



West End
presbyterian church

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

We are now in the season of Easter—a celebration of Jesus' victory over sin and death. Followers of Christ are called to a life of dying to sin, rising to the life of the Spirit, and participating in His reign as the Sovereign Lord. The Church now lives as those who are "risen with Christ," living under His rule.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP & Communion

GREW IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD

"Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

--*Matthew 18:3-4*

"The thread which binds the whole Bible story together is emphatically not the history of an idea but the history of a people...calling a people to Himself, that they may be with Him and that He may send them forth."

--*Lesslie Newbigin*

"It is only the gracious hand of God that enables a man or a woman to fulfill his or her calling in ministry. It is the hand of God that gives courage for spiritual leadership, humility for corporate repentance, and wisdom for teaching God's Word. Praise God for the hand of guidance that has brought you to your present place of service, for the hand of providence that will supply all your needs, for the hand of discipline that will train you in righteousness, and for the hand of comfort that will sustain you through trials. The hand of God is on you for blessing."

--*Philip Graham Ryken*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 2:2-3, 5

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.

It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the LORD
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,
and many peoples shall come, and say:

**"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that He may teach us His ways and that we may walk in His paths."**

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD.

INVOCATION

Invocation

Asking God to be with us.

DECLARATION OF FAITH

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth
of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Nicene Creed

The Nicene Creed originated at the Council on Nicaea (AD 325), and an expanded form was adopted by the Council of Chalcedon (AD 451). It was formulated to answer heresies that denied the biblical doctrine of the Trinity and the Person and Work of Jesus Christ.

SONG OF ADORATION

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.

*"All that is within me,
bless His holy name!"*

Psalms 103:1

PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY

Praise to the Lord, the Al - mighty, the King of cre - a - tion!
Praise to the Lord! Who o'er all things so won-drous - ly reign - eth;
Praise to the Lord! Who doth pros - per thy work and de - fend thee;
Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore Him!

O my soul praise Him, for He is thy health and sal - va - tion!
Shel ters thee un - der His wings, yea, so gent - ly sus - tain - eth;
Sure ly His good - ness and mer - cy here dai - ly att - end thee;
All that hath life and breath, come now with prai - ses be - fore Him!

All ye who hear, now to His tem - ple draw near, join me in
Hast thou not seen how thy en - treat - ies have gran - ted in
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do if with His
Let the "A - men" sound from His peo - ple gain; Glad - ly for,

glad a - dor - a - tion.
what He or - dain - eth?
love He be - friend thee.
aye, we a - dore Him.

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.

Presentation of New Members (10:30am)

Rob & Lora Abbott
Micah & Isaac Andrews
Reese Wasserman

Sacrament of Baptism (10:30am)

Reese Wasserman

Wrap Around Commissioning (10:30am)

The Drummond Family

Led by EJ Fogarty

WEPC's Wrap Around Ministry serves those participating in foster care and adoption.

Gospel Reading

Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. And her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. And on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child. And they would have called him Zechariah after his father, but his mother answered, "No; he shall be called John." And they said to her, "None of your relatives is called by this name." And they made signs to his father, inquiring what he wanted him to be called. And he asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And they all wondered. And immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God. And fear came on all their neighbors. And all these things were talked about through all the hill country of Judea, and all who heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, "What then will this child be?" For the hand of the Lord was with him.

Luke 1:57-66

Ministry of Prayer

OFFERING

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).



*"Be steadfast,
immovable, always
abounding in the
work of the Lord,
knowing that in the
Lord your labor is
not in vain."
1 Corinthians 15:58*

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YOUR LABOR IS NOT IN VAIN

VERSE

1. Your la - bor is not in vain, though the
2. Your la - bor is not un - known, though the
3. The vine - yards you plant will bear fruit; the
4. The hou - ses you la - bored to build will

4

ground un - der - neath you is cursed and stained. Your plan - ting and rea - ping are
rocks they cry out and the sea it may groan. The place of your toil may not
fields will sing out and re - joice with the truth, for all that is old will at
fin - ally with laugh - ter and joy be filled. The ser - pent that hurts and de -

7

ne - ver the same, but your la - bor is not in vain. For I am
seem like a home, but your la - bor is not un - known.
last be made new, the vine - yards you plant will bear fruit.
stroys shall be killed, and all that is bro - ken be healed.

10

with you, I am with you. I am with you I am with you for I have

14

called you, called you by name, your la - bor is not in vain.

