



Northwest North Carolina Chapter
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Media Alert
MEDIA ALERT

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Sharing the Love for Giving Life

The Second Annual Jackie Johnson Blood & Bone Marrow Drive

- WHAT:** A blood drive with a goal of collecting 315 units of blood – the largest one-time collection goal in the Northwest North Carolina Chapter jurisdiction of Davie, Forsyth, Stokes and Yadkin Counties.
- WHO:** The American Red Cross
Calvary Baptist Church
Love Winston-Salem Program
National Marrow Donor Program
- WHY:** To honor all Calvary members & families whose lives were/are effected by blood donors and to celebrate Jackie Johnson's one-year anniversary free of Leukemia.
- WHEN:** **Tuesday, July 10, 2007**
1:30 - 7 p.m. EST
- WHERE:** **Calvary Baptist Church**
Located in the Day School Gym
5000 Country Club Rd
Winston Salem, NC 27104

To be eligible to donate blood, you must be 17 years or older, weigh at least 110 lbs. and be in general good health. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call 1-800-GIVE LIFE or visit www.redcrossblood.org.

Jackie's Story as told by her dad, Brent Johnson

She was a freshman at App. State when she became sick near the end of her first semester. The first diagnosis was that she had Mono. She tried hard to make it to final exams, but she was just too sick. We had to bring her home about a week before the semester ended. The doctors still thought she had Mono, but that it was just a severe case. We were praying she would recover over Christmas break, but she only got worse. We finally took her to the emergency room with a high fever and after a couple of days of testing it was discovered she had Leukemia (AML). She went through 6 months of intensive chemotherapy. She left the hospital exactly one year ago this past Friday. It was an anniversary we were all thankful to celebrate. We Praise the Lord she has remained in remission since she left and is as healthy as ever.

Jackie and I have been blood donors for years. As a matter of fact, as a student she helped coordinate and work the blood drives at West Forsyth High School. She has mentioned to me several times that she *never* thought less than 8 months after her graduation she would be the one needing the blood to save *her* life. We all expect that if we have a loved one.....a son, a daughter, a father, a mother or even a close friend that needs blood, that the blood will be there to save their life, but still only a small fraction of the population donates (less than 5%). If people expect to have it when it's needed, we would trust they would be willing to donate when they can. However, that is not the case and that is why it takes a huge effort on the part of volunteers and the Red Cross to keep the blood supply adequate for the needs that arise, particularly in an area like ours that has two large hospitals.

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