

THE MESSENGER—EL MENSAJERO

OCTOBER / OCTUBRE 2017



FALL
BLESSINGS

RAMSEY MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
5900 Hull Street Road, Richmond, VA 23224,
804-276-4628, www.ramseymemorial.org

Ramsey Memorial United Methodist Church

5900 Hull Street Road

Richmond VA 23224

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A Word from Pastor Norma

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. 1 Corinthians 12:4-6.

One of the experiences that I had during the last days in the life of my father, is that God in his great mercy is constantly blessing us with Holy moments. God has blessed us here at Ramsey with a ministry that is touching many lives through the prayer shawls. I give thanks to God for those who with much prayer, love, and dedication work so diligently creating the prayer shawls for those in need of a warm expression of love and prayer in their most difficult times. This is a ministry that deserves so much recognition, and many times I have forgotten to say thank you. I would like to extend my greatest gratitude and appreciation to this wonderful ministry team. Thank you! Thank you for blessing my papá's life with love and prayers with a shawl created by one of you. I would like to share a story which I have called, "the story of the traveling shawl."

During my father's illness, I took with me one of the prayer shawls made by one and all of you, my beautiful sisters. When I shared with my Papá the meaning of the prayer shawl, he was comforted and immediately embraced it. The prayer shawl traveled about 682 miles to bring a loving touch to papá Chepe (as we called him) and he kept the shawl close to him until the day he was taken from his hospice room to the emergency room. Due to the emergency, his belongings were left behind at his hospice room. When my papá was near his last day, we went to his hospice room to pick up his belongings, including the prayer shawl. After gathering his belongings, we left; but as we were on our way, my sister stopped me and said, "*Will it bother you if I give the shawl to this lady who is sitting in that wheelchair next to the reception room? One day, she came to papa's room for a visit and she took the shawl and hugged it, then she hid it under the mattress next to my papa's bed. She really liked the shawl; but her nurse came to take her back to her room, forgetting all about the shawl under the mattress. Then, Papá who saw what she did, asked me to take it back and put it at the foot of his bed.*" After hearing such a sweet story, my answer was, "*of course, yes, I'm sure she needs it just like Papá*", and so I gave her the shawl, which without any word, she accepted it. This for me was a Holy moment.

It is my prayer that the prayer shawl that traveled from Richmond to Ormond Beach, FL continues to travel and its meaning which is now silent may continue touching the lives of those who embrace it; feeling in their lives the loving touch of those hands that made it and receiving the comfort of the many voices who prayed as the shawl was made. I thank God for all of you and may your hands continue to be God's instrument, blessing others with comfort, hope, and peace. Thank you for your love, dedication, and prayers. May those who have received or will receive the prayer shawls feel the loving presence and healing touch of our precious Lord. With a sincere and grateful heart, your

sister and Servant in Christ, *Pastora Norma*

God's Vision for Ramsey

For over a year, the Long Range Planning Team has been working hard to discern God's Vision for Ramsey. We've surveyed our members and our neighbors asking, "What do you expect from church?" We've examined our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. On October 8, we will share our 2020 Vision Plan at all three worship services. On October 29, we will have a combined service, lunch and together we will begin to reimagine church. Our four focus areas are Worship, Discipleship, Welcoming Evangelism and Missions. I'd like to thank Pastor Deb, Alison Southard, J.D. Jump, Chante Jacobs, Ann Wiley, Rick Vance, Butch Cheatham, Maria Sanchez, Pastor Norma, and Will Flynn for serving on this team. We pray that you will join us and together we'll continue to make Ramsey a "Beacon of Hope" for all. God Bless.

Nancy Hoover, Team Leader



Ramsey Church welcomes GBGM Missionary Ken Cruz.

Ramsey has a great heart for missions and we are excited to expand our mission reach to include Cambodia! We will have Kennedy (Ken) Cruz to speak at our church in all three worship services on Sunday, October 22nd. The Ramsey Church is also hosting Ken in Ramsey members' homes during his stay in the Richmond area. Mr. Cruz has served as a General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) missionary in Cambodia since 2007 as a Community Development Specialist working with Community Health and Agriculture Development (CHAD). Born in the Philippines, Ken's education is in forestry, economics, and organizational leadership. Ken's compassion for the poor was nurtured through the modeling of his physician father. He shares: "I grew up and lived in a relatively poor neighborhood where my father gave free medical service for sick, poor people on a weekly basis."



