

“I am the vine; you are the branches.” John 15:5

October 2025

Today we can be bombarded with communications. Emails, text messages and social media posts. Cell phones can make us reachable at all hours, seven days a week. As important as it is to stay connected in our modern world, such hustle and bustle can leave us feeling cut off from the lifeline of the church. In John 15:5, Jesus says, “I am the vine; you are the branches.” By referring to himself as the vine, Christ was suggesting that he is our sustenance and stability. The survival of the branches depends upon their connection to the vine. Knowing the disciples were about to face a future filled with deep trouble and persecution, Jesus told them, “Abide in me as I abide in you” (v. 4). Likewise, our capacity to thrive as a church in our own challenging times is rooted in the personal and corporate spiritual practices that keep us connected to Christ. This has always been the case throughout our 247-year history.

At the Centennial celebration held at Wolfville on Tuesday, October 29, 1878, the First Horton Baptist Church (as our church was then called), gave thanks to God for the wonderful work that God had accomplished throughout their first century as a fellowship. Amidst the celebration, the congregation approved three resolutions. The third resolution is particularly relevant for us today:

That we place on record today our earnest desire and prayer for the more abundant bestowal of the power of the Holy Spirit and the overcoming grace of God in the future history of this church and all connected therewith.

Notice how this Centennial celebration was not all about the past. Yes, they gave thanks for what God had accomplished. But more than this, they implored God to continue his good work among them in the future. This they knew depended on staying connected to the true vine.

October is shaping up to be a month of connection at Wolfville Baptist Church, as good things are well underway. We are delighted again to welcome two Mentored Ministry students from Acadia Divinity College: Margaret Mensah from Ghana and Vipin Joseph from India. Their wealth of experience and gifts will continue to enrich our community. Margaret is leading our College and Careers Group while Vipin is a leader of our youth group, EDGE Unlimited, and Valley of Hope ministries.

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There are many meaningful ways to stay connected to God and one another through the life of our church. Whether you wish to participate, volunteer, or offer your prayerful support, your involvement makes a difference. Join us for worship on Sunday mornings at 10:30 am in the sanctuary or online; during worship our children and youth participate in classes of learning in the lower hall and classrooms. A contemporary worship experience is offered at 1:00 pm each Sunday in the sanctuary and a Korean-language service follows at 3:00 pm. Our church also hosts a Newcomers' Lunch in the lower fellowship hall, usually on the last Sunday of each month. On some Sundays, we have welcomed attendees from as many as 14 nations!

On Friday, I host an English tutoring ministry in my office at 1:00 pm, and children can explore music through our kidzQuire at 3:30 pm in the sanctuary. On Saturdays, our Praise and Worship Team meets at 3:30 pm for rehearsal and fellowship. We also offer small group studies, as well as Green Keepers and Outdoor Adventurers clubs.

These ministries and more are possible thanks to generous people like you who give of your time, talents, and treasures. We are deeply grateful.

On Sunday, October 26, we will celebrate our **247th Anniversary** as a fellowship combining our Anniversary celebration with our traditional **All Saints Service**, lighting candles in memory of those who have gone to be with Christ and thanking God for their faithful examples. After the morning worship on October 26, please join us for a Potluck Lunch in the lower fellowship hall to celebrate our church's birthday and welcome newcomers to our community. More details will be shared in the bulletin. With our accessibility project well underway, we are hopeful that our elevator might be installed by Anniversary Sunday or at least for our traditional Holly Tea on November 22.

As we reflect on our blessings at Wolfville Baptist Church, may we stay connected to the true vine, the Christ, who has provided for our fellowship since our inception in 1778. I've enclosed a special Anniversary envelope with this letter; please consider making a special gift to support our church's ministries. You can also contribute via e-transfer (donatewolfvillebaptist@gmail.com) or online through Zeffy (<https://tinyurl.com/ZeffyWolfvilleBaptist>).

We warmly invite you to celebrate and be part of the good ministry that our church offers *at the Heart of the Community, with the Community at Heart*.

With blessings for the fall,



Scott Kindred-Barnes
Senior Minister, Wolfville Baptist Church