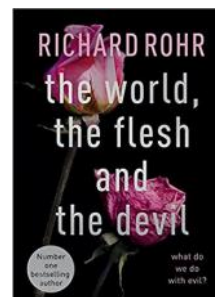


The Herald

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Beginning Sunday, June 4th, we begin a book study, using Richard Rohr's book, *The World, the Flesh and the Devil: What Do We Do With Evil?*, available from Amazon for \$13.23 each. The class meets on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. and is open to anyone. You are on your own as to the purchase of this book. Let Pastor Dave know if buying the book might be hard on you.



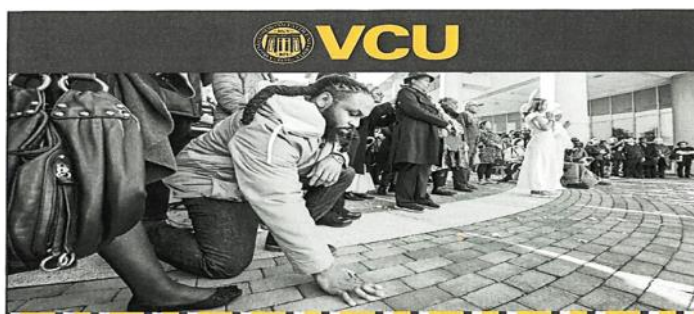
Be prepared through Chapter 1 for June 4th.

PRAYERS for the Church



Pastor Dave invites you and your friends to come and participate in a time of prayer for the Church starting **Saturday, June 17 at 9:00 a.m.** in the Gathering Room.

This will be a monthly happening in the life of West Richmond on the third Saturday of the month.



East Marshall Street Well Project

Please join us for updates on VCU's work to reconcile the university's past and share your input on planning for the memorialization and interment of the remains found in the East Marshall Street Well.

Saturday, June 3, 2023
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
815 E. Grace Street, Richmond, Virginia

The EMSW Project was created over 10 years ago, after the remains of more than 50 African Americans from the 1800s were discovered during construction on the VCU health sciences campus. Since then, the university has worked with the community to shape and implement research to better understand the individuals whose remains were found, as well as to develop plans for memorialization and interment.

Preregistration is encouraged at emsw.vcu.edu/events by May 31.

Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Refreshments and a light lunch provided.

Made possible by funding from the American Council of Learned Societies Sustaining Public Engagement and the National Endowment for the Humanities. In partnership with Saint Paul's Episcopal Church.

For special accommodations, email EMSWell@vcu.edu.

VCU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

007023-01

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Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.

(Luke 18:15-17)

We, at West Richmond Church of the Brethren, have been delighted to be a part of the Henrico Ministers Conference and Vicinity (HMCV). We have participated in the Literacy Drive for two years with a great response from our congregation.

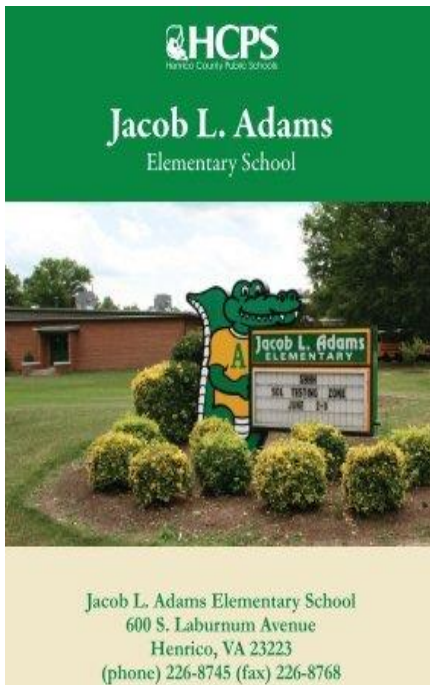
I had asked Rev. Zynora Manson, HMCV's President if I could help to distribute the various books that were donated to the drive. Rev. Vicki Lightfoot, her daughter and I distributed books to the Jacob L. Adams and Glen Lea Elementary Schools.

While delivering the books at Adams, the Family Advocate Dawn Tyler recognized me from one of the Henrico County Public School Family Advocacy Luncheons. As we were getting reacquainted, she shared of the needs at Adams, mentioning Reading Partners and Lunch Buddies. I thought to myself, "Hey, I can do that!" and "Hey, our church can do that, too!"

