



West End

presbyterian church

**The First Sunday after the
Epiphany**

In the Christian year, we are now in the season of Epiphany. Epiphany is a time that helps us to remember Jesus as the long-awaited Hebrew Messiah and His mission to the nations. Epiphany has a particular focus on Jesus as the Light of the World and "God with us," and the Church's role in proclaiming that Jesus is Lord.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP & Communion

FEAR NOT, I AM THE FIRST AND THE LAST

"As John wrote he was 'on Patmos' but, 'in the Spirit'. God seems to be more committed to giving Himself to us rather than getting us out of difficult situations. His agenda seems to have more to do with changing us rather than changing our circumstances....this is King Jesus who not only holds the 'stars' and walks among the 'lampstands', but also before Whom one day every knee is going to bow and every tongue is going to confess that He is Lord, to the glory of God. All we need is to see Jesus, the Biblical Jesus, the real Jesus. He is the foundation of our hope. He is our anchor."

--*Scotty Smith*

"We are not doomed to an ultimate conflict with no hope of resolution. The message of the Scripture is one of victory - full, final and ultimate victory. It is not our doom that is certain, but Satan's. His head has been crushed by the heel of Christ, who is the Alpha and Omega."

--*R.C. Sproul*

CALL TO WORSHIP

I Chronicles 29:10-13

The First Word

We believe that God always initiates with sinners, so we begin worship with His Word: His invitation to us to gather in His name.

Blessed are You, O Lord, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever.

**Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power
and the glory and the victory and the majesty,
for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is Yours.**

Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and You are exalted as head above all.

Both riches and honor come from You, and You rule over all.

In Your hand are power and might, and in Your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.

And now we thank You, our God, and praise Your glorious name.

Invocation.

Asking God to be with us.

INVOCATION

SONG OF ADORATION

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - migh - ty!
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore Thee,
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide Thee,
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - migh - ty!

Ear - ly in the mor - ning our song shall rise to Thee.
 cas - ting down their gol - den crowns a - round the glas - sy sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful man Thy glo - ry may not see;
 All Thy works shall praise Thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea;

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and migh - ty!
 che - ru - bim and se - ra - phim fal - ling down be - fore Thee,
 on - ly Thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side Thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and migh - ty!

God in three Per - sons, bles - sed Tri - ni - ty!
 Who wert and art, and e - ver - more shalt be.
 per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bles - sed Tri - ni - ty!

Adoration.

The God who meets with us in worship is good and powerful. We recognize His greatness and remember His amazing works together in song.

"And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, 'Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!'"

Revelation 4:8

John Bacchus Dykes
 Reginald Heber.
 TUNE: NICAEA.
 Public Domain

Welcome

We are glad you have joined us this morning! If you are visiting our church for the first time, or are a regular attender or church member, we encourage you to use our online or paper Keep in Touch form to introduce yourself, request prayer, or request more information about our church. Following the service, please introduce yourself to Pastor Steve Shelby either in the Gallery or on the front sidewalk.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 41:1-4

Listen to me in silence, O coastlands; let the peoples renew their strength; let them approach, then let them speak; let us together draw near for judgment. Who stirred up one from the east whom victory meets at every step? He gives up nations before him, so that he tramples kings underfoot; he makes them like dust with his sword, like driven stubble with his bow. He pursues them and passes on safely, by paths his feet have not trod. Who has performed and done this, calling the generations from the beginning? I, the LORD, the first, and with the last; I am he.

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

Led by Elder Matt Wilks

Pray for God's advancing Kingdom. For our Church, City, and World. This week...

- **For West End Presbyterian Church:** To worship together in unity for the glory of God alone.
- **For Metropolitan Richmond:** For grace to repent of racism, its effects, and for racial reconciliation. Pray to overcome ignorance, indifference, resentment, and bitterness with regard to race in private and public life.
- **For God's World Mission:** For the continent of Africa. For Bishop Bismark Avokaya & Rina Benjamin serving in South Sudan & Kenya. For Jenna & Boaz Opedun serving with Serge alongside the local church in the city of Fort Portal. For LB serving with SIM in West Africa. wepc.org/outreach/missions

OFFERING

The offering isn't just about money. Our response to the Gospel goes much deeper; God demands our whole selves. The act of giving in worship is a part of offering ourselves as "living sacrifices" to God (Romans 12:1).

