WALMSLEY WITNESS

Walmsley Boulevard United Methodist Church 2950 Walmsley Blvd. Richmond, VA 23234 Walmslyblvdumc.org

(804)275-8508

MAY 2023

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!

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

Grace and Peace of Christ to you Walmsley family and friends,

Christ has risen! We had a beautiful Easter Sunday on April 9 and then continue spending the Eastertide. This Christian liturgical calendar teaches us a simple truth: Jesus' resurrection is neither a past event nor a one-time event. But it is the present event as well as an ongoing event in our lives. Brothers and sisters in Christ, we are the Easter people as I preached to you on Sunday, April 16. Easter people are those who have been called to have ALLELUIA for the crucified and resurrected Lord Jesus. Most of all, do you know about what Simon Peter preached through his first message? He made it in front of all those who were in Jerusalem after he experienced the power of the Holy Spirit after Jesus returned to heaven. According to the book of Acts in the New Testament, it was the first public speech by the disciples of Jesus Christ. Peter witnessed BOLDLY that Jesus crucified by the Jews is the Messiah promised and sent by God. He disclosed that they killed the Messiah whom they had longed for by God's promise and then he clarified that God resurrected Jesus from death, that is, God confirmed that the crucified Jesus is the Christ.

Simon Peter's sermon implicitly disclosed a human reality, ironic or selfcontradictory. According to the Scripture, God had promised God's salvation. In the ancient history of the Jews written in the Old Testament, it had been related to the fulfillment of the covenant between God and Israel. People had longed for the Messiah and believed that the Messiah would be the Son of God. And, God sent Jesus God's Only Son out to the world. Jesus the Messiah and the Son of God worked to fulfill God's covenant. But People failed to see Jesus as the Messiah and the Son of God, and they plotted to kill him and succeeded. It is written in the four gospels in the New Testament. This means that people who failed to discern Jesus as the Messiah and the promised One threatened God's promise to save all became threatened. God's work to fulfill the covenant came to face failure. Those who had longed for God's salvation through God's promised one denied and unwelcomed God's act. Nevertheless, God's promise and God's will to save all were never abandoned. This is a very crucial point because it is the place where Jesus' resurrection is located. Human beings are a mass of contradiction and irony itself. Incoherency or inconsistency is paired with it. However, God is different. [Continued on next page] Page 2 May 2023

Church Office Hybrid Schedule

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) God never abandons what God has promised. God is the ground of hope for the future in the present. It's a reason why we believers find hope in and through the resurrection of Jesus. In addition, from this point of view, it can be said that God's promise is fulfilled when human conspiracy fails. It can also be said that hope from God is coming up once again when humans are falling: human failure could be God's success. Therefore, failure and even despair must not be where we believers stand and stay.

In the light of the covenant between God and Israel, Jesus the Messiah was/is the way for God to accomplish God's responsibilities in the covenant with humans. However, the Jews in the time of Jesus persecuted and crucified Jesus the Messiah. It was their response to God's action to fulfill the covenant with them. They should have to fulfill their responsibilities in the covenant with God. However, their response was to ignore, persecute, torture, and crucify Jesus the Messiah. They fundamentally threatened their covenantal relationship with Killing Jesus the Messiah meant that they did not come to enable them to keep and fulfill the covenant with God. Whether to denounce the covenant or whether to restore the covenant came to rely on God's hands only. God however never chose to abandon the covenant with Israel. Rather, God invited them into God's salvation and new covenant once again through Jesus who was crucified. And, it is the place where Jesus' resurrection is located. This is the place where hope, peace, grace, and love are at work, always. In other words, humans murdered hope. However, God recreates the hope among the murders once again. God is the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of hope of life, while the humans found in the death of Jesus are betrayers or destroyers against God. The resurrection of Jesus clarifies for us believers what we shall be.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, through the entire life of Jesus, his teachings and ministries, his suffering and death, and his resurrection, we can see and find that God's foolishness or God's persistence becomes hope itself for us and all. It discloses and overcomes human hypocrisy, ignorance, irresponsibility, rudeness, injustice, violence, etc. God is persistent to save us and all. God never abandons God's responsibility for the covenant with us humans. God is not calculative or nimble in gain and loss, but rather foolish. God's love is far away from the logic of gain and loss. Rather God's love is near to foolishness. Apostle Paul saw and found God's foolishness hidden in the cross of Jesus. Jesus willingly committed his life to God who is so foolish and so very consistent in loving and saving us all.

Friends, we humans often say about hope. However, we much more often have to see ourselves and examine ourselves seriously whether we are equipped to discern hope coming from God. If we are not equipped to discern God's will, we would be like those who killed Jesus the Messiah even though they had longed for the Messiah. Above all, if we are not staying in Jesus' viewpoint, we will have to fail to discern God's will and Jesus' will. Therefore, it is important to improve our power to discern God's will as Jesus did. The key point is to be awakened by Jesus' viewpoint, to know more about Jesus' viewpoint, and to commit ourselves to Jesus Christ who died for us and has risen for us. Jesus' viewpoint of

God's will and God's Word is LOVE. 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!

#### YARD & BAKE SALE

On <u>Saturday May 6th</u> we will hold a Church <u>Yard & Bake Sale</u> on the front lawn from <u>8a~12p</u>!

Spaces can be rented for \$15 (table provided)
OR \$10 (*bring your own table*). Yard sale donations will be accepted on a limited basis but *MUST be dropped off on the morning of the May 6th (NO collection beforehand)*.

Bakers are also needed for the Bake Sale!

Please contact Rose Henshaw or the Church Office to reserve a space, volunteer to bake, or with any questions!

