

Winstead Connection



Pastor Patrick Murphy

"Timothy my coworker says hello to you, and Lucius, Jason, and Sosipater, my relatives. I am Tertius, and I am writing this letter to you in the Lord—hello! Gaius, who is host to me and to the whole church, says hello to you. Erastus the city treasurer says hello to you as well, along with our brother Quartus." — Romans 16:21-23

The closing lines of Paul's letters in the New Testament often include lists of names and greetings from those who accompanied Paul on his journeys in ministry. It's one way he honors the people God had called to be his partners in living out the good news of Jesus. I particularly love these verses from the end of Romans, in which Tertius, Paul's scribe, pauses to identify himself and send greetings to the sisters and brothers in Rome.

I remember growing up how my mom would always be sure to have my brother and me sign our names to cards she sent to our grandparents or to other family and friends. She wanted us to leave our mark, a personal touch that conveyed something of our affection and intentionality for those receiving our cards or letters.

If you were writing a letter to someone or sending them a card, whose greetings would you want to include? How would you add a personal touch that clearly conveyed love and the importance of that relationship to you? Who are your partners in faith?

Tertius took time to highlight the friends whose relationships mattered most to him and to the church at large. He honors their gifts and presence by including their words in what he was doing. I wonder what would change if we viewed ourselves this way in the church? What if we lived as though all of us have something to contribute, that everyone's labor and presence was important to our success?

I challenge you to consider how God is calling you to engage the ministries of Winstead as we enter these upcoming seasons. How God is asking you to be intentional in growing in your faith and adding to the vibrancy to our life in Christ? Because the work of the church takes all of us.

Pastor Patrick's office hours are
Monday - Wednesday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Thursday 9:00 am - 11:00 am
Email: pmurphy@nccumc.org

CHILDREN & YOUTH



*Marty Johnson,
Minister of Children & Youth
336-402-5000*

SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH ECHO (MYF)

Winstead's youth group is in need of your help! The middle school and high school students need adults to walk alongside them in their journey to adulthood. A part of the responsibility of the body of Christ is to walk alongside young Christians during the formation of their discipleship. We are in need of some adults who will come out on Sunday evenings from 5:30 to 7:00. In doing so, you will support and give value to our youth as they grow in their relationship with Christ.

You, as an adult Christian, as an adult brother or sister in Christ to these youth, are an invaluable asset.

If you are willing to give up one or two Sunday evenings a month (whatever you can do), please contact me, Marty Johnson. I would love to talk with you. This is the responsibility of the body of Christ, the body known as Winstead UMC.

You have always been a gracious and supporting church, and your help is needed in this area. This is a ministry for which we need people to step forward, to love, support, and pray for our young people.

I want to thank in advance those who step forward and the church as a whole for your continual

support and engagement in the spiritual life of our young people!!

Blessings

Mr. Marty

Winstead's Pumpkin Patch

Thursday, October 15 - Unload Pumpkins

October 17 - 31 - Pumpkin Patch is open

Monday - Friday 2 – 8 pm

Saturday 9 am - 5 pm

We need your help to unload the pumpkins on Thursday, October 15.

Then Monday through Friday, we have two-hour shifts from 2 pm till 8 pm each day. Please sign up for a two-hour shift or more. Please use the QR code on the flyer in the narthex. If you need any help, please ask Marty Johnson or Linda Lane. We will be glad to help you.

On Saturdays, our two-hour shifts will begin at 9 am and run till 5 pm.

The money we collect will go towards ministries at Winstead UMC and the ministry of the pumpkin suppliers, who help the Navajo Nation in New Mexico.

Thank you so much for your support and help with this fundraiser!

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Winstead's Fall Carnival & Trunk Or Treat

Saturday, October 31st from 1 - 3 pm

We are looking forward to our Fall "carnival" Festival which includes our Trunk or Treat. We will have live music, food, a hay ride, face painting, games, a firetruck and some crafts.

If you are going to participate in the trunk or treat, please be at the church by noon. Please invite friends, neighbors, and coworkers to be a part of our Trunk or Treat. Prizes will be awarded for the best trunk!

