

THE WALMSLEY WITNESS

Walmsley Boulevard United Methodist Church

2950 Walmsley Blvd. Richmond, VA 23234

Walmslyblvdumc.org

(804)275-8508

Reverend
TaeWon Kang



pastortaewonkang@gmail.com
(470)728-9060

Worship with Us!

Sundays @ 11am
In-Person or on
Facebook Live
(WalmsleyBlvdUMC)

Join Us for
Sunday School

Sundays @ 9:45a
Classes for ALL ages
available!

FEBRUARY 2023

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

Grace and Peace of Christ to you all!

Most of East and South East Asians celebrate twice New Year's Day every year. One is New Year's Day by the solar calendar, and another is New Year's Day by the lunar calendar. The lunar New Year's Day was Jan. 22nd. I grew up in the Korean culture and traditions celebrating the lunar New Year's Day, but I also grew up in the social and school system by the solar calendar. I like both of the calendars and live by both calendars. For instance, the birthdays of my parents follow the lunar calendar.

Roughly speaking, a lunar calendar is based on the monthly cycle of the moon in which the new moon (the crescent moon) becomes the full moon, and then the full moon becomes the old moon (the dark moon). Ancient astronomers focused on the change of the moon and they discovered that there was/is regularity, that is, the unchangeable law. A solar calendar is also made through the observation of the changes in the movement of the Sun. We know that the Sun is not movable, while all planets in the solar system move around the Sun. However, ancient astronomers believed that the Sun was moving around the earth through Sunrise and Sunset. Anyway, through the observation of the movement of the Sun, they discovered regularity. I would like to remind you that through paying attention to change, a great discovery or invention has been given. The change of the moon or the movement of the Sun might not be special. However, ancient astronomers paid attention to the changes and discovered regularity. They made remarkable progress.

We Christians are those who are familiar with the word 'change' or 'transformation.' Faith is another name for change or transformation. In the Bible, we can read stories of the faithful who experienced a life change through encountering God. They continued the life change into the presence of God for their lifetime. For us Christians, transformation toward Jesus Christ is not a one-time event at all. It is an ongoing event in each and every lifetime. Therefore, Jesus has been calling and encouraging all to move toward and stay in the holiness of God.

[Continued on next page]

Church Office Hybrid Schedule

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The Church Office
voicemail will be
checked regularly.

You can reach Victoria
via the church email
walmsleyblvdumc@verizon.net
and Pastor TaeWon via
his email at
pastortaewonkang@gmail.com
or cell phone
(470)728-9060

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**Monday, 9a-3p**  
(work from home)

**Tuesday, 9a-3p**  
(work from home)

**Wednesday, 9a-3p**  
(in Church Office)

**Thursday, 9a-1p**  
(Victoria in Church  
Office, Pastor TaeWon  
work from home)

As Apostle Paul wrote in his letters, we are asked to put ourselves on Christ Jesus. He taught us to clothe ourselves with Christ Jesus.

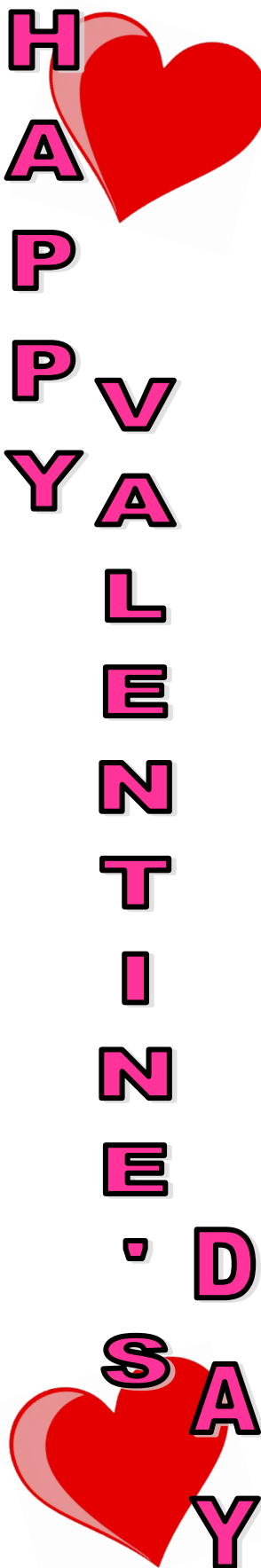
According to Matthew 14:22-33, Jesus' disciples saw something or someone walking on the water. They became fearful and screamed out, "It's a ghost!" However, it was Jesus the Lord. Jesus immediately said to them, "Take courage! It is I. Do not be afraid." The disciples had already seen several times that people had become changed by Jesus Christ. And they also had seen extreme changes like miracles by Jesus Christ. However, that night, they failed to see Jesus bringing another change before their eyes. Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, if it's you, tell me to come to you on the water." Jesus replied to him, "Come to me." And then, he put his foot on the water and began to walk to Jesus. However, when he saw the wind, he became fearful and began to sink. He cried out to Lord Jesus, "Lord, save me!" Jesus reached out his hand and grabbed him. He said to Peter, "You of little faith. Why did you doubt?"

