

THE MESSENGER

September 2023



LETTERS FROM THE PASTORS

Dear Ramsey Saints,

When the wheels on the school buses start to turn there always comes a settling into more routine and structure after the lazy, less structured days of summer. This happens whether we have students on those buses or not. As we do that this year, Ramsey continues to live into a new governance structure for our church – the missional, educational, disciple-making and administrative aspects of our life together.

September 15-17 the Ramsey Leadership Board (the 9-member group who are guiding and leading our mission and ministry at Ramsey) will go to Richmond Hill Retreat Center to participate in the first annual Leadership Board Retreat. During August there was a prayer list in the weekly bulletins, online and in person, asking God to give the Leadership Board direction and wisdom as they plan for 2024 and beyond.

What a gift it is that God has left the mission and ministry of Jesus's life, death and resurrection in the hands of us – God's people through the ages who are followers of Jesus Christ.

We, Ramsey Church, are commissioned by God to go into the world, teaching and sharing all that we have learned from Jesus with any one and every one we encounter. Jesus left the powerful work of drawing people to God in the hands of His disciples in the 1st century A.D. Because of the faithful witness of men and women who shared with others, we all have come to know and love Jesus ourselves. Now it is our turn to be the men and women of God telling others what Jesus has done and what Jesus can do in the lives of those who come to trust and rely upon Him.

Our Leadership Board will prayerfully discern how Ramsey Church is uniquely called to be Christ's light and love in the community surrounding our church. Our prayers of support for them will help us all hear from God and then move forward to fulfill what Jesus told His disciples in Matthew 11:28-30 (The Message): Jesus went right ahead and gave His charge: "God authorized and commanded me to commission you: Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age."

With transforming hope,

Claudia

From a pastoral corner

1 Peter 2:9 says, But you are the chosen race, the King's priests, the holy nation, God's own people, chosen to proclaim the wonderful acts of God, who called you out of darkness into his own marvelous light.

It seems unbelievable that the month of August has arrived and that in the blink of an eye, this newspaper will be reaching your hands at the beginning of a new month. And just like that, summer is saying goodbye to us and vacation time is also saying goodbye for many. A new school year has arrived and along with it, new beginnings and new opportunities. It is my prayer that both the students and the school staff enjoy a year filled with the Lord's favor, a year filled with many academic achievements, but above all covered with the coat of the Most High and sheltered under the shadow of Almighty God.

As the mother of a senior in high school, I can't help but think of that first day of Kindergarten for my son, Gabriel. I remember that, on his first day, which was filled with much excitement and nervousness, for both of us, my son asked me, "Mommy, what if I lose going to school because I go to school?" In his innocence, on that first day of school, a Tuesday, his biggest worry was not making friends or not being liked by the teacher, but rather was losing the opportunity to go to church. How I would like that concern and feeling to reach us all and every day! And I'm not talking about just losing church on Sundays, but rather losing the opportunity to be the church of Christ on any day of the week. Being the church of Christ is equivalent to being the hands and feet of the Lord ready to serve without any hesitation. It is my prayer that this new school year, like any other change of season that may come to the Church of Christ in Ramsey, that our greatest concern will be losing the opportunity to be the Church of Christ.

With our eyes fixed on God, the author and finisher of our faith,

His companion on the way,

Pastor, Norma

Free Neighborhood **SUPPERS**



Saturday, September 30 @ 5PM

Saturday, October 28 @ 5PM

Saturday, November 25 @ 5PM

Saturday, December 30 @ 5PM

Ramsey Church - 5900 Hull Street - Door #5 - ramseymemorial.org

FALL  **FEST**
Free! Trunk or Treat
Saturday, Oct. 28 / 4-6 PM
+ Free Neighborhood Supper!



KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Did you know that by linking your Kroger Value Customer Card to the Community Rewards Program you can donate money to Ramsey? YES!

You have to have an account with Kroger using your Value Customer Card. If you use the digital coupons, you have an account. Go to the Kroger Community Rewards tab. Search for Ramsey Memorial UMC, Select and Save. A small percentage of your spending will be donated by Kroger to the church!

