

## Lent

“The early Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church that before the Easter celebration there should be a forty-day season of spiritual preparation. During this season, converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when persons who had committed serious sins and had separated themselves from the community of faith were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to participation in the life of the Church. In this way the whole congregation was reminded of the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ and the need we all have to renew our faith. I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to observe a holy Lent: by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word.”  
- *UMCDiscipleship.org*

Ramsey Memorial United Methodist Church  
5900 Hull Street Road  
Richmond VA 23224  
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# *The Messenger* *El Mensajero*



**RAMSEY MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

5900 Hull Street Road, Richmond, VA 23224,  
804-276-4628, [www.ramseymemorial.org](http://www.ramseymemorial.org)

Isaiah 58: 6-7. "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter— when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?"

Just These Lines to say...

I am deeply thankful to co-pastor and co-partner with a leader of great spiritual depth, Ramsey's own Rev. Norma Aguilar. Pastora Norma has shared the following Call to a Lenten Faith for our Hispanic ministry. She has graciously allowed me the privilege of sharing some of her thoughts and also the thoughts of The Rev. Emilio Müller for this month's newsletter. Praying and trusting for a great Lenten blessing for the entire Ramsey church family. The beginning of Lent is Ash Wednesday with a special service on March 1st at 7PM in the sanctuary led by our youth.

#### A Lenten Challenge-

- Do the One important thing among many things. Matthew 25:23, 29; Mateo 25:23,29.
- Let go of something that steals your time or that God dislikes, such as judging others. John 8:11; Juan 8:11.
- Pray every day for yourself, and for others, especially those whom you find hard to love. Matthew 7:7; Mateo 7.7.
- Participate in the special activities of Lent: Lenten studies, special worship services; make it a priority to come to worship each Sunday of Lent, overcoming the temptation of staying at home. Matthew 18:20; Mateo 18:20
- Bring someone to church with you. Many people will appreciate being invited. Mark 1:17; Marcos 1:17.
- Abstain from watching television or using social media at least one day every week during Lent, and use those hours to enjoy actual face to face time with friends, family, or reading something that grows your spiritual life. Mark 13:32-33; Marcos 13:32-33.
- Reconcile with someone- you know who... John 15:14, 17; Juan 15:14, 17.
- Read a chapter from one of the Gospels each day. Luke 9:18-20; Lucas 9:18:20.
- Stop buying something you want but don't need, and donate the money instead to an organization, such as Shalom Farms, which helps low-income families with fresh fruit and vegetables. Matthew 24; Mateo 24.
- The Hispanic Ministry invites you to connect in their Conference Prayer call any morning, Monday to Friday at 6:30 am or in the evening at 9:00 pm, during the season of Lent. Phone # to call is 1-857-232-0158, code 649889.
- And last but not least, share with others the blessing found in Numbers 6:24-26, "The LORD bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."

Grace and Peace in the Lord of Life, *Pastora Norma and Pastor Deb*

### Ash Wednesday

#### Service

March 1, 2017  
7:00pm in the  
Sanctuary



### EASTER EGG HUNT

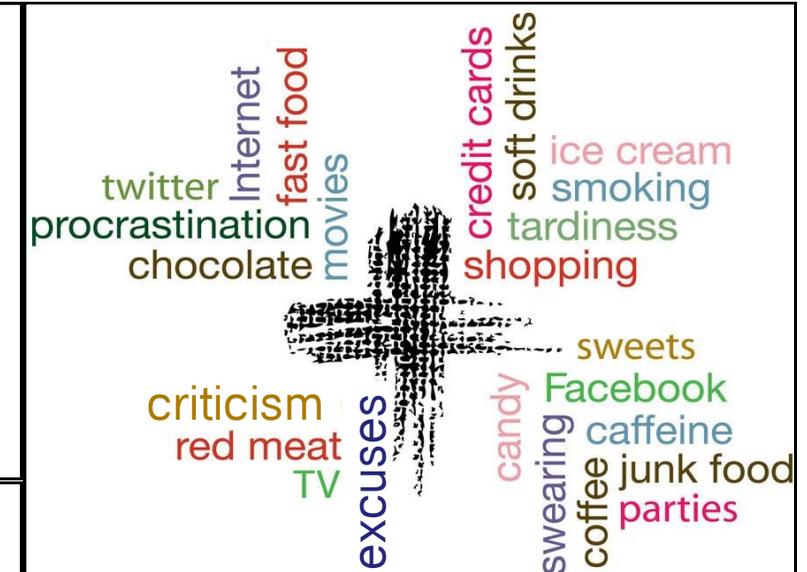
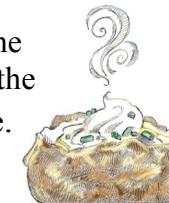
Our Easter Egg Hunt is on Easter Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, during the Children's Ministry time from 11:00a.m. – 12:15p.m. It is open to all children. We ask the children to bring their own Easter Basket for collecting eggs. We are looking forward to a fun and special day -- the Day that Jesus rose from the tomb!



