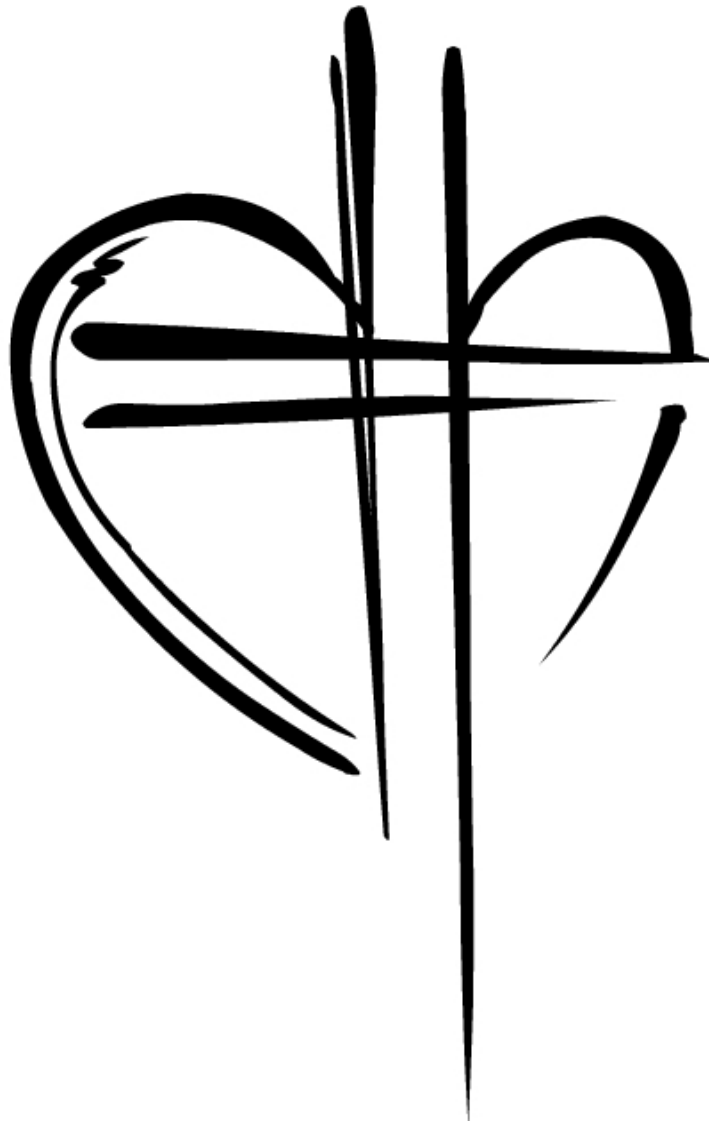


**BOOK OF REPORTS
BUSINESS MEETING**

May 8, 2024



WINFREE MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Winfree Memorial Baptist Church Business Meeting
February 21, 2024

Sam called the meeting to order with a prayer at 6:30pm. He reminded everyone that a quorum for a regular business meeting is established at the first meeting of the year, and for this year it is 74. The minutes from the November 29, 2023 business meeting were approved with no corrections or additions.

Church Council brought a motion to the church: The Wedding policies, Building Use policies, and Personnel policies shall be amended to include the appropriate portions of the following statement:

The facilities of Winfree Memorial Baptist Church may be used for the wedding of a biological man to a biological woman only, and the ministers of Winfree may officiate the wedding of a biological man to a biological woman only, whether on or off campus.

After much discussion, a secret vote was taken and the motion passed. Ed Wickham presented the Treasurer's Report. He thanked the congregation for their generosity, and also asked them to review their contribution reports; Lindy, the financial secretary, was out on medical leave in January, and Ed and Amy, as well as Lindy have been preparing them. The most common error is to put a contribution in the wrong account, which is easy to fix. All money has been deposited, and all bills are paid. Lindy is back now and working partly on campus/partly from home. Lindy plans to be back full time in March. Please refer to the book of reports for details.

Dan Ogden presented the **Admin Team Report**.

Stewardship Committee: Please review the book of reports for the Mission Summary as well as details of committee activities. Dan also presented the following church members for addition to the Stewardship Committee:

Carolyn Clements, term to end 12/31/2024

Bill Minson, term to end 12/31/2024

Motion Passed

Property & Space: Please refer to the book of reports; of special note, the youth polished many of the tarnished items around the sanctuary,

AV/IT: Please refer to the book of reports. Volunteers are needed!

Personnel: We have hired Lauren Harrison to be the part-time preschool director, effective 2/1/24 and Anne Sciolino to be the part-time elementary school director, effective 2/1/24. Jimmie Miles has accepted our offer to become

part-time Minister of Congregational Care. Progress is being made on a part-time Traditional Worship Leader.

Safety: The committee is still in need of volunteers; see Mike Oberschmidt or Tim Jackson

Mike Oberschmidt 3-year term, ending 12/31/2026

Mike Curtis 3-year term, ending 12/31/2026

Special Receptions: We were pleased to host the retirement party for Cynthia Collins and wish her well.

Nominating: This committee is starting up again

The following Nominations were brought forward for approval.

Administration Team: Mike Oberschmidt and Scott Barlow have agreed to serve as co-chairs for a 3-year term, ending 12/31/2027

Weekday Preschool:

Denise Walters 3-year term, ending 12/31/2026

Children's Committee:

Jess Haynes 3-year term, ending 12/31/2026

Risk Management:

David Krouse Chairperson 3-year term ending 12/31/2026.

Curt Winter: 3-year term ending 12/31/2026

Safety-Committee:

Mike Oberschmidt 3-year term, ending 12/31/2026

Mike Curtis 3-year term, ending 12/31/2024

Mission Committee:

Beth Brown two-year term, ending 12/31/2025.

