The Walmsley Witness

Walmsley Boulevard
United Methodist Church
Reverend Delano P. Douglas
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804.275.8508

MAY 2020

Pandemic of Praise!

"Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all people."
- Psalm 96:1-3, New International Version

The Walmsley Boulevard United Methodist Church music ministry has continued to "sing to the Lord a new song" during the time of social/physical distancing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Though members of our loving congregation and those who comprise the choir have not been able to gather in the church to worship and praise the Lord's name as is normally the case, melodious music of the Messiah's marvelous might and spectacular songs of the Savior's salvation have continued to reign forth on Sunday morning from the altar at 11:00 a.m. These perpetual praises have proceeded forth thanks to the gifts, graces, dedication, and determination of Victoria Myers and Roger Mackey.

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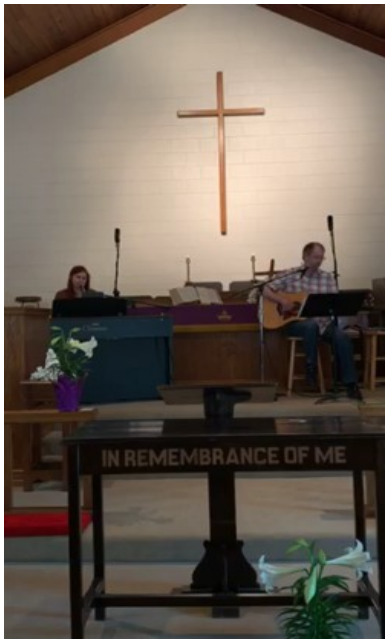
Victoria and Roger have been faithfully serving as psalmists for WBUMC's online worship offerings since March 22, 2020, the second week of COVID-19 related service cancellations in the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church. Victoria, WBUMC's Music Director, has done a masterful job of seamlessly transitioning from leading the choir and congregation in worship, to creating an experience just as powerful in a sanctuary of less than ten people. Roger, who also ministers musically at Shady Grove United Methodist Church, made himself regularly available to Walmsley on Sunday mornings and Good Friday since mid-March. The two have provided a wonderful atmosphere via virtual reality of praise and worship for those viewing worship via Facebook Live or listening by way of conference call. The instrumentation of Victoria on the keyboard and Roger playing the acoustic guitar, along with harmonious blend of their solo and duet vocal expressions, have embodied the decree in Psalm 150:3-6 to "let everything that has breath praise the Lord" with a variety of musical media!



Victoria and Roger have truly been ***instrumental*** in our church being able to offer a full, though abbreviated worship experience during this season of not being able to assemble. The way that they have worked together to bless those who watch services online has been a true blessing!! Though she has missed seeing members of the congregation each week, Victoria is "happy to serve the Lord in this way," having found the experience of glorifying God in this way inspirational. During a time when the pandemic has prohibited believers from assembling together, these two have united to produce their own *Pandemic of Praise*, a term that just might function as a name for this tandem.

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For as Roger stated regarding the moniker, the pandemic of praise "is contagious and not deadly! In fact, it is life giving!"

Indeed it is!! Amen!!

"For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and glory are in his sanctuary." – Psalm 96:4-6

Rev. Delano Douglas

Important Info!

WBUMC Facebook Page:	**Walmsley Blvd UMC**
WBUMC Conference Call #:	**1.712.770.5505**
Access Code:	**287874**
WBUMC Website (Online Giving):	**http://walmsleyblvdumc.org/**

While things continue to be fluid and dynamic, please continue to check your email & Facebook for updates about Church services and events, and PLEASE share information with those you know who may not have internet access!

In following the guidelines that Bishop Lewis has put in place, in-person services will NOT be held at least through June 10th

We will continue to hold services online via Facebook Live each Sunday at 11a, and continue to have the conference call number open shortly before 11a each Sunday for those without Facebook. The conference call number will also be available for Tuesday night & Wednesday morning Bible Study.