We will be learning about the needs in Cambodia, and also building relationships for future mission involvement. Mark your calendars for this special day of worship and learning more about our global missions.

Members of Ramsey Memorial UMC - a HUGE THANK YOU to all who contributed to the school supply needs of children in grades K through Fifth at J. L. Francis Elementary School in September! Individuals, Sunday School classes, and 55+ Luncheon guests gave generously to provide students with supplies for a SUPER start to a new school year! Some of the children in our KID'S ministry classes are attending J. L. Francis and could be benefactors of your kindness. In addition, Donna Cottrell, Katie Smith, and I volunteered at the school on Sept. 5th to tag children as they arrived on buses. This process ensures that children will board the correct buses when they head home after a busy first day!

Ramsey might be small in congregational size, but you step forth with large steps of generosity in the area of MISSION! God bless you as you have blessed these children.

In Christian love and thanks, *Sally Wheat, Education Committee Member.*

Dear Ramsey,
The items you donated were very well received by our school community, and we were delighted and grateful to have your volunteers welcome students on the first day!
- *JL Francis Elementary*

I would like to thank my wonderful Ramsey Family for your kindness to me after my recent surgery. I really appreciate the prayers, call, cards, visits, and meals. It was just overwhelming to us and we sincerely thank you so very much.
Phyllis & David Woodfin

Dearest Ramsey Friends,
The shock of losing Buster has rocked our family. Your outpouring of love, compassions, and support has helped in measure to soften the hard days. We continue to appreciate the prayers as we learn to live without Buster. He loved our years at Ramsey, we did a lot of life there, some wonderful memories we find very sweet. Please know you have been the hands and feet of Jesus to our family. I can think of no greater gift.
God bless, much much love,
Mary Kay & Family

Dear Ramsey Family,
I just wanted to send a note letting everyone know that I am on the mend. I want to thank everyone so much for all of the prayers, cards, calls, texts, and visits. No one will ever really know how much all of that meant to me! I can't wait to see everyone again.
I love you all,
Tiffany Stone

Our family wants our Ramsey friends to know how much your expressions of love and sympathy meant to us when we lost Buster. Your prayers lifted us up and helped us through a difficult time. Gratitude is what we feel for our church family.
May God continue to bless us all.
Joyce & Tommy Spain

Desde un Rincón Pastoral,

Ahora bien, hay diversos dones, pero un mismo Espíritu. Hay diversas maneras de servir, pero un mismo Señor. Hay diversas funciones, pero es un mismo Dios el que hace todas las cosas en todos.
1 Corintios 12:4-6

En una de las muchas experiencias durante los últimos días en la vida de mi padre, aprendí que Dios en su inmensa misericordia está constantemente revelándonos sus momentos Santos. Doy gracias a Dios por el ministerio de las hermanas que con mucha oración, amor y compasión trabajan tan diligentemente tejiendo chales de oración para todas aquellas personas quienes necesitan un cálida expresión de amor y oración en sus momentos más críticos. Nuestra iglesia en Ramsey Memorial cuenta con un ministerio que merece mucho reconocimiento y que muchas veces lo pasamos por alto. Pero hoy, deseo tomar la oportunidad para extender mi más grande agradecimiento y aprecio a todas las hermanas trabajando en este tan maravilloso ministerio; y al mismo tiempo compartir con ustedes una corta anécdota la cual yo he llamado, "el chal viajero".

