



West End
presbyterian church

The First Sunday after Christmas

We are now celebrating the Season of Christmas, a time that helps us to remember Christ's birth and reflect on the mystery of the Incarnation. It also teaches us to look eagerly for His promised return when He will come to redeem His creation and exercise His authority.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP & Communion

FOR MY EYES HAVE SEEN YOUR SALVATION

“Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion, for behold, I come and I will dwell in your midst, declares the LORD. And many nations shall join themselves to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people. And I will dwell in your midst, and you shall know that the LORD of hosts has sent me to you. And the LORD will inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land, and will again choose Jerusalem.’ Be silent, all flesh, before the LORD, for he has roused himself from his holy dwelling.”

--*Zechariah 2:10-13*

“He came not only for the Jews to whom the promises were given, but for all nations. Simeon, taking the child in his arms, proclaimed Him to be the light that enlightens the Gentiles. The old man saw the little one, and in Him beheld the eternal. He saw salvation itself, for salvation is not something Christ would bring, but something He Himself is. Therefore, having seen Christ, he sought nothing more in this world.”

--*Augustine*

“With Simeon and Anna, Luke shows us what faithful Israel looks like—waiting in hope, praying in the temple, recognizing the Messiah when He comes.”

--*N.T. Wright*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 52:8-10

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.

The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;
together they sing for joy;
For eye to eye they see the return of the Lord to Zion.
Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem,
For the Lord has comforted His people;

**He has redeemed Jerusalem.
The Lord has bared His holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
And all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.**

INVOCATION

Invocation
Asking God to be with us.

SONG OF ADORATION

O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

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.

"Let us go to Bethlehem and see." Luke 2:15

Attr. to John Francis Wade (1751); Tune: ADESTE FIDELES, John Francis Wade, Cantus Diversi (1751). Public Domain.

O Come all ye faith - ful joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
Sing choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this hap - py mor - ning

come ye O come ye to Beth - le - hem.
sing all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
Je - sus to thee be of all glo - ry giv'n;

Come and be - hold Him, born the King of an - gels;
Glo - ry to the God, glo - ry in the high - est; O
Word of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing.

come let us a - dore Him, O come let us a - dore Him, O

come let us a - dore Him Christ the Lord!

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 42:1-9

Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
a bruised reed he will not break,
and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
He will not grow faint or be discouraged
till he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his law.
Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people on it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
"I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;
I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the people,
a light for the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
I am the LORD; that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to carved idols.
Behold, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth
I tell you of them."

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
With all our heart and with all our mind,
let us pray to the Lord, saying “Lord, have
mercy.”

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the
Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples,
we pray to You, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those in positions of public trust that they
may serve in wisdom, and promote the dignity
and freedom of every person. For President
Trump, for the leaders of the nations, and all
others in authority, that they may do justice,
love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth,
we pray to You, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Richmond, the Commonwealth of Virginia,
for every city and community, and for those who
live in them, we pray to You, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and
orphaned, all homes which are broken or torn
by strife, and for the sick, the wounded, and the
suffering. Comfort and heal all those who suffer
in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and
hope in the midst of their troubles, and bring
them the joy of Your salvation.

We pray to You, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who have lost, in death, the ones they
love. For all who continue in the hope of the
resurrection of the dead, we pray to You, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the
unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and
captives, and for all who remember and care for
them, we pray to You, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For You to raise up those who fall; and finally to
beat down Satan under our feet,
we pray to You, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who do not yet believe, and for those
who have struggled in the faith, that they may
rest in the truth of the Gospel,
we pray to You, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence,
oppression, and degradation,
we pray to You, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our enemies and those who endeavor to do
us harm, we pray to You, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That it may please You to forgive our enemies,
persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their
hearts to You in repentance,
we pray to You, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all whom we have injured or offended.
For the forgiveness and remission of our sins,
we pray to You, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful
witness she may preach the Gospel to the ends
of the earth, we pray to You, Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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).



*"Glory to God
in the highest,
and on earth
peace to men
on whom his
favor rests."
Luke 2:14*

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

1 An - gels we have heard on high sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem, and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun - tains in re - ply e - cho back their joy - ous strains.
Say, what may the ti - dings be which in - spire your heaven - ly song?
come, a - dore on ben - ded knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo - - - - -

Traditional
French Carol,
trans. 1862;
Tune:
GLORIA,
French Carol
(18th century).
Public
Domain

CHILDREN's Message

Children, ages 4 through 2nd grade, are invited to the front of the Sanctuary prior to the sermon for a Bible lesson. Since there is no Children's Worship today, children will join their parents back at their seats in the Sanctuary after the Bible lesson.