You can place your offering and/or tear-off as the plates pass. Please visit www.wepc.org/giving or scan the QR code for online giving options, or mail your offering to the church office (9008 Quioccasin Road, Henrico, VA, 23229).



JESUS, LOVER OF MY SOUL

*"You have been...a
refuge for the needy in
his distress." Isaiah 25:4*

Charles Wesley (1740):
Tune: ©2000 Greg
Thompson. Used by
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CCLI #708363



1. Je - sus, Lo - ver of my soul, let me to Thy bo - som -

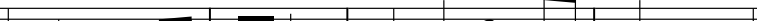
2. Oth - er re - fuge have I none, I help - less, hang on -

3. Thou, O Christ, are all I want, here more than all I

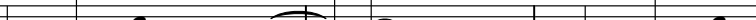
4. Plen - teous grace with Thee is found, grace to co - ver all my



— fly, while the near - rer wa - ters roll, while the
 — Thee; leave, oh leave me not a lone, sup -
 — find; raise the fal - len, cheer the faint, heal the
 — sin; let the heal - ing streams a - bound; make and



temp-est still is _____ high: hide me, O my Sa - vior, hide,
 port and com - fort _____ me! All my trust on Thee is stayed, all
 sick and leave the _____ blind. Just and ho - ly is Thy name; I am
 keep me pure with - in. Thou of life the foun - tain art;



'till life's storm is _____ past, safe in - to the
help from Thee I _____ bring; co - ver my de -
all un - right - eous - ness; false and of
let me take of _____ Thee; spring Thou full up with -

ha - ven guide, re - ceive my soul at _____ last.
 fense - less head in the sha - dow of Thy _____ wing.
 sin I am, Thou art full of truth and _____ grace.
 in my heart, for all e - ter - ni - ty.

"But Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.'"
Matthew 19:14

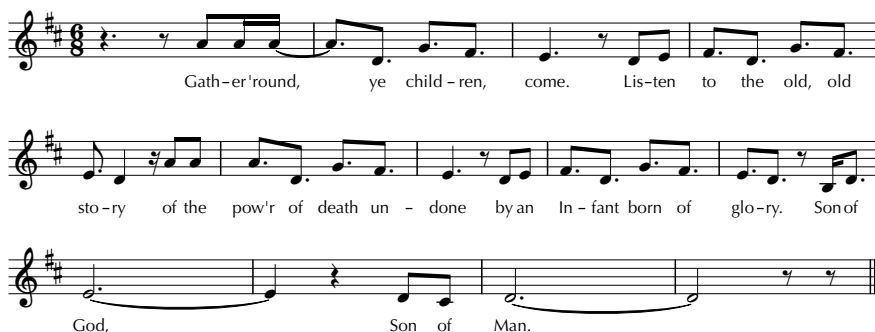
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CHILDREN'S WORSHIP (10:30am)

Children, age 4 through 2nd grade, will be dismissed prior to the sermon for a Bible Lesson, activity, and fellowship. Pick up from Room 121. www.wepc.org/grow/children

CHILDREN'S BLESSING (10:30am)

GATHER ROUND YE CHILDREN, COME



GOD THE SON RENEWS US THROUGH HIS WORD & SACRAMENT

SCRIPTURE Reading

Revelation 1:9-20

⁹I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet ¹¹saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea." ¹²Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, ¹⁵his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength. ¹⁷When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. ¹⁹Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this. ²⁰As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches."

Sermon

A Worship Guide with sermon questions is posted each Sunday at <https://wepc.org/worship/sermons-media>. You can also find the sermon audio on [Apple Podcasts](#) and [Spotify](#) under "West End Presbyterian Church RVA."

PREPARATION FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus. They did as He had directed them, and prepared the Passover.

from Matthew 26:17-29

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."

