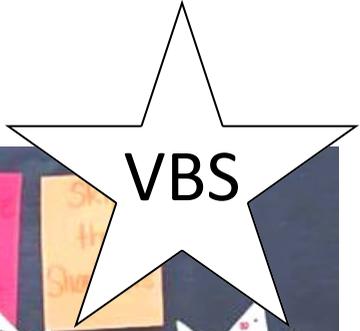


# The Messenger—El Mensajero

## September—Septiembre 2017



**RAMSEY MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
5900 Hull Street Road, Richmond, VA 23224,  
804-276-4628, [www.ramseymemorial.org](http://www.ramseymemorial.org)

Ramsey Memorial United Methodist Church

5900 Hull Street Road

Richmond VA 23224

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Just these lines my friends to invite us to ponder together.....

***What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus?***

Jesus called people to follow him. 'Follow me' appears 21 times in the gospels. Every time Jesus says it, Jesus is looking for decisive action; he invites and expects a response. The word 'follow' implies something that is done with your feet, not just your head. It is a head, heart and feet matter.

What is a disciple? Why should we disciple? How do we disciple? What does an intentional discipleship system look like? These questions will be the focus of our discipleship preaching series in September.

Some say a follower of Jesus is one whose life is centered on loving God and loving others. They point to Jesus's giving of a New Commandment. Our United Methodist Founder, Mr. Wesley talked about discipleship as helping people to grow in holiness of heart and life.

Bishop Sharma Lewis has cast a vision of a Disciple as a lifelong learner who influences others to serve. She has called all Virginia UM Conference congregations to develop an intentional discipleship system, that includes all ages, and stages of spiritual formation.

When we become members of the UM church, we make a promise to be loyal to the UMC and do all in our power to strengthen its ministries and to faithfully participate by our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

What are the beliefs that you would name as essential for a disciple of Jesus? What is the individual's role? The Church's role? How do people typically enter into discipleship in our congregation? How does one move from being an observer to a participant, a contributor in the life of our congregation?

How do our existing groups and classes develop faith?

What has changed you as the result of being a part of a small group or Sunday School class? What is missing in our faith development process? Who is missing and why?

What seeds are we planting for future disciples?

Be a part of the discussion! I hope and pray that our small groups and Sunday School classes will take the time to ponder these questions together and to share your thoughts with your pastors as we participate in our worship and discipleship together.

Together, let us follow Jesus!

As always it is my joy and privilege to be your pastor and friend-

*Pastor Deb*

**Vacation Bible School and One Ramsey Worship Service**



## Our youth are making an IMPACT in Richmond!



Desde un Rincón Pastoral

El ángel del Señor le dijo a Satanás: «¡Que te reprenda el Señor, que ha escogido a Jerusalén! ¡Que el Señor te reprenda, Satanás! ¿Acaso no es este hombre un tizón rescatado del fuego?» Zacarías 3:2.

Una vez más, otra voz profética fue silenciada el pasado domingo, 13 de agosto en Charlottesville. Solamente ella, su familia y amigos cercanos conocieron las razones por las cuales ella quiso levantar su voz. La injusticia, la discriminación racial, el odio, la maldad y la falta de conocimiento del verdadero Dios fueron las razones por las cuales ella junto con otras muchas voces se levantaron en contra de aquellos que son hacedores de maldad. De acuerdo a su madre, Heather solamente quiso abogar por la justicia con el fin de ayudar a poner a un paro ante tantos atropellos que sufren muchos de los que viven en su nación. A ella, le llamo, yo igual que a Josué y a John Wesley un tizón rescatado del fuego con el fin de ser la voz de Dios.

Zacarías, el profeta de Dios ve una visión donde Satanás y Josué están delante del ángel del Señor; Josué con vestiduras viles y sucias y Satanás como acusador. A pesar de las vestiduras viles que Josué llevaba consigo, el Señor le reprende a Satanás recordándole que Josué es un tizón rescatado del fuego. Son muchas las interpretaciones que le podemos dar a esta pasaje, pero lo cierto es que Josué después de salir de Egipto y ser liberado de su esclavitud, responde al llamado de Dios, sostiene al pueblo de Dios en su travesía en el desierto y lo encamina hacia la tierra prometida. John Wesley quien su padre Samuel Wesley le llamo un tizón rescatado del fuego, fue también un hombre rescatado de una vida religiosa y es llevado a las plazas, a los mercados, a las minas y a una tierra desconocida para el con el fin de ser la voz profética de Dios. El Señor Jesús fue la voz encarnada de Dios y fue Jesús, quien también al enviar a sus discípulos a Judea, a Samaria y hasta los confines de la tierra quiso encarnar su voz en su iglesia. Por lo tanto es preciso que recordemos que estamos comisionados a ser la voz profética de Dios. Como iglesia de Cristo estamos llamados a protestar contra la injusticia, a ser la voz de los que no tienen voz y a vencer la maldad, el odio, el racismo y todo acto de maldad con el amor de Dios, denunciando toda acto diabólico, y prestando nuestras manos al que lucha por la misma causa, la igualdad y la justicia de acuerdo al designio divino. Iglesia somos la voz profética en estos tiempos de caos, somos la luz de Cristo y la luz no se esconde más bien se pone en alto para que alumbré a todos y todas. Iglesia, cuerpo de Cristo oremos para que el mal no gane y para que la paz y el amor del que ha rescatado nuestras vidas de la esclavitud del pecado prevalezca para siempre. Orando por la paz que sobrepasa todo entendimiento,

