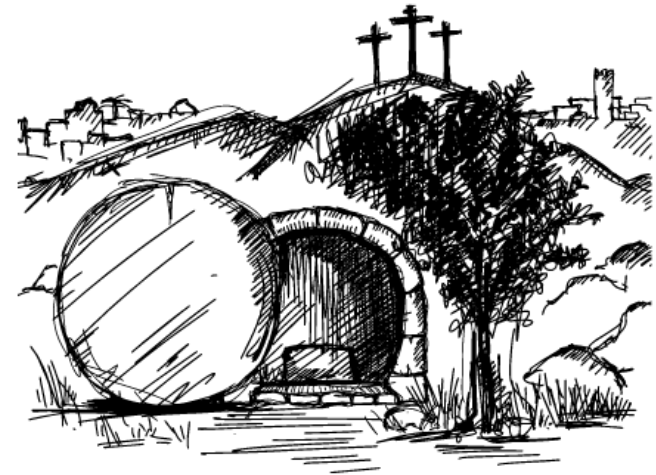


April
2022

THE MESSENGER



The angel spoke to the women. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying."

RAMSEY MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

5900 Hull Street Road, Richmond, VA 23224,
P.O.Box 75655, North Chesterfield, VA 23236
804-276-4628, www.ramseymemorial.org

Ramsey Memorial United Methodist Church

P.O.Box 75655

North Chesterfield, VA 23236

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FROM THE

Dear Ramsey Saints,

During Lent we intentionally focus on the spiritual disciplines of prayer, Bible study, fasting, worship and giving to others. It is our way of not allowing other distractions to draw our attention away from the purposeful pursuit of a deeper relationship with God through Jesus Christ. These 40 days are spent thinking more and meditating on our beloved Savior, Jesus. Who He is to us. What He means to us. How we can serve and love Him better. All with the goal of learning more about Christ and becoming more like Christ. It is a beautiful way to spend 6 weeks of our life as individuals and as the church called Ramsey.

By the time you read this newsletter we will be more than halfway through our 2022 Lenten Journey. How is it going? What have we learned? Do we see changes in our attitudes? In our actions? In our words? In our deeds? Those changes may be subtle. They may be profound. They may have been noticed by others. They may have been only observed by us. But what we know for certain is this: any efforts we make to grow closer to God, are noticed by God. The Apostle John expressed it this way in his epistle, "And we are confident that God hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases Him. And since we know that He hears us when we make our requests, we also know that He will give us what we ask for." (1 John 5:14-15). When we seek God's help to grow closer to God, God answers that prayer every time.

Ramsey Church, we are so blessed to share in this journey together.

Check in this week with one of our Ramsey family members and ask them about their Lenten Journey 2022. Pray for each other, love on each other and encourage each other. Then come Sunday, April 17th we will rejoice with one another yet again as we celebrate Christ's resurrection!

With transforming Easter hope,

Claudia

NATIVITY THANK YOU

This note of thanks comes a little later than usual, but nonetheless, it's filled with gratitude and appreciate for all that Ramsey church did for the 2021 Bethlehem/Nativity ministry.

This year we had a record number of visitors who attended both Bethlehem and the living nativity. As is true every year, we always have folks who come to the fence and share with our members what this ministry means to them. We often get, "it's not Christmas until I come see your nativity; I've been coming to this nativity since I was a little kid and now I'm bringing my children/grandchildren; I needed to see this this year...I lost my job and this brings me hope..." the stories are always an assurance that our community is drawn to the light of "the story" God presents each year. It's powerful and I thank you each and every person that volunteered to stand (some multiple nights), to set-up/take down the stable, set-up/take down Bethlehem; Tammy Heller/Freddy for providing excellent sound/lighting, Kenny Baltz for the beautiful lights on the fence, those who provided lots of yummy food, for the kitchen volunteers, for those that made and/or donated items for the market...too many people to name individually, but please know we thank you for everything you do so that we can coordinate these ministries and open our church to the community. A large number of canned goods were collected and were donated to the Belmont UMC food pantry. People were very generous with their monetary donations, which will be used to help our youth, "Ignite" with their mission work and to contribute to other mission outreaches in the church. It takes a village to make this happen every year and as always, Ramsey you didn't disappoint. For 64 years we've been doing what God has called us to do during the busy Christmas season. It's amazing that despite hurdles we face (i.e. less members, less people able to stand, less resources to do so many tasks and COVID restrictions) these ministries continue to bring joy to our community. What a gift God has given to us and what a blessing it is for us to share with others. We may never know the impact we have on others through these ministries, but we do know what we are called to do and trust that God will do the rest.

