



The Lamplighter

The Monthly Newsletter of Richmond's WESTOVER BAPTIST CHURCH



"Sacred Moments Unfolding"

As the calendar turns to December, many of us might find ourselves overwhelmed by the holiday season. There's decorating to do, gifts to buy, meals to plan, and events to attend. It's a busy season, and while there's much to celebrate, the noise and activity can sometimes crowd out the deeper meaning of this advent season.

Advent is a season of preparation and anticipation that offers us a different rhythm. It invites us to pause, to breathe, and to reflect on the wonder and mystery of God breaking into the world. The word "Advent" means "coming," and during these weeks leading up to Christmas, we remember that God's work didn't stop with the birth of Christ — it continues even now, often in ways we don't immediately see.

Advent reminds the church that God is still at work in the world. While we wait for the fullness of God's Kingdom, we're invited to look for signs of it breaking through in our everyday lives. These moments can be subtle, like "fingerprints" left behind after an act of love, kindness, or beauty.

At times however, it can be easy to overlook God's activity in our lives, especially during this season, when the busyness of life can make it hard to see God's presence. Between shopping lists, work deadlines, and holiday obligations, we can feel too overwhelmed to notice the sacred moments unfolding right in front of us.

What if this Advent, we slowed down and made space to notice God's fingerprints? What if we tried something new — a small, simple practice to help

us reconnect with the wonder of this season? It could be as easy as starting the day with silent meditation and prayer, helping a neighbor rake leaves, or simply pausing for a moment of gratitude in the middle of your day.

These small acts of intentionality can open our hearts to God's movement, not just in our own lives but in the world around us. They remind us that even in the chaos, God is present, working to bring light into the darkness and hope into the waiting.

Advent isn't about rushing to the finish line of Christmas. It's about preparing our hearts, watching for God's Kingdom, and remembering that the redemption of God's creation is already drawing near.

So this December, let's slow down. Let's make space for God. Let's keep our eyes open and be on the lookout for those "fingerprints" — the small, holy moments that remind us that God is near.

May you find peace, hope, and joy this Advent season.

With Gratitude,

Drew



Remember in Prayer . . .

Dick & Gayle Moschler, upon the passing of their daughter Karen Deciccio.
The Family of Robert A. "Bob" Beasley, upon Bob's passing.
Les Alleyne, "Andy" Anderson, Adrian Banks, Margaret Christy, Carol Cozart,
Jimmy Kersey, Butch Nolan, Rose Robbins, Johanna Seay, Betsy Summers,
Gordie Taylor, Gwen Taylor, Austin Thor, Church Community.

December Ministry

Deacon of the Week

December 1 Kathleen Pope
December 8 Tony Goyal
December 15 Sophia Goyal
December 22 Ellen Seal
December 29 Jackie Harman



December Birthdays



8 Ralph Harman 18 Adrian Banks
13 David Parrish 18 Carrie Newman
17 Ben Johnstone

Sunday Mornings: Our Sunday School meets in-person at 10:15 am in the Library and virtually via Zoom. We meet for Worship at 11:30 am, both in-person and via Zoom. Join via Zoom for Sunday School and/or Worship by entering the following codes in your Zoom app:

Meeting ID: 811 5323 9170 Passcode: 103094 - OR - by accessing link ...
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81153239170?pwd=Ty9GNHVBMdRlRmFpT2ZYjFEL2FXZz09>

GIVING OPTIONS for OFFERINGS

- 1) Bring your offering when you come to church on Sunday mornings,
- 2) Drop through the bronze mail slot in the 49th Street door.
- 3) Mail your offering to: **Westover Baptist Church**
PO Box 13048,
Richmond, VA 23225
- 4) Give online at: <https://onrealm.org/WestoverBaptist/give/offering>



STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

NOV 3 - NOV 24, 2024 (4 Sundays)

General offering received	\$4,417.00
General offering budget requirement for period	\$4,750.00
General offering received in 2024	\$55,550.00
General offering budget requirement for 2024	\$57,000.00
Missions offering year-to-date	\$1,233.00
LWCC Mission offering year-to-date	\$932.00