Endowment Committee:

Ben Sillmon three-year term, ending 12/31/2026.

Carolyn Clements three-year term ending 12/31/2026.

Trustee: Carolyn Clements three-year term ending 12/31/2027

Current Counters List: (required by insurance)

Shirley Stover Richard Paul Bill Minson

Sue Patrick Bill Thornton

New Member: Brenda Carmichael

Stewardship Committee:

New Members:

Carolyn Clements 1-year term, ending 12/31/2024

Bill Minson 1-year term, ending 12/31/2024

All nominations were approved.

Winfree Risk Management - no meetings

Childcare Committee - no meetings

Constitution and By-Laws - nothing to report.

Meredith Sigler presented the **Worship Team Report:**

Please refer to the book of reports for a table that shows the attendance in both services so far in 2024. There were many special opportunities to worship during the Advent season leading up to Christmas. Meredith recognized the contributions of the staff, Adult Choir, Chime Choir, Praise Band and Children's Choir. She also recognized the contributions of Linda Hartz, who has played the piano in the Traditional service for years. She will be missed.

The season of Lent will be celebrated with the Ash Wednesday service on February 14, 2024, Maundy Thursday on March 28, 2024, and Easter on March 31, 2024.

A survey is being drafted to gather information on people's worship experience in the regular, special, and combined services.

We have chosen a new green hymnal, and for \$15, a member can have a personalized memorial sticker placed in a hymnal.

From May 9 through 19, 2024, Winfree will be participating in a global prayer movement; each of us will be praying for 5 people in our lives who do not know Jesus, writing their names on seed paper, and planting it as a constant reminder of the seeds we can plant in others' lives daily.

April 28, 2024 will be the presentation of the Children's Spring musical, followed by a potluck dinner.

June 9, 2024, there will be a special themed Contemporary service, ***90's on the 9th***, to feature some much loved older Contemporary

Worship songs with the band being led by Jay Carlton.

Jimmy and Josh are planning to visit all of the in-state college students, so please keep them in your prayers.

Matt Knesal: It has been a great season for the Praise Team with great support from the singers/band. The AV team has worked to use technology to improve the flow of the service. We welcome Glenn Maddox to the vocal team and welcome back Nicole on flute. The Creative Worship Team is working on a worship survey to assess opportunities to enhance the worship environment/flow and create a service that centers and connects people to Jesus.

Angela Godfrey Presented the **Missions and Outreach Committee** Report: **Outreach Committee** met on January 28th to do extensive planning for the year. Beth Brown is joining the team this year.

- The Appalachia (now called Amos) Mission Trip is returning in 2024. It will be \$325 per person for 7 days.
- Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Build will also return in 2024.
- We are planning a pop-up Farmer's Market to celebrate Earth Day.
- We are working with Discipleship and Worship Teams to begin a churchwide prayer initiative called Thy Kingdom Come May 9-19.
- We assisted the Youth Group on their Night of Service on February 4 to help Friends of the Homeless, the Backpack Ministry, the Card Ministry and Property and Space.
- Our January donation bin collection, Tech for Troops was a highly successful outreach opportunity which we will repeat.
- The February Donation Bin items collected will be used to collect school supplies for local Title 1 schools.
- The March Bin will be for Easter Eggs & candy/board games to support an Eagle Scout Project

Needles & Hooks (Debbie Valenti) No new report

Backpack Ministry (Terry Jones & Susan Oberschmidt): The backpack ministry is currently serving 222 people, representing 55 families across seven schools. This ministry serves Watkins Elementary, Greenfield Elementary, Bon Air Elementary, Old Hundred Elementary, Reams Elementary, Robious Elementary, and Robious Middle. This ministry plans to serve through the month of May for this school year.

Helping Hands (Doug Garrett) We have helped church members

move, done yard work for a member who needed special help, and two members installed railings for a senior citizen.

Friends of the Homeless (Sara Nunn): Winfree continues to prepare hearty chicken lunches and emergency lunches on the 4th Tuesday of each month. They expressed thanks to Cynthia Collins for the years that the Children's Ministry has prepared hygiene kits for the guests at Swansboro Baptist Church. If anyone wants to donate items for lunches, please reach out to Sara Nunn (saranunn@comcast.net)

WMU (Joanne Carter): WMU continues to pray for our church and its members as well as for our own missionaries, Jenny Jenkins in Haiti, Mark & Peggy Rutledge in Mexico, Nathan & Cayle Fall in SE Asia, and Elizabeth Ramp in North Africa. In February, they celebrated 136 years of WMU in the Bryan Mapp Hall.

Operation Christmas Child (Susan Ratliffe): Winfree reached the 1000 shoebox Goal for 2023 including shoeboxes completed on line. Many thanks to the benefactor who paid for the shipping and Greatest Journey cost for these boxes. You can also build a shoebox on-line at the church website and can be done anytime. Please remember to include the Greatest Journey!

Scouts (Jon Haynes): Winfree continues to sponsor Scout Units 876 (Cubs) and Troop 897 (Scouts-Boys Troop and Troop 888 (Scouts-Girls Troop). The Troops hold monthly meetings and several units are utilizing our space for regular Den Meetings. The Scouts continue to integrate into the life of Winfree and we provide service opportunities through Trunk or Treat, Easter Eggstravaganza, and various service projects both inside and outside the church; They continue to look for more ways to serve Winfree. They express their gratitude for the relationship with Winfree.

Discipleship: Vivan Sillmon

Ministry to Young Adults: Josh Roberts

We are seeking an opportunity for a whole church outreach opportunity, and the Lighthouse group, which meets at 9:40 for Bible study, is focusing on this. The Monday night group now has a stable membership and has outgrown Josh's home. In March, the group will transition to the Young Adult space at Winfree and will begin a Bible Study.