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

GOD THE SON RENEWS US THROUGH HIS WORD & SACRAMENT

SCRIPTURE READING

¹⁸Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy clothed with a linen ephod. ¹⁹And his mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the LORD give you children by this woman for the petition she asked of the LORD." So then they would return to their home. ²¹Indeed the LORD visited Hannah, and she conceived and bore three sons and two daughters. And the boy Samuel grew in the presence of the LORD.

1 Samuel 2:18-21

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

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

*1 Timothy 3:9; 1 Corinthians 5:7-8, 10:16-17, 15:3-4;
from the Book of Common Prayer*

CONFESSION OF SIN

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.

Almighty Father, we are gathered before You, the Maker of Heaven and Earth, whose chosen dwelling place is with the broken and contrite. We confess that we have sinned against You in thought and word and deed; we have not loved You with all our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. You call us to worship You in spirit and in truth, but we often worship only what we wish You to be. We have sought concessions, when we required guidance. We have used Your gifts for private ambition, instead of for Your mission and glory. We use worship to shape You, rather than seeking to be formed into the likeness of the One we worship. You are exceedingly jealous for Your Church. Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

1 Peter 2:9-10

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

First Communion

Micah & Isaac Andrews (10:30 AM)

Micah & Isaac recently met with the Elders, who heard their testimony of faith in Jesus Christ. We invite the Andrews family to receive communion first.

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. 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.

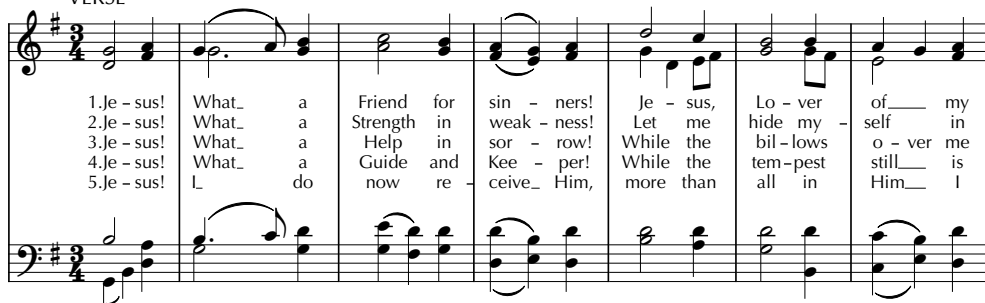
Songs of Response to God's Grace

JESUS, WHAT A FRIEND FOR SINNERS

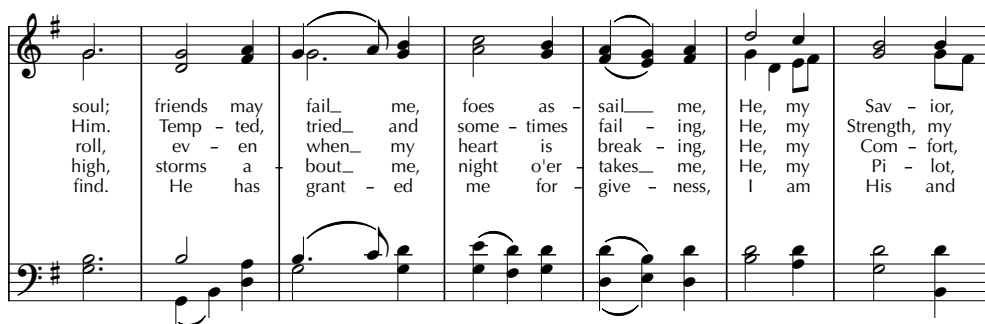
"A friend of tax collectors and sinners." Luke 7:34

John Wilbur Chapman (1910);
Tune: HYFRYDOL,
Rowland Hugh Prichard (1830)
Public Domain

VERSE



1. Je - sus! What a Friend for sin - ners! Je - sus, Lo - ver of my
2. Je - sus! What a Strength in weak - ness! Let me hide my self in
3. Je - sus! What a Help in sor - row! While the bil - lows o - ver me
4. Je - sus! What a Guide and Kee - per! While the tem - pest still is
5. Je - sus! I do now re - ceive Him, more than all in Him I



soul; friends may fail me, foes as sail me, He, my Sav - ior,
Him. Temp - ted, tried and some - times fail - ing, He, my Strength, my
roll, ev - en when my heart is break - ing, He, my Com - fort,
high, storms a bout me, night o'er takes me, He, my Pi - lot,
find. He has grant - ed me for - give - ness, I am His and

REFRAIN



makes me whole.
vic - tor - y wins.
helps my soul.
hears my cry.
He is mine.
Hal - le - lu - jah! What a Sav - ior! Hal - le - lu - jah! What a



Friend! Sa - ving, hel - ping, keep - ing, lo - ving, He is with me to the end.

