

It has been a rough couple of months for our church family. We've had many people fighting various illnesses, along with a number of folks passing away. To make it harder, some of the folks that death has taken from us were so young. At times like this, it can be tough to know what to say, or how to pray. But we can be comforted by Paul's words in Romans 8:26,

And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words.

When we don't know what to say, we need to rely on Him. On Wednesday Nights, we've been doing short liturgies based on Douglas Mckelvey's book series, *Every Moment Holy*. One of his new books is a series on *Death, Grief, and Hope*. After the introduction, the author offers this invocation:

O Spirit of the Living God, who raises your people from death to life,

The comforting of your children in their hard journeys through the valley of the shadow is, from beginning to end, Your work, not mine.

I am neither wise enough, nor compassionate enough, nor tempered enough by present griefs, to form prayers adequate to serve these your people in the face of an enemy so formidable as death.

I am wholly unfit to enter the holy sufferings of others, to give guidance or true comfort, to speak words of consolation that would name the wounds of dying and grieving hearts, or wrap them in compassionate embrace, or remind them that there remains a firm, eternal hope which will outgrow and outlast death itself.

If this is not Your work, then I would not have it be

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### MARCH/APRIL 2024

mine. For I would not bid the grieving hang their sorrows or their hopes on any words that cannot bear their weight.

So then, take this meager measure of anything I might give, O God, and bless it for the benefit of Your people. Breath Spirit and Life into these flawed forms. Let my insufficiencies be met by the multiplying power of Your grace.

I know I will encounter discouragement in this labor. I know I will often experience the creative process aqs an impossible struggle against self and darkness.

Even so, be at work in and through me, O Lord. I will sometimes falter, lose heart, abandon course, and be tempted to turn to diversions and old comforts that cannot sustain.

Even so, be at work in and through me, O Lord. On my best days I might be too confident in my own abilities to recognize the depth of my need, but more often I will be too empty, too spent, too crippled by my brokenness to believe I have anything to give.

Even so, O Lord, be at work in and through me. In the end, this is my sole means of stewardship: to repeatedly ply the imperfect talents with witch You have entrusted me, daily offering to You my poverty, begging You to fill the hollow forms of my offerings.

O Holy Spirit, meet, fill, and quicken now, these insufficient gifts. Inspire prayers that would shepherd and comfort Your people – even in their dyings, even in their griefs – voicing their mortal laments and their eternal hopes, gently turning their gaze to the promise of a coming resurrection, to the hope of a world remade, and to the splendor of the King who soon returns to redeem all sorrows.



### **COMMUNITY EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE**

AT BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
PASTOR JIM WILL BE PREACHING
THERE WILL BE BREAKFAST AFTERWARDS
SUNDAY, MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup> AT 7AM



### **EASTER CANTATA**

WINN'S CREEK WILL BE HAVING IT'S EASTER CANTATA ON <u>SUNDAY</u>, <u>MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup> DURING</u> THE 11AM SERVICE.

THE CANTAT IS CALLED, "THEN CAME THE MORNING". IT WAS CREATED AND ARRANGED BY THE TALENTED AND DOVE AWARD WINNING SUE SMITH AND RUSSELL MAULDIN. THIS POWERFUL CANTATA CELEBRATES THE EHOPE THAT WAS BROUGHT TO US AS JESUS ROSE TO LIFE THAT GLORIOUS EASTER MORNING. WHATEVER THE NEED, WHATEVER THE HEARTACHE, JESUS IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN TOUCH AND CHANGE A LIFE COMPLETELY. AND ONCE WE'RE CHANGED, WE'LL WANT TO JOIN AND SING OF HIS MERCIES AND LOVE FOREVER. AMEN!



### **DEACON & DEACON WIVES MEETING**

OUR NEXT DEACON & DEACON WIVES
MEETING WILL BE ON MONDAY, APRIL 1ST, AT
7PM. (MEN AT CHURCH/WOMEN AT
PARSONAGE). WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



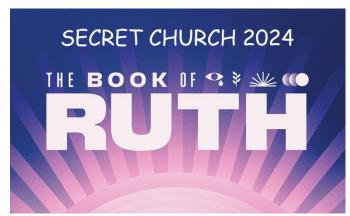
### SUN, APRIL 7 - TUES, APRIL 9TH

- Sunday Service at 11AM with fellowship meal after
- Monday & Tuesday services at 7PM
- Guest Speaker Tim Williamson, lead pastor at Faith Alliance Church in Durham, NC since 2008
- Special Music Each Night

WWW.WINNSCREEK.ORG

## DRBA SENIOR REVIVAL

11AM AT 1<sup>ST</sup> BAPTIST SOUTH BOSTON SPEAKER TO BE ANNOUNCED SPECIAL MUSIC BY THE PREACHER BOYS LUNCH AFTERWARDS PREREGISTER BY LETTING PASTOR JIM KNOW YOU ARE COMING