And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

CONFESSION OF SIN

Heavenly Father, we confess that we have too often forgotten that we are Yours. We have not lived in expectation of Your Kingdom. Lord Jesus Christ, You are coming again in power, and all things are subject to You. We confess that we have merely hoped for relief, though You promise transformation and glory. Forgive our calculated efforts to follow You, only when we judge it convenient, only when we assume it safe, only with those who make it easy. In Your tender kindness, forgive us our sin. May Your Holy Spirit fill our hearts with the joyful expectation of seeing our King soon, and face to face. Amen

Confession & Encouragement

Often we find that our hearts worship something other than God. In confessing our sins, the Holy Spirit probes our hearts and minds and graciously shows us what we mistakenly believe will give us life. Jesus is good to lead us from sorrow over our sin to the sweetness of His grace.

Silent Confession of Sin

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Revelation 1:4-8

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

West End Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who actively trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are willing to forsake their sin and heart-idols, and who are members of congregations that proclaim the Gospel, to participate in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper with us. The Elders presiding over the Supper are praying for you as the congregation participates in the sacrament.

At each communion station, grape juice is served in purple cups, wine is served in clear cups, and gluten-free bread is served in a separate tray.

At the center aisle station, double-cups are also available, where the small gluten-free wafer is found in the bottom cup. Again, grape juice is in the purple cups and wine is in the clear cups. For a list of ingredients in the wafers, see www.wepc.org/communion.

If your child is ready to make a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ, please contact the WEPC office.

Songs of Response to God's Grace

HELP MY UNBELIEF

VERSE



1. I know the Lord is nigh, and would but can-not pray, for
 2. I would but can-not love, though wooed by love div-ine; no

Sa - tan meets me when I try, and frights my soul a-way. And
 arg - u-ments have pow'r to move a soul as base as mine. A

frights my soul a - way.
 soul so base as mine.

would but can't re - pent, though I en-dea-vor oft; this
 would but can - not rest, in God's most ho - ly will; I

ston - y heart can ne'er re - lent till Je - sus makes it soft. Till Je -
 know what He ap-oints is best, and mur - mur at it still. I mur -

REFRAIN

- sus makes it soft. Help my un - be - lief. Help my un - be -
 - mur at it still.

lief. Help my un - be - lief. My help must come from Thee.

"Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, 'I believe; help my unbelief!'" Mark 9:24

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ALL THINGS NEW

"And he who was seated on the throne said, 'Behold, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.'"
Revelation 21:5

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VERSE

1. Come, Lord, and tar - ry not; bring the long looked for day;
2. Come, for cre - at - ion groans, im - pat - ient of Thy stay,

o, why these years of wait - ing here, these a - ges of de - cay?
worn out with these long years of ill, these a - ges of de - lay.

Come, for Thy saints still wait; dail - y a - scends their sigh;
Come, for love wax - es cold, its steps are faint and slow;

the Spi - rit and the Bride say, "Come;" does Thou not hear the
faith now is lost in un - be - lief, hope's lamp burns dim and

REFRAIN

cry? O come and make all things new, come and make all things
low.

new, o come and make all things new. Build up this ru - ined

earth, come and make all things new, all things new.

HOLY FOREVER

And the an-gels cry, "Ho - ly." All cre-a-tion cries, "Ho -
ly." You are lift - ed high, Ho - ly, Ho-ly for-e - ver.
Hear Your peo-ple sing, "Ho - ly," to the King of Kings, "Ho -
ly." You will al-ways be ho - ly, ho-ly for-e - ver.
You will al-ways be ho - ly, ho-ly for-e - ver.

"Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"

Revelation 4:8

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*"Let everything that
has breath praise the
LORD." Psalm 150:6*

Text: Thomas Ken
(1709) Tune: OLD
HUNDREDTH
(Bourgeois, 1551)

**What does
"doxology" mean?**
It's derived from
two Greek words
meaning "glory"
and "word." A
doxology, then, is
a spoken word or
song that ascribes
glory to God. Today's
doxology calls all
of creation to praise
God as the source
of all blessing and
acknowledges His
Trinitarian (three-in-
one) nature.