Collegiate Young Adult Ministry: During the winter break, when the college students were at home, there were several events held for

them, including Monday night hangouts and a Christmas party. Jimmy and Josh hope to continue to visit college campuses this semester including the College of William and Mary, Liberty University, Christopher Newport, Virginia Tech and VCU.

Sunday Morning Young Adult Bible Study 11:00. This is an area of opportunity but requires that we determine what the age range will be, then consider what is available for children and youth at this hour, who will facilitate the group, and are there people in this group attending the traditional service who might be interested.

Ministry to Children and Families: We are grateful for the leadership and service of Cynthia Collins who retired at the end of January; until we can recruit and hire a replacement for the position of Minister to Children, we have hired Lauren Harrison as Interim Preschool-Aged Children's Ministry Director and Anne Sciolino as Interim Elementary-aged Children's Ministry Director. Please refer to the Book of Reports for details of activities supported by Cynthia prior to her retirement and how they will be handled by the new interim leaders.

Ministry to Youth - Jimmy Doan

Jimmy expressed his gratitude for the support and prayers during his surgery and recovery, He is particularly thankful to Lynn Kaerwer, Abi Rutledge, and JP Cheyne for stepping up and leading the youth during his absence. Youth are meeting as one class in the Bunker and they completed a 6-week study on resetting their lives to focus on their relationship with Jesus. Please see online signups for upcoming youth trips - Mission Madness, Fuge, and Impact. We continue to support our Compassion Child in Haiti, and your contributions are appreciated. Please see the book of reports for regular weekly events as well as special events.

Sunday School Administrator, Aggie Blocker

Many thanks to those to continue to update their class roster. Please visit the third floor library to see materials that may be helpful to you, your class, or small group.

Please see the book of reports for statistical details of attendance.

Deacons: Marie Peters, Chair

Please see the Book of Reports for the list of oncoming and retiring deacons. New deacons were assigned a mentor to help them gain a better understanding of their service to Winfree families. Deacons were also given Communion assignments for February 25th and Maundy Thursday. Several tools have been developed and

distributed to help families remember their deacon/enable them to more easily contact them. The deacons continue to minister to their families.

Minister of Congregational Care: We Welcome Jimmie Miles to this role at Winfree. You may reach him at JMiles@winfreechurch.org

Weekday Preschool - Becky Pizzini, chair In December, the preschool recognized Cynthia Collins for her years of dedication to Winfree and the preschool. The preschool staff also had the opportunity to meet with the new interim Preschool Ministries Director. Megan Corbett, the Preschool Financial Administrator is working on the 2024-25 budget and will meet with the preschool committee once finalized. The preschool is also preparing for accreditation renewal, which is a lengthy process. Please see the book of reports to see all the events that have taken place at the preschool.

Pastor's Comments:

David expressed his thanks to everyone. He also reminded us of the *Walk Through The Bible* Event coming up. He thanked us for our patience with the giving statements and noted that it is difficult to cover when the Financial Secretary is out.

Sam closed us in prayer to adjourn the meeting at 7:30.

Clerk Report of Membership

May 2024

Total membership as of February 21, 2024**1,518**

Since the last business meeting, the following members have joined Winfree:

Linda Miller	3/3/2024
Catherine Selton	3/3/2024
Carol Ash	4/7/2024
Lori Ropelewski	4/7/2023

Since the last business meeting, the following members have left Winfree:

Marie Porter(deceased)	3/6/2024
Joan Hayes (deceased)	3/8/2024
Linda Hartz	5/1/2024

Since the last business meeting, the following membership status have changed:

.....7

Total membership as of May 8, 2024.....**1,519**

Transition Update Book of Reports May 8, 2024

The Church Council has been working diligently to prepare for Dr. Benjamin's retirement in June. The Council continues to meet with a keen sense of urgency. We would like you to know that the Council as a group committed to the following guidelines for the Transition Process:

- Prayerfully seek the Lord's guidance.
- Openly and consistently communicate with our Winfree Family.
- Respecting necessary confidentiality in all circumstances.
- Operating with a sense of urgency but with Spirit driven patience and respect for the process.

Work Accomplished or In Progress

- The Church Council decided the Church will hire an interim minister to preach on Sundays and possibly provide some discipleship training on Wednesday nights.
- A list of expectations and duties for Interim Candidates has been finalized.
- Candidate interviews have begun.
- Resources within the BGAV, Middle District and others have been contacted for information that will support the Interim Pastor and Senior Pastor search process.
- The Deacons have begun the process of creating a slate of nominees to serve on the Senior Pastor Search Committee. The final state will be brought to the Church for approval.
- Plans for day-to-day operations after Dr. Benjamin's departure are in progress. Items discussed to date include:
 - Assignment of a staff member to support each committee.
 - Assignment of a staff member to handle activities previously handled by Dr. Benjamin.
 - Support Staff will be supervised by Jimmy Doan and Josh Roberts.
 - Plans to support Jimmy Doan and Josh Roberts by assigning each of them a Leadership Group member who will provide support and coordinate communication where necessary.

Communication will be extremely important during this time of transition. We mentioned above that the Council will share progress regularly. If you have any questions, please contact a council member.

Finally, and most importantly, we ask everyone to pray for Winfree and the search process.