### SPUD SUNDAY

Come to the mission team's Spud luncheon!

March 19<sup>th</sup> in the CLC following the 11:00am service.



Can you give it up for Lent?

### Lenten Study:

Our 6-week Lenten Study begins at 9:45am on Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> and runs through Easter Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. The study is "Restored — Finding Redemption in our Mess" by Tom Berlin. Sometimes our lives are in such a disarray we can't envision a way through to redemption. But when we look at the mess through the eyes of Christ, we not only find redemption, we can clearly see spiritual restoration. In "Restored" we're encouraged to reflect and meditate through our own brokenness, showing that it is only when we focus on the cross as a place to surrender control that we can leave our mess and find true redemption.

A book will cost \$11.00. Call the church office, 276-4628 to save a book or fill in the yellow card with your name and stating that you would like one of the Lenten Study books.



### Youth Group:

Thank you to our youth for their service at our Valentine's Dinner Dance, and thank you to all who donated to youth missions! We are looking forward to more opportunities in Lent and in the Spring season for our youth to participate in leadership in our worship services. We are also gearing up for graduation this spring, and our big summer activity, IMPACT Richmond. We are always on the look out for chaperones, so contact Sarah if you would like to help!

### LENTEN OFFERING

Our 2017 Lenten Offering will run from March 12 through Easter Sunday April 16. Traditionally, the funds raised during this time are used to pay for maintenance items not included in the regular budget. This year's maintenance items include:

- painting projects
- improving our outside lighting
- additional microphones in the sanctuary
- landscaping

Please give generously. Envelopes are in the pew racks for your convenience.

Thank you for your generosity,

*The Finance Committee*

### BIRTHDAYS—CUMPLEAÑOS

Joan McGowan	1	David Woodfin	15
Linda Guilmart	5	Austin Sheek	15
Claudette Stuart	5	Rosa Bonilla	15
Pat Meadows	5	Steve Meadows	17
Kevin McGowan	7	Jean Bates	20
Abby Ogungbade	9	Jim Jump	21
Lynn Flynn	9	Ali Southard	22
Miranda Dore	9	Kathy Holmes	22
Matthew Cheatham	10	Eric Ahles	22
Timothy Eels	10	Emily Buckman	24
Kristie Rivera	12	Hiram Adams	29
Brian Barnstein	13		

### ANNIVERSARIES—ANIVERSARIOS

Ashley & Jason Afsharie	6
Buster & Mary Kay Madison	6
David & Darlene Sweat	9
Gail & Jerry Barker	19

### 55+ Luncheon

Our 55+ Luncheons are back! Join us at noon in the fellowship hall on Friday March 10th for good food and fellowship. Don't forget to RSVP!



Desde un Rincón Pastoral,

El ayuno que he escogido, dice el Señor, ¿no es más bien romper las cadenas de injusticia y desatar las correas del yugo, poner en libertad a los oprimidos y romper toda atadura? ¿No es acaso el ayuno compartir tu pan con el hambriento y dar refugio a los pobres sin techo, vestir al desnudo y no dejar de lado a tus semejantes? Isaías 58: 6-7.