Durante la enfermedad de mi padre, tome la libertad de llevarle uno de los chales de oración tejido por una de ustedes mis lindas hermanas. Tan pronto compartí con mi padre el significado del chal se alegro mucho e inmediatamente lo acepto abrazándolo. El chal viajo de Richmond, Virginia hasta Ormond Beach, en la Florida. Todos los días el chal estuvo cerca de mi padre hasta el día en que fue trasladado de hospicio hacia el hospital. Debido a que fue de emergencia todas sus pertenencias quedaron atrás en su cuarto de hospicio. Una vez mi padre está ya cerca de fallecer, mi hermano Milton juntamente con una de mis hermanas regresamos a su cuarto de hospicio con el fin de recoger sus pertenencias, incluyendo el chal de oración. Mientras salíamos del hospicio, mi hermana se detuvo y me dice, "te molesta si le dejamos el chal a esta anciana, señalándome a una dama que estaba sentada en su silla de ruedas cerca de la recepción. Te cuento porque me dijo mi hermana. Un día cuando ella vino al cuarto de mi papá, vio el chal y le gusto mucho. La anciana abrazaba el chal y se lo rozaba en su rostro y en un momento lo escondió para llevárselo, lo cual no llego a suceder porque después llego su enfermera y se la llevo" Claro mi papá no lo hubiera permitido ya que también él se apego al chal. Después de haber escuchado tan tierna historia, mi respuesta fue, claro que sí, estoy segura que ella lo necesita de igual manera que mi papá.

Es mi oración que el chal de oración que viajo de Richmond, VA hacia Ormond Beach, Florida siga viajando y su significado ahora silencioso siga tocando las vidas de aquellas personas que lleguen a abrazarlo sintiendo en sus vidas el toque de amor que lo tejieron y las oraciones de las muchas voces que oraron sobre este chal. Gracias mis hermanas por sus manos dispuestas a seguir tejiendo y por ese corazón dispuesto a seguir orando por aquellas personas que los recibirán. Que el Señor continúe bendiciendo sus manos y escuchando cada una de sus oraciones.

Con un corazón sincero y agradecido, su hermana y Servidora en Cristo,

Pastora Norma



BIRTHDAYS—CUMPLEAÑOS

Sue Kropp	1	Sharon Sayles	14
Sue Wheat	2	Helen Gainer	17
Leroy Harris	4	Deborah Bissett	17
Rick Vance	5	Paige Austin	20
Jerry Cummings	5	Cicero Gainer	22
Kelly Newman	7	Butch Cheatham	23
Helen Wallace	8	Kenneth Beville	23
Frances Dyson	8	Vance Puryear	25
Sandy Loan	12	Luisa Martinez	30



ANNIVERSARIES—ANIVERSARIOS

Hazel & Jimmy Stewart	10
Debbie & Mike Southard	16
Sue & Harry Newman	19
Bert Smith & Kimberly Pinchbeck	25

Thursday Morning Prayer Group

We continue our study of Jeremiah, each Thursday morning at 9:00am, in Room 105. We begin each session with “goodies” and a look into the prayer concerns of those in our church, our community, and our world. Starting in September, all who are interested are invited to bring a bagged lunch and stay around after the meeting for kitting/crocheting prayer shawls and/or other items while visiting and discussing our lesson in greater depth.

As we are uncovering more and more similarities between our world and the world of Jeremiah’s day, we are striving to recognize and release the many items, ideas, activities, and people that have become idols in our lives. We are making an asserted effort to replace our wills with God’s will, and to share together the joy and peace of putting our hopes in Him, alone.

Although this is, no doubt, a tall order, we are discovering more clearly each week that God’s commands are pretty straight forward and exact in regard to how we live our lives. We read about despair and utter disaster, but more importantly, we read about God’s promise of unconditional love, salvation, and eternal life with Him.

Take a chance. Join us any time, and share in our learning experiences as we, individually and as a group, seek our own closer walk with the Father.

We have missed seeing many of you over the summer, but we hope now that fall is here, you will be back in worship on Sunday mornings. However, the bills come all year round. If you are behind in your financial giving, please try to catch up soon.

Thank you for your stewardship, *The Finance Committee*

**The Hermitage
Country Store
Bazaar & Bake Sale**

October 27th from 10:30am-2:30pm

October 28th from 9:30am—Noon.

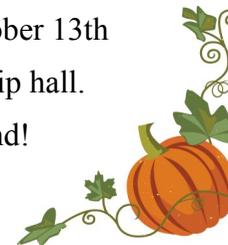
1600 Westwood Ave, Richmond, VA



55+ Luncheon

Join us on Friday, October 13th at noon in the fellowship hall.

RSVP and bring a friend!



Summer Mission Trip

Our mission team (Dan Hallinan, Donna Cottrell, Debbie Southard, Butch & Sharon Cheatham, Mary Warman, Shelly Jump, Tammy Howe) went to Appomattox, VA on June 18-23.

