

# THE MESSENGER

June 2023



## LETTERS FROM THE PASTORS

Dear Ramsey Saints,

There seems to be an inherent leisurely pace that has a way of injecting itself into summer days. During summer we may be even busier than we are in the colder, winter months when we are inside and unable to be as active. But still there just seems to be a built-in leisure to the days of summer. Whether we are swinging in a hammock, sipping on lemonade, resting in the shade of a tree, or for many of us, sticking our toes in the ocean, there is a calmness that permeates those times. For some, it will be a vacation away during these next few months. For others, it may just be shady afternoons on a screen porch.

But however, and whenever we find ourselves able to take a little break, breathe a little deeper and just enjoy the moment, it invites us to the rest that God calls us to share in. After creating for six full days, God takes time to then rest. Was God tired? Did God need sleep? No and no. What God did was to model for us what it is to stop, reflect, and soak in where we are in the moment. It is a beautiful example of rest that God creates all the world and then takes a day to just look at all God has done. Genesis 1:31-2:3 tells it this way: "Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good! And evening passed and morning came, marking the sixth day. So, the creation of the heavens and the earth and everything in them was completed. On the seventh day God had finished his work of creation, so he rested from all his work. And God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, because it was the day when he rested from all his work of creation."

It is wonderful to take a physical rest. But God also knows we need inner rest not just external rest to be at our best. God offers us that internal rest through a promise that Jesus spoke to his disciples just before he was to leave them. In John 14:27 we hear: "I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid." My prayer for us Ramsey Saints is that as we take a physical rest on a summer afternoon, that every moment will be infused with a peace of mind and heart, a peace that passes all understanding that will keep our hearts not troubled and keep us not afraid. The God, who created us, gives us that peace. Let us rest in it!

With transforming hope,

Claudia

From a pastoral corner,

...If you can believe, to him who believes everything is possible. Mark 9:23

When God called Abraham from his place of comfort, family, and nation, he obeyed and did according to God's command. Abraham left his home, leaving behind him all he knew, everything that identified him and with which he was identified; he left trusting only in a promise that, according to common sense and the reality in front of him seemed to be crazy. Abraham and Sara were not only advanced in age, but they had no children, and yet God promised him that a great nation would come out of him.

Very often, the Lord works through ways that for human reasoning seem impossible, and that same reason seems to be shouting, you are a dreamer; you have such an absurd faith. But how good it is to let ourselves be led by the Holy Spirit and wait for what seems to be absurd. God always keeps his promises, and for our part, all that we can do is believe, believe in the one for whom everything is possible.

As a denomination, we are going through defining moments and historical moments. And it is in moments like these where waiting on God is all that we need to do. Once again, the annual conference is ready to meet. Things will not be the same, but despite all, we continue to believe and trust that God has everything under control and that only with Him and through Him everything is possible, whatever that means. Let's keep moving toward that place where God wants us to be. Let's keep on believing that faith usually appears where it is least expected. Let's keep on believing. Let me say it again, let's keep on believing and witness how the uncertain becomes certain and how the "strange" becomes familiar. Faith appears when the least expected. God is always in control.

In this walk of faith,

Your companion on the way

Pastora Norma.

# CLASS OF 2023



## Wyatt Robert Allanson

- Graduated from Osborn Park High School
- He is the son of Julie Cummings Allanson and the grandson of Jane and Jerry Cummings.
- Plans to attend VCU in the fall

## Michael O. Lopez Alvarado

- Graduated from L.C. Bird High School
- He is the son of Sara Alvarado
- Plans to pursue a career as an Electrician at Brightpoint



## Sean Michael Hallinan

- Graduated from Old Dominion University with a degree in Business Management
- He is the son of Rick and Marsha Hallinan, and the grandson of Dan and Ann Hallinan
- Plans to apply for career opportunities



# GRADUATE

## = 2023 =

### **Abiola (Abby) Ogungbade**

- Graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University with a Bachelor of Humanities & Science in Psychology and a minor in Spanish
- She is the daughter of Mary and Terry Ogungbade
- Plans to pursue her master's degree at VCU in Counselor Education with a concentration in School Counseling, with the goal of becoming a school guidance counselor



### **Ethan Smith**

- Graduated from Douglas Freeman High School
- He is the son of Bert Smith and Kimberly Pinchbeck
- Plans to attend the VCU School of Engineering

*Commit your actions to the Lord,  
and your plans will succeed.*

*Proverbs 16:3*



### LENTEN OFFERING

Our 2023 Lenten Offering was a great success. We were hoping to raise \$6000 for various projects around the church, but the total amount added up to over \$8200. What a generous congregation we have! Thank you for your stewardship.