Son muchas las personas que hacen resoluciones para el nuevo año, pero son muy pocas las que toman el tiempo para hacer una lista de buenos propósitos durante la cuaresma. El Rev. Emilio Muller nos da una lista de algunos de esos buenos propósitos con el fin de practicarlos en este tiempo de Cuaresma, ( y yo añado algunos de los míos). En este comienzo de Cuaresma, miércoles 1ro. de Marzo , Miércoles de ceniza, les invito a que escojamos algo que nos ayudara a enfocarnos más en Dios y nuestro prójimo, que en nosotros mismos.

1. Haga una cosa que usted verdalmente disfruta. Mateo 25:23,29.
2. Deje de hacer algo que le roba su tiempo o le disgusta. Juan 8:11.
3. Ore cada día por usted, por aquellos que ama, y por aquellos que le cuesta trabajo amar. Mateo 7.7.
4. Participe en todas las actividades especiales de La Cuaresma que le sea posible y asista a la iglesia cada domingo, venciendo la tentación de quedarse en casa. Mateo 18:20
5. Lleve a alguna persona a la iglesia con usted. Muchas personas agradecerán ser invitadas. Marcos 1:17.
6. Absténgase de ver televisión o de la Social media un día a la semana y use esas horas para tomar un café con sus amigos(as), compartir con su familia o simplemente leer algo que le edifique. Marcos 13:32-33.
7. Reconcílese con alguien que este disgustado. Juan 15:14, 17.
8. Lea un capitulo de uno de los Evangelios cada día. Lucas 9:18-20.
9. Deje de comprar algo que usted quiere pero no necesita y dónelo a alguna organización, como Shalom Farms, que ayuda a familias de bajos recursos con verduras y frutas frescas. Mateo 24.
10. Conéctese en nuestra conferencia de oración cada mañana de Lunes a Viernes a las 6:30 am o por la noche a las 9:00 pm, durante la temporada de Cuaresma.
11. Y como ultimo pedido, compartamos con otros la bendición sacerdotal que encontramos en Números 6:24-26, "El señor te bendiga, y te guarde; el señor haga resplandecer su rostro sobre ti, y tenga de ti misericordia; el señor alce sobre ti su rostro, y ponga en ti paz".

Paz y Gracia del Señor de la vida,

*Pastora, Norma Aguilar.*

**JL Francis Volunteering**

**Dr. Seuss Read Across America: March 2, 9:30 am - 12 pm.** The school is in need of 5 or 6 volunteers who can read to a class.

**Career Day: April 6 (during school hours).** The school is looking for adults who can speak to a class about their career.

**Book Tasting: April 28, 8 am – 1 pm.** This is an annual event where students read books, and sample foods that they have read about in the books. The school needs volunteers to help that day. They are also looking for donations (food, or gift cards to purchase food) for the event. They are also accepting donations of children's books in good condition.

*Sign up in the church office!*

The family of Stuart Baltz would like to thank you all for your kind expressions of condolence upon his passing. Thanks to Pastors Koontz and Aguilar for their visits, calls, and prayers. Thanks to the Otto Witt class, Agape class, and the Hazel Gibbs Circle for the wonderful luncheon after the funeral. We were truly overwhelmed by your thoughtfulness.

Thanks again and God bless,

Ethel, Kenny, David, Barbara, John,  
& Families

I wish to thank the members of my Ramsey Church for all the cards, calls and prayers. They make my day so much brighter. A special thank you to both Pastor Deb and Pastora Norma for their calls. Hope to be back soon.

Darlene Thomas

**WESTVIEW ON THE JAMES**

**Summer Camp 2017**

Westview's Summer Camp provides a place apart, where campers experience and grow deeper in their relationship with God. Westview is a partner of the UMC Camp & Retreat Ministry. There are all kinds of camp experiences. There is a Mini Camp for ages 6-9; Jr. Camp for ages 7-11; Sr. Camp for ages 12-14; An Adventure Camp for ages 13-16. Westview is having an "OPEN HOUSE" on Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 12:30p.m. – 4:30p.m. Lunch and refreshments provided. You may tour the camp, try some activities, and meet the staff. If you would like a brochure, see Sue Newman, or call the church office 276-4628.