If you would like help in setting up the account, please contact me, Joan McGowan at 804-513-8540



FALL COFFEE TIME

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.



CHARGE CONFERENCE

Charge Conference will be held at 7:00 pm on Monday, October 16 at Woodlake UMC.



55+ LUNCHEON

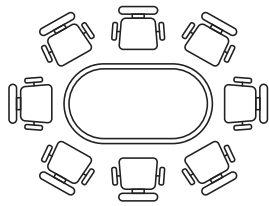
We would like to invite you to the 55+ luncheon on Friday, September 8 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Please give your RSVP to the church office (804-276-4628) by September 6. Bring a friend!



Ramsey Town Hall Luncheon

Sunday, October 8 at 11:30AM in the CLC.

Please join your leadership board for an opportunity to hear about our planning for 2024 and ask questions. Lunch will follow. Questions for the board can also be submitted ahead of time by email to admin@ramseymemorial.org. We look forward to a time of fellowship and sharing.



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, September 19, 6-7:30 PM **(ON ZOOM ONLY)**
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.



JOURNEY WORK DAY

I want to thank the 22 who came out and worked the last Saturdays. Our next work day at Journey will be Saturday September 23rd, from 9 am till noon.

Russ Cottrell

So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11



9/15-9/17

Leadership Board
Retreat

9/19

Leadership Board
Meeting on ZOOM

9/23

Journey Work Day

9/30

Neighborhood Supper



**GIVING QR
CODE**

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

*We
thank
you!*

We would like to thank Hannah Sailsbury (Tommy and Joyce Spain's granddaughter) for sharing her mission to place Bibles in every school across the nation. As the founder and executive director of her non-profit organization, Bibles in Schools, Hannah is making a difference and doing Kingdom work for her Lord.

Not only does Hannah's organization need prayers to help guide them as they strive to reach more and more schools, they also need funds to help defray the cost of

the Bibles. In an effort to spark the student's interests, Hannah has chosen to use action Bibles which tell the story through brightly colored pictures and text.

If you would like to learn more about Hannah's mission, you can log onto biblesinschools.org. This website offers ideas for those of us who would like to support Hannah's mission.

A donation in any amount would be greatly appreciated, however, if you want to donate for one or more specific Bibles, \$12 covers one Action Storybook Bible, \$15 covers one Action Bible Heroes and Villains, and \$20 covers one The Action Bible/The NIV Action Study Bible.

All donations may be made to:
Bibles in Schools
PO Box 5292
Midlothian, VA 23112

What a blessing it is to see this extraordinary outreach happening right here among our Ramsey family members!

Thank you Hannah, and may God continue to bless your courageous efforts to spread the good news to and through our children.



Ramsey United Methodist Church,

Thank you for allowing me to come and share what God is doing through Bibles in Schools. I am so thankful for your church's support, prayer, and encouragement as we spread the gospel in our public schools. What a MIGHTY GOD WE SERVE!

Pressing on,
Hannah

thank you

To My Ramsey Family,

Thank you for the prayers, cards, support and outpouring of love after the loss of my husband, Charles. My children and grandchildren express their appreciation and gratitude also in our time of need.

Love to all
Joan Whitfield

To Our Ramsey Family,

We wish to thank you for your many acts of kindness shown to us during Curtis's illness and the time of his passing on to Eternity.
Thank you for the many cards, calls, flowers and food sent to us. He loved you all and thanks for a wonderful send-off on his journey to meet his Lord and Savior.

Love to all,
The Walsh Family

To Kenny Baltz

Thank you for sharing your beautiful garden's bounty each week. It is so much fun to see what you have generously offered by a beautiful display of various garden selections.

We are so grateful to you for providing these delicious vegetables.

May God Continue to Bless you and your Awesome Garden
In Christian Love
Donna and Russ Cottrell

Also a BIG Thank You to all the guys who helped remove the huge shrubs in front of the church. What a difference it made. We now have a Welcomed Curb appeal.

