, known by many around the world as "The Doxology," stand at the center of our worship service each and every week.

Thomas Ken was an Anglican minister, royal chaplain, and later a bishop. He wrote these lines for his students at Winchester College at Oxford University in the late 1600s as the final stanza of three hymns he published. The first hymn was written for his students to sing when they woke. The second hymn was written for them to sing as they retired to their rooms in the evening. And the last hymn was written for students to sing if they were struggling to sleep in the middle of the night. Each hymn ended with this doxological verse of praise.

So why do we still sing a stanza written for students over three hundred years ago in Winchester, England instead of Winchester, Virginia? Why have these words endured and become some of the most memorable lines of Christian hymnody?

First, they repeat a simple but profound reminder: God is the source of all our blessings. While we can be tempted to think we have earned what we have, we are reminded that the gifts of life, breath, salvation, and love can only be received as gifts from our Creator. We serve a generous God who blesses us with "every good and perfect gift" (James 1:17).

Second, we are reminded that the correct response to this generosity is one of thanks and praise. God made us for praise. And our first instinct, when we experience God's movement and blessing in our lives, ought to be to praise him and to give him thanks.

Finally, we are reminded in this short stanza that the God we serve is, in his very nature, a God of relationship. A Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Which means that we can most profoundly experience God within relationship as well. Our relationship with our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer as well as our relationship with "all creatures here below."

During this season of stewardship and Thanksgiving, it is good to be reminded of the sort of God we serve. It is good to focus our hearts on gratitude and praise. And it is good to consider how we might worship God through the way we live, the way we give, and the way we care for one another.

God Bless You,

Pastor Kristin

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THE YOUTH SCOOP

The youth group had a great time playing Dungeon and Dragons on October 10th.

SONSHINE LEARNING CENTER

As you know we recently celebrated 40 years of completed preschool ministry on our corner. During a recent service Pastor Kristin spoke about the loving and intentional start of this ministry. I'd like to share with you the ways we meet the needs of today's families.

While parents most definitely deserve a break, and the initial program called mother's day out was admirable, SLC presently serves mostly families with two working parents. Today's parents work and side hustle and use creative scheduling to meet the needs of their children. They sacrifice to give their children an opportunity to attend SonShine Learning Center.

As I enter my fourth school year as director I am proud of the planning and effort that has resulted in an incredibly diverse preschool.

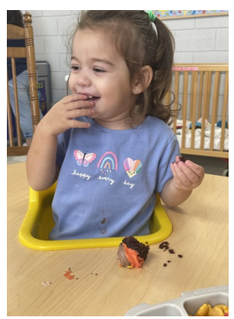
My first year as director I gave a fall tour to a young family who had moved here from Brazil for their job with amazon. They'd had a hard time finding a preschool because their children didn't speak English. We are making First Baptist proud by making space for all students. The parents have showered the SLC staff with gifts of appreciation, they also spread the word and are a big part of the reason SLC has grown so much! Every single class has an ESL student, our student's speak Portuguese, German and Spanish at home. We have enjoyed learning about each other!

As you may have heard, this year SLC added an additional classroom. By adding an additional classroom, our class sizes have stayed small enough for all children to thrive and receive the instruction they need. There's lots of research that shows students who have mental or physical disabilities, benefit from being incorporated into classrooms where they can learn from their peers. Peers are also learning big lessons. We honor our SLC past by planning and working to incorporate all children together. We have occupational and behavioral therapists who come join students in their classroom. We have parents who communicate and help us to have all the tools we need to teach their child.

SLC of today is a real time example of making room for everyone at the table.

I am proud of this program and invite you to come volunteer for a special event, substitute teach or share your favorite book with a class!

FBC KIDS!



GREETINGS FROM HUNTING RIDGE RETREAT!

October is my favorite time of the year here at the retreat. I am in awe at the beauty that God has created here for His people to enjoy, it is absolutely beautiful. Every year at this time, I think about my first fall here at Hunting Ridge in 2013. I was having a cup of coffee early one morning and talking with God about what a crazy summer I had just had. During my time with God, I noticed that the leaves had started to change. Then, I realized that the God who created everything and changed the leaves on the trees, was the same God that loved me so much, that He had changed me too. My life and the lives of my family are forever changed by being here.

