



WINN'S CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
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July/August 2023

Vacation Bible School is just around the corner. We are really excited about this year's VBS. We are doing Lifeway's Twist's & Turns. I get to teach the oldest kids, the 6th grade and up class.

When you think about that age group...that's really the age when kids start thinking about what they want to do with their life. What classes they're going to take in high school. What career they'd like to pursue. These are some big decisions!

The scripture for the first night of VBS is from Psalm 25:4, which says,

4 Show me the right path, O LORD; point out the road for me to follow. Psalms 25:4 (NLT)

Sometimes, we need to pray for direction. Sometimes, God will give us a clear sense of direction. In that case, it's a matter of following God's chosen path.

Do you all remember the arcade game PACMAN? I'm sure we've all played PACMAN at the arcade at one time or another.

There are a couple of ways to beat the Pacman game. One way to beat it is to memorize the correct path for each level. An example of a correct path is shown below:



I had a record with arcade music on it...and the sleeve of the record showed the correct path for each level of Pacman so that you could beat the whole game on one quarter if you successfully followed it.

But...what if you didn't have the map with you, and you haven't memorized the correct path? Well, there is another thing that will help you with Pacman. Each of the four ghosts has a different personality.

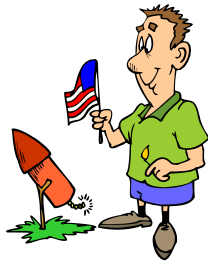
- Blinky (the red ghost) This ghost is very aggressive and will chase you across the maze.
- Pinky (the pink ghost) Pinky normally tries to get in front of you to cut you off.
- Inky (the light blue ghost) This is the hardest ghost...he just follows a random pattern.
- Clyde (the orange ghost) He seems frightened, he normally tries to go the other way from you.

If you know these patterns, the way the ghosts behave...then you can recognize the danger and stay away.

Our lives are kind of like this. If God has made clear to you His will for your life...then stay on the narrow road...stay on the path you know you should follow.

At other times...we have choices...and we've prayed...and God's will is still not clear. In those instances...thank God for the freedom to choose...and choose ways that do not lead into sin and danger. Recognize how sin works. See it for what it is...and by avoiding sin, you can get where God wants you to be.

– Pastor Jim.



CELEBRATE AMERICA FIREWORKS

Winn's Creek is planning on having fireworks in the church parking lot on **WEDNESDAY, JULY 5th at 8:45PM**. Ronnie is bringing his snowcone truck, so get a snowcone as soon as you arrive. At 9PM, we will have a short patriotic song service on the front porch of the church that you will be able to see from the grass...and then at 9:30PM we will set off the fireworks. Please bring a lawnchair (or you can watch from your car). Please park in the parking lot on the CHURCH side (the fireworks will be set off on the parsonage side).



WINN'S CREEK REVIVAL SURVEY

There has been some concern over the attendance at our past Spring Revivals. An online survey has been created to collect your thoughts on when/if/and how we should continue to have revival services. The survey can be accessed at <https://jotform.com/231804390411043>, or you can simply capture the QR code posted below and your phone will take you directly to it. Thanks!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Winn's Creek will be holding VBS on July 9th through 13th from 6:30PM – 9:30PM each night. Please make plans to come. We will also provide a light supper for the kids at 6PM...so if you're hungry, come on out early to VBS.



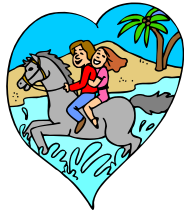
NEW CHURCH DIRECTORIES

Our new church directories should be ready sometime in late July. We will be distributing them on Sunday mornings to the folks that had their pictures taken. We know it's been a long time, but how exciting it will be to have a new directory and new contact info for everyone!



PEW CUSHIONS

The homecoming committee has decided that this year's homecoming offering will go towards replacing/repairing our pew cushions for the church sanctuary. There will be specially marked envelopes available for the pew cushion offering.



VACATION

Pastor Jim & Julie will take a short vacation to celebrate Julie's birthday. We will be away July 26-29th. If you need a visit in the hospital, please call the switchboard and ask for a chaplain. If you need to reach pastor Jim right away, please call Jim on his cell phone (222-9688).



HOMECOMING

Did you know that our church is older than Homecoming itself? Winn's Creek was founded in 1773. The first known homecoming celebration in the United States took place in 1911 at the University of Missouri. So our church was around for over a century before the word homecoming was even a thing!

That's kind of amazing.

Winn's Creek will be celebrating 250 years at our homecoming service on Sunday, September 24th. Please mark your calendars for this exciting event. There will be No Sunday School on the 24th...and our regular church service will begin at 10:30AM.

After the 10:30AM service, we will have a big fellowship meal.

After the fellowship meal, we will rejoice in the sanctuary at 2PM for an afternoon service. More details will follow, so be on the lookout!

Meetings

- July 23rd 6PM Quarterly Business Meeting
- August 7th 7PM Deacons/Wives Meeting



A PRAYER BY GEORGE WASHINGTON

Almighty God: We make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection; that thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government, and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow-citizens of the United States at large. And finally that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

** This prayer is used regularly at "The President's Chapel" of the George Washington University, and voices the aspirations of the University for the fulfillment of civic duties and the promotion of national welfare. – Submitted by Betty Burton*



SAVE THE DATE POSTCARDS

Winn's Creek is working on Save the Date postcards for our 250th anniversary/homecoming celebration. They have been printed, and extra copies of these postcards are now available in the vestibule. If you know of someone interested in attending homecoming, please send them a card. Thanks!



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 2nd Russell & Brenda Ashby – A
Cody Henderson - B
- 4th Marie McLaughlin – B
- 6th Tony Duffey – B
- 10th Joan Boutwell - B
Sadie Everett Lloyd – B
Matt Comer – B
Steven Conner – B
- 13th Matt Gunn – B
Autumn Dease - B
- 16th Matthew Eanes – B
- 17th Courtney Epps – B
- 18th Phyllis Dawson – B
- 19th Jakob Jones – B
- 20th Kylan McCargo - B
- 22nd Brianna Fears – B
- 23rd Karen Shiner – B
- 24th Mitzi Gunn – B
- 27th Charles Fears – B
Dylan Plainte – B
- 28th Chelsea Grove – B
Joe Martin – B
Julie Kopco - B
- 31st Chase Cole – B
Boo Conner – B
Nancye Mode – B



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 1st John Courtney – B
Vince Loftis – B
- 4th Kelly Fears – B
Katlyn Smith – B
- 7th Luther & Linda Conner – A
Jennifer Smith – B
- 9th Linda Hart – B
- 12th Judy Loftis – B
- 17th Jackson Hank Ambrose – B
- 18th Cecelia Owen – B
Huntleigh Reid Henderson - B
- 19th Kim Martin – B
- 22nd Russell Ashby – B
Alex Turner – B
- 24th Steve Stewart – B
Skeeter Conner – B
Rob Abbott - B
- 27th Maxine Martin – B
Conner Abbott – B
- 28th Deborah Montgomery – B
- 30th Tom & Kelly Fears – A
Kayla Dawson – B
- 31st David Epps – B
Madison Gunn – B

- If you'd like to add your name or a relative's name to our birthday list, please let Pastor Jim know.
- If someone has been left off the list, or someone needs to be removed, let Pastor Jim know.
- If you let Pastor Jim know, and he forgot, please let him know again.