Even though the school year is about over, two of us from the West Richmond congregation have been helping out at Adams Elementary School. Susan Robertson volunteers in a 2nd grade class and I am with a Kindergarten Class. What fun!

Thanks be to God, for directing us through the HMCV to the Adams Elementary School! We are blessed to be part of the good work done by the Henrico Ministers Conference and Vicinity.

Pastor Dave



P.S. If you want more information on volunteering, or already know that you want to volunteer for next school year, please let me know and I'll get things rolling.

In Our Congregation



With Sincere Sympathy

Barbara M. Keithly, of Henrico, age 82 passed away on Wednesday, May 24, 2023. She was born to the late Wreford and Mary Meador on Wednesday, March 5, 1941.

Barbara primarily worked as a hostess throughout her life. She volunteered as a Cub Scouts leader and also spent a great deal of time volunteering at West Richmond Church of the Brethren where she was a longtime member.

Left to cherish her memory are her spouse, Robert Keithly, Jr.; children, Kenneth Keithly (Joyce Keithly) and Kevin Keithly; grandchildren, Christopher Keithly (Kaitlin Keithly), Brandon Keithly (Miranda Keithly), Zachary Keithly, and Faith Keithly (Michael Jones); great-grandchildren, Madison Keithly, Mikayla Jones, Bella Jones, and Owen Jones; and her brother, William Meador (Lynn Meador).



The family received friends on Wednesday, May 31, 2023 at Woody Funeral Home. A graveside service was held on Thursday, June 1, 2023 in Greenwood Memorial Gardens.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.woodyfuneralhomeparham.com for the Keithly family.

West Richmond Church of the Brethren
 7612 Wanyamala Road, Henrico, Virginia 23229-4239
 Phone: 804-288-6439 Fax: 804-282-4408
 www.wrcob.org wrcob@wrcob.org

Pastor.....David Whitten (319-610-2274)
 Administrative Assistant.....Barbara Beers (804-338-3482)

Sunday School..... 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship.....11:00 a.m.
 Church office (M-F).....9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

If no one is in the office or the line is busy, voice mail will pick up so **PLEASE** leave us a message. Items for the bulletin's weekly newssheet **MUST** be submitted by **noon on Thursday** to the church office. All articles for the **Summer** edition of *The Herald* are due in the office by **Monday, June 15, 2023**.

In May, we donated 192 pounds of food items and 10 dozen eggs to LAMBS Basket food pantry. Thank you everyone for your donations and especially Luanne Holsinger for the "Egg Money"!

Look Who's Celebrating and Serving in...



- 1 Charlie Cheek
- 4 Karl Hoff
- 5 Peggy Reynolds
- 9 *Bob & Pat Gangwer*
Ken & Ginny Heatwole
- 11 Jonathan Knight
- 12 Susan Evenson
Dan Tulli
Mark & Erin (Fyne) McLaughlin
- 14 Ashok Solanky
- 16 Jeff Goss
- 17 *Brendan & Sarah (Ziegler) Hodgkinson*
- 18 Luanne Holsinger
Ponpun Nickel

- 19 Ava Hartman
- 22 Bill Jenkins
- 23 Grace Clark
Tommy Ferguson
- 24 Alexa Newborn
David & Judy McCloud
Dan & Christen Tulli
- 25 *Eric & Sandy (Walbridge) Faw*
Stanley & Ponpun Nickel
- 26 Mary Knight
- 27 Violet Leach
- 28 Barbara Beers
- 29 *Wally & Linda Knox*
- 30 Kevin Urban

Have we missed your birthday/anniversary? Please, contact the church office to correct our oversight.

June	Greeter	Worship Leader	Nursery	Tellers
4	Carol Goss	Pat Gangwer	Susan & Jori	Bob & Pat Gangwer
11	Barbara Beers	Susan Robertson		Ann Andrus & Nancy Martin
18	Dolly Guyer	Ann Andrus	Sandy & June	Jeff Goss & Alyce Newman
25	Ann Andrus	Thoko Lipato		Joel & Dolly Guyer



Attendance	Apr. 2	Apr. 9	Apr. 16	Apr. 23	Apr. 30
Worship (total)	56	69	54	45	36
In-person & visitors	48	58	52	33	31
Live stream	8	11	2	12	5
On-line views by that Friday	17	37	19	20	11
Offering per week	\$2,380.00	\$2,425.00	\$3,605.00	\$1,396.19	\$1,220.00