Each year, HRR hosts hundreds of youth and adults that are seeking to grow their relationship with Christ, some are meeting Him for the first time. Either way, Hunting Ridge is the perfect place. Whether it be the beauty of the changing leaves, a soft rain shower or a bright and sunny day, the peace and beauty that God has created here is indescribable. To say that First Baptist is fortunate to have it is an understatement. Hunting Ridge is a place that God is changing lives and increasing His kingdom and little notes like these remind me of what I am blessed to be a small part of.

Fall has been very busy for the retreat. Not only have we had retreats every weekend and a retreat during the week, we had the pleasure to host the Frederick County Homesteaders Farm Crawl Dinner on the lawn. It was a wonderful and beautiful event seeing local people coming together to support each other. We are already seeing so many marketing potentials with local churches and organizations. We look forward to seeing how God will continue to move through this opportunity.

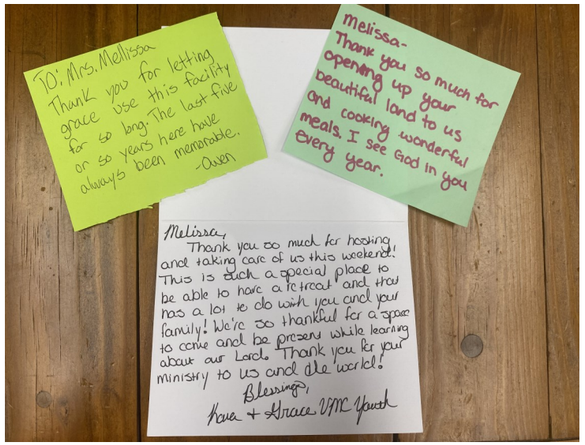
Our schedule continues to be very busy with retreats every weekend up to Thanksgiving, followed by the Christmas dinner banquet season. We will be closing the retreat beginning December 16th and reopening the first weekend in January with a retreat.

Thank you for your continuing support, both financially and spiritually. To God be the glory!

In His Service,

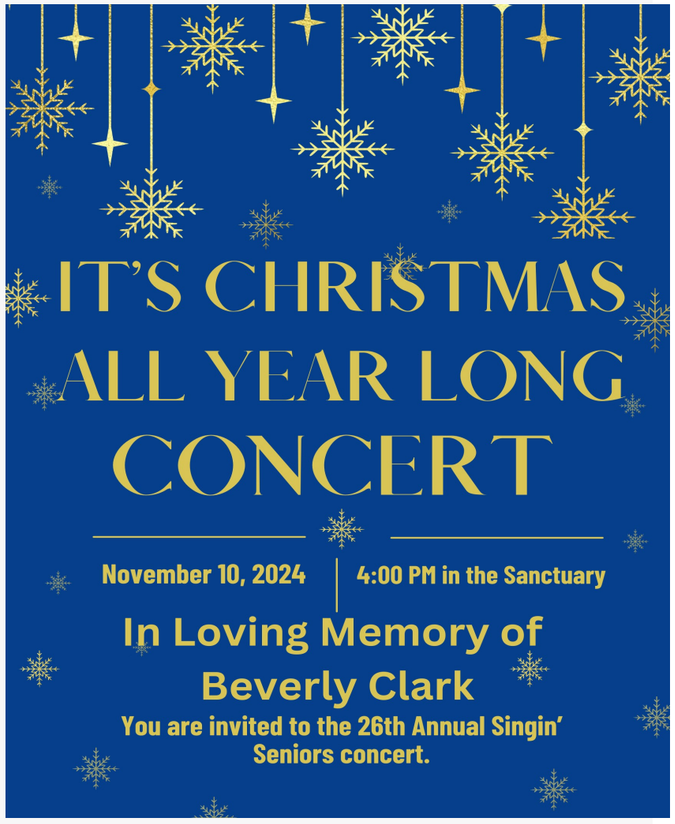
Melissa Engler

HUNTING RIDGE RETREAT
A Ministry of First Baptist Church



GRACE NOTES BY LORI

THE 26TH ANNUAL SINGIN' SENIORS CONCERT will present "It's Christmas All Year Long" written by Marty Parks, combining with the Chancel Choir on Sunday Nov. 10, 2024 at 4pm in the Sanctuary with a reception in Hoover Hall to follow. This concert is being performed in loving memory of Beverly Clark. Rev. Dr. Kristin Whitesides and Rev. Ethan Hughes will narrate this upbeat and celebratory Christmas Musical to get you in the spirit for the Holiday Season. We will have piano and string quartet accompaniment and wonderful soloists! All are welcome and invite your friends of all ages to come!

