



The Lamplighter

The Monthly Newsletter of Richmond's WESTOVER BAPTIST CHURCH

“God Meets Us Where We Are ”

A couple of Sundays in worship we read Matthew 16:13-20, where Peter acknowledges Jesus as the Messiah. Jesus responds to Peter's acknowledgement by saying, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. (Matt. 16:17-19)"

Although, Peter has the correct title, he is drastically off on what it means for Jesus to be the Messiah. Just a few verses later Jesus calls Peter Satan, and later in the gospel Peter will deny Jesus three times. Despite all this, Jesus still gives Peter and the disciples the "keys to the kingdom of Heaven." Jesus knew that he would one day leave this earth. His work in bringing the kingdom of Heaven to earth would continue through the church, so Jesus equips the church to continue his mission even though the disciples did not fully understand everything at the time.

Our testimonies will change and evolve over time. They will mature and grow over time. Jesus doesn't require us to know all the correct answers about him or God. Jesus wants us to simply know him. He wants a relationship with each of us, with all of our imperfections, because it's the journey of faith, it's the process of growing with Jesus that counts.

Jesus didn't wait to give the disciples the keys until they were perfect in their understanding of him – he gave it to them in their imperfect understanding. Even in their imperfection, Jesus assures them that “the gates of Hades will not prevail” against the church, meaning no power in the world, not even death itself, will be able to thwart or overcome the work of the church. Not even our own inadequacies can prevent God's will from being done, because it's not about what we can do – its about what God can do through us!

Part of the journey of faith is to grow in our understanding of God over time. Jesus gives us the keys to the kingdom today. It is now our responsibility to take the teachings of Jesus to the world, to apply them in today's context. We may not understand everything fully, we may still have unanswered questions in life, and that's okay. God calls us to be the church, God's hands and feet in this world, even as we seek to deepen our understanding of God.

With Gratitude,

Drew



Remember in Prayer . . .

The family and friends of Nancy Headley, upon her passing August 17, 2023. Les Alleyne, "Andy" Anderson, Adrian Banks, Bob Beasley, Mack Belcher, Cathy Boman, Joan Brandon, Margaret Christy, Carol Cozart, Karen DeCicco, Valerie Downing, Chris Farmer, Chip Harman, Jimmy Kersey, Betty Lajoie, Wesley Marr, Carrie Newman, Butch Nolan, David Parrish, Rose Robbins, Gordie Taylor, Gwen Taylor, Austin Thor, Church Community.



September Birthdays

I .. Joyce Humphrey
I I .. Dick Moschler



Sunday Mornings: Our Sunday School meets in-person at **10:15 am** in the Library and virtually via Zoom. We meet for Worship at **11:30 am**, both in-person and via Zoom. Join via Zoom for Sunday School and/or Worship by entering the following codes in your Zoom app:

Meeting ID: 811 5323 9170 Passcode: 103094 - OR - by accessing link ...

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81153239170?pwd=Ty9GNHVBMdRLRmFpT2ZYjFEL2FXZz09>

GIVING OPTIONS for OFFERINGS

- 1) Bring your offering when you come to church on Sunday mornings,
- 2) Drop through the bronze mail slot in the 49th Street door.
- 3) Mail your offering to: **Westover Baptist Church**
PO Box 13048,
Richmond, VA 23225
- 4) Give online at: <https://onrealm.org/WestoverBaptist/give/offering>



STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

AUGUST 6 - AUGUST 27, 2023 (4 Sundays)

General offering received	\$4,242.00
General offering budget requirement for period	\$5,815.00
General offering received in 2023	\$39,651.00
General offering budget requirement for 2023	\$50,885.00
Missions offering year-to-date	\$600.00
LWCC Mission offering year-to-date	\$400.00

TELLERS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, September 5	Marcia Geiger / Mike Geiger
Monday, September 11	Marcia Geiger / Kathleen Pope
Monday, September 18	David Cosby / Betty Garrett
Monday, September 25	Jackie Harman / Ralph Harman
Monday, October 2	Marcia Geiger / Mike Geiger

September Ministry Volunteers

Deacon of the Week

September 3 Betty Garrett
September 10 Kathleen Pope
September 17 Chris Keeling
September 24 Tony Goyal

Election Business Meeting

Wednesday September 13th
6:45 pm

Prayerfully consider where God is calling you to serve at Westover Baptist Church for the coming church year, which begins October 1st. Nominations will be presented at this meeting. Please plan to attend and participate in planning for our church's future.

- * Fellowship Team; hospitality, recreation.
- * Worship Team; flowers, music, sanctuary preparations.
- * Resource Team; finance, personnel, premises, tellers.
- * Missions Team; benevolence, food pantry, outreach.
- * Discipleship Team; deacons, Bible study, discipleship training.
- * Standing Committees; Nominating, Constitution & By-laws
- * Church Officers; administrator, clerk, moderator, treasurer, trustee, financial secretary, historian
- * Church Council; automatically consists of team chairs and officers.

****Supper will be served at 6:00 pm, prior to the meeting**



OSS ... Our Sanctuary - Saved!

The work has been completed! The supporting structure and gutter all along the 49th Street side of the sanctuary that had experienced a significant amount of water damage over the past decade or two has now been repaired! The carpenter rebuilt the supporting woodwork that holds the gutter, the roofer installed new gutters and replaced some slate tiles, and our own Tommy Parker utilized the scaffolding to complete the painting all along that side. **We have received the invoice with the final cost of \$48,869.** We are excited to have raised over \$20,000 from donations! The remaining cost will be paid using funds from our bank account and investment account. Your generous giving for this project has helped to ensure that Westover's house of worship will continue to be around and in good working condition for years to come. Thank you for your continued support of prayer and financial giving.