"Give thanks to
the Lord, for He
is good, for His
steadfast love
endures forever"
Psalm 136:1

STEADFAST

Sandra McCracken
Leslie Jordan
Josh Silverberg
(adaptations from
Henri Nouwen),
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Tea Music. Used
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VERSE



1. I will build my house, wheth-er storm or drought, on the
2. By the word You spoke all the star-ry host are called
3. I will not trust in the strength of kings, on Your



Rock that does not move. I will set my hope in Your
out by name each night. In Your watch-ful care, I will
pro-mise I will stand. I will shout for joy, I will

REFRAIN



love, O Lord, and Your faith-ful-ness will prove: You are
rest se-cure as You lead us with Your light.
raise my voice, "Hal-le-lu-jah to the Lamb!"



stead-fast, _____ stead-fast. _____ You are stead-fast, _____
stead-fast. _____

O LOVE THAT WILL NOT LET ME GO

*"I have loved
you with an
everlasting
love; I have
drawn you with
loving-kindness."
Jeremiah 31:3*

George
Matheson (1882);
Tune: ©1997
Christopher Miner
Music. Used by
permission.



1.O Love that will not let me go, |
2.O Light that foll - ow'st all my way, |
3.O Joy that seek - est me through pain, |
4.O Cross that lift - est up my head, |



rest my wear - y soul in Thee, I give Thee back the
yield my flick'ring torch to Thee, my heart re - stores its
can - not close my heart to Thee, I trace the rain - bow
dare not ask to fly from Thee, I lay in dust life's



li - fe I owe, that in Thine o - cean
borr - owed ray, that in Thy sun - shine's
through the rain, and feel the prom - ise
glo - ry dead, and from the ground there



depths its flow. May ri - cher, full - er be.____
blaze its day. May bright - er, fair - er be.____
is not vain. That morn shall tear - less be.____
bloss - oms red. Life that shall end - less be.____

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

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

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.

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.

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, administered the Lord's Supper, and performed the sacrament of baptism. **Elder & Neighborhood Outreach Director Changjwok Deng** led worship. **Elder Chris Newlin, Chris & Andi Alberts, Buddy Miner, and Jamison Taggart** led this morning's congregational singing. **Greg Stiles** and **Aaron Suttan** managed today's audio and video live stream. **AJ Anonick** managed the in-house video system.*

The tapestry at the front of the sanctuary is the traditional liturgical color of white for this 50-day season of Easter. The tapestry will return to its many colors during the season of Pentecost. The piece is entitled "Psalm 148," and was created by a team of WEPC artists.

Sermon Notes

Announcements

ADULT MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/adults

Adult Sunday School: The Gospel Pursues

Sundays through June 29 / 9 AM / Room 810

Join us as we seek to gain a deeper understanding of the good news and discuss how God has chosen our lives as one of the ways He communicates his grace to a broken and hurting world. Finally, we'll help you gain confidence in sharing the good news with those around you. Led by Matt Bouknight (matt@wepc.org).

Young Adult Ministry

Meets every other Thursday / 7 PM

Next Meeting: May 22 / Bouknight home

Young Adults at WEPC is for those in their 20s & 30s looking for a space to grow in their faith and connect with others. In this season, we are listening to personal stories of God's redemption in our lives. Contact: Matt (matt@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. **Nursing Mom's Room** (service audio available during both services)

Vacation Bible School

June 23-26 / 5:30-8 PM

Join us for a fun-filled week of Bible teaching, games, crafts, and fellowship! REGISTER your child [here](#) by June 1 to guarantee your child a t-shirt. Many VOLUNTEERS are needed - sign up to volunteer [here](#)!