Please reach out to the Church Office or to Pastor Douglas if you need direction to either Facebook Live or the conference call number.

ONLINE/CONFERENCE

These events/services will be held on Facebook Live/Conference Call.

- **Sunday worship, 11a** (FB Live/Conference Call)
- **Tuesday night (6:30p) & Wednesday morning (10:30a) Bible Studies (Conference Call only)**

EVENTS ON HOLD

These are regularly scheduled events that are on hold at least through May.

- **IGNITE Youth**
- **Choir Rehearsal**
- **Clothes Closet**
- **Country Christian Breakfast**

TO BE RESCHEDULED EVENTS

These events will be Rescheduled at a later date.

- **Community Festival**
- **Worship Committee Meeting**

Tuesday

May 12th

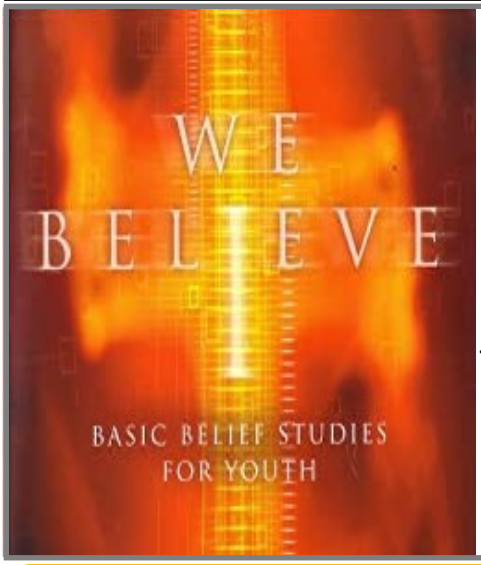
10a-12p

In the back building, adhering to social distancing guidelines.

Clothes Closet :

ON HOLD

Clothes Closet will NOT be open in May



Youth confirmation class will be gearing up via Zoom beginning during the month of May! We will be studying from the series *We Believe: Basic Belief Studies for Youth.* Please keep our young people in prayer as they take these next steps of faith and discipleship!

BIBLE STUDY

Bible study will continue during the time of quarantine on Tuesday evening at 6:30 pm and Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am. Please access the classes via conference call at 712.770.5505, access code: 287-874. You may also contact Pastor D if you have any difficulty connecting to the call. Other arrangements may be arranged to get you connected.

Would you like to contribute to the Walmsley Witness? We welcome your news, articles, quotes, and jokes! To be included in the June Newsletter, please have your submissions to the church office no later than Monday, May 18th.

In need of a face mask?

Rosemary Bruce has homemade face masks she'd like to make available to the Church family. If you would like one, please contact Rosemary (804-833-1458) or Wayne (804-833-5185) Bruce to set up pick-up or delivery.

ONLINE GIVING

Visit walmsleyblvdumc.org and click the green "Give" button to give your tithes and offerings easily online!

You can also mail in your tithes and offerings to the church.

A Message from Pastor D...

Greetings Walmsley Boulevard United Methodist Church family! We are thankful for your faithfulness regarding stewardship during the time that we have been unable to gather for corporate worship. We have received tithes and offerings in the mail and online which is a blessing as we still have financial commitments and responsibilities relative to our ministry and our church. We have also been blessed by members who have indicated a desire to give tithes and offerings from the financial increase of the governmental stimulus checks that people have already started to receive. We are so thankful for these pledges and encourage all members to prayerfully consider our church in discerning ways to utilize these funds. Thanks and blessings!!

PLEASE SEND YOUR PRAYER & PRAISE REQUESTS TO THE CHURCH VIA EMAIL (WALMSLEYBLVDUMC@VERIZON.NET) OR VIA A PHONE MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH OFFICE (804-275-8508).

The *physical* Church Office will remain closed. However, phone messages and email will be checked regularly. Please reach out via email at walmsleyblvdumc@verizon.net, leave a message at the Church at 804-275-8508 or contact Rev. Delano Douglas at delanodouglas@vaumc.org or 434-258-7014 if you have questions or concerns!

