



*A Community of faith, led by God's spirit, offering Christ to the World*

**#Why Wynnton: "Our Witness Tells Our Story"**

**February 12, 2023**

So many times I have heard people reference that the best times of their lives revolved around church and family. To be honest, I believe that God has always intended that the family structure is meant to flourish and connect stronger when mixed with the community of the church. I can honestly remember the times when we were always at church doing something because the church was the center point of our family's life. Yes, there were still tons of sporting events and other activities, but they were reserved for the weekends and NEVER and I mean NEVER did they meet on Wednesdays or Sundays. To our community, those were holy days and yes you could still have a practice on a Wednesday but it had to be finished by 4:30 so that everyone had time to get home, get dressed and attend church. This was a huge witness and testimony to the community that the CHURCH was our center point and we made sure that everything revolved around God as it impacted our lives and not the world.

Flash forward 20-30 years. There is no longer a sacred day that anyone is willing to put aside besides Chick-fil-A. It blows my mind that the witness of the church in regards to families have changed and been replaced by a schedule that Jesus Himself would not want to attempt to live by during His ministry on earth. We have allowed our witness and testimony to change from defending the right of Sabbath to telling ourselves that we can catch things online and not have to be in community with others on our faith journey. Our witness is now comparative to us saying that as long as I am not as bad as the other person I am ok. I mean The Barna Group, an evangelical Christian based polling system, has now determined that as long as someone is able to attend one service within a month they are considered a regular attender... REALLY? It is a testimony to our culture that we have moved the center of our focus from God to a schedule based faith. Once a country that was formed under the umbrella of religious freedom is now having most of the world's missionaries being sent back into the United States in hopes that God will spark a revival once again.

Our Witness Tells Our Story... What are we still willing to tell the world through our actions? What are we continuing to do that allows people to know where we stand as it pertains to our faith in God? I know that the greatest obstacle of advancing the Gospel today is fear of rejection, but I am asking how bold are we with sharing our story of why we choose God? Trust me, I have spoken to many people on why they choose NOT to come to church, but have any of us been willing to tell others on WHY we have CHOSEN to be a part of the Church and specifically why we would love them to join our family at Wynnton. Wynnton has had a HUGE impact on the lives of so many in our community... How do I know that? Because when they find out I am the pastor at Wynnton, they all have a story of how Wynnton has been a part of their lives. They all have bore witness to the effect that Wynnton planted seeds and continued to nurture them. Our Witness is Our Story because of the many people that God encountered within the walls of our amazing sacred space.

So why do I say all of that today; because I still believe that we need to share our story to the world. I believe that we need to continue to tell people that Wynnton is on the verge of a revival that is going to shake the earth in Midtown. I believe that God still has His hand on this sacred space, and we need to let as many as we can know about our love for God and our love for people. In fact, I pray that we will continue to be a light into this community for centuries to come. My dad always told me that people will know you by the integrity attached to your name. Well Wynnton Family, Wynnton's witness within this community is one that has impacted lives for generations because I have heard it through the stories of generations. It is time. NOW is the time to once again turn on the light and help others find this sacred space as a refuge to witness the undeniable love of God. It's time to relaunch our story as God's purpose to once again let the world know that the Church is back as the center for our family connection. We are ready to invest and plant more seeds for current and future generations to experience the unchanging story of Christ that stands as the foundation of Why Wynnton exists. Are you ready to share our story in order that others may come into our space and witness the power of God's grace?

In His grip,  
Jason



*The Chancel Flowers are given in honor of our 48th wedding anniversary by Rachel & Mac Plummer.*

### EASTER BASH

Our Easter Bash is set for March 18th, and we are requesting donations of individually wrapped candy and Easter eggs. Donations can be dropped off in the bin just outside the library. With any questions regarding the Easter Bash, email Meghan Gross at [mgross@wynntonumc.org](mailto:mgross@wynntonumc.org). Thank you for your generosity!"

Volunteers are needed for our Easter Bash on March 18th from 11 AM-2 PM. If you are interested in serving at that event, please email Meghan Gross at [mgross@wynntonumc.org](mailto:mgross@wynntonumc.org) to be filled into a station or sign up on the sheet in your Sunday school envelope. Thank you so much!