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### NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPER

Ramsey's next Neighborhood Supper will be Saturday, June 24 at 5:00 pm in the CLC. Come join us!

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### RAMSEY FOOD MINISTRY

We completed the second year of delivering bags from FeedMore to students at JL Francis. In order to continue this ministry, additional volunteers are needed to serve as drivers- going to the food bank and delivering to the school. This takes about 1 hour and does not involve heavy lifting. Please consider stepping up and joining the group to enable Ramsey to continue this outreach into our community.

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### RAMSEY REFRESH

In June, the refresh focus will be on the silk flower arrangements and table decorations throughout the church. We are blessed with new gifts of flowers and it is time to retire some which have been used for years. These are not the ones used for the altar.



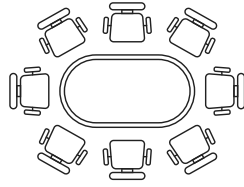
### NO SUMMER COFFEE TIME

There will be no Coffee Time in June, July, or August to give those who offer it each week a break for the summer. Coffee Time will resume on Sunday, September 3. If you would be interested in providing Coffee Time refreshments in the fall, contact Ann Hallinan at 804-271-4758.



### 55+ LUNCHEON

We would like to invite you to the 55+ luncheon on Friday, June 9 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Please give your RSVP to the church office (804-276-4628) by June 7. Bring a friend!



## LEADERSHIP BOARD MEETINGS

All are invited to attend board meetings in person, or virtually online using ZOOM software.

The ZOOM link for each meeting is the same from month to month. If you have received the link in the past, you may use it for the upcoming meeting. Please call the church office for the link.

Leadership Board will meet on the following dates/times:

Tuesday, June 20, 6-7:30 PM  
Tuesday, July 18, 6-7:30 PM  
Tuesday, August 15, 6-7:30 PM  
Tuesday, September 19, 6-7:30 PM  
Tuesday, October 17, 6-7:30 PM  
Tuesday, November 21, 6-7:30 PM  
Tuesday, December 19, 6-7:30 PM

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings will take place in the CLC lobby.

If anyone wishes to receive a copy of the meeting notes, please contact the church office at 804-276-4628.

Please pray for your leaders that God will provide a vision, wisdom and patience as we work through this transition year.

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*thank you*

The Early family would like to express our deepest thanks and appreciation for all of the love and support that our Ramsey family has provided during the past few years and especially the past few months. Nothing we can say or do can take away the pain of the loss of a loved one, but having your support through cards, food, assistance, and especially prayers, has brought us great comfort and peace.

As the boys and I began to reminisce, it was amazing how many of our memories had ties to Ramsey. Though Jimmie was never in the forefront, he was always the wind beneath our wings, encouraging us to fly, and he quietly shared his pride and thanksgivings with His Lord and Savior.

I am especially grateful for The Thursday Morning Prayer Group who has held our family up in constant prayer, provided both physical and emotional support and who encircled Jimmie with scripture, prayers and love as they shared in his last Holy Communion.

Thank you all for your deep love of Jesus Christ and your commitment to serving others in His name. We realize how blessed we are and we will always give thanks and praise to God for choosing us to be a part of your family.

With love,  
Peggy, Todd, Mitchell, Randy and their families

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, "I am El-Shaddai—'God Almighty.' Serve me faithfully and live a blameless life. 2 I will make a covenant with you, by which I will guarantee to give you countless descendants."

Genesis 17:1

*events*

**6/4**

Graduate Sunday

**6/9**

55+ Luncheon

**6/24**

Neighborhood Supper



**GIVING QR  
CODE**

Scan the QR code above to be directed to our online giving resource!