GOD THE SON RENEWS US THROUGH HIS WORD & SACRAMENT

SCRIPTURE Reading

²²And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, ²⁹"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation ³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel." ³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed." ³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Luke 2:22-38

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

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper He took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

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 lead us from sorrow over our sin to the sweetness of His grace.

Holy Lord, You have prepared Your salvation in the presence of all peoples. Yet, we confess that we have not followed the light of Your Word. We have not been consoled by Your presence, and have sought comforts of our own design. We have not sought Your will, or trusted Your Good News to be good. We have failed to rejoice at Your Son's coming and refused His peace on earth. We have hoped for little from You, and the very thoughts of our hearts are revealed in the light of the glory of Your great mercy toward us.

Silence

Forgive our unbelief, and renew us by Your Holy Spirit, that we might eagerly worship You, that we may watch and wait, and once more find the Gospel of our Savior, Jesus Christ, to be our greatest joy. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

John 1:29

Behold, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world!

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. 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

COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS



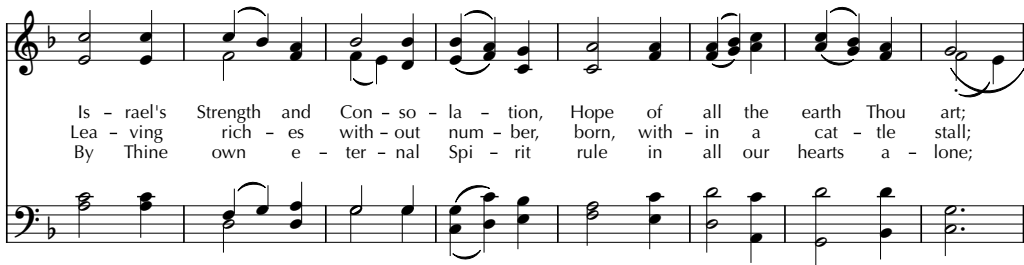
1. Come, Thou long ex - pec - ted Je - sus, born to set Thy peo - ple free;
 2. Come to earth to taste our sad - ness, He whose glo - ries knew no end;
 3. Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

"And a Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression," declares the LORD."
Isaiah 59:20

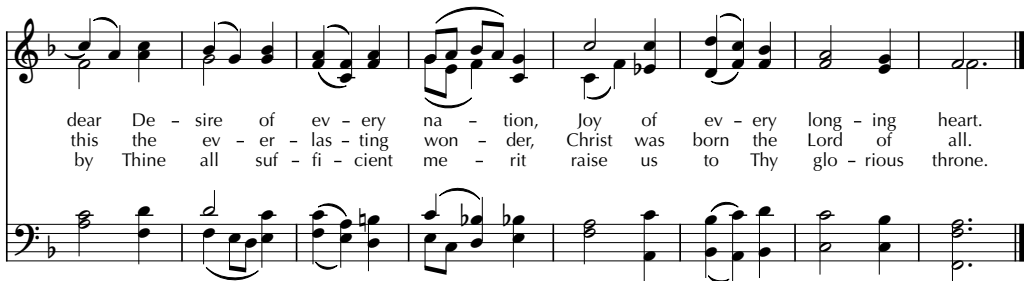
Charles Wesley
 Rowland Hugh
 Prichard. Public
 Domain



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in Thee.
 by His life He brings us glad - ness, our Re - deem - er, Shep - herd, Friend.
 born to reign in us for - e - ver, now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's Strength and Con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art;
 Lea - ving rich - es with - out num - ber, born, with - in a cat - tle stall;
 By Thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear De - sire of ev - ery na - tion, Joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 this the ev - er - las - ting won - der, Christ was born the Lord of all.
 by Thine all suf - fi - cient me - rit raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

“Shout for joy to the
LORD, all the earth.”
Psalm 98:4

Isaac Watts (1719);
tune: ANTIOCH,
George Frideric
Handel (1742).
Public domain.

JOY TO THE WORLD

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re - ceive her
2 Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns; let all their songs em -
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

King. Let ev - ery heart pre - pare him
ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
prove the glo - ries of his right - eous -

room, and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
and heaven and na - ture sing,

INTRO
sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.
heaven and na - ture sing,

ALL GLORY BE TO CHRIST

VERSE



1.Should no - thing of our ef - forts stand, no le - ga - cy sur -
 2.His will be done, His king - dom come on earth as is a -
 3.When on the day the great I Am, the faith - ful and the



vive un - less the Lord does raise the house in
 bove, who is Him-self our dail - y bread, praise
 True, the Lamb who was for sin - ners slain is



vain its buil - ders strive. To you who boast to -
 Him, the Lord of love. Let li - ving wa - ter
 mak - ing all things new. Be - hold our God shall



mor - row's gain, tell me what is your life, a
 sa - tis - fy the thir - sty with - out price. We'll
 live with us and be our stead - fast Light, and



mist that van - i - shes at dawn, all glo - ry be to Christ. All
 take a cup of kind - ness yet, all glo - ry be to Christ.
 we shalle'er His peo - ple be, all glo - ry be to Christ.