Winfree Church Council

Vivian Sillmon, Discipleship & Training Angela Godfrey, Missions & Outreach Scott Barlow, Co-Lead of Stewardship & Administration Mike Oberschmidt, Co-Lead of Stewardship & Administration Meredith Sigler, Worship Sam McNeny, Church Moderator Mary Scott Garrett, Church Clerk Ed Wickham, Treasurer Amy Doumlele, Assistant Treasurer Marie Peters, Deacon Chair Rev. Josh Roberts, Minister to Young Adults Jimmy Doan, Minister to Youth Matt Knesal, Contemporary Worship Director Dr. Jimmie Miles, Minister of Congregational Care

Worship Team: Meredith Sigler

2024 ATTENDANCE				
Date	Notes	9:40	11:00	Total
Jan 07		128	284	412
Jan 14	MK Weekend	120	291	411
Jan 21		122	265	387
Jan 28	Cynthia Collins Retirement Recognition Day	126	300	426
Feb 04	David out/ Josh preaching	131	258	389
Feb 11	Scout Sunday; Ash Wed 2-14= 80	143	249	392
Feb 18	President's Day	121	261	382
Feb 25	communion, handchimes in Trad.	133	237	370
Mar 03	nice day	135	268	403
Mar 10	Daylight Savings	111	255	366
Mar 17		114	251	365
Mar 24	Palm Sunday; Maundy Thur = 130	125	315	440
Mar 31	Easter Sunday (start of CCPS break)	214	361	575
Apr 07	(Susan Marshall last day as Traditional interim)	125	217	342
Apr 14		136	260	396
Apr 21	drizzly day	133	236	369
Apr 28		141	258	399
May 05		125	247	372

The Lenten season at Winfree included a couple of special opportunities to worship and prepare for Easter. Thank you to all those who planned and participated in the Ash Wednesday service, Maundy Thursday service, and both Easter services! The dedication and time that was devoted to all the Lenten and Easter worship experiences by the staff and Adult Choir and by the Praise Band on Easter is much appreciated! The survey results specifically asking for feedback on the Maundy Thursday service were overwhelmingly positive with a few comments that this service is a favorite and the perfect way to prepare for Easter!

A larger survey has been drafted to gather information about people's overall worship experience at Winfree, and we are working with the church office to determine the best time to have it sent. From there, the Worship Team will consider the results while planning new elements for the services.

The new hymnals have been placed in the Sanctuary and the choir has begun using their new loose-leaf versions. We pray that the Traditional service will be blessed by the classics and new songs included for years to come.

From May 9-19, Winfree will be participating in a global prayer initiative to specifically focus on praying for 5 people in our lives that do not know Jesus. This will be an exciting opportunity to pray for seeds to be planted in their lives and also for us to have a reminder of our prayers by writing those names on seed paper, praying over them in each Sunday service as a whole church, and finishing with an opportunity to plant the seeds as a constant reminder of the seeds we can plant in others every day. Thank you to the Boy Scout troops that meet at Winfree for making the flower boxes for the entry ways into the Sanctuary and Worship Center that will be used during this initiative! Booklets, with reflections written by members of the Winfree congregation, were passed out May 5, and there will be a special moment within that service as well as May 12 and 19 services to collectively pray over the names that were placed on our congregations' hearts.

On Jun 9th, we will have a special themed Contemporary service - 90s on the 9th - to pull out some much-loved older contemporary worship songs with the band being led by Jay Carlton.

The Worship Team is looking for a few volunteers from the Traditional Service to join our committee! If you are interested, please let Meredith Sigler know.

Matthew Knesal

The praise team has had a great start to the year constantly improving on our musicianship and ability to make each song our own here at Winfree Church. With our two new team members Lilly and Aly joining, to the amazing Nicole Flournoy bringing flute back to the team, I have watched the team grow in their ability to lead from the platform. This amazing team keeps God as the focus and drive to enhance the worship at Winfree more and more. As we strive to enhance our worship experience here at Winfree, we are in collaboration with our amazing small group that includes Meredith Sigler, David Krouse, Kerstan McGrath, Meagan Doan, Tony Martin, Marlaina Knowlton, and myself. Together, we are striving towards making the contemporary service the best it can be. To get

feedback on how to better serve and engage with our congregation, we are working towards creating a survey for both services in the very near future. We want to strive to create a deeper service and space with Jesus as our focus. This team has already worked towards improving our portion of the service, and I believe with the church's input we will be able to develop a more a creative, reflective, and deeper space for Jesus to have his way and his will with our services and worship at Winfree.

Our tech team is also working in the same stride. As we know, online presence has become a prominent matter in the church. In the same way that we are making enhances to our service in person, we seek to enhance our online presence as well. With the help of Chad Nixon, and in collaboration with David Williams, Dan Ogden, and myself, we have taken the first step towards this. We have begun to receive quotes for finishing our new crow's nest livestream station, which will allow for a greater environment to mix each stream. With this new station, we will be able to use some of the best effects and plug-ins in the industry to improve and enhance the overall quality and sound of our contemporary livestream. Technology is never easy, and while it has been behind the scenes for many weeks and months of work, we are thrilled to say the project at this time is on track to be installed towards the beginning of the summer season.

Please as we approach this summer season, keep our amazing worship team in your prayers, as we keep striving to do God's will inside of Winfree Church. We are incredibly lucky to have these amazing singers, players, and AV helpers who all do this for something far beyond themselves. This team has always kept the focus where it always should be, and that is on the redemptive love of Jesus Christ. We have the honor to worship Him every day of our life, and every Sunday here with our Winfree Church family.

Missions & Outreach Committee:

Mission/Outreach Team (Angela Godfrey): "We are committed to be a light in the darkness as we serve the least & the lost, leading people to know Jesus in our local community, our region, our world."

--Committee members are Suzanne Drake, Sue Patrick, Sarah Roeske, Melanie Rapp, Kevin McGrath, Beth Brown, & Josh Roberts. Stacey Pulliam to be voted on to add to our committee.

--The **Appalachia** (now called AMOS) **Mission Trip** is the week of June 2-7 to Jefferson City, TN. We can take a group of up to 8 people. The deadline for a

committed sign-up is May 1. Cost is \$100/person. Please contact Suzanne Drake if interested in joining this mission trip.