Thank you – Debbie Garrett and Tammy Howe



I am about to start the next chapter in my life. I am moving to Corinth, New York to be near my daughters Kerri & Beverly. I have been a member at Ramsey for over 27 years, and I will miss you all. For those who want to stay in touch, I am on Facebook.

God bless you all,

Linda Wilkes



To our Ramsey Church Family,

Thank you for the beautiful Poinsettia that Pat Beville brought at Christmas and many thanks to the special ladies who bring us communion every month.

Thank you so much for the cards, calls and love you showed us during Wiley's last days. It is a blessing to have friends like all of you.

Love,
Dot Davis & Family

Curtis and I wish to thank you for the many cards, calls and food sent to us since his fall in January.

Our Ramsey Family is the best one could ever have. He is doing much better and just know we love each of you.

Love you,
Joyce & Curtis Walsh

PASTORS

From a pastoral corner:

"Stop...and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted on the earth." (NASB).

Stop! It is the traffic signal that alerts us to press the brakes and stop completely, not halfway, not glancing and continuing without caution. If during the month of April, we decided to slow down a little more than usual, our eyes would contemplate the beauty of the rebirth of the trees, the flowers with their different colors and scents.

Since the beginning of the Lenten season, the invitation in the sermons has been to pause, reflect, and rediscover the meaning of Lent. The last three sermons have invited us to pray, to read the scriptures, to talk about love and to demonstrate that love. "What does God's love look like in you these days? And how about your love for others? Have your hands helped someone? Have your feet run to pick up someone who doesn't look like you or me, think or dress like you or me? How about your eyes? Have your eyes seen the one who needs love? How about your ears? Have your ears heard the sighs and cries of those who need to be heard? What does your love for God look like these days.

Let us continue reflecting on these heights that God places before us in this season of Lent so that when the day comes, the day of the resurrection, we are ready for such a great event. But as we walk towards that great day of resurrection, let us walk not as if we are superior to others, not speaking as if we are better. But rather walking as companions on the way, together as brothers and sisters talking while the darkness tries to overwhelm us and hate fights to persuade us. Let us walk trusting that God's love has already conquered everything and that light will always prevail over darkness.

Stop! Let us recognize God and his lordship over the earth. Let's recognize that that great day is drawing near!

Your companion on the way,

Pastor Norma



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

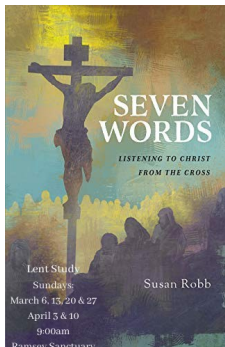
| Maundy Thursday | Easter Sunrise Service | Easter Worship Service |
|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Service | Sunday, April 17 | Sunday, April 17 |
| Thursday, April 14 | 7:00am | 10:00am |
| 7:00pm | Ramsey Front Lawn | Ramsey Sanctuary |
| Ramsey Sanctuary | near the crosses | |

LENTEN OFFERING

Our 2022 Lenten Offering will run through Easter Sunday, April 17. The money we raise will go toward replacing various parts of our sound system. Since the pandemic came along, our video recording process and the electronics that go with it have become a major part of our Sunday services. Many in our congregation depend on watching the videos to stay connected with Ramsey. So it is vital that we have dependable and up-to-date equipment.