TELLERS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 3	Jackie Harman / Ralph Harman
Tuesday, December 10	David Cosby / Betty Garrett
Tuesday, December 17	Marcia Geiger / Mike Geiger
Tuesday, December 24	Marcia Geiger / Kathleen Pope
Tuesday, December 31	Jackie Harman / Ralph Harman

Love Gift



Remember our church staff this Christmas by participating in the Love Gift. This is a great way for each of us to show our appreciation to our staff for all they do for us and our community. Envelopes marked "Love Gift" are available in the sanctuary. For those who enjoy giving online using our link, you may contribute your Love Gift this same way. Select General Offering as the Fund, but please signify "Love Gift" in the Memo space provided on the screen. We will make sure your gift is directed to the appropriate place.

We plan to present these gifts to our staff at the **Christmas Fellowship** after the service on **Sunday December 22nd**.

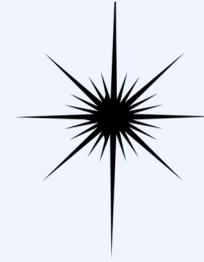
MISSION OFFERING OF THE CHURCH

This offering is distributed among both the state and national bodies of the Co-operative Baptist Fellowship, the Baptist General Association of Virginia, and the South Richmond Baptist Center. You may also contribute directly to our mission ministry, Living Water Community Center, through which we strive to meet the needs of our neighbors.



ADVENT

With Advent, the new church year starts. Advent begins this year on December 1st and ends with December 24th. The term "Advent" originates from the Latin word "adventus," which translates to "coming." This concept aligns with the Greek word "parousia." The candles on an Advent wreath represent Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. A central candle, often white or gold, symbolizes Christ. Advent invites believers to prepare their hearts, acknowledging their imperfections and yearning for something greater to come.



DECEMBER MISSIONS UPDATE

Check out what the Wellness Program offers. Just click on the website link:
Website: www.livingwaterrva.com Email: livingwatercommunitycenter@gmail.com
Follow us on Facebook: [Living Water Community Center](#)

Living Water Community Center seeks to foster healthy community through contemplative practices such as meditation, mindful beekeeping, and urban farming, where we hope to create a more sustainable and healthy community, both for the individual and the ecosystem.

Ultra Local Raw Honey: December is a great month to purchase honey to give as Christmas gifts! Your purchase also helps support our bee sanctuary. If you contribute \$25/month toward our bee sanctuary you will receive a pound of our sustainably harvested honey. You can also support your local bee population by sponsoring a hive. Email us at livingwatercommunitycenter@gmail.com



Community Garden: The weekly garden workday is every **Thursday** starting at 9am. Come and volunteer to help ready the garden for winter.

Daily Meditation: Join in each **Monday-Friday** at **6:30am, 12:00pm, and 5:30pm** for 30 minutes of silent prayer and meditation, in person in the church sanctuary, or via Zoom:

Meeting ID: 390 739 0579 **Passcode: livingh2o -OR- access this link...**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3907390579?pwd=dm9rbm1ZNnVqcDVQYUVRZWFiNTJmUT09>

Food Pantry Mission

The **Food Pantry** operates twice a month, on **1st and 3rd Fridays** from **1-3 p. m.** Up to 2 bags of groceries and frozen meats are given to local families that are impacted by food insecurities. Westover and Living Water partner together for volunteers to help with the food distribution. Rising Liberty Church connected the Food Pantry with the Chesterfield Food Bank, which provides the majority of the food, and to which we give a monthly donation to help offset their costs. Our congregation provides food and monetary support as well. Living Water and its volunteers harvest produce from the Community Garden to include in the food distribution. We couldn't do all that we do without the generous help of the Baptist General Association of Virginia providing us with monetary donations from their Hunger Funds. We are grateful to all these entities and volunteers that help us grow relationships with our neighbors in our surrounding community.