I believe that a big recognition should be granted to Peter because he took action to come toward Jesus, while the other disciples did nothing. People may mainly see that he failed in the end. Also, they may emphasize that Jesus spoke to Peter about his doubt or lack of faith. Or people may argue that Peter's action was disrespectful because he intended to test whether Jesus walking on water was a ghost or their Lord. However, do not miss that Peter was the only one who responded and moved toward Jesus Christ. I would like to say that Peter was like the ancient astronomers describes in the previous paragraph. It is very important that we consistently do something, even trivial things, to change into Jesus Christ. We can fail like Peter in the story. But see that he put his steps on the water. See that he walked a few steps on the water like Jesus. He was able to stay with Jesus on the water. Only Peter got this extraordinary experience. All these were given to him through his action to change. Do not miss this point.

Of course, Peter failed. It is undeniable. However, human being can learn from failures. How did Peter fail? When he saw the win and the water, he became afraid. In other words, when Peter did not see Jesus' direction, when he began to see the water again under his feet, and he became afraid. All these things show us that when we fail to focus on a new life direction from Jesus, that is, when we lose Jesus as the goals, we will backslide into old ways that we left behind. Jesus would want all to progress toward the new way of life, which has been presented in and through his teachings and ministries, his entire life, his suffering and death, and resurrection. A life change and new life are given, not from us, but from Jesus Christ. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. We who follow Jesus Christ shall not backslide but advance without ceasing. Let us move forward. Let us move forward to change into the presence of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Pastor TaeWon Kang*

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## WORSHIP CONTINUES IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

Worship will continue to be held in the Fellowship Hall. We hope everyone will enjoy this time to worship in the ORIGINAL sanctuary of WBUMC! The first 6 parking spaces closest to the Fellowship Hall entrance will be reserved for those most in need!

## CHOIR REHEARSALS—COME JOIN US!



Choir rehearsals will be Wednesdays at 5:00p, starting February 1st!

If you have interest in joining the choir please don't hesitate to join us at any time!

## ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP



Join us Wednesday February 22nd at 6:30p.m for an Ash Wednesday worship service (in the Fellowship Hall).

## 2023 GIVING ENVELOPES

Be sure to pick up your Giving Envelopes from the Fellowship Hall. If you do not see a set with your name but would like one, please let the Church office know!

## BIBLE STUDY

Weekly Bible Study will begin on Tuesday Feb. 28th with a Lenten focus. Tuesday study will remain virtual at 6:30p, and Wednesday study is currently TBD. Please keep a lookout for more Bible Study info in weekly emails and bulletins.

Tuesday access info  
 Conference Call #: (605)468-8855  
 Access Code: 6432815  
 Online Meeting ID: pastortaewonkang9  
 Online Meeting Link:  
<https://join.freeconferencecall.com/pastortaewonkang9>

## GROCERY MINISTRY

In 2023 WBUMC will continue to focus on our Grocery Ministry outreach by collecting specified items and sending them to our sister church Belmont UMC in support of their Food Pantry.

In **FEBRUARY** we will be collecting **SOUP**. Please place donations in the grocery cart in entry way near the Fellowship Hall.