**In Memory**

The Ramsey Church family remembers those who have claimed the promise of resurrection this year. We offer prayers and thoughts to the family and friends.

*Stuart Baltz  
Roy Simmons  
Virginia Harris*

Dear Ramsey Family,

Thank you for all your prayers, cards, visits and food when my mom passed away. Your love comforted us at one of the most difficult times and will never be forgotten. Even though we aren't there, we still love and pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ. We will always consider Ramsey our home.

Love to all, Carole & Jeff Harper

**SPRING FESTIVAL**

**and AGAPE YARD SALE**

Mark your calendars now for Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>! We are in need of volunteers that day, such as helping with games, helping with the cake walk, helping with parking, making cakes for the cake walk, setting up and taking down. It is a fun day and we hope that all of you will help in some way. If you would like to help, please fill out a yellow card during the worship services with your contact information, or call the church office 276-4628 and ask for Sue Newman. Please sign up to help even if it is only for 1 hour. It is a great day of Fellowship, Food, and Fun!

Please save your treasures for the yard sale! Contact an Agape class member if you need assistance in getting items to the church. There is limited storage at church now, but the CLC gym will be available from Easter Sunday all through the week. We thank you for your donations.

**United Methodist Urban Ministries  
of Richmond Auxiliary**

**SHALOM FARMS GERANIUM SALE!**

Geraniums are \$4.50 each (4 1/2" POT), and the colors are Red, Salmon, Coral, Hot Pink, and White. We will take orders for specific colors but cannot guarantee.

Make checks to **UMUMR**. Last day to order is April 3, 2017. Plant **PICK-UP is Friday, April 7, 12 noon at Bon Air United Methodist Church** parking lot. Contact: Scotty Doyle to order 744-3034 or sign up on bulletin board in CLC

**Come and See**



The Come and See small group will be meeting at 10:30am on March 4th and March 18th. Come join us as we continue our study of James in the book "This Changes Everything".



Please come join us in mission and fellowship!

**COMIDA COMUNITARIA  
GRATUITA:  
POR FAVOR, ÚNASE A  
NOSOTROS EN MISIÓN Y  
COMUNIÓN.**



"It's titled 'Call for Volunteers.'"



# The psalmist's prayer

The Psalms are full of wonderful verses about God's care and protection.

**Directions:** Find each missing letter in the alphabets below. Use the resulting words to complete Psalm 86:7, NIV.

A B C E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_  
 A B C D E F G H J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_  
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_  
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S U V W X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_  
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q S T U V W X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_  
 A B C D F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_  
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_  
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_

A B D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_  
 B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_  
 A B C D E F G H I J K M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_  
 A B C D E F G H I J K M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_

B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_  
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_  
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_  
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_  
 A B C D F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_  
 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q S T U V W X Y Z \_\_\_\_\_

When I am in \_\_\_\_\_, I \_\_\_\_\_ to you,  
 because you \_\_\_\_\_ me. Psalm 86:7, NIV

Answer: When I am in distress, I call to you, because you answer me. Psalm 86:7, NIV

## United Methodist Women News:

March 2017: The District UMW is collecting membership information online to use in determining district programs geared to the interests of the Richmond UMW membership by using the program, **myUMW.com**. Also starting is training and participation in the new online UMW Membership Census program; **myUMWCensus.com**. See Sue Wheat if you have questions.

April 2017: Be sure to mark your calendar so you will not miss the service presented by the UMW on Sunday, April 2. Come and support the ladies of the church.

Join us on April 15 for the District Prayer Breakfast at Providence UMC. Start planning now for the "On the Road Again in Missions" to be held on April 22 at the Wesley Community Services Center in Portsmouth, Va.

## VA Conference Day of Prayer

Sunday, April 2nd, 2017

Ramsey's own UMW will lead the worship services at 9:00am and 11:00am.

There will be also be a prayer vigil that day. To sign up, contact the church office or look for the sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary.