Donna Cottrell



A BIG THANK YOU!

The tall bushes in the front of the CLC had become a security issue and they also blocked our beautiful church building. We appreciate all who came out to help remove these bushes, prune and clean up the flower beds. New (lower height) plantings will go in later.



RAMSEY MUSIC MINISTRY SEEKS OUTSIDE MUSIC

Have you heard an area Christian Music group that you would like to have play during the service?

Do you know of a person(s) or choir that would be interested in sharing their talents on a Sunday morning?

If so, please email ramseymusic5900@gmail.com and let us know who you would like to hear. If you know their contact information, please include it. The Music Ministry of Ramsey appreciates your help!



RAMSEY MUSIC MINISTRY NEEDS YOU

Have you sung or played music at any point in your life?

Do you have a small group that would like to be the Special Music for the service?

Would you be willing to share your gifts with the congregation from time to time?

If you play drums, guitar or piano, would you like to play in an occasional church band?

Please share that willingness with our Director of Music at ramseymusic5900@gmail.com.



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MUSIC REHEARSALS

If you would like to participate in the Special Music for Christmas, this message is for you. There are two times during each week that we will be having rehearsal. You can come to one or both, it's up to you. We will meet on Thursdays at 6:00PM in the Sanctuary beginning October 5, and on Sunday s at 11:00AM in the Choir Room on the same level as the Sanctuary beginning on October 8. The performance will be Sunday, December 17, 2023, at the 10:00AM service. If you have any questions or would like to let me know you will be participating, please email ramseymusic5900@gmail.com.



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!

This summer our children had the opportunity to engage in fun-filled activities while also learning about Christ during Vacation Bible school. Our children were able to engage in fellowship with one another as well as our volunteers. ONCE AGAIN, A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO MADE THIS HAPPEN.

Please stay tuned for upcoming events such as our Fall Fest and other events!



United
Women
in Faith

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH UPDATE

Our "United Women in Faith" have finished another year and are beginning a new year in September.

Every year we fill-out a report entitled the LIOP (Living Into Our Purpose). There are many categories

we need to accomplish to be able to check them off showing that we participated in them. Some of them are missional, some of them are growing spiritually, some are learning through reading books from our Reading List. These are just a few.

UWF have always been there to step up to the task.

We have Two circles --- McGuire Park and Nina Woodfin.

We also would like to share some everyday information with you:

Volunteer Hours ----- 924

Calls ----- 1,036

Cards ----- 1,149

Visits ----- 234

Texts ----- 620

UWF is part of our United Methodist Conference, Nationally and Globally. We give all to missions. We would love to have any of you, yes that's women and men, to join us.

If you think you would like to visit one of our meetings, please call me, Sue Newman, Chairperson of our Unit, at 804-271-0230.



RAMSEY MEMBERS WITH ON-GOING HEALTH CONCERNS

Virginia Abbott
Matt Amason
Paul Austin
Norma Britt
Peggy Burch
Mabel Campbell
Melinda Campbell
Mitzie Conner
Ralph Conner
Dot Davis
Sherry Fox
Cicero Gainer
Doris Hancock
Elnora Holmes
Caroline Kastelberg
Amy Salley
Janet Sheek
Nell Simmons
Darlene Thomas
Helen Wallace

FRIENDS WITH ON-GOING HEALTH CONCERNS

Alice Alford
Jackie Gray
Nancy Hulon
Debbie Mullins
Vance Richardson
Sheri Ruggles
Tim Ruggles
Ellie Thomas
Iris Ward
Robert Earl Williams Jr.