The mission was to complete a handicap ramp, install front and side doors and frame and deck for the front porch.

The trip was very successful, and our team got to meet other volunteers and even participate in a house blessing.

Thank you mission team!



**How to Structure Your Church for
Evangelism**

Featuring: Jacob Armstrong

Join our Ramsey team!

Thursday, October 19, 2017, 9am-3pm, registration is at 8:30am.

This event will explore key principles for evangelism in the local church including: crafting a vision that fits your mission field, rethinking worship and leadership development and structure.

To be held at 10 locations, including Woodlake UMC, 15640 Hampton Park Dr, Chesterfield, 23832. Talk to Pastor Deb to sign up.



In Memory

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

Stuart Baltz *Roy Simmons*

Erma East *Virginia Harris*

Ethel Baltz *Louise Smith*

Perley Goolsby *Phyllis Tyler*

Steve LaPrade *Cecil Goolsby*

Tuesday Night Bible Study

“Seamless” covers the people, places, and promises of the Bible, tying them together into the greater story of scripture. Come Tuesday nights at 6:30pm until October 31. Contact Tammy Howe for more information, at 2razoo@gmail.com.

Combined Worship & Potluck Lunch

Join us at 10:30am on October 29th for our One Ramsey worship service. There will be a potluck lunch afterwards: bring a main course, side item, or dessert to share. Drinks will be provided. There will also be a time of sharing around the Ramsey 20/20 vision.

BUCS Brunswick Stew

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, October 7. That is the BUCS Brunswick stew day. We will be doing the usual Friday night pre-stew preparation followed by meal fellowship together at a local restaurant. Pre-sales will start in September. Order early as we only plan to cook about two thirds of the quantity we usually prepare. Please join us in this fundraiser for the BUCS men’s ministry. Together in Christ, Craig Lane

Neighborhood Supper

COME ONE, COME ALL!!! Enjoy a free meal while serving the Lord as an ambassador of Ramsey Memorial to our Community of friends and guests. We NEED you to come, visit, and spread some Ramsey-love to those who come for the supper. It’s really difficult for those on the committee to cook, prepare, and serve the meal while also trying to be good hosts and hostesses. No need to prepare or worry. Just come and be yourself: warm, welcoming, friendly, funny, a child of God. *Menu change: September: hamburgers and foot-long hot dogs, October: bar-b-que (Matt Amason style).* Looking forward to seeing MORE of you!

WHITE CHRISTMAS

Applications for the White Christmas program are in the church office. The deadline for applications is Sunday, October 29, 2017. Applications can be submitted by Ramsey members for individuals or families who are in need of some assistance with food and small gift items this 2017 Christmas season.

Questions? Contact: Bev Rugani 794-3093 or Ann Wiley 513-1325.



United Methodist Women News:

October is a busy month, so hold on to your hat and let's get started!!!

By the time the October messenger arrives, it will be time for the UMW circle members to lend a helping hand to the BUCS in the Brunswick Stew preparation on **Fri. evening and Sat. morning, Oct.6 & 7**. It's a lot of fun and doesn't require much walking or lifting. I hope to see you there!

On **Sunday, October 8th**, is the Charge Conference beginning at 3:00 pm with Ramsey being the host church. The UMW will be providing light refreshments.

Wednesday, October 11th, the Nina Woodfin Circle will be providing the Care-A-Van Staff Breakfast for approximately 25 staff members. The Breakfast type items can be brought the day before, if that is more convenient.

Saturday, October 28th is the Virginia Conference UMW Annual Meeting which will be held at Trinity UMC, 903 Forest Ave. Richmond, Va. (just over the river).

This will be an excellent program to attend because our own *Bishop Sharma D. Lewis* will be the keynote speaker presenting "**A Call To Community**". She is a dynamic speaker **who will leave you energized!** Please register by October 15 and the cost is \$15.00, includes the Saturday luncheon. Several members are going, so maybe we can carpool.

*Be thinking about what to make for the UMW Annual Bake Sale **Sunday, November 19th**.

Blood Drive

Sunday, November 5th
The Bloodmobile will be present from 9:00am-Noon.