If you have any questions, please contact Marty Johnson or Linda Lane.

Pilgrimage 2026 - November 13 - 15

Cost is \$50 dollars per youth.

Please sign up as soon as possible.

We will again be going with West Nash UMC Youth group. Any questions or concern, please contact Marty Johnson.

ECHO YOUTH SCHEDULE

Sunday, October 4

5:30 - 7:00 pm Youth @ Winstead

Sunday, October 11

5:30 - 7:00 pm Youth @ Winstead

Sunday, October 18

5:30 - 7:00 pm Youth @ Winstead

Sunday, October 25

5:30 - 7:00 pm Youth @ Winstead

Marty Johnson, Minister of Children & Youth
Office hours: Tuesdays, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Email: martykeithjohnson@gmail.com or
Cell phone: 336-402-5000

Hand in Hand

by Sanda Hight, Chair

The first months of the new school year are always busy for Hand in Hand activities.

We currently have 24 Prayer Partners who receive a card each month from members of our congregation and a birthday card for each partner during his or her birthday month. We have delivered cards for September and will have the October cards ready to be signed from October 4-11. The following people met at Vick on September 17 to deliver

school supplies that were collected from our congregation:

Pastor Patrick,
Peggie Shultz,

Mary Ellen Bass, Peggy Wilson, Fred Hight, and Sanda Hight. Dr. David Lott, Assistant Principal at Vick, accepted the supplies for the school. The following note was posted on the Vick Facebook page: "Thank you for delivering school supplies to Vick Elementary School. Your generosity blesses our school family."

Planning for this year's "Books for Vick" is under way. We have selected this year's book titles, and we continue to work on funding for the project. Please look for further news about a book-wrapping party, a delivery date, and other information about this popular outreach effort from our church to encourage literacy and engage with the students and staff at Vick.

The next Hand in Hand meeting will be on Tuesday, October 6 at 2:00 at the home of Sanda Hight.



In Memoriam - Joyce Wells



Joyce Meadows Wells, 95, of Wilson, died Monday, September 21, 2026.

The funeral service was held at Wilson Memorial Service on Friday, September 25 followed by visitation. Entombment was at Evergreen Memorial Park.

Mrs. Wells was retired from the Wilson County Schools Administration and Wells Properties. She was a long-time member of Winstead United Methodist Church.

Surviving is her son, Glenn Wells of Wilson; grandson, Matthew Wells of College Station, TX; niece, Suzanne Phillips (David) of Wilson; great-niece, Jo Lamm of Wilson; great-great nephew, Jake Huffman of Wilson.

Preceding her in death was her husband, Kermit "Pete" Wells, in 2021; parents, Willie and Eula Pace Meadows; sisters, Audrey Pridgen and Jean Boykin.

Memorials may be directed to Winstead United Methodist Church, 1851 Airport Rd NW, Wilson, NC 27893.

October Birthdays

Sandra (Sandy) Baker	1
MaryEllen Bass	1
Randy Marshburn	11
Larry Lane	19
Connor Griffin	23
Sanda Hight	26

October Anniversaries

Paul & Audrey Miller	13
Carey & Cathy Griffin	17
Gabe & Jodi Ruotolo	28
Harry & Diane Barker	31

Finance Report

By Linda Lane, Chair

Please take time to review the financial state of our church. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Gretchen Hunt or Linda Lane.

General Budget Totals

August

Expenses	22,186.55
Income	<u>16,232.89</u>
Budget Shortage	\$ (5,953.66)
YTD Expenses	182,136.03
YTD Income	<u>124,290.01</u>
YTD Budget Shortage	\$(57,846.02)

A WORD OF GRATITUDE



As I prepare to conclude almost 15 years of music ministry at Winstead United Methodist Church, I find myself looking back with a heart filled with gratitude. I am so thankful to the people of Winstead for allowing me the privilege of helping lead worship through music. What an incredible journey it has been, and I continue to be amazed by all that God has done during our years together.