--The community outreach **Pop-up Farmers Market** with the non-profit organization RVAg here at Winfree on April 24 brought 400 people to our church grounds with 31 vendors, food trucks, & live music. Winfree members mingled with the community and passed out Winfree bags & church flyers. Thank you to all of you who attended & supported this event.

--We are supporting **Teacher Appreciation** Week providing breakfast to Title One School Dumbarton Elementary on May 6 to 80 teachers & providing breakfast to our Winfree Preschool teachers on May 21.

--We continue to work with the Discipleship & Worship Teams to plan the church-wide prayer initiative, "**Thy Kingdom Come**" May 9-19. This will include devotions, intentional prayer, & worship. The Scouts built 10 planters for the culmination of the

--**Donation Bin:** May—taking a break; June—possibly VBS supplies; July—Operation Christmas Child; August—school supplies

--**Disaster Relief Training** coming in the Fall, stay tuned for details.

Needles & Hooks (Debbie Valenti & Alice Bunch): No additional report.

Backpack Ministry (Terry Jones & Susan Oberschmidt): The Backpack ministry is currently serving 192 people representing 46 families across 7 schools each week.

The Thrifty Quaker donated a portion of their February 2024 profits to the Backpack Ministry. We are very appreciative of this monetary donation, to help pay for backpack groceries.

Greenfield Elementary held a food drive in March for the Backpack Ministry. This ministry provides weekend meal support for students and their families in need. Paper bags are used for each family. Our focus is on serving students and families who have food insecurity. This ministry currently serves the following schools:

- Watkins Elementary
- Greenfield Elementary
- Bon Air Elementary
- Old Hundred Elementary

- Reams Elementary
- Robious Elementary
- Robious Middle

The Backpack Ministry needs paper grocery bags with handles, like the ones that Kroger gives out. If you can donate some, it would be greatly appreciated.

The Backpack Ministry plans to serve through the month of May for this school year.

We are so thankful to God and the Winfree congregation for the ability to provide food and show God's love to students and their families in need.

Helping Hands (Doug Garrett): It continues to be a busy quarter for Helping Hands.

Friends of the Homeless (Sara Nunn): No additional report.

WMU (Joann Carter): WMU continues to meet monthly to study & pray for missionaries around the world. Our own missionaries continue to serve faithfully—Mark & Peggy Rutledge in Mexico will retire after 41 years of service and will return to the US in May or June. Jenny Jenkins who served in Haiti for 20 years as a nurse was recalled because of the dangerous conditions there. She will speak at the Agape SS class on May 5th. Elizabeth Rapp serving in Africa will be in Midlothian this Summer. In March, we packed 120 eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. In April, we packed candy & spoons for Friends of the Homeless. In May, we will celebrate birthdays of missionaries & enjoy a brunch to honor Mother's Day. We will begin collecting cards in August (no calendars) and the collection ends in October, more details to follow.

Operation Christmas Child (Susan Ratliffe): No additional report.

Scouts (Jon Haynes): Winfree continues to sponsor three Scout Units: Pack 876 (Cubs), Troop 897 (Scouts-Boys Troop), Troop 888 (Scouts-Girls Troop). The units continue to look for ways to serve Winfree Church and all units continue to express gratitude for the relationship with Winfree.

Discipleship Team: Vivian Sillmon

James Robert “Jimmy” Doan Ordination:

Based on the unanimous recommendation of an Ordination Council, the Church Council recommends that Winfree Memorial Baptist Church ordain James Robert “Jimmy” Doan to the gospel ministry, effective June 1, 2024.

Ordination Council Members

David Benjamin Mike Weaver David Harpe Glenn Maddox
Stephanie Amos Lynn Kaerwer Jay Gates Jason Sigler

Ministry to Young Adults – Joshua Roberts

Young Adults

Lighthouse—9:40 Sunday Morning Bible Study

Lighthouse is continuing to be a steady Sunday morning class. The group has developed a calendar of outings and service opportunities.

Monday Night Bible Study—6:30 Monday Night

This group is growing in many wonderful ways. Currently, the group is growing numerically, and we have had to add more seating space in order to meet the current needs of this growing group. The group gathers each Monday for a Bible study then stays to talk, play games or goes out for food. The group has been active spending time together outside of Mondays and class/group time. There have been many Friday and weekend hangouts. They are building relationships and living life together. The Monday Night Bible Study is made up of young men and women, married and singles between the ages of 20-35.

Collegiate Young Adult Ministry

We were unable to visit our college students this semester, which I know for some is a great disappointment. There were a few factors that went into this. First, Jimmy Doan had surgery with a recovery that prevented long trips. Thankfully he has recovered. Second, with the announcement of David’s retirement, our calendar became booked.

With the summer months starting and many of our college students returning from school, we plan to offer a Bible Study on Monday nights that runs the same

time as the current Monday night Bible Study. This will allow the group to meet and interface with the other group which has also gathered on Monday night.

Sunday Morning Bible Study 11:00

The Children's Sunday Morning Bible Study and Children's Church will become a 2-hour program beginning in June which will allow for there to be growth of an additional 11:00 Bible study group to meet. I will be holding an interest meeting within the next few months. I still need to find facilitators to help lead group discussions. If you are interested or know of anyone, please pass their name along to me.

Missions

Thy Kingdom Come: One of the **churchwide opportunities** that we are excited about is a **prayer initiative** that will involve Bible Study Groups, Sunday worship services and all the members of our church. This prayer initiative will take place **May 9-19**, which is Ascension Sunday to Pentecost. During this time, **we will ask the church to think of five (5) people they know and to commit to praying for them over those ten days.** We will also offer moments within the service to pray for those names. Winfree has also published a devotional written by members of the church for the congregation to help aid them in their daily quiet times.

Other Commitments and Committees

I sit on or attend the following committees as: a collaborative ministry voice, the ministerial representative, mentor or as part of the transition.