Charge Conference

Ramsey is hosting a cluster Charge Conference for the Richmond District on Sunday, October 8, 2017 from 3:00pm-5:30pm. The other churches joining us are:

- Asbury Church Hill
- Belmont
- Boulevard
- Centenary
- Ginter Park
- Lakeside
- Westover Hills
- Worship and Praise



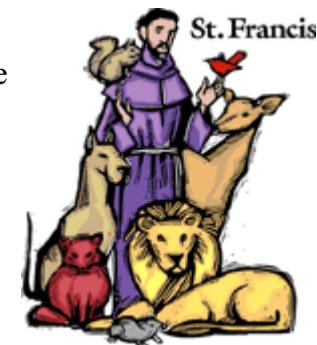
Recycling Bins

Ramsey has two recycling containers, one outside of each kitchen. Please use these for recycling cardboard, glass, and plastic containers. Please be sure to rinse everything out before placing it in the recycling can – we don’t want to invite pests onto our property!



Blessing of the Animals

All are welcome to join us on Sunday, October 1st for a Blessing of the Animals on the front lawn. This will take place at 4:00pm, to allow everyone to go home to get their pets after our worship services have concluded. This is a time of prayer and thanksgiving, inspired by St. Francis of Assisi who saw God’s love as being present in nature and animals.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>8:45AM Worship Service 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00AM Worship Service 11:00AM Escuela Dominical 12:30 Servicio en Español 3:00pm DreamChasers 4:00pm Blessing the Animals</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:00AM Care A Van 6:00PM James River HS 6:30PM Long Range Planning</p>	<p>3</p> <p>2:00PM McGuire Park Circle 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 6:00PM Private Event 6:30PM L.A.P.A</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:00AM Pickleball 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 7:00PM Administrative Council</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:00AM Care A Van 9:30AM Prayer Group 6:00PM James River HS 6:30PM L.A.P.A 7:00PM Estudio Biblico</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6:00PM James River HS</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:00AM Crossover 8:30AM BUCS 10:30AM Come & See 2:00PM Private Event (CLC)</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8:45AM Worship Service 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00AM Worship Service 11:00AM Escuela Dominical 12:30 Servicio en Español 3:00pm Charge Conference</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:00AM Care A Van 6:00PM James River HS</p>	<p>10</p> <p>11:00 Ada Mae Bookman Circle 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 6:30PM L.A.P.A</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:00AM Pickleball 10:00AM Hazel Gibbs 2:00PM Nina Woodfin Circle 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 7:00pm Trustees</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:00AM Care A Van 9:30AM Prayer Group 6:00PM James River HS 6:30PM L.A.P.A 7:00PM Estudio Biblico</p>	<p>13</p> <p>12:00PM 55+ Luncheon 6:00PM James River HS</p>	<p>14</p> <p>12:00PM BWSL DreamChasers</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:45AM Worship Service 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00AM Worship Service 11:00AM Escuela Dominical 12:30 Servicio en Español 3:00pm DreamChasers 6:30pm Youth Group</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:00PM James River HS</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 6:30PM L.A.P.A</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:00AM Pickleball 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 6:00PM Finance</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:00AM Care A Van 9:30AM Prayer Group 6:00PM James River HS 6:30PM L.A.P.A 7:00PM Estudio Biblico</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:00PM James River HS</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:30AM Come & See 12:00PM BWSL DreamChasers</p>
<p>22</p> <p>8:45AM Worship Service 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00AM Worship Service 11:00AM Escuela Dominical 12:30 Servicio en Español 3:00pm DreamChasers 6:30pm Youth Group</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:00PM James River HS</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 6:30PM L.A.P.A</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:00AM Pickleball 10:00AM Food Pantry 6:00PM SPPRC 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8:00AM Care A Van 9:30AM Prayer Group 6:00PM James River HS 6:30PM L.A.P.A 7:00PM Estudio Biblico</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6:00PM James River HS</p>	<p>28</p> <p>12:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 3:00PM Private Event (Wedding) 5:00 Neighborhood Supper</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:30AM Sunday School 10:30AM Combined Worship 12:00PM Lunch & Ramsey 20/20 Gathering 3:00pm DreamChasers 6:30pm Youth Group</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:00PM James River HS</p>	<p>31</p> <p>6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 6:30PM L.A.P.A</p>	 <p>OCTOBER 2017</p>			