WESTOVER BAPTIST CHURCH
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 (804) 233-9261

wbcrichmond@gmail.com
 www.wbcrichmond.com
 www.livingwaterrva.com

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Drew Nagy, Pastor
 Andrew Pfeiffer, Music Ministry
 David Parrish, Facilities Manager



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CHANGE
 SERVICE
 REQUESTED

December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>1 1st Sunday of Advent</i> 10:15AM Sunday School 11:30AM Worship Service [10:00am Crown & Joy; Social] [1:00pm Camino al Cielo; Sanct]</p> <p>6:30pm Sound Meditation</p>	<p><i>2</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>4:00pm Yoga Espanol 5:30pm Qi Gong 6:45pm Meditation Practice Group</p>	<p><i>3</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>4:30pm Yin Yoga 6:00pm Flow Yoga</p>	<p><i>4</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>10:00am Slow Flow Yoga 4:30pm Recharge Yoga</p>	<p><i>5</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>11:00am Yoga Basics</p>	<p><i>6</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>11:00am Chair Yoga 1-3PM Food Pantry</p>	<p><i>7</i> 9:30am Community Yoga</p>
<p><i>8 2nd Sunday of Advent</i> 10:15AM Sunday School 11:30AM Worship Service [10:00am Crown & Joy; Social] [1:00pm Camino al Cielo; Sanct]</p> <p>6:30pm Sound Meditation</p>	<p><i>9</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>4:00pm Yoga Espanol 5:30pm Qi Gong 6:45pm Meditation Practice Group</p>	<p><i>10</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>4:30pm Yin Yoga 6:00pm Flow Yoga</p>	<p><i>11</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>10:00am Slow Flow Yoga 4:30pm Recharge Yoga</p>	<p><i>12</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>11:00am Yoga Basics</p>	<p><i>13</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>11:00am Chair Yoga</p>	<p><i>14</i> 9:30am Community Yoga 11a Humming Meditation [2:30pm Prayer Group; Community Room]</p>
<p><i>15 3rd Sunday of Advent</i> 10:15AM Sunday School 11:30AM Worship Service [10:00am Crown & Joy; Social] [1:00pm Camino al Cielo; Sanct]</p> <p>6:30pm Sound Meditation</p>	<p><i>16</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>4:00pm Yoga Espanol 5:30pm Qi Gong 6:45pm Meditation Practice Group 7:30pm Breathwork</p>	<p><i>17</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>4:30pm Yin Yoga 6:00pm Flow Yoga</p>	<p><i>18</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>10:00am Slow Flow Yoga 4:30pm Recharge Yoga</p>	<p><i>19</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>11:00am Yoga Basics</p>	<p><i>20</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>11:00am Chair Yoga 1-3PM Food Pantry</p>	<p><i>21</i> 9:30am Community Yoga</p>
<p><i>22 4th Sunday of Advent</i> 10:15AM Sunday School 11:30AM Worship Service 12:30PM Christmas Fellowship [10:00am Crown & Joy; Social] [1:00pm Camino al Cielo; Sanct]</p> <p>6:30pm Sound Meditation</p>	<p><i>23</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>4:00pm Yoga Espanol 5:30pm Qi Gong 6:45pm Meditation Practice Group</p>	<p><i>24 Christmas Eve</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>4:30pm Yin Yoga 6:00pm Flow Yoga</p>	<p><i>25 Christmas Day</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>10:00am Slow Flow Yoga 4:30pm Recharge Yoga</p>	<p><i>26</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>11:00am Yoga Basics</p>	<p><i>27</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>11:00am Chair Yoga</p>	<p><i>28</i> 9:30am Community Yoga 11a Humming Meditation [2:30pm Prayer Group; Community Room]</p>
<p><i>29</i> 10:15AM Sunday School 11:30AM Worship Service [10:00am Crown & Joy; Social] [1:00pm Camino al Cielo; Sanct]</p> <p>6:30pm Sound Meditation</p>	<p><i>30</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>4:00pm Yoga Espanol 5:30pm Qi Gong 6:45pm Meditation Practice Group</p>	<p><i>31 New Year's Eve</i> Silent Meditations: 6:30AM, 12PM, 5:30PM</p> <p>4:30pm Yin Yoga 6:00pm Flow Yoga</p>				