One of my greatest blessings has been watching the Chancel Choir grow—not simply as singers, but in their understanding of their role in worship. Our purpose has never been just to sing an anthem on Sunday morning. The choir has come to understand that we are there to help lead God's people in worship: supporting the singing of hymns, sharing music that speaks when words alone are not enough, and helping all of us draw closer to God through music.

God also gave us opportunities that I never could have imagined when this journey began. The choir traveled to Carnegie Hall, where we joined a mass choir under the direction of Pepper Choplin. We also had the opportunity—twice—to sing at Meymandi Concert Hall with a mass choir under Pepper's direction. Those were wonderful musical experiences, but what I treasure most are

the people with whom I shared them, the memories we made, and the ministry that happened along the way.

But when I think about these almost 15 years, I realize that our journey together has been about so much more than music.

Winstead has also walked with me and my family through some of the most difficult days of our lives. As I traveled the long road of kidney disease that eventually led to a kidney transplant, you surrounded me with prayer, love, encouragement, and support. At the same time, our family was facing another frightening journey as Blaine recovered from his car accident. Those were days when our family needed our church family, and you were there.

I will never forget the love you showed us. You prayed for us, encouraged us, checked on us, and reminded us in so many ways that we were not walking through those difficult days alone. I came to Winstead to serve and minister through music, but over the years, you ministered to me and to my family as well. For that, I will always be grateful.

There have been countless rehearsals, Sunday mornings, special services, Christmas and Easter celebrations, children's programs, concerts, laughter, challenges, prayers, and beautiful moments of worship. Through all of them—the mountaintop experiences as well as the difficult valleys—God has been faithful.

Thank you to every choir member, musician, child, parent, pastor, staff member, and member of the congregation who has been a part of this jour-

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A Word of Gratitude

ney. Thank you for your encouragement, your participation, your prayers, your trust, and your love.

As I look back over almost 15 years, I realize just how blessed I have been to be a part of Winstead's journey—and to have Winstead be such an important part of mine. I leave this chapter of ministry with wonderful memories, treasured friendships, and a heart overflowing with gratitude.

Most of all, I give thanks to God—for the music, for the ministry, for the people, for His faithfulness through every season, and for the privilege of serving alongside you.

With love and gratitude,

Sandy Pittman

Photos from Sandy's reception.



Outreach Committee

Priscilla Morello, Chair

The **Whirligig Festival** this year will be Saturday, November 7 and Sunday November 8 with set-up on Friday night, November 6 at 8:00 pm.

It's the largest annual event in Wilson - eight blocks of homemade arts and crafts, food vendors, non-profit agencies, and sponsors. Entertainment is provided on several stages with live music, a free kids zone, a kids performance stage, strolling artists and art demonstrations.

We will have a booth this year and need volunteers to help set up the booth on Friday night and then have volunteers to sign up for 2-hour slots to help sell Winstead Peanuts, Winstead BBQ Sauce and generally interact with the community.

Priscilla Morello will have a sign-up sheet at church so talk to her about when you will volunteer.

The Outreach Committee is also encouraging the congregation to volunteer to help in the Pumpkin Patch and participate in the Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat on Saturday, October 31st.

The Outreach Committee will have its next quarterly meeting on Tuesday, October 20th at 11:15 at church to finalize plans for the Whirligig Festival and talk about plans for the rest of the year and into 2027.



Women of Winstead

by Sandra Hight

Women of Winstead met at the church on Saturday, September 19 at 10:00 with 5 members present. We welcomed a new member, Karen Thomas, to the group.

To begin the meeting, we had a swap-out, where people brought items from home that are no longer needed to share with others who could use them.



Tentative plans were made for a fall chicken salad sale in November. Kitchen set-up is planned for Wednesday, November 18, and salad preparation is planned for Thursday, November 19. Pick-up will be on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 19-20. Details about the fall sale will be finalized at the October meeting, which will be at the church at 10:00 on Saturday, October 17. Information about ticket sales and ways to help with the project will be announced later.