OTHER NEEDS

Justin Chamberlain
Brother of Tiffany Stone, prayers for life choices



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Camila Aguilar	September 2
Warren Smith	September 11
Angelina Vega	September 11
Norma Aguilar	September 12
Joyce Spain	September 12
Peggy Early	September 13
Randall Sayles	September 14
Steven Alvarado	September 16
Jonathan Ortiz	September 16
Darrin Robinson	September 16
Caroline Kastelberg	September 20
Laura Robinson	September 21
Janet Wood	September 21
David Bissett	September 22
Darlene Brown Thomas	September 24
Lynne Ahles	September 25
Kasey Beville	September 25
Ralph Conner	September 30
Erin Shrader-Amason	September 30

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Paul & Paige Austin	September 7
Steve & Pat Meadows	September 13
Michael & Katherine Walsh	September 19
Jerry & Jane Cummings	September 21
Cicero & Helen Gainer	September 21
Will & Lynn Flynn	September 26
Howard & Sherry Fox	September 26



September 2023

September 2023													
September 2023							October 2023						
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	15	16	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
September 2023							October 2023						
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	15	16	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	22	23	24	25	26	27	28

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Aug 27	28	29	30	31	Sep 1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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)	Quinceanera - Angelina Vega (Sanctuary - CLC)
10:30am Escuela Bíblica	9:00am Pickleball (CLC)	2:00pm McGuire Park Circle	7:00am Care-a-Van (CLC)	11:00am Prayer Meeting/Bible Study	9:00am Pickleball (CLC)	8:00am CPR Recertification (fellowship Hall)
11:00am Ignite (CLC)	10:00am Neighborhood Bible Study (Rm 105)	4:00pm Cardinal Newman Academy Volleyball (CLC)	7:00pm YABS (Together rm)	4:00pm Cardinal Newman Academy Volleyball (CLC)	12:00pm 55+ (fellowship Hall)	
12:30pm Servicio de Adoración (Sanctuary)	6:00pm James River Home School (clc)	5:30pm Estudio Bíblico (Room 105)		6:00pm James River Home	6:00pm James River Home School (clc)	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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)	4:00pm Cardinal Newman Academy Volleyball (CLC)	7:00am Care-a-Van (CLC)	11:00am Prayer Meeting/Bible Study	9:00am Pickleball (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)	4:00pm Cardinal Newman Academy Volleyball (CLC)	6:00pm James River Home School (clc)	
12:30pm Servicio de Adoración (Sanctuary)	6:00pm James River Home School (clc)			6:00pm James River Home		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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)	Family Retreat (Off-site)
10:30am Escuela Bíblica	9:00am Pickleball (CLC)	4:00pm Cardinal Newman Academy Volleyball (CLC)	7:00am Care-a-Van (CLC)	11:00am Prayer Meeting/Bible Study	9:00am Pickleball (CLC)	8:00am DSP (fellowship Hall)
11:00am Ignite (CLC)	10:00am Neighborhood Bible Study (Rm 105)	5:30pm Estudio Bíblico (Room 105)		4:00pm Cardinal Newman Academy Volleyball (CLC)	10:00am UWF District Room	4:00pm Prayer Conference Dinner (CLC)
12:30pm Servicio de Adoración (Sanctuary)	6:00pm James River Home School (clc)			6:00pm James River Home	6:00pm Paint Night (fellowship)	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Family Retreat (Off-site)	Group Counseling (Rm 203)	Group Counseling (Rm 203)	Group Counseling (Rm 203)	7:00am Care-a-Van	Group Counseling (Rm 203)	8:00am Mission Encounter - UWF (fellowship)
10:00am Worship Service (Sanctuary)	9:00am Pickleball (CLC)	4:00pm Cardinal Newman Academy Volleyball (CLC)	7:00am Care-a-Van (CLC)	11:00am Prayer Meeting/Bible Study	9:00am Pickleball (CLC)	3:30pm Neighborhood Supper (CLC)
10:30am Escuela Bíblica	10:00am Neighborhood Bible Study (Rm 105)	5:30pm Estudio Bíblico (Room 105)		4:00pm Cardinal Newman Academy Volleyball (CLC)	6:00pm James River Home School (clc)	
11:00am Ignite (CLC)	6:00pm James River Home School (clc)			6:00pm James River Home		
12:30pm Servicio de Adoración						