

May  
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THE  
MESSENGER



**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](http://www.ramseymemorial.org)

Ramsey Memorial United Methodist Church

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North Chesterfield, VA 23236

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# FROM THE

Dear Ramsey Saints,

When I was in middle school my family adopted a stray dog that showed up in our neighborhood. She was a mix that had some border collie in her and we named her Smudge. At least that is the name the vet knew her by. The rest of the world knew her as Mutt-A-Moose or Moose for short. Until she earned a new moniker — Black Angel Dog. A few weeks after Moose became a part of our family, we noticed something unique about her. We could be talking in the household (in a family of five that happened a lot!) but if we began to pray, here came the dog. It took a few times before we even noticed. But once we did, we wondered how she knew and what caused her to respond that way. We decided that possibly our voice tone changed when we began to pray. So, we did a test run and tried speaking exactly with the same voice intonation and volume but also then going straight into prayer. Sure enough, Moose was in the other room and the moment we actually started to pray, here she came. I am not sure that I even realized how much that impacted me until many years later. Somewhere in that experience it became evident that if Moose could be a dog of prayer, certainly we all wanted to be people of prayer. Black Angel Dog was leading the way for us.

On April 24th Ramsey Church began a 40-day prayer challenge. We are reading together the book *Draw the Circle* and we will complete it on June 2nd. Throughout the Sundays of May, the sermon series will be focused on the power of prayer and its role in our lives. I hope you chose to take the challenge. If not, it would be easy to start now and quickly catch up. But that is up to you.

I will leave us this month with this one thought though. It could be possible that we could get to heaven one day and hear this question, “Were you as faithful in prayer during your time on earth as Black Angel Dog was?” I know for me; I want to be able to say a resounding “Yes!”

With transforming hope,

Claudia

## SAS CHARGE CONFERENCE

On Sunday, May 22nd at 11:00am

we will meet in the Sanctuary to vote on adopting Simplified Accountable Structure as Ramsey Memorial's church leadership and governance. Every member of Ramsey is eligible to vote. If you are not able to attend in person that day, please contact the church office by email ([admin@ramseymemorial.org](mailto:admin@ramseymemorial.org)) or phone (804-276-4628) for an absentee ballot. All absentee ballots must be returned **BY MONDAY, MAY 16**.



## DECLUTTERING PROJECT UPDATE

The last project was the organization of the Nativity and Bethlehem items. If anyone has a free-standing shelving unit they would like to donate for these items, we can continue with the organization.

The next two projects are the Worship room (phase 1- décor items only- not the AV items) and Room 100. We are looking for people to help go through Room 100 and then to paint it. This is the room with the sponge painting (1980's?). We were given 5 gallons of paint for this project (light grey). The projected date for this room is late May. If you would like to help, please contact Joan McGowan at (804-513-8540) or [Joanmcgowan56@gmail.com](mailto:Joanmcgowan56@gmail.com).

## JUST ASK

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.

Contact Melissa at [admin@ramseymemorial.org](mailto:admin@ramseymemorial.org) or 804-276-4628 to be added to the list to receive an emailed copy of the meeting minutes or to receive a copy by USPS mail.

## 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!



Dear Church Family,

Just a little note to say thank you for all the cards, calls, visits and for keeping me in your prayers. I am still not 100% yet on being able to walk on my own but hope to get there soon. Miss all of you.

With much love,  
Caroline Kastelberg



#### MARK THE DATE FOR VBS

Mark your calendars and 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 details will be shared in the months ahead.

# PASTORS

From a pastoral corner,

“No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. For I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not fail you or abandon you.”

Joshua 1:5

Since the beginning of 2022, a group of brothers and sisters expressed the desire to read the bible for a year. Blessed be the Lord for that feeling that he put in the heart of the group! The book, *Through the Bible in a Year* by Dr. Allan Stringfellow, has been the guide we have been using and will continue to use until its last page—God willing. But this is not what I want to do in this pastoral letter, but rather, I want to recognize the effort of this group of brothers and sisters in Christ who, very motivated, have wanted to commit themselves to the study of the scriptures. Creativity is awesome, and the most powerful thing about creativity is that it goes beyond the traditional way of reading the Bible. Here are some of their testimonials:

- “With time so limited due to work and other chores, my husband and I have taken the option of listening to the Bible on the way to and from work. We also watch movies connected to the biblical book of the week, and so step by step we grow a little more.”
- “I also listen to the Bible on audio and I also watch Christian movies that have to do with the character or content of the book of the Bible that we are studying. When I get to the Bible study I ask the questions I need to ask”
- “The audio Bible is my best option, since while I work I listen to the Bible and when I get home I take the time to read those passages that I did not understand or that I need to read to refresh my memory”

Thank you BibleGateway for giving us the Bible in audio and in Spanish! Reading a book of the bible every week is not an easy task, but we are doing it, and for that we thank God.

Like Joshua, we know that the journey is not easy, and that the fear of not achieving it, accompanied by the eagerness and occupations of daily life, make it even more difficult. But in Joshua we also hear that meditating on God's word enriches our lives. Reading/listening to the word of God is a delight for the soul, which is why God commanded Joshua to meditate on it day and night so that everything would prosper. So then, Thursday Bible study group, and to everyone who has undertaken this journey of reading the Bible in a year, do not lose heart, do not be discouraged, just do your part, and God will also do His.

Together in this journey of faith,

Your companion on the way,

Pastor Norma



*Sing praise to our Creator God!  
Earth prospers from the way  
God "mothers" each new child into  
This world day after day.*

*God fabricates in motherhood  
A channel from above  
That longs to share with every child  
God's comfort, grace and love!*

*Sing praise to our Creator God,  
Who "mothers" us from birth!  
Providing what we truly need  
Throughout our lives on earth.*

Below is a list of items for the Hygiene Kits and a list of items for the Cleaning Kits. All items must be new.

#### **HYGIENE KITS**

- One Hand Towel (15 x 25 up to 17 x 27 inches); No Kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels;
- One Washcloth -- No Kitchen cleaning, or microfiber towels.
- One Comb -- Must be sturdy with at least 6 inches of teeth. No pocket combs or picks. Rattail and combs without handles are acceptable but must have at least 6 inches of teeth.
- One toenail or fingernail clipper -- No emery boards or metal nail files
- Bath-Size soap (3oz. bar or larger) -- No Ivory or Jergen's soap. Do not remove soap from packaging
- One Adult toothbrush -- Do not remove from packaging. Personal advertising not acceptable.
- 10 Adhesive bandages (3/4 by 3 inches) -- Common household bandages acceptable.
- One one-gallon size re-sealable bag.

#### **CLEANING KITS**

- One five-gallon round bucket with lid (14.35" h x 12.19" w x 12.19" d) -- No screw lids.
- One 32-64 oz. bottle liquid laundry detergent.
- One 16-40 oz. bottle liquid concentrate household cleaner. -- No spray cleaners.
- One 16 - 34 oz. bottle liquid dish soap.
- One 4 - 8 oz. pump spray air freshener
- One 6 - 14 oz. pump spray insect repellant (pack of 10 - 20 wipes also acceptable). -- Pump spray bottles must have protective covers.
- One scrub brush -- With or Without handle
- 18 re-usable cleaning wipes -- No terrycloth, microfiber or paper towels; Remove from packaging.
- Five scouring pads -- No stainless steel or pads with soap in them; Remove from packaging.
- 36 - 50 clothespins.
- One 50 - 100 ft. clothesline (cotton or plastic line)
- 24 roll of heavy duty trash bags (33 - 45 gallon sizes) -- Remove from packaging.
- Five N95 particulate respirator dust masks (1 - 3 mm thickness) -- No surgical masks.
- Two Pairs of Kitchen Gloves -- Durable for multiple uses. Remove from packaging.
- One Pair of Work Gloves -- Cotton with leather palm or all leather.