Ideas about ways to use the profit from the April 2026 chicken salad sale were discussed. Decisions about donations to church and community projects will be finalized at the October meeting.

Tentative plans for a Christmas Tea, a basket for the youth auction, and other activities will be finalized at the October meeting.

WOW continues to encourage all women of the church to participate in Women of Winstead for service and fellowship. Announcements about WOW meetings and activities appear in the church bulletin and newsletter.

OCTOBER AT WINSTEAD

See the online calendar for the most current information - winsteadumc.org/events

Thursday, October 1

9:30 am Bible Study (Wolfe home)
7:00 pm Paul Study with Pastor Patrick

Sunday, October 4

9:30 am Sunday School for All
10:15 am Fellowship Time
10:30 am Worship
5:30 pm ECHO Youth

Tuesday, October 6

10:00 am Wellness Class
2:00 pm Bible Study
2:00 pm Hand in Hand

Wednesday, October 7

5:30 pm Grace Notes Rehearsal

Thursday, October 8

9:30 am Bible Study (Wolfe home)
7:00 pm Paul Study with Pastor Patrick

Sunday, October 11

9:30 am Sunday School for All
10:15 am Fellowship Time
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Drive-In Food Drive
5:30 pm ECHO Youth

Tuesday, October 13

10:00 am Wellness Class
2:00 pm Bible Study
6:30 pm Ministry Board

Wednesday, October 14

5:30 pm Grace Notes Rehearsal

Thursday, October 15

9:30 am Bible Study (Wolfe home)
4:00 pm Pumpkin Delivery
7:00 pm Paul Study with Pastor Patrick

Saturday, October 17

9:00 am Pumpkin Patch
10:00 am Women of Winstead

Sunday, October 18

9:30 am Sunday School for All
10:15 am Fellowship Time
10:30 am Worship
5:30 pm ECHO Youth

Monday, October 19

2:00 pm Pumpkin Patch

Tuesday, October 20

2:00 pm Pumpkin Patch
10:00 am Wellness Class
11:15 am Outreach Meeting
2:00 pm Bible Study

Wednesday, October 21

2:00 pm Pumpkin Patch
5:30 pm Grace Notes Rehearsal

Thursday, October 22

2:00 pm Pumpkin Patch
9:30 am Bible Study (Wolfe home)
7:00 pm Paul Study with Pastor Patrick

Friday, October 23

2:00 pm Pumpkin Patch

Saturday, October 24

9:00 am Pumpkin Patch

Sunday, October 25 - Newsletter Deadline

9:30 am Sunday School for All
10:15 am Fellowship Time
10:30 am Worship
5:30 pm ECHO Youth

Monday, October 26

2:00 pm Pumpkin Patch
6:00 pm Charge Conference

Tuesday, October 27

2:00 pm Pumpkin Patch
10:00 am Wellness Class
2:00 pm Bible Study

Wednesday, October 28

2:00 pm Pumpkin Patch
5:30 pm Grace Notes Rehearsal

Thursday, October 29

2:00 pm Pumpkin Patch
9:30 am Bible Study (Wolfe home)
7:00 pm Paul Study with Pastor Patrick

Friday, October 30

2:00 pm Pumpkin Patch

Saturday, October 31

9:00 am Pumpkin Patch
1:00 pm Fall Festival & Trunk or Treat



1851 Airport Blvd. W
Wilson, NC 27893

Pastor Rev. Patrick Murphy
Music Minister Open
Minister of Children & Youth.....
.....Marty Johnson
Organist & Handbell Choir Director.....
..... Joyce Wolfe
Church Musician Faye Jones
Office Administrator Gretchen Hunt
Lay Leader Sandy Lamm



Winstead Connection

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Wilson, NC 27893
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WinsteadUMC@gmail.com
www.WinsteadUMC.org

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Sunday Schedule

9:30 am Sunday School for All
10:15 am Fellowship Time
10:30 am Worship
5:30 pm ECHO Youth

Pastor: Rev. Patrick Murphy
Email: pmurphy@nccumc.org

Come, grow closer to God with us!