The Last Word
God always has
the last word in
our worship. For
those who are in
Christ Jesus, these
are always words of
blessing.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all bles - sings flow; Praise Him, all crea - tures
here be - low Praise Him a - bove ye heavn - ly host; Praise
Fa - ther Son and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Benediction

*A team is available for prayer at the front of the Sanctuary following the
9 AM & 10:30 AM services.*

***Pastor Steve Shelby** preached today's sermon and administered the Lord's
Supper. **Pastor Kevin Greene** led worship. **Trey & Jen Wickham, Sarah Shrader,**
Elder Tom Krieger, Pat Reynolds, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered,
and Paul Cho led this morning's congregational singing. **Jay Smith** and **Aaron**
Sutten managed today's audio and video live stream. **AJ Anonick** managed the
in-house video system.*

Sermon Notes

Announcements

ADULT MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/adults

Adult Sunday School: 9 AM / Room 810 One Small Step / Through January 26

There is often a desire or push at this time of year to make life changes to better ourselves. Although exercising more, eating less, and drinking water throughout the day are all great things - we all could use a more focused walk with Christ. This class will look at four ways in which we can strengthen our walk by taking "one small step" in the right direction.

Contact: matt@wepc.org

Young Adult Ministry

January 16 / 7PM / Mollie & Mya's House
Young Adults at WEPC is for those in their 20s & 30s looking for a space to grow in their faith and connect with others. We currently meet every other Thursday night for a potluck dinner. To find out more info, contact Matt Bouknicht (matt@wepc.org).

Wednesday Night Fellowship

The Cross-Shaped Life: What the Cross of Christ Tells Us about God and about Following Jesus

www.wepc.org/WNF

Wednesdays / Jan 15 - April 2 / 6:30-8 PM
WEPC Chapel

The Cross of Christ is the heart of God and the way we live as disciples. Led by Kevin Greene, Brian Wilcox, and Becca Wethered.

Contact: Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org)

Men's Ministry - Second Monday

www.wepc.org/grow/men

January 13 / 6:30 PM / FH

Join us for our monthly gathering of men from WEPC and the community for food, fellowship, and Gospel teaching. Contact: Mike Glasgow (atfmanhokie89@yahoo.com)

Women's Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/women

Wellspring & Restore Bible Studies

***Resuming January 14 & 15**

Join us as we continue studying the Sermon on the Mount. New women are welcome.

Wellspring: Tuesdays / 9:15-11:30 AM

Restore: Wednesdays / 6-7:30 PM

Contact: Brice Bowman (brice@wepc.org)

2025 Women's Retreat

www.wepc.org/grow/women

March 1 at 9 AM - March 2 at 11 AM

Roslyn Retreat Center

Registration is now open!

\$150 (Early Registration) Jan. 5 - Jan. 31, 2025

\$180 (Late Registration) Feb. 1 - Feb. 14, 2025

Price includes meals and overnight

accommodations. Scholarships are available.

Contact: Heather Oberle (hoberle@wepc.org)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/children

Sundays

- **9 AM:** Nursery (infant-3 years old)
- **10:30 AM:** Nursery (infant-3 years old) & Children's Message or Worship (4 years-2nd grade; Children's Worship does not meet on the 1st Sunday of the month. Instead, there will be a Children's Message during the 10:30 AM worship service.)
- **Nursing Mom's Room** (service audio available during both services)

Kids Club

Wednesdays / 6-7:30PM / Kindergarten-5th Grade

**Kids Club resumes on 1/15*

Volunteers Needed!

- **1st Grade Sunday School Helper** (2x a month)
- **1-2 Female Nursery Workers** for 9 AM Service (1x every 8 weeks)

YOUTH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

- **Sunday School:** 9 AM / Youth Lounge
- **Youth Group:** January 15
- **Homework Time:** Tuesdays / 6-8 PM (*Resumes on 1/14*)

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

Simple English Bible Study

2nd & 4th Sundays / 5-6:30 PM / Room 810

Next Meeting: January 26

Join our multicultural community twice a month as we meet to study the Bible using the book of Acts.

Contact: Changjiwok Deng (changjiwok@wepc.org)

General Information

Deacons of the Week

David Creasy, Tim Andrews, Bryan Meeks,
& EJ Fogarty

Welcome Talya Tacosa-O'Dea to WEPC Staff!

Please join us in welcoming Talya as our new Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator. She will be coordinating the Tutoring Program, Tuesday Night Kids' Club, Summer Track Camp, and supporting the overall ministry of Neighborhood Outreach. We are grateful for God's provision.