June



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3  10:00 am JanPro 10:00 am East Marshall Street Well Project
4 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 11:00 am Worship—Online/On Site with Nursery Care	5 9:30 am Friendship Café 3:00 pm Handbells 	6 10:30 am Ladies Circle 5:15 pm Shelter on Hull Street 	7 9:30 am Friendship Café	8	9	10 10:00 am JanPro
11 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 11:00 am Worship—Online/On Site with Children's Church 	12 9:30 am Friendship Café 3:00 pm Handbells 	13 10:30 am Ladies Circle 7:00 pm Leadership Team Meeting (Virtual) 	14 9:30 am Friendship Café Flag Day 	15 NewsLetter DEADLINE 	16 	17 9:00 a.m. PRAYERS for the Church  10:00 am JanPro
18 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 11:00 am Worship—Online/On Site with Nursery Care 12:00 pm Fellowship Time 	19 Juneteenth Church Offices Closed 3:00 pm Handbells 	20 10:30 am Ladies Circle 12:30 pm FeedMore Community Kitchen 	21 9:30 am Friendship Café Summer begins today 	22	23	24 10:00 am JanPro 6:30 pm Family Fun Night in the Friendship Room 
25  9:30 am Adult Sunday School 11:00 am Worship—Online/On Site with Children's Church 	26 9:30 am Friendship Café 3:00 pm Handbells 	27 10:30 am Ladies Circle 	28 Church Office Closed 9:30 am Friendship Café field trip to the Y 	29  6:30 pm Ladies Nite Out at Joe's Inn in Bon Air	30 	

New Friends!

On Sunday, May 7, we had a wonderful fellowship time that including meeting many of our New Friends. If you were not able to attend, here's your chance to "meet" everyone!

The Eteindem Family — Benedict, Susan, Bethel, Benson and Brianna came to this area in 2019 and now live in the West End. Benedict, Susan and Bethel came to this country from Cameroon. Benson and Brianna were born here. Benedict is a self-employed accountant with his own CPA firm. Susan, was a doctor in Cameroon and is taking classes so that she can practice medicine in this country. The family enjoys frequenting playgrounds and museums as well as visits with relatives and friends. All of the children enjoy art, playing on playgrounds and look forward to a trip to the beach. Bethel's favorite food is fish and plantains, Benson's favorite is French fries and Brianna likes fried rice. Benedict and Susan found WRCOB after a Google search. They enjoy the lovely and friendly environment found here.

Debbie Morris and Marcia Forrest became members of WRCOB in April of 2022 based on their reaffirmations of faith. They worshipped regularly as members a number of years ago. While raising three children – Marcia, Melissa and Marshall – Debbie worked 25 years at A & P until the store closed, then at Blue Cross Blue Shield as a financial analyst/accountant. When that position was eliminated, Debbie was not being ready to retire, so she earned a CNA and pharmacy tech license. She has 4 grandchildren.

Marcia Forrest is Debbie's youngest daughter. Like her mom, Marcia is a proud JR Tucker graduate. She recalls attending Sunday school in the White Building when she and Debbie worshipped here years ago. Marcia loves to sing. Recently she was featured in a video that traced her remarkable medical journey. She is living today in a group home where she appreciates the caring and supportive staff.

Gail Rhodes lives in Glen Allen. Now retired from social work, Gail consults on a part time basis for the State. Gail went to high school with Pat and Bob Gangwer and played the flute in the marching band at Tucker High. She and Pat both attended the University of Virginia, which explains her intense interest in UVa football and basketball. In addition to those UVa activities, Gail enjoys hot yoga and playing pickleball. Gail has two grown sons and three grandchildren. Her mom and sister have visited us on several occasions to watch Gail play in our bell choir. Gail came to WRCOB through Pat and Bob, participating in Ladies Night Out and learning of the need for more ringers, joined the bell choir. She has enjoyed learning to play the bells and spending time with "some awesome ladies."