# SECRET CHURCH 2024: RUTH WINN'S CREEK IS TAKING PART IN A LIVE STREMED EVENT ON SATURDAY, APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup> FROM 7PM TO 1AM

DURING THIS 6 HOUR DEEP DIVE INTO SCRIPTURE, PASTOR DAVID PLATT WILL TEACH ON THE BOOK OF RUTH AND THE RELEVANCE THIS HAS FOR US TODAY. SECRET CHURCH SERVES TO FURTHER CHALLENGE VIEWERS IN THEIR PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND ENCOURAGES EVANGELISM BEYOND THE CHURCH. THIS EVENT WILL BE HELD AT THE PARSONAGE UNLESS WE HAVE A LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE REGISTER, AND THEN IT WILL BE MOVED TO THE FELLOWSHIP HALL. IF YOU PLAN ON COMING, PLEASE SIGN THE SIGN UP SHEET IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL. THANK YOU!



### SUNDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

WINN'S CREEK IS CURRENTLY DOING
A SUNDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY BY
LIFEWAY CALLED, "CHARACTERS"
ON THE FAMOUS CHARACTES OF THE BIBLE.
THIS STUDY TAKES PLACE AT 6PM
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL ON SUNDAY NIGHTS



### LITURGIES OF THE MOMENT A WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERIES

WINN'S CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
IS CURRENTLY DOING A SHORT
30 MINUTE WEDNESDAY NIGHT
LITURGICAL READING BASED ON
MOMENTS IN LIFE FOLLOWED
BY A TIME OF PRAYER.
THESE SERVICES TAKE PLACE
IN THE CHURCH SANCTUARY
ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
AT 7PM.



#### **OFFERING**

WINN'S CREEK WILL BE SWITCHING BACK TO PASSING THE PLATES STARTING SUN.
MARCH 3<sup>RD</sup>. WE WILL STILL HAVE THE OUTSIDE OFFERING BUCKET AS WELL.



MARCH 3 STOVER OWEN
MARCH 10 PHYLISS DAWSON
MARCH 17 RICKY LOFTIS
MARCH 24 CRYSTAL BLANKS
MARCH 31 JOAN BOATWELL
APRIL 7 STOVER OWEN
APRIL 14 PHYLISS DAWSON
APRIL 21 RICKY LOFTIS
APRIL 28 CRYSTAL BLANKS



### BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

$2^{nd}$	Richard Epps – B
	Phil Saunders – B

- 6<sup>th</sup> James & Debra Stewart A
- 9<sup>th</sup> Afton Ledyard B Debra Stewart – B Shirley Duffey – B
- 15<sup>th</sup> Pam Paynter B
- 16<sup>th</sup> Jimmy Landrum B
- 18<sup>th</sup> Patricia Martin B
- 19<sup>th</sup> Jennifer Dixon B
- 20<sup>th</sup> Frank Moorefield B
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Helen Barksdale B
- 24<sup>th</sup> Cecilie Elliott B
- 25<sup>th</sup> Zoe Talley B
- 26<sup>th</sup> Jacob Fears B Trudy Epps – B
- 27<sup>th</sup> Kalvin Smith B
- 29<sup>th</sup> Wally Cole B
- 30<sup>th</sup> Anthony Turner B Hannah Grace Lloyd – B
- 31<sup>st</sup> James Henderson B

Please inform Pastor Jim of additions/corrections To the birthday list. He is forgetful. Thanks!



### **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sarah Lloyd B
- 4<sup>th</sup> Tony Turner B
- 7<sup>th</sup> Eddie D. Martin, Jr. B
- 8<sup>th</sup> Wanda Saunders B
- 9<sup>th</sup> Kelly Henderson B
- 11<sup>th</sup> Ann B. Fears B Pat Spencer – B
- 13<sup>th</sup> Jason Dickerson B
- 15<sup>th</sup> George & Billie Jean Baylous A Mitzi Gunn – B
- 17<sup>th</sup> Brenda Ashby B
- 18<sup>th</sup> David Shiner B Eddie D. Martin – B
- 19<sup>th</sup> Jonathan Hudson B
- 20<sup>th</sup> Darryl Dawson B Joshua Cook – B
- 24<sup>th</sup> Betty Dickerson B Michelle Epps – B David & Michelle Epps – A
- 25<sup>th</sup> Owen Satterfield B
- 26<sup>th</sup> Eddie & Patricia Martin B
- 27<sup>th</sup> Samantha M. Rather B
- $28^{th}$  Bill & Kathleen Murphy A