Nursery Volunteers Needed

The nursery is in need of 11 Adult Volunteers for the 9 AM service to serve on rotation, once every 8 weeks. If interested, contact Audrey Snyder (audrey@wepc.org)

YOUTH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

- **Youth Sunday School:** 9 AM / Youth Lounge
- **No Youth Group May 21**
- **School's Out Cookout:** May 30
- **Celebration Sunday:** June 1
- **The Landing:** June 12-16

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

Simple English Bible Study

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

Next Meeting: May 25

Join our multicultural community twice a month as we meet to study the Bible using the book of Acts. Contact: Changjwok Deng (changjwok@wepc.org)

Neighborhood Outreach Ice Cream Social

May 30 / 4 PM / Nottingham Green Playground

Join us for time of fun and fellowship with our neighborhood friends as we kick off the summer. All are welcome. Questions? Contact: Rylee Blevins (rylee@wepc.org)

2025 WEPC Track Camp

June 9-13 / 5-8 PM

WEPC Track Camp is a family-friendly ministry for rising 1st through 12th grade students. Come have fun with relays, sprints, baton hand-offs, birthday push-ups, and more! This camp is FREE! Sign up to register [here](#) or to volunteer [here](#). Contact: Rylee Blevins (rylee@wepc.org)

GOSPEL & RACE

www.wepc.org/resources/gospel-race

Summer 2025 Gospel & Race Book Discussion

Swing Low: A History of Black Christianity in the United States (vol. 1), by Walter Strickland

Sundays, June 29 - August 17 / 12:30 - 2 PM / BYOL

The dynamic witness of the Black church in the United States is an essential part of Christian history. In this history of African American Christianity, we'll explore five theological anchors of Black Christianity. Author Walter Strickland will join WEPC in September to lead a conference on this same material. To register for the study, contact Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org).

MISSIONS

www.wepc.org/outreach/missions

Missions Lunch: Matt Irvine

June 8 / 12 PM / Fellowship Hall

Join us for a lunch and update with WEPC Mission Partner, Matt Irvine, who serves with Serge in Harrow, London, UK. Hear what Jesus is doing in outreach and church planting in British South Asian communities. RSVP to Karen Howe (karen@wepc.org).

WEPC Short Term Mission Team

Egypt: October 18-29, 2025

Interested in hearing more about staffing a vision clinic in partnership with WEPC Supported Mission Partner, Mafdi (SeeJesus Arab World Trainer) and a local church in Sohag, Egypt? Visit WEPC's [Missions page](#) for more information, or contact Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org).

Irish Vision & Prayer Summit

July 26-August 3, 2025 / Dublin, Ireland

Join us for a week in Dublin, Ireland in which participants will hear about God's work in Ireland, learn about Irish culture, and travel across Ireland to listen to, encourage, and pray with Irish Pastors and ministry leaders. In partnership with WEPC supported mission agency, Serge. Ages 18 and older; 14+ with adult. Contact: Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org)

Young Lives Childcare Team Needed

July 5-9 / Rockbridge, VA

A team of WEPC men and women, teens through adults, is forming to do childcare at a Young Lives (WEPC Missions Partner) camp, impacting teen parents and their children with the Gospel. Contact: Joyce Lawrence (jcl7577@comcast.net) or Heather Oberle (hoberle@wepc.org).

FOOD PANTRY

www.wepc.org/mercyministry

Volunteers Needed

Our food pantry rotating teams are in need of additional volunteers to serve our neighbors on Sundays after worship from 12-1PM. Contact: Jim and Chris Black (jim_black@verizon.net)

Food Items Needed

Please continue to check our weekly list or join a Food Item Team to help keep the shelves stocked for our neighbors.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Deacons of the Week

Jon Greenhill, Davison Long, & Cory Payne

Congregational Meeting:

Budget Presentation & Election of Officers

June 1 / Following the 10:30 AM service

Please join us for a congregational meeting as we present the FY 2025-26 church budget, vote on the Pastors' Terms of Call, and re-elect church officers. Everyone is welcome, members will vote. Deacon Re-election: Mike Glasgow, Stephen Hunn, Rick McMahon
Elder Re-election: Richard Campbell, Roger Johnson, Glenn Smith, Gary Witthoeft

The Life of Samuel Spotify Playlist

Check out [The Life of Samuel Spotify Playlist](#) to sing along to songs that remind us of God's kingship, sovereignty, and faithfulness to His people. You can find it by searching "The Life of Samuel Sermon Series" or "West End Presbyterian Church RVA + playlists."

WEPC COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

www.wepc.org/preschool

Preschool Scholarship Fundraiser:

The Giving Grid

Each year we give scholarships so children from our church and neighborhood can attend preschool - to learn and hear about Jesus. We're launching a new fundraiser called The Giving Grid! Our goal is to fill every block. Claim a number (or multiple) and donate that amount. Thank you in advance for your support!
www.wepc.org/preschool/giving-grid

Preschool Enrollment - Still Open

Classes available for 1-5 year olds! Come join us! Visit wepc.org/preschool or contact Casey Zollinhofer (casey@wepc.org).

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
- ◇ Young Adult 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.