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- |                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1- Esperanza Barrientos | 22- Austin Thore  |
| 1- Tyler Thore          | 25- Reta Hobbs    |
| 2- Wayne Bruce          | 25- Ronda Scott   |
| 4- Chase Thore          | 26- Wayne Peppers |
| 8- Xander Thore         | 27- Tito Orta     |
| 15- Jack Nelson         |                   |



## FEBRUARY SUNDAY READERS

- 5th- Gloria Lambert  
 12th- **READER NEEDED!**  
 19th- Rose Henshaw  
 26th- Ryan Thore

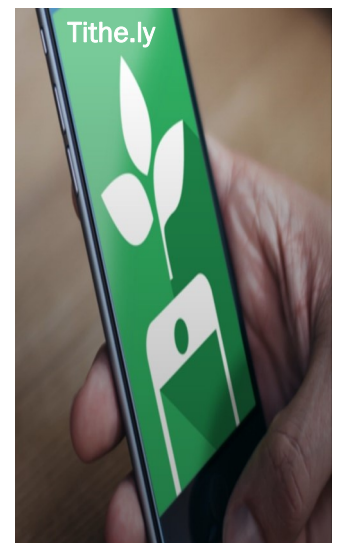
We are in need of a second Sunday reader! Please let the Church Office know if you'd like to volunteer

## Online Giving!

God loves a cheerful giver and YOUR CHURCH IS IN GREAT NEED!

Visit [walmsleyblvdumc.org](http://walmsleyblvdumc.org) and click the **green** "Give" button to give your tithes and offerings easily online!

You can also mail your gifts to the Church (2950 Walmsley Blvd, Richmond, VA 23234)





## WBUMC on Facebook & YouTube

If you can't make it to in-person worship, you can catch us LIVE most Sundays on Facebook at 11:00 am.

In addition, our streamed services will be archived on Facebook and also on the church YouTube page! Search "Walmsley Blvd UMC" on either site to find our page!

## Newsletter Submission

We welcome your news, articles, recipes, quotes & jokes! To be included in the MARCH Walmsley Witness, please have your submissions to the Church Office no later than THURSDAY Feb. 16th!

## IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER...

During the winter months, any Church closures due to inclement weather will be posted on our Facebook page, emailed through the Church email chain, and passed along via the established phone chain. We will also do our best to post notices to the 3 major TV stations NBC 12, ABC 8 & CBS 6.



## WORSHIP WITH US!

We welcome everyone to worship with us on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall!  
Come as you are!

If you can't make it in person, you can also join us on Facebook Live on the WBUMC Facebook page (Walmsley Blvd UMC).



## SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL!

We have Sunday School classes for ALL Ages Sunday morning before worship at 9:45 a.m.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ✦ 3/12– Daylight Saving Time Begins
- ✦ 4/2– Palm Sunday
- ✦ 4/9– Easter Sunday
- ✦ 4/10– Office Closed
- ✦ 4/30– 5th Sunday Celebration



## Share Your Recipes!

Please share your recipes with us!  
Recipes should be sent to the Church Office!

## Dynamic Works Christian Academy

Located in the rear Activities building at 2950 Walmsley Blvd, Dynamic Works offers preschool for children ages 3-5.

"Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old he shall not depart from it."

Proverbs 22:6

For more information on enrollment please visit [dwps.us](http://dwps.us) or call (804)301-7879



# Cook's Corner

## 15 Minute Spicy Peanut Noodles

- 16 oz brown rice noodles
- 3 large cloves of garlic (or 4-5 small)
- 1 Tbsp fresh grated ginger
- 1 Tbsp oil
- 2/3 cup creamy peanut butter
- 4 Tbsp tamari or soy sauce
- 1/3-1 cup hot water
- 1 Tbsp rice vinegar
- 1 Tbsp toasted sesame oil
- 1-2 Tbsp sriracha
- 1-2 Tbsp maple syrup or honey
- 1/2 tsp red pepper flakes
- Optional: 2 tsp chili garlic sauce

1. Bring a large pot of water to boil and cook noodles according to package.
2. Finely mince garlic and add to a sauté pan with 1 Tbp oil.
3. Sauté over low heat for 2-3 min. or until golden brown. Add grated ginger and sauté for 1-2 min. more.
4. Remove from heat and add all remaining sauce ingredients (start with 1/3 cup water) and whisk together until smooth, adding more water as needed to reach your desired consistency.
5. Taste and add more soy sauce, sriracha, or any other seasonings as desired.
6. Add about as much of the sauce as desired and mix. Serve with crushed peanuts, scallion, red pepper flakes.