Su hermana y servidora en Cristo, *Pastora Norma*

**The Thursday Morning Prayer Group is studying the book of Jeremiah.**

Wow! Sometimes we're not sure if we're reading about life 2,600 years ago or about life today!!! We're taking it slow, and going into as much depth as we feel called to go. The author, Melissa Spoelstra says that "By examining God's words of instruction to His wayward people through the prophet Jeremiah, we are studying to discover six guidelines for living that can help us overcome fear, worry, doubt, and bitterness as we surrender our wills to God and put our hope in Him alone." The group is warm and welcoming and makes you feel comfortable, no matter where you find yourself in your faith journey. Please come and check us out on any Thursday morning. We start at 9:30, and enjoy coffee and treats as we share, pray, and study together.

*"Our steps are made firm by the Lord, when he delights in our way; though we stumble, we will not fall headlong, for the Lord holds us by the hand."* Psalm 37:23-24

**ANNIVERSARIES—ANIVERSARIOS**

Paige & Paul Austin	7
Pat & Steve Meadows	13
Phyllis & David Woodfin	16
Helen & Cicero Gainer	21
Jerry & Jane Cummings	21
Mike Momenpour & Carla Thomas	26
Sherry & Howard Fox	26
Will & Lynn Flynn	26

**BIRTHDAYS—CUMPLEAÑOS**

Brian Koontz	1	Betty Lou Brame	18
Barbara LaPrade	3	Caroline Kastelberg	20
Vernon LaPrade	7	Janet Wood	21
Dick Guilmart	10	Laura Aguilar	21
Warren Smith	11	David Bissett	22
Joyce Spain	12	Lindsey Wallace	23
Norma Aguilar	12	Darlene Thomas	24
Peggy Early	13	Ray Wallace	24
Randall Sayles	14	Lynn Ahles	25
Darrin Robinson	16	Kasey Beville	25
Doris Moody	18	Erin Shrader-Amason	30
John Monk	18	Ralph Connor	30



**Children's Ministry** A special "OPPORTUNITY" has come your way. We are in need of help with the Children's Ministry Time during the 11:00a.m. worship service. We are looking for persons who could be an extra pair of hands to help, or to lead the class time, or help with the baby/toddler class. It isn't every Sunday that you need to do this. You choose the Sundays that fit your schedule. If you think God might be calling you to this opportunity to help nurture our children, please call Sue Newman at 276-4628 or email her at [snewman@ramseymemorial.org](mailto:snewman@ramseymemorial.org).

A thought to ponder... when babies and children get baptized, we as a congregation answer that we will help nurture them in growing up in their faith in the church. This is our opportunity.

Dear Ramsey Memorial Church family,

Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawl. It is so beautiful in both appearance & thought. During this trial I have seen & experienced so many blessings. As a result of both the trial of dealing with cancer and the abundance of blessings, my faith in my heavenly Father has grown on almost a daily basis.

Thanks again & love to all,

Beverly Justice

Ramsey Memorial UMC,

Thank you so much for the gift and the recognition. It truly meant a lot.

Thanks so much,

Trip Miller

Dear Ramsey Church,

On behalf of the VA Conference Disaster Recovery Ministry, thank you to the Ramsey Mission team for its service in Evergreen, VA.

Forrest White, Disaster Recovery Manager

**55+ Luncheon**

Join us on Friday, September 8th at noon in the fellowship hall. RSVP and bring A friend!



**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.



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*

### Tuesday Night Bible Study

*All are welcome to attend, both men and women!*

In seven sessions, “Seamless” covers the people, places, and promises of the Bible, tying them together into the greater story of scripture. Participants will gain an overarching understanding of the fundamental layout and meaning of God’s Word. “Seamless” helps replace insecurity that holds participants back with clarity, helping them move forward with confidence in their understanding of scripture. Each week of study features key information that ties all of scripture together into the seamless truth of the Gospel message and is accompanied by maps, general Bible facts, and word studies. The dates for this study are September 19—October 31. Contact Tammy Howe for more information, at [2razoo@gmail.com](mailto:2razoo@gmail.com).