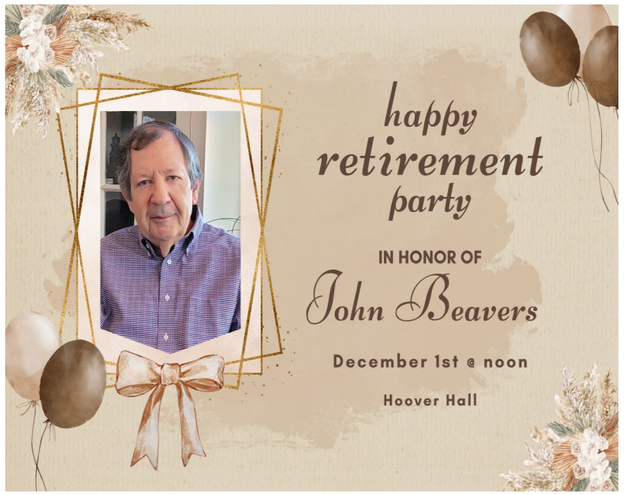


EVENT REMINDERS

WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES have begun! We start with a fellowship dinner in Hoover Hall at 5:45 pm, followed by age group Bible studies from 6:30-7:30 PM. Join us as we grow in our relationships with God and one another! Our theme for this Fall will be "Adventure" as our youth begin exploring scripture and packing the tools they need to do that well. Our adults will be setting out on missionary journeys with Paul as described in the book of Acts. We hope you will join us! An online option for the adult Bible Study will also be available via Zoom beginning that Wednesday at 10:00 am. Wednesday evenings are for all ages!

WOM are sponsoring an afternoon bell-ringing for the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign on Monday, December 2, from 1:30-5:30 at Hobby Lobby. Please consider helping with this worthwhile mission project. The sign-up link is https://tinyurl.com/4yx4sh7a or you may contact Laura Beavers.

GIVING AT FBC
Don't forget you can now text to give! Text "FIRSTBAP205" to 73256 to give using your mobile device. It will text you a link, and once you get it, it will guide you to the same giving page that you would see on our website!



November 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 2pm Peniel Church Activity-Hoover
3 9:45 Sunday School for all / 12:00 Budget Discussion in Sanctuary 8:30/11:00 Worship in Sanctuary 12pm Combined Choir Rehearsal	4 No School for SLC!	5 No School for SLC! 10:30 AM-Singin' Seniors 6:30 AMC meeting	6 9 am Walk & Talk A.A. 10 am Zoom Bible Study 5:45 PM Fellowship meal 6:30 PM Bible study groups	7 7 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	8 7 PM WOM Game night	9 10-1:00 PM-Youth CCAP sandwiches and bowling
10 9:45 Sunday School for all 8:30/11:00 Worship in Sanctuary 2:30 Peniel Worship Service-Hoover hall 4pm Concert-It's Christmas all Year Long	11 Veteran's Day	12 10:30 AM-Singin' Seniors 6:30 PM HRR meeting	13 9 am Walk & Talk A.A. 10 am Zoom Bible Study 5:45 PM Fellowship meal 6:30 PM Bible study	14 7 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	15 CBF Youth Fall retreat at Camp Crossroads	16 CBF Youth Fall retreat at Camp Crossroads
17 9:45 Sunday School for all ; 9:45 am-4th Quarterly Business Meeting 8:30/11:00 Worship in Sanctuary 2:30 Peniel Worship Service-Hoover hall 4:00 Special Kids Worship	18 6:30 PM WOM meeting	19 10:30 AM-Singin' Seniors 6 PM Beta Iota meeting 6:30 PM Stew. & Fin. Meeting	20 9am Walk & Talk A.A. 10 am Zoom Bible Study 5:45 PM Fellowship meal 6:30 PM Bible study	21 7 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	22	23 2pm Friendsgiving at Anthony's Pizza Stephens City
24 White Christmas Adoption Sunday 9:45 Sunday School for all 8:30/11:00 Worship in Sanctuary 2pm Van Buren Wind Quartet Performance 2:30 Peniel Worship Service-Hoover hall	25 No School for SLC all week!	26 10:30 AM-Singin' Seniors	27 9 am Walk & Talk A.A. 10 am Zoom Bible Study 5:45 PM Fellowship meal 6:30 PM Bible study groups	28 	29 Office closed	30