You have always generously supported this offering and we are sure this year will be no exception. Please write "Lenten Offering" in the memo section

The Finance Committee



"Seven Words: Listening to Christ from the Cross"

It's not too late to join our Lenten study!
April 3 & 10
9:00am in the Ramsey Sanctuary



This December, we will celebrate **65 years** of serving the community with our Nativity ministry! If you have any media contacts (or you know someone who does) that could help us advertise this special milestone, contact Melissa in the office.

spring
CLEANING

As you know, we are working on decluttering our building and grounds. If you would like to help, please contact Joan McGowan at (804-513-8540) or Joanmcgowan56@gmail.com.

Good Morning! Welcome to Ramsey!

Are these words that easily flow off your tongue especially while a smile crosses your face? If so, then Ramsey's new Hospitality Team needs you. If you are willing

to say those simple words while monitoring the CLC lobby on **Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:05am** one Sunday every 4-6 weeks, please contact Melissa, our Admin Assistant, at admin@ramseymemorial.org or 804-276-4682. Training and additional instruction will be provided.



WELCOME

NEIGHBORHOOD BIBLE STUDY

Any ladies who would like to participate in a Chronological Bible Study are invited to join us on Mondays from 10:00-11:30 at Ramsey Memorial Church (Room 105). We will be doing an in-depth study starting in Acts. Please call Deborah at (804) 624-8390 for more details and questions. Please pray about joining us, we'd love to meet you!

Ladies of the UMW, please read the information included below about our new name. Scotty Doyle was so kind to get us this information.

I want to remind everyone that it is time to make a pledge for missions if you haven't already with your circle. 2022 seems to be a bit better than 2021 was with covid and I hope and pray that we will have a good 2022. We are meeting quarterly as a unit and I hope you will watch for information in our newsletter for dates and times. It's been too long since we met together.

I wish all of you the best and send BLESSINGS and love to you all.

Sue Newman, Unit UMW President

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH NEWS

Did you notice our new name... formerly UNITED METHODIST WOMEN, UMW, has changed our name to UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH, UWF. This is our 25th name change in more than 150 yrs since the mission organization started in 1869 when a group of eight Methodist women in Boston dispatched Clair Swain to India to provide health care for women who weren't allowed to see male doctors.

As programs are being updated the core mission to care for the welfare of women, children and youths will remain. `Ainise `Isama`u, UWF board president noted that over its history, the organization in addition to its name changes has had continuous adaptation of its programs and operations to meet changing times.

This is an exciting time for our organization!" said Harriett Jane Olson, CEO of United Women in Faith. "Looking back, we see the through lines for our organization—faith in God, love for each other and commitment to putting our faith into action supporting women, children, and youth. These commitments have been expressed in different ways at different times using different names, always calling women to world changing action. This combination of a new look, more accessible resources for members and new ways to participate, positions us for impact in our own journeys and in how we engage the world that God so loves."

United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

Take a new look at us <https://uwfaith.org/>

Geranium Sale to Benefit Shalom Farms



Sponsored by United Methodist Urban Ministries of Richmond Auxiliary
Taking orders March 6th through April 14th
Place your order with Scotty Doyle 804-640-5355 or any Ramsey UMW member. \$4.50 each (4 1/2" pot)

The geraniums come in RED, HOT PINK, WHITE and VIOLET.
We will take orders for specific colors but cannot guarantee. Make checks to: UMUMR

PICKUP: Friday, April 30, 2022 at Bon Air UMC

**Oh, to see my name
Written in the wounds,
For through Your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death,
Life is mine to live,
Won through Your selfless love.
This, the power of the cross:
Son of God, slain for us.
What a love! What a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross.**

In the Fall of 2019 a group of about 20 people in the Ramsey family spent 6 weeks studying together Draw the Circle: A 40 Day Prayer Challenge in English and in Spanish. We read the book over those 40 days and then met together around Day 20 and again after Day 40 to discuss what we had learned and how God had increased our faith through prayer. To close out that last evening, we took a Prayer Walk around Ramsey Church, “circling” it in prayer and asking for God to lead us in our next steps as a church. Five months later, COVID closed down much of what our church life in the Fall of 2019 had been like.

To obtain one of the books, please contact the church office at 804-276-4628 or admin@ramseymemorial.org. An \$11 donation is appreciated but not required.