### United Methodist Women News:

Hope everyone had a great summer! The following are Richmond District Programs to add to your calendar:

**Sept. 9th**, *Richmond District Mini-Mission Encounter* at River Road UMC. The presenters will discuss Climate Justice, Economic Inequality, Maternal and Child Health and Criminalization of Persons of Color. I attended the July meeting and I encourage you to attend this excellent program.

**Sept. 15-16th**, *Virginia Conference Young Women's Retreat* (18-40 yrs.) in Keezletown, Va. in the Shenandoah Valley. The guest speaker will be Nancy Walsh, Conference Coordinator of Membership and Nurture.

**Oct. 28th**, *The Virginia Conference UMW Annual Meeting* at Trinity UMC. The speaker will be Bishop Sharma Lewis.

In February, 2018, Ramsey will host the District Racial Justice Tea and we will need volunteers to help set up and decorate. Please let Sue Wheat know if you can help.

### 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!



### Charge Conference

Ramsey is hosting a cluster Charge Conference for the Richmond District on Sunday, October 8, 2017.



### BUCS in the News

Despite the heat the BUCS were active in August. The month opened on August 5 with breakfast and devotional followed by a church workday. On Thursday, August 10, twenty eight BUCS and friends attended the Flying Squirrels Faith and Family Night to watch baseball and fireworks. 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.

Together in Christ, Craig Lane

### NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPER

Did you know that **RAMSEY MEMORIAL**, your church, sponsors a free meal for folks in our community and neighboring communities? Did you know that we meet in the **CLC** on the **last Saturday of every month**, come rain, shine, or holidays? Did you realize that we never know **WHO** or **HOW MANY** may join us? Did you realize that we’ve met a lot of **WONDERFUL PEOPLE** who have enriched all of our lives in one way or another? Since **YOU** are part of **RAMSEY**, and **RAMSEY** is a part of this community, we could really use **YOUR** support in our endeavors. All you need to do is **SHOW UP** - enjoy a **FREE MEAL** - engage in **CONVERSATION**, and make some **NEW FRIENDS!** Our primary goal is not to increase our church membership, but to show our community that we, the members of **RAMSEY** can **WALK THE WALK!**

Mark 12:30-31 says that “The first commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.

And the second commandment is to love your neighbor as yourself.

**THERE IS NO OTHER COMMANDMENT GREATER THAN THESE!”**

So...come on out and **JOIN US!!**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 26th, 5:00-6:30 - FISH FRY**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th, 5:00-6:30 - BAR-B-QUE**

### Blessing of the Animals

All are welcome to join us on Sunday, October 1st for a Blessings 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	
<i>September ~ Septiembre 2017</i>						1 6:00PM James River HS	2 8:30AM BUCS 10:30AM Come & See 12:00PM BWSL DreamChasers
3 8:45AM Worship Service 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00AM Worship Service 11:00AM Escuela Dominical 12:30 Servicio en Español	4 OFFICE CLOSED 8:00AM Care A Van 6:00PM James River HS 	5 2:00PM McGuire Park Circle 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers	6 10:00AM Pickleball 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 6:00PM Trustees 7:00PM Administrative Council	7 8:00AM Care A Van 9:30AM Prayer Group 6:00PM James River HS 7:00PM Estudio Biblico	8 12:00PM 55+ Luncheon 6:00PM James River HS	9 12:00PM BWSL DreamChasers	
10 8:45AM Worship Service 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00AM Worship Service 11:00AM Escuela Dominical 12:30 Servicio en Español 6:30 Youth Group	11 8:00AM Care A Van 6:00PM James River HS 6:30PM Long Range Planning	12 11:00 Ada Mae Bookman Circle 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers	13 10:00AM Pickleball 2:00PM Nina Woodfin Circle 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers	14 8:00AM Care A Van 9:30AM Prayer Group 6:00PM James River HS 7:00PM Estudio Biblico	15 6:00PM James River HS	16 10:30AM Come & See 12:00PM BWSL DreamChasers	
17 8:45AM Worship Service 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00AM Worship Service 11:00AM Escuela Dominical 12:30 Servicio en Español 6:30 Youth Group	18 6:00PM James River HS	19 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers	20 10:00AM Pickleball 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 7:00PM Finance	21 8:00AM Care A Van 9:30AM Prayer Group 6:00PM James River HS 7:00PM Estudio Biblico	22 6:00PM James River HS	23 12:00PM BWSL DreamChasers	
24 8:45AM Worship Service 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00AM Worship Service 11:00AM Escuela Dominical 12:30 Servicio en Español 6:30 Youth Group	25 6:00PM James River HS	26 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers	27 10:00AM Pickleball 10:00AM Food Pantry 6:00PM SPPRC 6:00PM BWSL DreamChasers	28 8:00AM Care A Van 9:30AM Prayer Group 6:00PM James River HS 7:00PM Estudio Biblico	29 6:00PM James River HS	30 12:00PM BWSL DreamChasers 5:00 Neighborhood Supper	