R A M S E Y B U C S  
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 CANOE**  
 JUNE 9-11, 2017



Young Men & Men Young at Heart

**JOIN US!**

Canoe & Fish Shenandoah River  
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For more info or to register call, text or email:  
 Will Flynn 804-402-0778 - wflynn@FranklinStreet.com

# March ~ Marzo 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10:00AM Pickleball  6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 7:00PM Ash Wednesday service 6:30 H.A.S.A	2 8:00AM Care A Van 9:30AM Prayer Group 6:00PM James River HS 6:30PM EL/CIVICS 7:00PM Estudio Biblico	3 6:00PM James River Home-School	4 8:30AM BUCS 9:00AM James River Home-School 10:00am H.A.S.A 10:30AM Come & See 12:00PM BWSL DreamChas-
5 9:00AM Worship Service 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00AM Worship Service 11:00AM Escuela Dominical 12:30 Servicio en Español 6:30 Youth Group	6 8:00AM Care A Van 6:00PM James River Home-School 6:00PM Long Range Planning 6:30 H.A.S.A	7 2:00PM McGuire Park Circle 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 6:00PM Hispanic Citizens Academy 6:30PM EL/CIVICS	8 10:00AM Pickleball 2:00PM Nina Woodfin Circle 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 6:00PM Trustees Meeting 6:30 H.A.S.A 7:00PM Administrative Coun-	9 8:00AM Care A Van 9:30AM Prayer Group 6:00PM James River HS 6:00PM Hispanic Citizens Academy 6:30PM EL/CIVICS	10 12:00PM 55+ Luncheon 6:00PM James River Home-School	11 9:00AM James River Home-School 10:00am H.A.S.A 12:00PM BWSL DreamChasers
12 9:00AM Worship Service 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00AM Worship Service 11:00AM Escuela Dominical 12:30 Servicio en Español 6:30 Youth Group	13 6:00PM James River Home-School 6:30 H.A.S.A	14 11:00 Ada Mae Bookman Circle 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 6:00PM Hazel Gibbs Circle 6:00PM Hispanic Citizens Academy 6:30PM EL/CIVICS	15 10:00AM Pickleball 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 7:00PM Finance 6:30 H.A.S.A	16 8:00AM Care A Van 9:30AM Prayer Group 6:00PM James River HS 6:00PM Hispanic Citizens Academy 6:30PM EL/CIVICS 7:00PM Estudio Biblico	17 6:00PM James River Home-School 	18 9:00AM James River Home-School 10:00am H.A.S.A 10:30AM Come & See 12:00PM BWSL DreamChasers
19 9:00AM Worship Service 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00AM Worship Service 11:00AM Escuela Dominical 12:00PM Spud Luncheon 12:30 Servicio en Español 6:30 Youth Group	20 6:00PM James River Home-School 6:30 H.A.S.A	21 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 6:00PM Hispanic Citizens Academy 6:30PM EL/CIVICS	22 10:00AM Food Pantry 10:00AM Pickleball 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 6:00PM SPPRC 6:30 H.A.S.A	23 8:00AM Care A Van 9:30AM Prayer Group 6:00PM James River HS 6:00PM Hispanic Citizens Academy 6:30PM EL/CIVICS 7:00PM Estudio Biblico	24 6:00PM James River Home-School	25 9:00AM James River Home-School 10:00am H.A.S.A 12:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 5:00PM Neighborhood Supper
26 9:00AM Worship Service 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00AM Worship Service 11:00AM Escuela Dominical 12:30 Servicio en Español 6:30 Youth Group	27 6:00PM James River Home-School 6:30 H.A.S.A	28 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 6:00PM Hispanic Citizens Academy 6:30PM EL/CIVICS	29 10:00AM Pickleball 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 6:30 H.A.S.A	30 8:00AM Care A Van 9:30AM Prayer Group 6:00PM James River HS 6:00PM Hispanic Citizens Academy 6:30PM EL/CIVICS 7:00PM Estudio Biblico	31 6:00PM James River Home-School	