Almighty God,

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

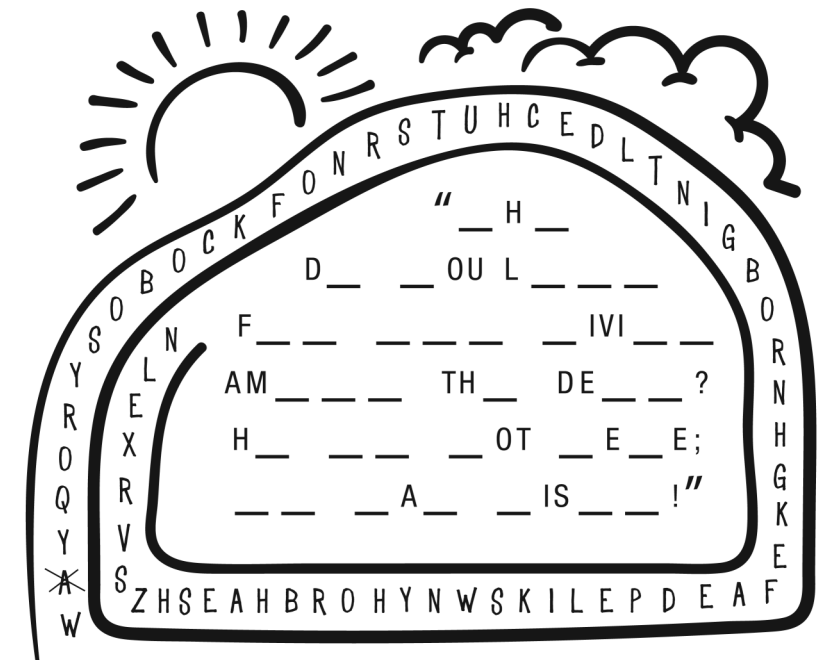
Each month the Administrative Council meets to oversee the ministries of our church; it is our decision-making group. If you would like to receive the minutes of our meetings to follow along with the decisions we are making and the direction we are taking, let us know.

Save the Date

Mark your calendars & save the dates of **Monday, July 25 through Friday, July 29 (6:00pm - 8:30pm)** for our in-person, invite your neighbors and friends to come, **Vacation Bible School**. More will be shared in the months ahead.