#### KITS FOR CONFERENCE

This year WBUMC will be collecting <u>HYGIENE</u> kits for Annual Conference. If you would like to pack or purchase materials for Hygiene kits, please take a packing list and instruction sheet from the table in the Fellowship Hall, or email the church office for a digital copy.

ALL Materials and kits due to the Church no later than SUNDAY MAY 28TH.



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#### BIBLE STUDY

Bible Studies on break! Pastor TaeWon will let us know when they will restart!

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 MAY we will be collecting **CEREAL**.

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



#### MAY ANNIVERSARIES

12th-Brandy & Ryan Thore

#### MAY BIRTHDAYS

5 – Avery Farmer11 – Victoria Myers

29 - Louise Madison



#### MAY SUNDAY READERS

7th - Gloria Lambert

14th- READER NEEDED!

21st-Rose Henshaw

28th-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
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)



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#### 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 JUNE Walmsley Witness, please have your submissions to the Church Office no later than MONDAY May 22nd!

#### 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**

- ⊕ 6/4 Trinity Sunday
- ⊕ 6/18 Father's Day



#### MUSIC NIGHTS AT HOPEWELL

Upcoming Date:

May 19th



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# 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 or call (804)301-7879



# Cook's Corner

#### Homestyle Ground Beef Casserole

- 1 pound ground round
- 1 (14.5oz) can diced tomatoes with basil, garlic & oregano, undrained
- 1 (10oz) can diced tomatoes and green chiles, undrained
- 1 (6oz) can tomato paste
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp dried Italian seasoning
- 1/4 tsp pepper
- 3 cups uncooked medium egg noodles



- 1 (8oz) container sour cream
- · 3oz cream cheese, softened
- 4oz shredded sharp Cheddar cheese (about 1 cup)
- 4oz shredded Parmesan cheese (about 1 cup)
- 4oz shredded mozzarella cheese (about 1 cup)
- 1. Brown ground round in a large skillet over medium, stirring constantly, 5-8 minutes or until meat crumbled and is no longer pink; drain.
- 2. Stir in both cans diced tomatoes and next 4 ingredients. Bring to a boil; reduce heat and simmer, uncovered 5 min. Remove from heat; set aside.
- 3. Preheat oven to 350°F. Prepare egg noodles according to package directions. Stir together hot cooked noodles, chopped green onions, sour cream, and cream cheese until blended.
- 4. Spoon egg noodle mixture into a lightly greased 13x9in baking dish.
- 5. Top with beef mixture; sprinkle with cheeses in order listed. Bake, covered, for 35min.
- 6. Uncover and bake 5 more min. Let stand 10-15 min. before serving.



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# How Can We Find Rest?



In today's world, many are seeking rest. They look to drugs, alcohol and any way they can find rest. Country music legend Merle Haggard, who died in 2016, seemed to have looked for rest and peace in all the wrong places. He once said, "There's a restlessness in my soul that I've never conquered, not with motion, marriages or meaning... It's still there to a degree, and it will be till the day I die."

Jesus invites every one of us to "Come to Me." Matthew 11:28 says when we receive salvation in Jesus, He will take the burdens from us and "give us rest." The words in Matthew 11:28-29 are the most comforting in the gospels. Finding this deep soul-rest in Him is what we all need in these turbulent times.

The first six verses of this chapter describe how John the Baptist wants confirmation that he rightly identified Jesus as the Messiah. Jesus affirms John's previous confidence before telling of the greatness Jesus had displayed in verses 20-24 in cities where His work was nevertheless rejected. And then He turns to the Father in prayer (vv. 25-26). This leads into Jesus' offer of rest. This probably was the very kind of rest that John needed. Christ recognizes how weak and frail we are, and He knows what we need and offers us "rest."

John 10:10 tells us that the only requirement is to believe in Jesus and to live the abundant life He provides. Matthew 11:29 says believing in Jesus results in our finding "rest for our souls." When we come to Jesus, He gives peace to our restless souls by giving us a new way to live in Him. Christ gives us true rest!

Prayer – Jesus, there is a restlessness in my life. Show me how to find peace and rest in You alone. Amen.

Matthew 11:28 - "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

# May 2023

| Sunday                                                                                        | Monday                        | Tuesday | Wednesday                 | Thursday | Friday | Saturday                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|---------------------------|----------|--------|-------------------------|
|                                                                                               | 1                             | 2       | ъ                         | 4        | rv     | 6<br>8a, Yard/Bake Sale |
|                                                                                               |                               |         | 5p, Choir Rehearsal       | 8p, NA   |        |                         |
| 7<br>9:45a, Sunday School<br>11a, Worship IN THE<br>FELLOWSHIP HALL<br>(Message-Rose Henshaw) | ∞                             | on.     | 10                        | 11       | 12     | 13                      |
|                                                                                               |                               |         | 5p, Choir Rehearsal       | 8p, NA   |        |                         |
| 14 Mother's Day<br>9:45a, Sunday School<br>11a, Worship IN THE<br>FELLOWSHIP HALL             | 15                            | 16      | 17                        | 18       | 19     | 20                      |
|                                                                                               |                               |         | 5p, Choir Rehearsal       | 8p, NA   |        |                         |
| 21<br>9:45a, Sunday School<br>11a, Worship IN THE<br>FELLOWSHIP HALL                          | 22                            | 23      | 24                        | 25       | 26     | 27                      |
|                                                                                               |                               |         | 5p, Choir Rehearsal       | 8p, NA   |        |                         |
| 28 Pentecost<br>9:45a, Sunday School<br>11a, Worship IN THE<br>FELLOWSHIP HALL                | 29 Memorial Day Office Closed | 30      | 31<br>5p, Choir Rehearsal |          |        |                         |
|                                                                                               |                               |         |                           |          |        |                         |