Nancy Heishman lives in the West End of Richmond, and has lived in Dayton, Ohio and Harrisburg Pa as well as Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic where she and her husband served as mission coordinators for a number of years. There Nancy learned Spanish and welcomes opportunities to use her Spanish language skills. Nancy holds a master's of divinity from Bethany Theological Seminary. She currently serves as the director of the Office of Ministry for the Church of the Brethren, a job that requires a good bit of travel. She served as Annual Conference Moderator in 2014. Married for 35 years, her husband, Irv, lives in Dayton, OH. Son, Tim, and his wife, Katie, live at Richmond Hill, where she is co-pastoral director. Daughter, Jeni lives in Richmond. Nancy has two grandchildren, Phoebe (age 3½) and Asa (age 1). Nancy's search for a Church of the Brethren in the area brought her to WRCOB where she enjoys the music and using the "Voices Together" hymnal. In addition to music, Nancy likes hiking, gardening, and table games.

Donna and Greg Secrist both grew up in Buena Vista. Donna grew up in the Church of the Brethren; Greg in the Brethren Church. They now live in the Glen Allen area. Donna is retired from work as a physical therapist mainly working with older patients. Greg, licensed as a civil engineer in Virginia, works as a software engineer for Cohesity. For fun, Greg enjoys Playstation golf and baseball as well as listening to music. Donna likes to bake and enjoys sewing and crochet. Both enjoy movies, board games and walking and hiking. Donna and Greg have been married for 33 years. They have two grown and married daughters. The older daughter is preparing to move to Asheville; the younger daughter lives in Church Hill. Donna and Greg had been attending a Baptist Church in Richmond for more than twenty 20 before realizing there was a Church of the Brethren in the area. They left the Baptist church right before the pandemic and started looking online for a church. They appreciate how welcoming the congregation has been here.

Madelyn Sherwood lives off Lucks Lane. She grew up there and at Bon Air Baptist Church. A recent (May 2023) graduate of James River High School, she was also home schooled by her mother. At James River, Madelyn was in the marching band and also in JROTC. Madelyn works at McDonalds. In her spare time, she likes to surf and play the piano. Shaun Finchum, to whom she is now engaged, brought her to WRCOB. She has attended regularly and joined the church on Easter Sunday by transfer of letter. She enjoys the community here as well as the music. Madelyn shared that she suffers from chronic pain and has had a hard fight against mental illness. She feels fortunate to be able to use her situation for good and has been able to help friends who suffer from depression.

Look in next month's edition of the newsletter for more friends!



We also welcomed **Bob and Margaret Phillips**. Bob has been our pianist/organist since February of 2020. Only a couple weeks after Bob started, we were shutdown from COVID. He played while Margaret videoed many weeks of preludes, hymns, and postludes. Bob is a welcome substitute for our Handbell Choir and Margaret enjoys her time with the Ladies Circle and Ladies Nite Out. We learned many more things about this sweet couple that day. Since then, Bob has resigned from his position to return to Shady Grove United Methodist Church, who needed him desperately after the sudden death of their organist. While Bob's last Sunday with us was May 28, Margaret will be with us on Tuesday mornings and the last Thursday of the month! *(Read more next month.)*



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Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.



Ministry is defined as an activity carried out by Christians to express, share, or spread their faith and love of God. The Encyclopedia of Christianity defines ministry as “carrying forth Christ’s mission in the world”. It is further defined as a “calling conferred upon each Christian in baptism”.

So, if I am understanding this correctly, each of us has a ministry within us that is meant to be expressed, shared, and spread. For some, that might be serving a meal in a homeless shelter, for others, ministry is packaging food at Feed More that is later distributed to those experiencing food insecurity in our community. Ministry may be reading to children at a Title I school in Eastern Henrico County, or collecting and distributing clothes and household items for free giveaways in underserved communities throughout the Tri-Cities area. Ministry may look like hundreds of children and families on our grounds for egg-hunts, trunk or treat, or outdoor movie nights where neighbors can gather and enjoy the night sounds and free popcorn. Ministry may be a fellowship event on Father’s Day, June 18, that includes all the summer favorites (hamburgers, hot dogs, ice cream, and more) or visions of a Lemon Aid event (scheduled for July 21-23) sponsored by Anthem to support our Richmond Children’s Hospital. Ministry may be leading heartfelt, and often painful, discussions regarding racism, and the even more difficult conversations about our role in becoming anti-racists in an ever more volatile world.



Our calling to ministry is a part of who we are, it is unique to each of us, and necessary to fulfill God’s command to be His witnesses...” to the ends of the earth”. There is a ministry within you! Can you feel it? Can you see it? Have you been talking about it with someone? Will you share it with us?

— Janet Brunk, and the Leadership Team