## RAMSEY KIDS & IGNITE YOUTH

Looking to serve as a volunteer within the Children and Youth Ministry at Ramsey? Please scan the above QR code and it will take you directly to the Online Volunteer Slip where you can fill it out online and submit!

Ramsey Kids and Ignite continue to welcome new children and youth to join us every Sunday at 11:00AM. During the month of May, our children and youth participated in a Liturgical dance in honor of Mother's day. An interpretive dance performed by Ramsey's very own Liturgical team to celebrate all the mothers on their special day. Our liturgical team worked extremely hard to ensure a wonderful performance but more importantly as a special tribute to a special group of women! Also, Vacation Bible School is soon approaching! We welcome all children and volunteers who would like to participate during this years' VBS - July 24-28 from 06:00 to 08:00PM! Volunteer forms and registration forms will be provided on your bulletin in these upcoming weeks. For more information, please reach out to Natalie Aguilar at [ramseykidsrva@gmail.com](mailto:ramseykidsrva@gmail.com). Please stay tuned for more upcoming events and performances!



## RAMSEY IS NOW A STEPHEN MINISTRY CONGREGATION

At the beginning of this year, the Stephen Ministries program was introduced to Ramsey as a new membership care ministry. Ramsey Church leaders reviewed and approved participation in the Stephen Ministries program and Ramsey has now been acknowledged as a Stephen Ministry Congregation. Stephen Ministries is a proven, effective Christian ministry providing personal one-on-one, distinctly Christian care and to walk with those experiencing life's sudden and ongoing difficulties and struggles. The hope for this new ministry is to turn our Prayer List into a Care List, adding to membership care.

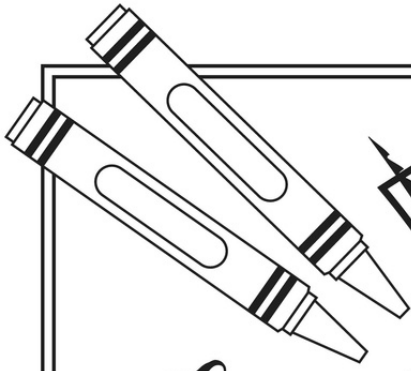
Sherry Price and Beverly Rugani are currently training as Stephen Ministry Leaders.

Once their training is complete, they will be qualified to provide training to other church members interested in becoming Stephen Ministers who will then provide the one-on-one CONFIDENTIAL care to church or community members requesting it. Stephen Ministers do not act as professional counselors, but as Christians willing to commit to those for a time who are in need of support.

Please let Sherry (804-920-8066 OR [loveandlight2360@gmail.com](mailto:loveandlight2360@gmail.com)) or Beverly (804-338-0682 OR [bhrugani@gmail.com](mailto:bhrugani@gmail.com)) know if you have any questions or would like more information on this new Ramsey ministry.

For even more information, visit the Stephen Ministries site at: [stephenministries.org](http://stephenministries.org)



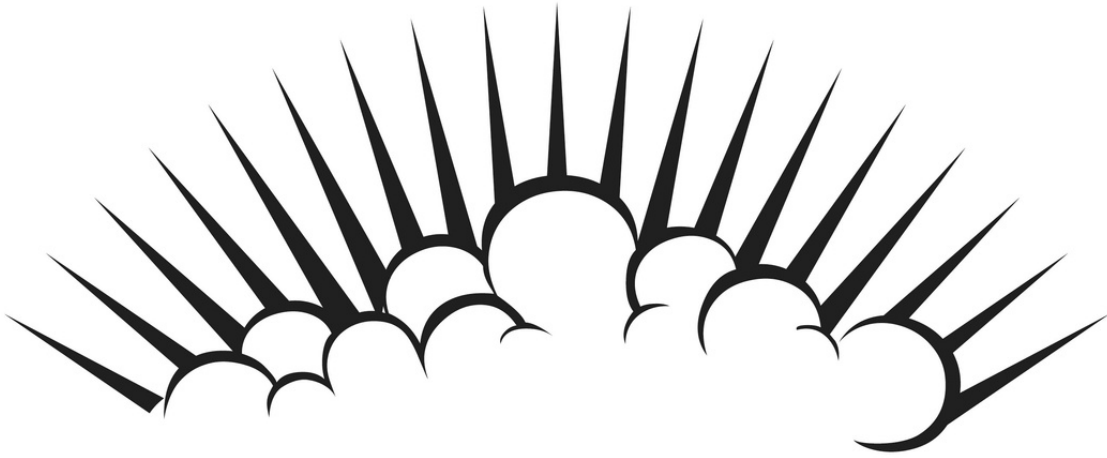


# PUZZLE

## Our heavenly Father

Father's Day is the perfect time to remember God, our heavenly Father. What does the psalmist say about him?