1. Children's Committee
2. VBS Committee
3. Church Council
4. Property and Space
5. Stewardship Committee

Ministry to Children and Families: Lauren Harrison and Anne Sciolino
Children's Ministry Director and Elementary-aged Children's Ministry
Director –

Events and Activities since the last meeting

- I. **Winfree Preschool Chapels:** These monthly chapels are held for the weekday preschool by Lauren and Matt. The children are led in worship,

as well as a fun interactive Bible lesson. This will continue next year when preschool starts back up again after the summer break.

II. Sunday Morning Bible Study: We continue to be in need of volunteers.

- **Preschool SMBS:** The 9:40 hour of service continues to be low in attendance while the 11:00 service hour has been increasing in numbers.
- **Elementary SMBS:** Led by Anne Sciolino, bible study is during the 9:40 hour service only, followed by children's worship in the 11:00 service hour.

III. Children's Worship: We continue to be in need of volunteers.

- Led by Anne Sciolino during the 11:00 service hour.

IV. B.A.M. (Bible, Arts, and Missions)

- **Preschool and Children's Missions**
- Sundays from 3:00-4:00pm children are taught about a current missionary, what country they are in, and what they do there. Beth and Jerry Stevenson lead elementary school aged children while Jeanette Shaheen leads Preschool.
- **Preschool and Childrens Choirs**
- Sundays from 4:00-5:00pm the children are directed in musical instruction.
- The Preschool Choir is led by Rick Kaerwer and Julia Wilmoth
- The Elementary Choir is led by Amanda Alley, Rosey Haake, with Shirley Stover as accompanist, and Amanda Smith and Jeanette Shaheen as helpers.

V. Church Easter Egg Hunt

- We would like to thank Lynn Kaerwer and Abi Rutledge, as well as the youth, for planning this wonderful event for the children this year.

VI. Winfree Childrens Musical

- Preschool and Elementary choirs performed "Noah's Rockin' Ark Adventure" on Sunday April 28th.

Upcoming Events and Activities:

I. Vacation Bible School

- VBS will take place **July 22- 26** from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Our theme this year is **Scuba: Diving into a relationship with God.**

- Registration has already begun for children, as well as for volunteers. **We still need more volunteers to make this week run as smoothly as possible.**
- II. Passport Kids Camp**
- Passport Kids Camp is **June 12-15** at Eagle Eyrie.
 - There are currently nine children and three adult chaperones registered.
- III. ** New Childrens Ministry Location – beginning June 2nd – ****
- Elementary ministries will be moving to what is currently the “Preschool Wing,” which will create the new “**Children’s Ministry Wing**” for the church.
 - Elementary aged children will use the connection for their Childrens church as well as Sunday School.
 - The doors at the far end of the children’s wing will remain locked during Sunday hours, and the **doors in the breezeway will be the only exit and entrance.**
 - There will be a **check-in system** for Preschool, as well as Elementary school aged children, which will create a secure space for the children.
 - **No one will use this hallway except for background checked teachers and the children.** This will ensure that the children are safe and that no one is wandering through the children’s wing unattended. This is not only in line with the national accreditation board of our weekday preschool for safety measures, but also something that is commonly used by large churches in the area.

Ministry to Youth – Jimmy Doan

This Sunday night will be our last regular SNS for the school year. We are wrapping up our series called “**You Asked For It**”. Earlier in the school year I had each student submit any questions they had. The topics ranged from dating, friendships, God, Jesus, the Bible, salvation, anxiety, sex, peer pressure and others too. This has led to some great discussion on Sunday night as we take a look at a question and then try and answer it from a Biblical view.

Last weekend, we had a wonderful weekend at **Mission Madness** – over 140 leaders and students went into the community of Chesapeake to do different service projects – from mulching, sorting clothes, helping out at a homeless shelter, gardening, or cleaning up trash on the beach. We pray that God was glorified

through all of it and more people come to know Jesus as a result!

We are currently continuing to meet as one combined class on Sunday morning down in the Bunker. We are currently doing a series on some of the more intriguing Psalms. Any given week between Sunday Morning AMP, Church Service, Sunday Night SURGE, and Midweek Bible Study we are reaching around 60 different youth per week.

We are asking if every student can bring \$2 to help offset the cost of dinner and .25 to donate to Jean Phenix each week to SNS. Winfree Youth continues to **sponsor our Compassion child** through our weekly Sunday night offering. His name is Jean Phenix, he is 15 and lives in Haiti with his family.

Upcoming Events:

5/5: SNS - our last regular SNS of the school year

5/12: NO SNS - Happy Mother's Day

5/19: SNS - Senior Roast

5/26: NO SNS - Memorial Day weekend

Summer Trips:

6/24-28: FUGE – Chowan University in NC

7/7-13: IMPACT VA – Roanoke, VA

7/22-26: VBS 9 - 12:00pm at Winfree, sign up to volunteer!

Regular Weekly Events:

- Sunday Morning AMP 9:40-10:40 am in the Bunker
- Sunday Night SURGE 5-7 pm in the Bunker
- Wednesday night Midweek 6:30-7:30 pm in the Bunker (stopped for the summer)

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for the leaders and students in the Youth Ministry of Winfree Church!

Respectfully submitted by Jimmy Doan, Youth Minister

Sunday School Administrator – Aggie Blocker

Thank you to all those leaders who continue to keep their class rosters updated. This is a tremendous help. Also, please take advantage of the 3rd floor library to see what materials may be available to you, your class or small group.