Thank You All for this Church Wide endeavor to help our brothers and sisters in need,

Sue Newman,

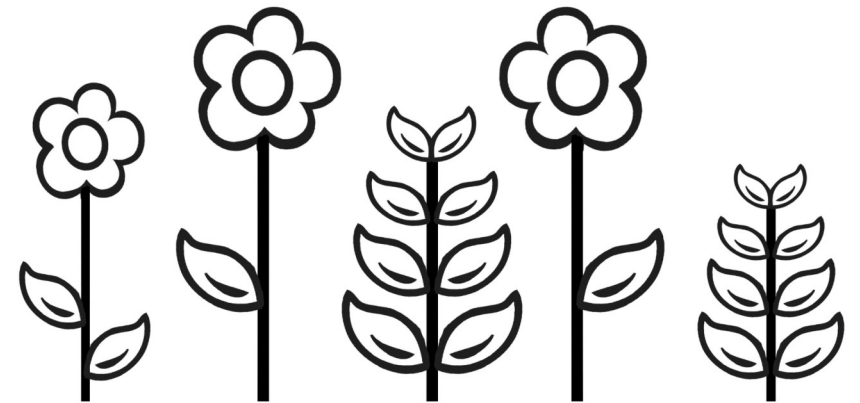
One of Ramsey's Delegates to Annual Conference

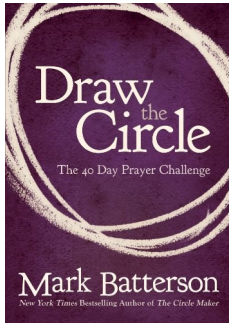


It is time to collect items for "Cleaning and Hygiene Kits" for Annual Conference 2022. We are expecting another great year of sharing God's love and faithfulness as we collect these kits for UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief). We will take the kits we gather to Lakeside UMC on Saturday, June 11th. From there they will be taken to Conference 2022 in Hampton.

We are asking everyone to donate at least one item or more if you can. If you would like to make a cash donation instead, that would be great, just make it out to Ramsey Memorial UMC and mark it for "Conference Kits". Each Hygiene Kit needs \$2 to cover cost of toothpaste and shipping and each Cleaning Bucket Kit needs \$3 to cover cost of sponges and shipping. Our ladies in our "Women United in Faith" Unit here at Ramsey will be the ones putting these kits together with the items that are donated.

"Collecting Together" is the Kits for Annual Conference Theme this year. I thank you in advance for being the generous givers that I know you are. "Collecting Together " we can make a difference in our communities and throughout the world.





### A 40-Day Prayer Challenge:

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.

Fast forward to the Spring of 2022. We have challenged the entire congregation – both our English language family and our Spanish language family – to read the book together over a 40-day span. We began the 40-day challenge on Sunday, April 24 and will go through Thursday, June 2. During the month of May our sermon series will focus on the power of prayer and boldly asking God for God’s will for us as Ramsey Church. **It is not too late to join us in this challenge.** To obtain one of the books, please contact the church office at 804-276-4628 or [admin@ramseymemorial.org](mailto:admin@ramseymemorial.org). An \$11 donation is appreciated but not required.

“They all met together and were constantly  
united in prayer”  
Acts 1:14a







# Teach us to pray

In Luke 11:1-13 (NIV), Jesus teaches about prayer.

*Directions: Add or subtract the letters indicated and unscramble the letters to form a new word, using hints from the passage. Then unscramble the circled letters to answer the question below.*

party – t = p r a y (v. 1)

lady + i = \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 3)

drab + e = \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 5)

rod + o = \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 7)

bask – b = \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 9)

keeps – p = \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 9)

define – ee = \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 9)

shift – t = \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 11)

sneaky – y = \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 11)

sift + g = \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 13)

What will the Father give to those who ask of him?

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 13)



## May Anniversaries

Erin & Matt Shrader - Amason	5/3
Brian & Nonie Barn- stein	5/5
Roger & Nancy Hoover	5/7
Laura & Jason McHale	5/7

## May Birthdays

Brenda Cameron	5/2
Shirley Lawrence	5/3
Mike Southard	5/7
Daniel Bisset	5/8
Debbie Garrett	5/8
Harry Newman	5/15
Julie Allanson	5/18
Kathie Atkinson	5/18
David Sweat	5/18
Roger Hoover	5/21
Shirley Wiegand	5/23
Rebecca Bonilla	5/25
Chris Sweat	5/25
Linda Wilkes	5/25
Luis Cantarero	5/26
Donna Cottrell	5/27
Stephanie Faith Morgan	5/27
Rayven Brown	5/28
Ashley Vaughan Afsharie	5/31
Surry Sweat	5/31

# May 2022

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

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

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