*Directions: Complete Psalm 89:26 by placing the correct vowels in the blanks.*



"H\_ w\_ll c\_ll \_ \_ t t\_ m\_,

'Y\_ \_ \_ r\_ m\_ F\_th\_r, m\_

G\_d, th\_ R\_ck m\_ S\_v\_ \_r.'" "

Ps\_lm 89:26, N\_V

Answer: "He will call out to me, 'You are my Father, my God, the Rock my Savior.'" Psalm 89:26, NIV



## **RAMSEY MEMBERS WITH ON-GOING HEALTH CONCERNS**

Virginia Abbott  
Alice Alford  
Matt Amason  
Betty Lou Brame  
Norma Britt  
Peggy Burch  
Mabel Campbell  
Melinda Campbell  
Mitzie Conner  
Ralph Conner  
Lois Crafton  
Dot Davis  
Sherry Fox  
Cicero Gainer  
Elnora Holmes  
Amy Salley  
Janet Sheek  
Nell Simmons  
Darlene Thomas  
Helen Wallace  
Curtis Walsh

## **FRIENDS WITH ON-GOING HEALTH CONCERNS**

Alice Alford  
Mitch Early  
Jackie Gray  
Nancy Hulon  
Debbie Mullins  
Frances Owen  
Sara Katherine Reid  
Vance Richardson  
Sheri Ruggles  
Tim Ruggles  
Ellie Thomas  
Iris Ward

## **OTHER NEEDS**

Justin Chamberlain  
Brother of Tiffany Stone, prayers for life choices





## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Gladys Orellana	June 3
Nell Simmons	June 4
Rachel Thomas	June 4
Kimberly Book	June 6
Haley DeKrafft	June 9
Danny Britt	June 11
Brenda Cordle	June 11
Phyllis Woodfin	June 14
Linda Baltz	June 16
Aviel Benitez	June 20
Virginia Abbott	June 24
Jeremy Newman	June 24
Sarah Gonzalez	June 27

## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Tom & Joyce Spain	June 2
Dan & Ann Hallinan	June 17
Scott & Claudia Stallings	June 19
Butch & Sharon Cheatham	June 21
Joe & Rebecca Calhoun	June 24



# June 2023

June 2023							July 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	1
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	8
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	15
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	22
							30	31					29