Feb.'24 Avg. Attendance: 173

Total Enrolled (from end of Feb. adjustments): 328
% Attendance/Enrollment: 53%

March '24 Avg. Attendance: 165*

Total Enrolled (from end of March adjustments): 331
% Attendance/Enrollment: 50%

Several classes did not meet on Easter Sunday which accounted for this slight decline this month

Apr.'24 Avg. Attendance: 166

Total Enrolled (from end of Jan. adjustments): 331
% Attendance/Enrollment: 50%

Deacons – Marie Peters – Chair

The Deacons have had many occasions to visit Winfree members in the hospital, at their homes, and meet with them in other ways. They have attended to their families during the Memorial Services of loved ones, preparing and keeping the Family Waiting Room for their comfort and privacy. They have also served in four Baptisms and Communion, including the Maundy Thursday Communion.

The Deacons have requested the help of Helping Hands when their families have needed certain things done on their property, brought meals, sent cards, and made phone calls. The deacons have demonstrated what love in action looks like as they minister to our Winfree families. It has been a very busy season for the Deacons.

Most recently, the Deacons have had the additional duty of receiving all the names submitted by the church as recommendations to be on the Pastor Search Committee. With prayer and purpose, the Deacon body proceeds in doing its part to provide a slate of candidates that the Church Council will bring before the church to be voted on. With humble gratitude for the wealth of knowledgeable and wise recommendations to serve on the committee, the task brings the Deacon body to deeper prayer as they fulfill their part of providing the names for the church's approval.

Marie D. Peters, Deacon Chairperson

Minister of Congregational Care - Caring Ministry/WeCare – Jimmie Miles

Much of the ministry of a Congregational Care Minister is confidential due to the personal and private nature of that ministry.

Some of the things that I can share with you are as follows:

- I have met with most of our staff to get their perspectives on what this ministry can help them in their respective areas of work.
- I met with Steve Mapp, who worked in this area, and requested that he continue to lead the Grief Recovery Seminars. He graciously accepted this request. He will soon be announcing when the next series of seminars will be held.
- I have visited many of the Adult Bible Study classes and children classes to meet and to introduce myself to those I have not known.
- I am meeting and participating in our weekly staff meetings which has enable me to catch up with the excellent ministries of our staff as well as become orientated to the schedules of various programs.
- I was invited to meet monthly with our Deacons and Church Council. I have been working closely with Marie Peters, the chair of the Deacons, to communicate the expressed needs of those members assigned to our Deacon Family Ministry.
- Our Pastor requested assisting him in one of the Traditional Worship services with the Lord's Supper and Offertory prayer.
- Visits to Rehab and hospitals, along with home and telephone calls are a daily occurrence.
- Learning about a new computer system and receiving assistance from our staff and office administrator has made the process much easier.

There are many other examples of becoming more aware of congregational care needs but, hopefully, this will allow you a snapshot of my first 3 months with our church family.

My sincere thanks to each one who has made my "Homecoming" so welcoming and fun.

Dr. Jimmie T. Miles, Minister of Congregational Care

Weekday Preschool – Becky Pizzini – Chair

It is hard to believe, but the 2023-2024 school year is coming to a close! Spring has been a very busy time for both students and staff.

Two new enrichment classes started during the Spring semester: Bricks-4-Kidz and Little Steamers. All children who participated enjoyed the added STEM

activities. The Preschool hopes to add more enrichment classes for the students to have new experiences.

- In **March**, the Preschool hosted its annual Dad's Night, where students brought their dads to school for a night of games, art, and extra playground time.
- **April** was a busy month with Spring Pictures, a visit from the petting zoo, and the annual Art Studio. Every student created a piece to be on display for the families to come and walk through the Art Show. Teachers had their annual evaluations done this month.
- Coming up in **May**, as the year wraps up, we will have parent-teacher conferences, Mother's Day celebrations in the classrooms, a visit from the Chesterfield Fire Department, and our annual end-of-year celebration at Maymont. In addition, the JK classes will be going to the library to sign up for their very own library cards as well as enjoy a story and picnic.

On **May 15**, our afterschool dance class students will perform in their dance recital.

During the **week of May 20th**, we will be showing how much we appreciate our teachers and staff with breakfast, lunch, and other goodies.

Once the school year has ended, the Preschool will host four weeks of summer camp fun. This year's themes are Dinosaurs, Beach Fun, Olympic Games, and Journey to Outer Space!

Bereavement Committee – Robin McNeny – Chair

Since our last business meeting the Bereavement Committee has hosted two receptions for the families of Winfree members who have passed on. The first was for **Marie Porter**, wife of Dr. Bill Porter and member of the Kindred Spirits Class. The second reception was for **Joan Hayes Killorn**, wife of Bill Killorn. Many thanks to the Service Teams that supplied food for these receptions. Both families were so very grateful to Winfree Church for all that was done to comfort and assist them.

Treasurer's Report: Ed Wickham

Jan 1, 2023 – Dec. 31, 2023 - Financial Statistics

Budget	\$1,507,157
Receipts	\$1,645,220
Expenses	\$1,580,023
Net Income	\$65,197

Jan 1, 2024 – April 31, 2024 - Financial Statistics

YTD Budget	04/30/24	\$533,641
AUB Deposits	04/30/24	\$562,936
AUB Debits	04/30/24	\$593,912
Net Income	04/30/24	-\$30,976

Investment Accounts 05/2024

- Everbless Cash Portfolio - \$228,655
- Raymond James CD - \$105,084
- Money Market Account at Blue Ridge Bank - \$110,291
- Money Market Account at Atlantic Union Bank - \$11,952
- GOA at Atlantic Union Bank – \$127,523
- Endowment Account at Fidelity Investment - \$226,489
- AUB Trust Fund - \$97,798
- Mortgage Balance - \$1,926,897

Comments

- Gracious Congregation in your support of Winfree Missions
- Please review your contributions on-line through your account access in Push Pay. If something is not correct, please let us know.
- If you have any questions regarding financials, contact Lindy our Financial Administrator at the church office via email or voice mail

Administration Team: Scott Barlow and Mike Oberschmidt

Stewardship

Stewardship Committee Mission Summary

The Stewardship Committee is responsible for developing and maintaining the financial practices of the Church. We are charged with the planning and presenting a budget to the Church Council and work diligently and regularly with the Church Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer to ensure that Church resources are being properly safeguarded by monitoring receipts and expenditures against the budget.

