

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!

MARCH 2023

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

Grace and peace of Christ to you!

Lent has begun on Ash Wednesday, February 22. It is forty days, except for six Sundays, before Easter Sunday on April 9. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry (Matthew 4:1-11). Also, it could be thought in connection with the bible story that the ancient Israelites spent in the wilderness for forty years, being recreated as people of God and preparing to enter the Promised Land. Lent is, simply speaking, a very special time for us Christians. If there is no Lent, there is no Easter! It is because the season of Lent invites us to participate in Jesus' journey to the cross. And, this journey is completed with the resurrection of Jesus. Therefore, nobody can be expectant of Easter without participating in the Lenten journey.

What shall we do for Lent? What shall we do to participate in Jesus' journey to the Cross? I encourage you to first, think about it deeply. To participate in Jesus' journey to the cross, in other words, means joining Jesus' suffering and death. As Apostle Paul wrote in Galatians 5:24 and Romans 8:13-14, it means crucifying oneself daily. Therefore, Lent is a time of repentance and a time of fasting. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. It is a time of putting mine down before God. In the early church, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism for new converts.

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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)

It then became a time of repentance. Today, Lent is a time for us all Christians to focus on our relationship with God, and a time for making spiritual growth as Jesus' disciples. It also is a time to extend ourselves to others by giving up something for others.

I encourage you to think about what you shall do for your spiritual growth as Jesus' follower and what you shall give up for others in the name of Jesus Christ. Jesus intentionally went to a deserted place to pray. He taught us to pray in an upper room. It is very important to create a sacred time and space for your soul. Jesus also gave himself up for us.

It does not simply mean his death on the cross. He made himself available to people in need. He willingly became a comforter, a peacemaker, a teacher, a feeder, a resistor, a justice-doer, etc. He ultimately was/is the Savior, the Son of the living God.

My brothers and sisters in Christ, what shall you do for this Lent? How will you prepare for Easter? If there is no Lent, there is no Easter. If there is no cross, there is no resurrection. Let us remember this simple rule of faith every day. Let's take one's cross and follow Jesus. Let's climb the hill of the cross with Jesus. It will be the hill of resurrection. Amen.

*Pastor TaeWon Kang*

THE

SEASON

OF

LENT

## **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!

## **BIBLE STUDY**

Weekly Bible Study will begin on begin Tuesday Feb. 28th & Wednesday Mar. 1st with a Lenten focus. Tuesday study will remain virtual at 6:30p, while Wednesday study will remain in-person at 10:30a.

### **Tuesday access info**

Conference Call #: (605)468-8855

Access Code: 6432815

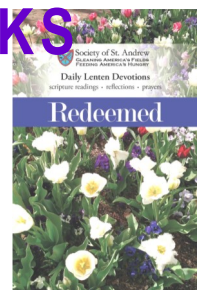
Online Meeting ID: pastortaewonkang9

Online Meeting Link:

<https://join.freeconferencecall.com/pastortaewonkang9>

## **LENTED DEVOTIONAL BOOKS**

This year's daily Lenten devotional book "Redeemed" from the Society of St. Andrew is available for pick up in the Fellowship Hall! If you'd like a copy mailed to you, please contact the Church Office.



# 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 **MARCH** we will be collecting **CANNED VEGGIES**.

Please place donations in the grocery cart in entry way near the Fellowship Hall.



## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES



10- Gloria & Jerry Holmes

29- Gloria & Larry Lambert

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

12- Stephanie Murray

12- Shannon Mackey

16- Kai Thore

19- Troy Barnett

19- Rebecca Tyree

22- Shirley Thore

23- Rachel Tyree

27- Lidia Tyree

28- Doris Nelson



## MARCH 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

## MUSIC NIGHTS AT HOPEWELL

Upcoming Dates:

March 17th- Richard Cordle

April 21st- Calvary's Mercy



## Online Giving!

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

Visit

[walmsleyblvdumc.org](http://walmsleyblvdumc.org)

and click the

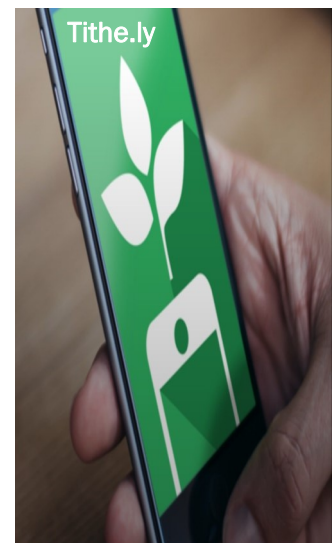
**green** "Give"

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

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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!