We would like to continue building up a reserve fund for when a repair such as this is needed in the future. Please consider continuing to make donations over time so that we may have the funds available when we need them and not have to wait to make repairs that may be of immediate concern. Thank you for your faithfulness to the preservation of the church we call Westover!



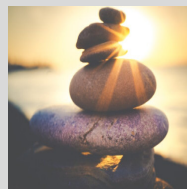
SEPTEMBER MISSIONS UPDATE

Check out the offers of the Wellness Program. Just click on the website link:

Website: www.livingwaterrva.com Email: livingwatercommunitycenter@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook: [Living Water Community Center](#)

Living Water Community Center seeks to foster healthy community through contemplative practices such as meditation, mindful beekeeping, and urban farming, where we hope to create a more sustainable and healthy community, both for the individual and the ecosystem.



Ultra Local Raw Honey: Honey is available for purchase. 1 pound \$15, 2 pounds \$25, 3 or more pounds are \$10 each. We have extracted 2,000 pounds of honey this season!

Community Garden: The weekly garden workday is every **Thursday morning from 9:00am to 11:30 am.**



Daily Meditation: Join in each **Monday-Friday at 6:30am, 12:00pm, and 5:30pm** for 30 minutes of silent prayer and meditation, in person in the church sanctuary, or via Zoom:

Meeting ID: 390 739 0579 Passcode: livingh2o -OR- access this link...

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3907390579?pwd=dm9rbm1ZNnVqcDVQYUVRZWFiNTJmUT09>

Food Pantry Mission

The **Food Pantry** operates twice a month, on the **1st and 3rd Fridays**, from **1:00pm-3:00pm**. We, with Rising Liberty Church, partner with the Chesterfield Food Bank Outreach Center to provide up to 2 full bags of groceries to local families that are impacted by food insecurities. Produce from the Community Garden is also included. Come out and help with the food distribution effort and enjoy growing relationships with our neighbors in the surrounding community.

MISSION OFFERING OF THE CHURCH!

This offering is distributed among both the state and national bodies of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, the Baptist General Association of Virginia, and the South Richmond Baptist Center. You may also contribute directly to our mission ministry, Living Water Community Center, through which we strive to meet many of the needs of our surrounding community.

WESTOVER BAPTIST CHURCH
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Richmond, VA 23225
(804) 233-9261

wbcrichmond@gmail.com
www.wbcrichmond.com
www.livingwaterrva.com

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Drew Nagy, Pastor
Andrew Pfeiffer, Music Ministry
Bill Thomas, Pastoral Care
David Parrish, Facilities Manager



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**CHANGE
 SERVICE
 REQUESTED**

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM 11:00am Chair Yoga 1-3PM Food Pantry	2 9am Gentle Yoga 10am Slow Flow Yoga
3 10:15AM Sunday School 11:30AM Worship Service <i>[8:30am South City; Sanctuary]</i> <i>[10:00am Crown & Joy; Social]</i> <i>[1:30pm Camino al Cielo; Sanct]</i> 5:30pm Sound Bath Meditation	4 Labor Day Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM	5 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM 6:30pm Yoga w/LaToya	6 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM 4:30pm Meridian Yoga	7 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM 6:30pm Laughter Yoga	8 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM 11:00am Chair Yoga	9 9am Gentle Yoga 10am Slow Flow Yoga 9am-3pm Monastery Painting Day 6:30pm Peace Dances
10 10:15AM Sunday School 11:30AM Worship Service <i>[8:30am South City; Sanctuary]</i> <i>[10:00am Crown & Joy; Social]</i> <i>[1:30pm Camino al Cielo; Sanct]</i> <i>[4-6pm Crown & Joy; Library]</i> 5:30pm Sound Bath Meditation	11 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM 5:30pm Qi Gong 7:30pm Breathwork	12 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM <i>[5:45pm Tree Stewards; Fellowship Hall]</i> 6:30pm Yoga w/LaToya	13 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM 4:30pm Meridian Yoga 6:00PM Supper 6:45PM Business Meeting	14 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM 6:30pm Laughter Yoga	15 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM 11:00am Chair Yoga 1-3PM Food Pantry	16 9am Gentle Yoga 10am Slow Flow Yoga
17 10:15AM Sunday School 11:30AM Worship Service <i>[8:30am South City; Sanctuary]</i> <i>[10:00am Crown & Joy; Social]</i> <i>[1:30pm Camino al Cielo; Sanct]</i> 5:30pm Sound Bath Meditation	18 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM 5:30pm Qi Gong 7:30pm Breathwork	19 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM <i>[5:45pm Tree Stewards; Fellowship Hall]</i> <i>[6:30pm SC; Dining Hall]</i> 6:30pm Yoga w/ Karla	20 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM 4:30pm Meridian Yoga 6:15pm MBSR Info Session	21 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM 6:30pm Laughter Yoga	22 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM 11:00am Chair Yoga <i>[6:30pm C&J; Library]</i>	23 9am Gentle Yoga 10am Slow Flow Yoga
24 10:15AM Sunday School 11:30AM Worship Service <i>[8:30am South City; Sanctuary]</i> <i>[10:00am Crown & Joy; Social]</i> <i>[1:30pm Camino al Cielo; Sanct]</i> <i>[4-6pm Crown & Joy; Library]</i> 5:30pm Sound Bath Meditation	25 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM 5:30pm Qi Gong	26 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM <i>[5:45pm Tree Stewards; Fellowship Hall]</i> 6:30pm Yoga w/LaToya	27 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM 4:30pm Meridian Yoga	28 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM 6:30pm Laughter Yoga	29 Daily Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM 11:00am Chair Yoga	30 9am Gentle Yoga 10am Slow Flow Yoga