### UPCOMING ADULT MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Starting February 6th, we will be having a weekly group fitness class. This will be a low intensity class without floor exercises. The class will be on Monday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the Alpha Building. Please see Michaela Walley for more details.

Mark your calendars for February 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. for a Valentine's luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. Please plan to bring a \$5 contribution. Also, please reserve your seat by Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, by calling the office or emailing Michaela Walley at [mwalley@wynntonumc.org](mailto:mwalley@wynntonumc.org). See Michaela for details.

Blessings,  
Rev. Michaela Walley  
Director of Family and Adult Ministries

### JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR! 🎵

Our hymns are a vital way for our Wynnton community to collectively express our thanks and praise to God for our many blessings. Our songs and hymns can lift us up, and remind us of God's grace. When we sing as a congregation, we aspire to sing every word together at the same time, often on the same note. Many of our hymns began as prayers. Prayers sung as hymns unite our sound in supplication or praise. Did you know that singing as part of a community can increase your happiness? Several studies have tracked neurochemical reactions when someone sings with a group of singers. The good news is, that it doesn't matter if you are a seasoned soloist or need a bucket to carry a tune, the benefits are the same! Thinking on this, let us joyfully sing as a united body of Christ when we join our voices together on Sundays.

Christian composers have arranged many of our favorite hymns for choir. This Sunday, our Wynnton choirs will sing compelling arrangements of the hymn *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*. The Wesley Choir pairs *Here I Am to Worship* with *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*. The Chancel Choir will lead us on a journey with Jay Rouse's arrangement of *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*. Rich harmonies ebb and flow in this engaging setting of a well-loved hymn. This stunning arrangement begins a cappella, then adds piano and organ, gradually building to a beautiful transforming moment, then resolving with quiet reflection.

Psalm 100: 1-2  
*Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.  
Worship the Lord with gladness;  
come before him with joyful songs.*

God's Great Peace to You!  
Diana B.

### FLOWER DELIVERY

Linda Twiggs

\*CORE Groups Sunday 5:00-7:00pm  
 \*Prayer Breakfast & Jesus Fridays 7:00 - 7:30am  
 Chick-fil-A on Whittelsey  
 \*Youth Information: Text @basement22 to 81010  
 \*Youth Parents Info: Text @wumcpa to 81010



\*Youth Winter Retreat – Parents Meeting & Final Payments due February 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm in the Basement.

### Children's Programs

The nursery is available from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. as well as Sunday School for grades K-12 from 9:45-10:50 a.m. The nursery for infants through age 3 is on the first floor of the Grimes building. Children's Sunday School for Pre-K-5th Grade is on the first floor of the Grimes building, and youth Sunday School is in the basement under the sanctuary. Children's Church will be offered for children through 5th Grade in the Children's Center in the Grimes building during the worship hour.

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children in Pre-K through 4th grade are welcome to join us for Children's Sunday School from 9:45 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. in the Grimes Building on the first floor in the Children's Church room next to the nursery.

### BE A WYNNTON WELCOMER

WE NEED YOU! to sign-up as a Sunday morning welcomer. We are looking for volunteers to fill open slots through the end of February. Check your calendars for a few Sundays you are available to help us greet our members and guests on Sunday morning. Sign-up sheets will be available in the main hallway this Sunday.

### WYNNTON ARTS ACADEMY NEEDS

Our church was able to serve 23 students through the Adopt-A-Family project. Thank you all so much for your generosity. This year there were individuals who "adopted" students in addition to the Sunday School classes!

In January and February, WAA is asking for donations of **gloves and socks**. The cold weather is here and many students are in need of these items. Please drop your donations in the bin in the Fellowship Hall to be delivered.