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## Newsletter Submission

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We welcome your news, articles, recipes, quotes & jokes! To be included in the **APRIL** Walmsley Witness, please have your submissions to the Church Office **no later than THURSDAY Mar.23rd!**

## 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.



## CHOIR REHEARSALS-COME JOIN US!

Choir rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 5:00p!

If you have interest in singing with the Choir OR playing an instrument with the Choir, please don't hesitate to talk to Victoria or any choir member, and join us any Wednesday evening!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ✝ 4/7 – Good Friday
- ✝ 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



### Chicken Carbonara Pasta Bake

- 12 oz uncooked penne pasta
- 1 lb boneless skinless chicken breasts, cooked, chopped
- 1 jar (15oz) Alfredo sauce
- 6 slices on bacon, cooked, chopped (6 Tbsp)
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp pepper
- 1 cup grated fresh parmesan cheese
- Chopped parsley, if desired



1. Cook 12 oz uncooked penne pasta as directed on package until al dente. Drain.
2. Meanwhile, heat oven to 350°F. Spray 13X9-inch (3 quart) glass baking dish with cooking spray.
3. In large bowl, combine drained cooked pasta, 1 lb boneless skinless chicken breasts, Alfredo sauce, 3 Tbsp bacon, egg, and 1 tsp pepper. Stir gently to combine. Pour mixture in baking dish.
4. Bake 20-25 min or until hot and bubbly. Remove from oven. Top evenly with remaining bacon and 1 cup grated parmesan cheese. Sprinkle parsley over top before serving.

## Lent- a Time of Lengthening

Lent occurs during the 46 days before Easter, starting with Ash Wednesday. This year, Ash Wednesday is 22 February. Now some of you are probably saying, "Wait a minute, Lent is only 40 days, not 46." Yes, that is correct; six of those 46 days are Sundays, which are not counted as part of Lent. Lent ends on the Saturday before Easter.

As a child, when I first heard about the season of Lent, I was confused. Why would the Church celebrate something with the name of the past tense of the word lend? My grandfather and my parents would talk about having *lent* money to someone or that the bank *lent* them money. It was confusing, but as it turns out, Lent has nothing to do with lending or borrowing.

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Lent is about preparing for a gift. The precious gift of Jesus Christ, who was the ultimate paschal lamb, sacrificed for us so that we might have eternal life. As the Gospel of John tells us in 3:16, (I like the King James Version of this verse), *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”*

As for why we call it Lent, *The United Methodist Book of Worship* explains that “*Lent* comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, which means ‘lengthen’ and refers to the lengthening days of spring.” It goes on to explain that “*Lent* began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by converts and then became a time of penance for all Christians.” In the ancient church, baptism of people coming to faith was preceded by a focused period of instruction and indoctrination. This was in preparation for the baptism on Easter and associated First Communion.



As for why Sundays don't count and the 40 days, Sundays are always “mini-Easters” celebrating the resurrection of Christ and the promise of life eternal. Therefore for 40 of 46 days of Lent, we may self-deny, sacrifice, give up an activity or specific thing, or make extra effort to focus and reflect on Jesus Christ, what he taught, how he suffered, died, was buried and arose for us. On Sundays we celebrate that gift.

Why 40 days? The number 40 is rather significant in the Bible. Noah endured 40 days and 40 nights of rain by floating within the ark; Moses led God's people from Egypt through the wilderness for 40 years. Add the fasting factor in, and we see Moses went up on the mountain, fasting for 40 days and 40 nights in the presence of the Lord, and received the Ten Commandments (Exodus 34:28); Elijah ate and drank his fill, then traveled 40 days and nights to reach the mountain of God (1 Kings 19:8); and Jesus fasted during the 40 days and nights in the wilderness where he was tempted by the devil.

Fasting and sacrifice for 40 days has biblical precedent and was always in preparation for something important. Realistically, we know now that literally going without any food or liquid for about four days will very likely cause death. Some self-denial, giving up something, a sacrifice, or taking on a new practice or activity is to be about getting closer to God. For instance, giving up meat means the money spent on meat could be given to the needy. Cutting out TV for certain times means the time could be used for studying the Word of God. Signing up to work shifts at a shelter or helping with cleaning up a stream or park are about being the hands and feet of God for more than normal during Lent. Maybe we join a new Lenten study, lead a Bible study or give up our fancy daily coffee and put those dollars towards UMCOR or to buy school supplies for kids in need.