# Never Say No!

When I was working as a chemist at Kelly Springfield Tire Company, my pastor told me one day that God wanted me to be a pastor. I thought this was the craziest thing I had ever heard. I asked God one night what He wanted me to do, and the answer was the same as from my pastor. I had all kinds of excuses for why I couldn't be a preacher.

I told God that I had never preached and that I go nervous in front of people. Regardless of how many excuses I came up with, God's answer was always the same. I even applied to Duke Divinity School late thinking that they had already chosen the class and I wouldn't be accepted. Well, I "got in," and the rest is history.

The Bible tells stories of many people who thought they were not qualified for their calling. Moses is a prime example of this. When God called Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, Moses said in Exodus 3:11 and 4:1, "I am slow of speech and tongue." God replied, "Who gave human beings their mouths? ... Is it not I, the Lord? Now go; I will help you speak, and I will teach you what to say." (4:10-12)

Moses told God that he was unworthy and didn't have enough knowledge of God. He told God that he lacked special powers and had a speech impediment. God told Moses that it was His power that qualifies people and not their personal strengths and weaknesses.

What is God calling you to do? All of us are here for a reason, and God guides each of us along the way. God always provides people to guide us as we discern what our place in life is, and God always gives us what we need to serve Him.

**Prayer – God, I'm so glad you didn't leave me here on this earth to do it all on my own. Thank you for your love and guidance and the people You've placed in my life. Amen.**

**Exodus 4:12 – "Now go; I will help you speak and teach you what to say."**

Article borrowed from Tommy Henderson,  
VA United Methodist Foundation

<https://vaumfoundation.org/2023/01/22/never-say-no/>



## The Highland Support Project and the Pace Center at VCU

### Young Adult Mission Trips to Guatemala and Arizona



Come join us for a week of fellowship in Guatemala **or** Arizona! Alongside the Pace Center at VCU, the Highland Support Project is organizing two young adult trips to Guatemala and Arizona! These trips are meant for **all** high school and college aged students!

### Guatemala

June 24 - July 1

In Guatemala, we will build stoves for families in the community, engage in art education initiatives and build relationships with members of the community.

### Arizona

June 24 - July 1

Our Arizona trip will focus on food sovereignty and culturally relevant STEM education!

**For more information:**

🌐 [highlandsupportproject.org](https://highlandsupportproject.org)  
✉ [hello@highlandpartners.org](mailto:hello@highlandpartners.org)  
☎ (804) 464-3467

# February 2023

| Sunday                                                                                         | Monday                              | Tuesday            | Wednesday                                                                                            | Thursday       | Friday | Saturday |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------|----------|
|                                                                                                |                                     |                    | 1                                                                                                    | 2              | 3      | 4        |
|                                                                                                |                                     |                    | 5p, Choir Rehearsal                                                                                  | 8p, NA Meeting |        |          |
| 5                                                                                              | 6                                   | 7                  | 8                                                                                                    | 9              | 10     | 11       |
| 9:45a, Sunday School<br>11a, Worship<br><u>IN FELLOWSHIP HALL</u>                              |                                     |                    | 5p, Choir Rehearsal                                                                                  | 8p, NA Meeting |        |          |
| 12                                                                                             | 13                                  | 14 Valentine's Day | 15                                                                                                   | 16             | 17     | 18       |
| 9:45a, Sunday School<br>11a, Worship<br><u>IN FELLOWSHIP HALL</u>                              |                                     |                    | 5p, Choir Rehearsal                                                                                  | 8p, NA Meeting |        |          |
| 19 Transfiguration Sunday<br>9:45a, Sunday School<br>11a, Worship<br><u>IN FELLOWSHIP HALL</u> | 20 Presidents' Day<br>Office Closed | 21                 | 22 Ash Wednesday<br>5p, Choir Rehearsal<br>6:30p, Ash Wednesday<br>Service <u>IN FELLOWSHIP HALL</u> | 23             | 24     | 25       |
|                                                                                                |                                     |                    |                                                                                                      | 8p, NA Meeting |        |          |
| 26 Birthday Sunday<br>9:45a, Sunday School<br>11a, Worship<br><u>IN FELLOWSHIP HALL</u>        | 27                                  | 28                 |                                                                                                      |                |        |          |