### Our Known Prayer Concerns:

Sue Rogers	Lexy McRae
Lynn Christenson	Dorothy Robinson
Aubrey Walker	Jennefer Spell
Daro Miller	Jim Accordino
David Woolbright	Benjamin Feagle
Pam Feagle	Frank Feagle
Julee Robinson McGehee	Barbara McKenzie
Betty Garrett	Richard Holmes
Doris Rowe	Freddie Richardson
Tom Stafford	Shelley Montgomery
Jeanine Cotton	Tina Martinez
Joe Batastini	Lucy Hart
Devon Garrison	Sarah Jessie Avant
David Pringle	Robert Garrard

### Christian Sympathy for loss of loved one:

Family of Denise Hill  
 Family of Rev. Bennie Frank Hughley  
 Family of Tom Moore  
 Family of Diane Ryals

### WYNNTON SAFETY SQUAD

February 12: Team 5 - Jesse Kelley, Comer Alexander, Dennis Robinson



We had a great packing party last October! Thanks to all who participated in collecting and/or packing. NOW we are ready to try again to do more so children everywhere can learn about Jesus. We have information in each Sunday School class and at the Welcome Center. We will continue to highlight items to bring in each month, but if you find a deal on something, buy some and let us know.  
February items: mittens, hats (ball caps and winter hats), children's socks  
 Thanks, Michaela and Pam

## READING THROUGH THE BIBLE

### Reading Through Psalms Week 5

Remember the miracles of the Lord. During our lives, God has blessed us with so much. These verses we read from Psalms this week are a testament to the countless number of lives God has blessed, just like ours. The focus here is always on God, the one who has given us everything. Salvation in these lines comes only from God. We sing in praise of Him, God our Father. These verses are a reminder of where we need to turn our eyes, each and every day. How much would we miss out on if we never looked up to see the light shining high in the sky? When we turn our eyes back to God, we get a glimpse of all that He is doing in this world. Be assured, God has not stepped back from us. God is just as present as ever; He is here for us forever. The Lord is worthy to be praised. Always and forever. -Will

- February 12: Psalm 76, 77
- February 13: Psalm 78
- February 14: Psalm 79, 80
- February 15: Psalm 81, 82, 83
- February 16: Psalm 84, 85, 86
- February 17: Psalm 87, 88
- February 18: Psalm 89

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 12 Larry Spell
- 15 Gwen Bolin, Caroline Hearn, Dave Stevenson
- 16 William Bickerstaff, Charlie Hearn

## OUR ATTENDANCE

<b>2-5-23</b>	
8:30 a.m.....	44
11:00 a.m. Service.....	139
Sunday School.....	104

## OUR STEWARDSHIP

<b>2-5-23</b>	
General Fund.....	20,568.00
Communion.....	123.00
Christmas Offering.....	100.00
Missions.....	50.00
Loose Offering.....	40.00
Sunday School.....	37.00

## SUNDAY'S SERMON

*#Why Wynnton:  
Our Witness Tells Our Story  
Matthew 5:13-16, Mark 4:21-25*

Dr. Jason Wade

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**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

**Sunday, February 12**

- 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School for Adults, Youth & Children  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary  
Streams Live on Facebook  
5:00-7:00 p.m. CORE Group - Youth

**Monday, February 13**

- 9:00 a.m. Weekly Fitness - Alpha Bldg.  
10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study - Library  
5:30 p.m. Bible Study - Home of Beth Hendrickson  
6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting - Alpha Building

**Tuesday, February 14**

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library  
10:00 a.m. Quilting Group - Alpha Building

**Wednesday, February 15**

- 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study - Alpha Building  
12-1 p.m. Prayer Time - Chapel (drop in)  
12-1:30 p.m. Question time for Jason about Remaining  
UMC or Disaffiliation - Sanctuary  
6:15 -7:15 p.m. Prayer Time - Chapel (drop in)  
6:30 p.m. Handbells Rehearsal  
7:00 p.m. Missions Committee Meeting - Alpha Bldg.  
7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, February 16**

- 7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study - Alpha Building  
9:45 a.m. Backpacks of Grace  
11:30-1:30 p.m. Valentine Lunch - Fellowship Hall

**Friday, February 17**

- Youth Retreat - Lake Junaluska  
12:00 p.m. Goodwill Meeting - Fellowship Hall

**PASTOR ON-CALL**

For emergencies Feb. 10-12  
Rev. Will Walley 601-337-9691

**WE NEED YOUR  
HELP**

Please help us update our  
information (or pick up a card  
in the church) by using this  
QR code. Contact Will  
Walley at the church for more  
information or questions.

