



WINFREE  
MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

October 11, 2023

Dear Winfree Members;

The almost eleven years I have spent with you here at Winfree has filled my life with many blessings. Witnessing your children being born, watching them discover God and grow into wonderful children and young people has blessed me beyond measure. You as a church have embraced me and loved me through the many ups and downs of life and I am very thankful to you all. I cannot express enough appreciation for the love and support you have given me these past years. My love for you is deep and you will always hold a special place in my heart.

Life holds many twists and turns and we as humans want to hold onto what we know, what is comfortable, what is safe. However, God's plan for us is not always comfortable. Yet, God's plan for us is always best. God sees in us what we cannot see in ourselves and we should trust in God's direction. Discerning that direction is a process that I have been in many months now. My search for what God has for me in the future has led me to realize it is time for me to retire. Those of you who know me know this decision was not an easy one to make. The past few years I have realized I do not have the energy and stamina Winfree needs - which is not fair to you. My plan is to retire at the end of January 2024 which gives Winfree several months to develop a strategy which will enable Winfree's Ministry to Children and Families to continue to be a vital ministry to the young families in our church and our community.

I ask for your prayers as I begin the transition from full time ministry to retirement. I know it will not be easy, but it is what is best for Winfree and for me. Thank you for allowing me the privilege of being your Minister to Children and Families here at Winfree Church.

In God's love,

Cynthia M. Collins  
Minister to Children and Families