The possibilities to help others and grow closer to Christ are endless. Whom might you bring to Christ this Lenten season? It could be directly or indirectly by showing people God's Love.

As we prepare for the miracle of Easter, let's not forget what Christ taught during the time He was among God's children as fully human. 1. Love God. 2. Love our neighbors as ourselves – both of which include making disciples of all nations... teaching them to obey everything Jesus commanded us.

# Read the whole New Testament in Lent

|                                           |                            |                                           |                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
|                                           | Day 1 Matthew 1-7 (Feb 22) |                                           | Day 21 Acts 16-20                         |
|                                           | Day 2 Matthew 8-12         |                                           | Day 22 Acts 21-26                         |
|                                           | Day 3 Matthew 13-18        | 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent (March 19) |                                           |
|                                           | Day 4 Matthew 19-24        |                                           | Day 23 Acts 27 – Romans 4                 |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent (Feb 26)   |                            |                                           | Day 24 Romans 5-10                        |
|                                           | Day 5 Matthew 25-28        |                                           | Day 25 Romans 11 – 1 Corinthians 1        |
|                                           | Day 6 Mark 1-6             |                                           | Day 26 1 Corinthians 2-9                  |
|                                           | Day 7 Mark 7-11            |                                           | Day 27 1 Corinthians 10-15                |
|                                           | Day 8 Mark 12-16           |                                           | Day 28 1 Corinthians 16 – 2 Corinthians 9 |
|                                           | Day 9 Luke 1-4             | 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent (March 26) |                                           |
|                                           | Day 10 Luke 5-9            |                                           | Day 29 2 Corinthians 10 – Galatians 4     |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent (March 5)  |                            |                                           | Day 30 Galatians 5 – Philippians 1        |
|                                           | Day 11 Luke 10-13          |                                           | Day 31 Philippians 2 – 1 Thessalonians 2  |
|                                           | Day 12 Luke 14-19          |                                           | Day 32 1 Thessalonians 3 – 1 Timothy 5    |
|                                           | Day 13 Luke 20-24          |                                           | Day 33 1 Timothy 6 – Hebrews 1            |
|                                           | Day 14 John 1-5            |                                           | Day 34 Hebrews 2-10                       |
|                                           | Day 15 John 6-9            | 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent (April 2)  |                                           |
|                                           | Day 16 John 10-14          |                                           | Day 35 Hebrews 11 – James 5               |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent (March 12) |                            |                                           | Day 36 1 Peter – 1 John 1                 |
|                                           | Day 17 John 15-19          |                                           | Day 37 1 John 2 - Jude                    |
|                                           | Day 18 John 20 – Acts 4    |                                           | Day 38 Revelation 1-7                     |
|                                           | Day 19 Acts 5-9            |                                           | Day 39 Revelation 8-15                    |
|                                           | Day 20 Acts 10-15          |                                           | Day 40 Revelation 16-22                   |

## Easter Celebration on APRIL 9



# March 2023

| Sunday                                                                                                | Monday | Tuesday                            | Wednesday                 | Thursday             | Friday | Saturday |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|--------|----------|
|                                                                                                       |        |                                    | 1<br>10:30a, Bible Study  | 2                    | 3      | 4        |
| 5<br>9:45a, Sunday School<br>11a, Worship<br><u>IN FELLOWSHIP HALL</u>                                | 6      | 7<br>6:30, Virtual<br>Bible Study  | 8<br>10:30a, Bible Study  | 9<br>8p, NA Meeting  | 10     | 11       |
| 12 <u>Daylight Saving Begins</u><br>9:45a, Sunday School<br>11a, Worship<br><u>IN FELLOWSHIP HALL</u> | 13     | 14<br>6:30, Virtual<br>Bible Study | 15<br>10:30a, Bible Study | 16<br>8p, NA Meeting | 17     | 18       |
| 19<br>9:45a, Sunday School<br>11a, Worship<br><u>IN FELLOWSHIP HALL</u>                               | 20     | 21<br>6:30, Virtual<br>Bible Study | 22<br>10:30a, Bible Study | 23<br>8p, NA Meeting | 24     | 25       |
| 26 <u>Birthday Sunday</u><br>9:45a, Sunday School<br>11a, Worship<br><u>IN FELLOWSHIP HALL</u>        | 27     | 28<br>6:30, Virtual<br>Bible Study | 29<br>10:30a, Bible Study | 30<br>8p, NA Meeting | 31     |          |