WEPC Revelation Sermon Series Spotify Playlist

Check out our [Revelation Sermon Series Spotify Playlist](#) to sing along to songs that remind us of the glory of Jesus, our King, His faithfulness to His Church, and His coming Kingdom. You can find it by searching "WEPC Revelation Sermon Series" or "West End Presbyterian RVA + playlists."

Join us for the James River Presbytery Church Planting Summit!

February 2, 2025 / 5:30 - 7:15 PM

Interested in hearing more about our ministry of starting new churches across Metro Richmond and the surrounding region? Everyone is welcome to join us as we learn about church-planting initiatives, collaborate on future opportunities to reach communities with the Gospel, and pray for the Spirit's leading in multiplying congregations. Food and drink provided. RSVP to Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org)

Inclement Weather Reminder

For updates on closings and delays, visit wepc.org or call the office at (804) 741-6562. You may also visit the "Community Closings" page at nbc12.com. In case of inclement weather on a Sunday morning, WEPC will meet for the 10:30 AM service.

Night to Shine 2025

February 7, 2025 / WEPC

Join us for a prom-night experience centered on God's love for people with disabilities. Registration is now open for guests & volunteers at www.nighttoshinerva.com. We need many volunteers to help, from buddies to dining room servers, welcome team, and more! Contact: Blair Brown (blairmb@gmail.com) or Heather Jarvis (heather.p.jarvis@gmail.com) or visit the table in the Gallery to learn more!

2025 DivorceCare Men & Women's Group

Tuesdays, February 4 - April 29 / 7:30-9 PM
Join us for a 13-week Christ-centered program addressing the complexity of life when facing marital separation or divorce. The program includes video teaching from over 50 leading Christian counselors, teachers, and pastors, group discussion, and personal Bible study. Register at www.divorcecare.org/findagroup, and click on the "More Info" tab for West End Presbyterian Church. Contact: Bryan Finch (Bryanlfinch@gmail.com) or Matt Osenga (Osengam@hotmail.com)

Fiscal Year Giving Report (as of 1/5/2024):

Operating gifts YTD: \$1,368,221.28

Forecasted gifts YTD: \$1,425,303.75

% of expected budget received: 96.00%

WEPC Community PRESCHOOL

www.wepc.org/preschool

We're hiring!

Do you love Jesus and love working with young children? We are hiring for a 1 or 2-day toddler class assistant teacher. Would you (or someone you know) like to work at the WEPC Community Preschool? If so, please visit our website (wepc.org/preschool) and click on employment) or reach out to the preschool director, Casey Zollinhofer, for more details (casey@wepc.org).

FOOD PANTRY

www.wepc.org/mercyministry

Please continue to check our [weekly list](#) to help keep the shelves stocked for our neighbors.

Food Item Teams:

Reach for Team Peach! (canned peaches)

Give the Fry Team a try! (oil & salt)

Team Garbanzo, you rock! (dry or canned)

Way to Go, Team Tomato! (canned tomatoes)

Shine! Join Team Star Baker! (flour & sugar)

Keep in Touch

Especially if this is your first Sunday with us —welcome!



Date: _____

Name: _____

Children's Names: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Who invited you to WEPC? How did you first hear about us?

◇ Check if this is NEW contact information for you.

Please check the appropriate boxes:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| ◇ Visitor | Age: |
| ◇ Male | ◇ 20 or younger |
| ◇ Female | ◇ 21-26 |
| ◇ Single | ◇ 27-34 |
| ◇ Student (Grade ____) | ◇ 35-49 |
| ◇ Student (College) | ◇ 50-64 |
| ◇ Married | ◇ 65 and older |
| ◇ Parent | |
| ◇ Widowed | |

I would like info about:

- ◇ WEPC
- ◇ Women's Ministry
- ◇ Men's Ministry
- ◇ Childrens Ministry
- ◇ Youth Ministry
- ◇ Adult Classes
- ◇ Home Groups
- ◇ Neighborhood Outreach
- ◇ Becoming a member of WEPC
- ◇ Other: _____

◇ Please include me on the WEPC email list.

◇ I am interested in learning more about becoming a Christian.

Prayer Requests:

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment, and forgiving me. I run from my sins—my old life living for myself—and receive you as Savior. Amen.