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
May 28		29		30		31		Jun 1		2		3	
10:00am Worship Service (Sanctuary)		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		7:00am Care-a-Van		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		8:00am CPR Recertification (Fellowship Hall)	
10:30am Escuela Bíblica		9:00am Pickleball (CLC)		10:00am Moving On Ceremony		8:00am J.L. Francis Moving		11:00am Prayer Meeting/Bible Study		9:00am Pickleball (CLC)		9:00am Pickleball (CLC)	
11:00am Ignite (CLC)		10:00am Neighborhood Bible Study (Rm 105)		12:00pm McGuire Park Circle		1:00pm Pickleball (CLC)		6:00pm James River Home School (c/c)		12:00pm 55+ Fellowship Hall		6:00pm James River Home School (c/c)	
12:30pm Servicio de Adoración (Sanctuary)		6:00pm James River Home School (c/c)		5:30pm Estudio Bíblico (Room 105)		4:00pm J.L. Francis Sneakerball		6:00pm James River Home School (c/c)		6:00pm James River Home School (c/c)			
				6:30pm Amateur Sports		6:30pm Generation of Dancers							
				6:30pm Generation of Dancers		7:00pm YABS (Together rm.)							
4		5		6		7		8		9		10	
10:00am Worship Service (Sanctuary)		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		7:00am Care-a-Van		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		8:00am TOVA New Fellowship Hall	
10:30am Escuela Bíblica		9:00am Pickleball (CLC)		10:00am Moving On Ceremony		8:00am J.L. Francis Moving		11:00am Prayer Meeting/Bible Study		9:00am Pickleball (CLC)		8:00am Upsilon Omega Chapter (CLC)	
11:00am Ignite (CLC)		10:00am Neighborhood Bible Study (Rm 105)		12:00pm McGuire Park Circle		1:00pm Pickleball (CLC)		6:00pm James River Home School (c/c)		12:00pm 55+ Fellowship Hall			
12:30pm Servicio de Adoración (Sanctuary)		6:00pm James River Home School (c/c)		5:30pm Estudio Bíblico (Room 105)		4:00pm J.L. Francis Sneakerball		6:00pm James River Home School (c/c)		6:00pm James River Home School (c/c)			
				6:30pm Amateur Sports		6:30pm Generation of Dancers							
				6:30pm Generation of Dancers		7:00pm YABS (Together rm.)							
11		12		13		14		15		16		17	
10:00am Worship Service (Sanctuary)		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		7:00am Care-a-Van		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		8:00am TOVA Recertification (Fellowship Hall)	
10:30am Escuela Bíblica		9:00am Pickleball (CLC)		9:00am Ramsey Refresh (Room 105)		9:00am Pickleball (CLC)		11:00am Prayer Meeting/Bible Study		9:00am Pickleball (CLC)		10:00am Dance Competition (CLC)	
11:00am Ignite (CLC)		10:00am Neighborhood Bible Study (Rm 105)		5:30pm Estudio Bíblico (Room 105)		2:00pm Nina Woodfin Circle (Rm 105)		6:00pm James River Home School (c/c)		6:00pm James River Home School (c/c)			
12:30pm Servicio de Adoración (Sanctuary)		6:00pm Ramsey Refresh (Room 105)		6:00pm Amateur Sports		6:00pm Amateur Sports							
		6:00pm James River Home		6:30pm Generation of Dancers		6:30pm Generation of Dancers							
				9:00pm Dance Practice (CLC)		6:30pm Generation of Dancers							
18		19		20		21		22		23		24	
10:00am Worship Service (Sanctuary)		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		7:00am Care-a-Van		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		3:30pm Neighborhood Supper (CLC)	
10:30am Escuela Bíblica		8:00am		7:30am Care-a-Van (CLC)		9:00am Pickleball (CLC)		11:00am Prayer Meeting/Bible Study		9:00am Pickleball (CLC)		5:30pm CASA (Fellowship Hall)	
11:00am Ignite (CLC)		9:00am Pickleball (CLC)		5:30pm Estudio Bíblico (Room 105)		6:00pm Amateur Sports		6:00pm James River Home School (c/c)		6:00pm James River Home School (c/c)			
12:30pm Servicio de Adoración (Sanctuary)		10:00am Neighborhood Bible Study (Rm 105)		6:00pm Amateur Sports		6:30pm Generation of Dancers							
		6:00pm James River Home		6:30pm Generation of Dancers		9:00pm Dance Practice (CLC)							
				9:00pm Dance Practice (CLC)		(Fellowship Hall)							
25		26		27		28		29		30		Jul 1	
10:00am Worship Service (Sanctuary)		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		Group Counseling (Rm 203)		7:00am Care-a-Van		Group Counseling (Rm 203)			
10:30am Escuela Bíblica		9:00am Pickleball (CLC)		5:30pm Estudio Bíblico (Room 105)		9:00am Pickleball (CLC)		11:00am Prayer Meeting/Bible Study		9:00am Pickleball (CLC)			
11:00am Ignite (CLC)		10:00am Neighborhood Bible Study (Rm 105)		6:00pm Amateur Sports		6:00pm Amateur Sports		6:00pm James River Home School (c/c)		6:00pm James River Home School (c/c)			
12:30pm Servicio de Adoración (Sanctuary)		6:00pm James River Home School (c/c)		6:30pm Generation of Dancers		6:30pm Generation of Dancers							
				9:00pm Dance Practice (CLC)		(Fellowship Hall)							