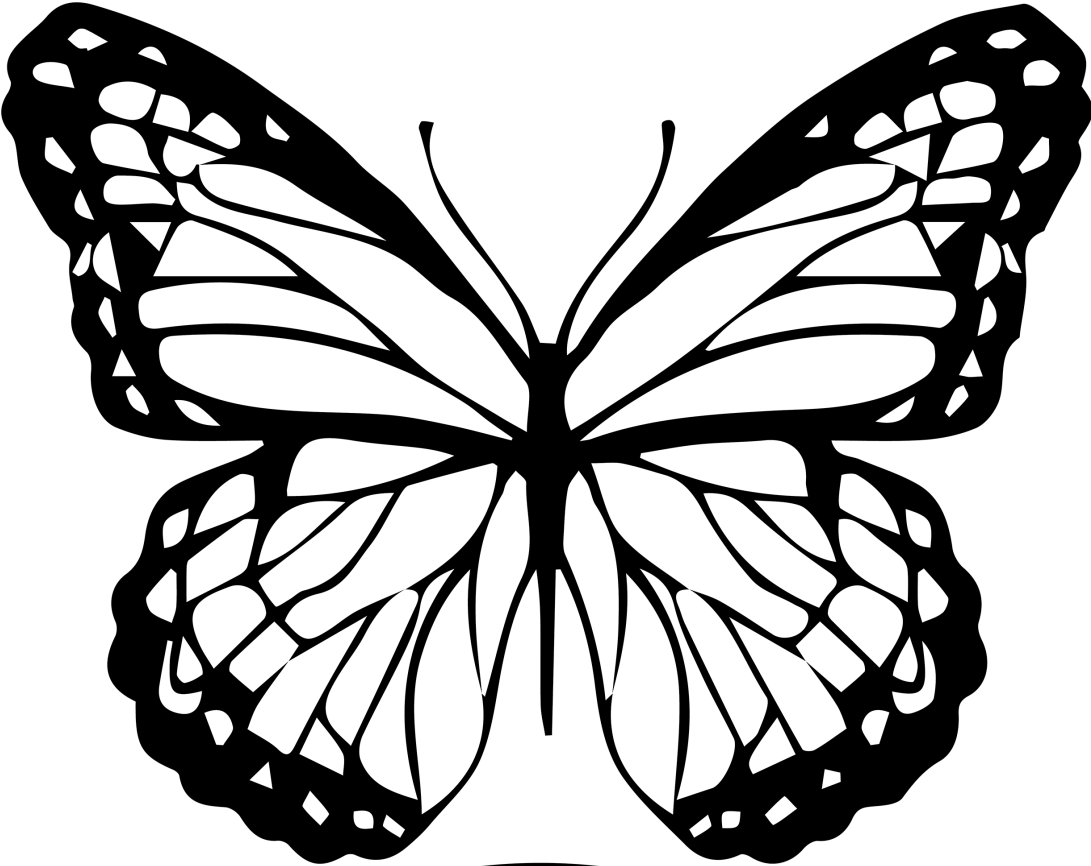


Directions: Cross out every other letter in the maze. Write the remaining letters in order to complete Luke 24:5-6, NIV.



LUKE 24:5-6, NIV

Answer: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:5-6, NIV



April Anniversaries

| | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Kenneth & Stacey Beville | 4/2 |
| Danny & Norma Britt | 4/7 |
| Russell & Donna Cottrell | 4/10 |
| Randall & Sharon Sayles | 4/14 |
| James & Shelley Jump | 4/23 |

April Birthdays

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Hannah Taylor | 4/1 |
| Steve Atkinson | 4/10 |
| Sharon Lee Cheatham | 4/10 |
| Norma Britt | 4/13 |
| Adebayo Ogungbade | 4/15 |
| Bukola Ogungbade | 4/17 |
| Vincent Elloy Rodriguez | 4/17 |
| Beverly Rugani | 4/17 |
| Natalie Vega | 4/18 |
| Mitzie Conner | 4/20 |
| Curtis Walsh | 4/20 |
| Ann Wiley | 4/20 |
| Patricia Person | 4/24 |
| Melissa Erin Vance | 4/25 |
| Daniel Easley Smith | 4/30 |

April 2022

| April 2022 | | | | | | | May 2022 | | | | | | |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 15 | 16 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 22 | 23 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| | | | | | 29 | 30 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--------|---------|---|--|---|----------|
| Mar 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | Apr 1 | 2 |
| 3 10:00am Worship Service (Sanctuary) 10:30am Escuela Bíblica 11:00am Ignite (CLC) 12:30pm Servicio de Adoración | 4 | 5 | 6 7:00pm Administrative Council (ZOOM) | 7 11:00am Thursday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study 5:30pm Estudio Bíblico (Room 105) | 8 | 9 |
| 10 10:00am Worship Service (Sanctuary) 10:30am Escuela Bíblica 11:00am Ignite (CLC) 12:30pm Servicio de Adoración | 11 | 12 | 13 2:00pm Nina Woodfin Circle (Rm 105) 7:00pm Trustees (ZOOM) | 14 11:00am Thursday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study 5:30pm Estudio Bíblico (Room 105) 7:00pm Holy Thursday Service | 15 7:00pm Servicio de Viernes Santo (Sanctuary) | 16 |
| 17 7:00am Easter Sunrise Service 10:00am Easter Worship Service 10:30am Escuela Bíblica 11:00am Ignite (CLC) 12:30pm Servicio de Adoración | 18 | 19 | 20 7:00pm Finance (ZOOM) | 21 11:00am Thursday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study 5:30pm Estudio Bíblico (Room 105) | 22 | 23 |
| 24 10:00am Worship Service (Sanctuary) 10:30am Escuela Bíblica 11:00am Ignite (CLC) 12:30pm Servicio de Adoración | 25 | 26 | 27 7:00pm SPPRC (ZOOM) | 28 11:00am Thursday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study 5:30pm Estudio Bíblico (Room 105) | 29 | 30 |