Summary of Stewardship Committee Activities Since Last Business Meeting

- The Stewardship Committee has been working closely with Treasurer Ed Wickham and Assistant Treasurer Amy Doumlele during the first quarter of 2024. Data entry for closing out 2023 is mostly complete, and the Committee has been notified that a 2023 Net Income of approximately \$73,000 will be available for any essential unfunded missions/needs.
- The process for funding essential, unfunded missions in 2024 with 2023 Net Income has begun, and committees will be receiving a form to request additional funds from Net Income.
- The Stewardship Committee understands that data entry for YTD 2024 is continuing and could be ready at any time. The Committee has been assured that 2024 finances look OK, and our checkbook balance for GOB is in excellent condition.
- The Stewardship Committee will be searching for several new committee members to serve for three years, from January 2025 through December 2027. Winfree members can nominate someone to serve by notifying the nominations committee, contacting staff, or contacting anyone on the current committee.

The Stewardship Committee appreciates your support and input.

With Grace,

Glenn Taylert, Chairman, Stewardship Committee

Endowment Committee

Dee Slaughter – Chair

No report.

Property & Space

Dewey Lackner - Chair

- Work is underway to replace the discolored plexiglass on the Stained-Glass windows in the Chapel. Work will be completed soon. They may even have it finished by the May 8th meeting.
- Upgrading Compass HVAC software for the Worship Center.
- Replaced Battery in Worship Center AED.
- Gutters on the CEW scheduled to be repaired / replaced and covered with gutter covers by the end of April.
- New caution strip added to bottom step in the Worship Center.
- Removed cabinets above the toilets and sinks in the Preschool children's restrooms for safety reasons.
- Replaced a toilet in a restroom in the Preschool area.
- Repaired the leak in the Sanctuary Cupola.
- Power washed many areas across Winfree facility. Many thanks to Kenny Roberson, Brenda Robertson, Dan Ogden and Tom Jenkins for their hard work.
- The Sanctuary boiler is leaking and working with plumbing / HVAC to repair.
- Safety handrails were added to side stair entrances to the choir loft.

Items we are working on:

- Re-grade the Chapel Gravel Parking lot.
- Lights in the Worship Center ceiling need to be replaced. We are renting a scissor lift to replace them as it is too high for a ladder.
- Replacing furniture in the Worship Center lobby. Many chairs are peeling, fading, and showing wear and tear.
- Update signage to the outside of the facility. Many of the existing signs are worn and need to be replaced.
- Replace Concrete walkway in front of the Chapel.
- Repair pillars on the Chapel.

AV/IT

David Williams, chair

In 2024 we continue to keep our systems up to date and working efficiently. Technology is constantly changing, AV live stream and sound systems are heavily dependent on IT resources, so we must be proactive. We continue to plan and prepare for the future. Thank you for your support and patience as we work through the many projects we have in the queue.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS for live stream and ProPresenter (display screens). No prior experience is needed. We will train you and ensure you are comfortable with the technology.

2024 Projects

- New laptops and Microsoft 365 accounts for new staff (**Complete**)
- Replace (upgrade) legacy HVAC computer (**Complete**)
- Desktop computer for children's Sunday schools area (**Q2**)
- Monitor and adjust monitors in Traditional service (**Working**)
- Upgrade lighting control board (MAC) [**Q2/Q3**]
- iMac's replacement with Windows PC (MAC) [**Q2**]
- iMac's upgrade and refresh (Sanctuary) [**Q2**]
- **Infrastructure next step is talk to Comcast and Verizon [Q2/Q3]**
 - Current WAN speed is 300 MB, looking to move to Gigabit
 - Replace access point in MAC, stage ceiling [**2024 project**]
 - *Requires a lift, will coordinate with lighting upgrades*

Personnel

Dan Ogden, Interim Personnel chair

- Dr Carol Hill accepted our offer to become part time Traditional Worship Leader effective April 1, 2024.
- We accepted Dr David Benjamin's request to retire June 23, 2024
- The Personnel Committee will work with the Deacon board and search team to facilitate the next steps as we weigh the appointment of an Interim Pastor and subsequent hiring of a Senior Pastor

Safety

Mike Oberschmidt and Tim Jackson, co-chairs

Nothing to report.

Special Receptions

Robin McNeny – Chair

SPECIAL RECEPTIONS COMMITTEE: It was our pleasure on Sunday evening April 28th to host a reception following the Children’s Choir Spring Musical. Well done Children’s Choir! Thanks to everyone who brought food and enjoyed fellowship with us that evening. Also, the Committee is busy planning a gathering to celebrate Dr. Benjamin’s 16 years of ministry with Winfree Church. Details are still being worked out, so please watch the “Here’s What’s Happening” for a date and for information on what to bring.

Nominating:

Mission Committee:

Stacey Pulliam has been nominated for the Mission Committee serving a 3-year term ending 12/2026.

Property and Space:

Gary Wilmouth has been nominated for the Property and Space Committee serving a 3-year term ending 12/2026.

Personnel:

Dan Ogden to chair the Personnel Committee serving a 2-year term ending 12/2025.

Treasurer:

Ed Wickham to serve as Treasurer for a 3-year term ending 12/2026.

Winfree Risk Management

The Risk Management Team has not met since the last Business Meeting.

Childcare

No meetings

Constitution & By-Laws

David Haver - Chair

Nothing to Report