Happy Anniversary

May 12th

Brandy & Ryan Thore

May Birthdays

5– Avery Farmer

11– Victoria Myers

17– Doug Woods

23– Tommy Hudnall

29– Louise Madison

Cook's Corner

Barbequed Chinese Chicken Lettuce Wraps

- 2 cups/4 handfuls fresh shiitake mushrooms
- 1 1/3 to 1 1/2 lb thin cut chicken breast or chicken tenders
- 2 Tbsp light colored oil, such as vegetable or peanut oil
- Coarse salt & coarse black pepper
- 3 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1-in ginger root, finely chopped or grated, optional
- 1 orange, zested
- 1/2 red bell pepper, diced small
- 1 small tin, 6 to 8 oz, sliced water chestnuts, drained and chopped
- 3 scallions, chopped
- 3 Tbsp hoisin, Chinese barbeque sauce
- 1/2 large head iceberg lettuce, core removed, head quartered

1. Remove tough stems from mushrooms and brush with damp towel to clean. Slice mushrooms. Chop Chicken into small pieces
2. Preheat a large skillet or ok to high
3. Add oil to hot pan. Add chicken to the pan and sear meat by stir frying a minute or 2. Add mushrooms and cook another minute or two. Add salt and pepper to season, then garlic and ginger. Cook a minute more. Grate zest into pan, add bell pepper bits, chopped water chestnuts and scallions. Cook another minute, continuing to stir fry mixture. Add hoisin Chinese barbeque sauce and toss to coat the mixture evenly. Transfer the hot chopped barbequed chicken to serving platter and pile the quartered edges or crisp iceberg lettuce along side. To eat, pile spoonfuls into lettuce leaves, wrapping lettuce around fillings.

If you'd like to share a recipe, please submit it to the Church Office!

Think with me about the things that have changed since the COVID-19 pandemic has hit our country. So many of the things that we took for granted have disappeared. We can't see our family unless it's by Zoom or FaceTime. We can't worship in our church unless it's on Facebook or some form of electronics. We can't even go see our neighbors unless we keep six feet apart. We go to see our grandchildren once a week and take them surprises so they'll have something to do. We put the packages on their front porch and then walk across the yard. They come out and talk and play and at least we get to see them. Our grandson has a new way of hugging. He crosses his arms over his chest and then points to us. Tim McGraw has a song "Live Like You Were Dying." In the song, he describes some exciting "bucket list" items a man did after receiving some bad news about his health. The song reminds us all that our time is limited. He encourages us to treat others with love and to forgive people more freely. We should not put off for tomorrow what we can do today! Jesus urges us to be ready and not live like the five "foolish" virgins who were caught unprepared when the bridegroom returned. (Matthew 25:6-10) McGraw's song doesn't tell the whole story. Jesus says, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. (John11:25-26) So don't live like you're dying because you're not! Rather, live like Jesus is coming. **Because He is!**

Matthew 25:13 : Keep watch, because we do not know the day or the hour.

Author: Tommy Herndon

VIRGINIA
UNITED METHODIST
FOUNDATION

May 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 11a, Facebook Live Worship	4 6:30p, Admin Council Meeting (Conference Call)	5 6:30p, Bible Study (Conference Call)	6 10:30a, Bible Study (Conference Call)	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day 11a, Facebook Live Worship	11	12 10a, Grocery Ministry 6:30p, Bible Study (Conference Call)	13 10:30a, Bible Study (Conference Call)	14	15	16
17 11a, Facebook Live Worship	18	19 6:30p, Bible Study (Conference Call)	20 10:30a, Bible Study (Conference Call)	21	22	23
24 Ascension Sunday 11a, Facebook Live Worship	25 Memorial Day	26 6:30p, Bible Study (Conference Call)	27 10:30a, Bible Study (Conference Call)	28	29	30
31 Pentecost 11a, Facebook Live Worship						