REFRAIN



glo - ry be to Christ, our King, all glo - ry be to Christ. His



rule and reign we'll e - versing, all glo - ry be to Christ.

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased."
 Luke 2:14

Dustin Kensrue
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 CCLI #708363

*"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.

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.

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
10:30 AM service today.*

***Pastor Steve Shelby** preached today's sermon and administered the Lord's Supper. **Elder Changjwok Deng** led worship. **Elder Mark Crutcher, Rebecca Crutcher, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, Ross Bruning, and Jamison Taggart** led this morning's congregational singing. **Deacon Luke Shrader and Deacon Tim Andrews** managed today's audio and video live stream. **Cody Hahn** managed the in-house video system. **Children's Ministry Director Audrey Snyder** gave the Children's Message.*

Sermon Notes

Announcements

ADULT MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/adults

Sunday Morning Discipleship: 9AM / Room 810 Prophet, Priest, and King: January 4-25

Who do you say that He is? This four-week standalone class focuses on exploring the doctrinal truths of Jesus Christ's identity as revealed through scripture. The class is designed to provide a theological foundation before transitioning to a study of the Gospel of Mark in February. Taught by Elder Matt Bouknicht.

Men's Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/men

WEPC Men's Retreat

January 30-February 1, 2025

Crossroads Camp & Conference Center

Join other men from WEPC as we go deeper in the Word, get to know others in a relaxed environment, step away from "everyday life," and have some great fellowship. Register [HERE](#). Contact: Mike (atfmanhokie89@yahoo.com) or Matt (matt@wepc.org)

Wednesday Night Fellowship

The Book of Jeremiah: Gladness from Sorrow

www.wepc.org/WNF

January 14 - March 25 / 6-7:30 PM / Chapel

The prophet Jeremiah's life was marked by grief and suffering, yet he knew the presence and perseverance of God. Join us as we grow in the wisdom, faithfulness, and compassion of Jesus Christ. Led by Kevin Greene, Matt Wilks, and Becca Wethered. Contact: Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org)

Women's Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/women

Wellspring & Restore Bible Studies resume on January 13 & 14.

Wellspring: Tues AM / Restore: Wed PM

All women are welcome to join us for our study "SHE IS..." Register [HERE](#) Contact: Brice Bowman (brice@wepc.org)

Young Adult Ministry

Young Adults at WEPC is a place to grow in your faith and connect with other young adults.

We have small groups that meet weekly and gather for events throughout the year.

Contact Matt Bouknicht (matt@wepc.org) for more information.

YOUTH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

- **Youth Sunday School resumes January 4.**
- **Youth Group resumes January 7.**
- **Parent Meeting:** January 4 / 12 PM / FH

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/children

Sundays:

- **10:30 AM:** Nursery (infant-3 years old) & Children's Message or Worship (4 years-2nd grade)
- **Nursing Mom's Room** (service audio available during both services)

Wednesdays: Club 4/5 resumes January 14.

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

Give the Gift of Tutoring

Please consider donating 1 hour/week of your time (you choose the day and time) to tutor a Kindergarten-5th Grade student from the neighborhood around the church. Visit the table in the gallery or contact Talya (talya@wepc.org).

Hiring for ESL Nursery Coordinator

The Neighborhood Outreach Team is looking for an ESL Nursery Coordinator to manage the ESL Nursery and care for little ones. It is a paid position for 10-12 hours a week, mostly Tuesdays/Thursdays. However, there is room for discussion of added hours and responsibilities. For more info, visit our [website](#) or contact Heather Glissman (heatheresl@wepc.org).

December Language of the Month: Portuguese

Visit the "Life in the Neighborhood" bulletin station to grab your learning resources.

FOOD PANTRY

www.wepc.org/mercyministry

Food Items Needed

Please continue to check our weekly list to help keep the shelves stocked for our neighbors.

General Information

Deacons of the Week

Sean Winterhalter, Mike Glasgow, Chris Perry, & Tim Andrews

One Great Family Worship

TODAY! / 10:30 AM / Sanctuary

WEPC will ONLY have the 10:30 AM worship service on December 28. All children are welcome to be in the service! There will be nursery for children ages infant - 3 years old, but no Sunday School classes (children, youth, or adult) or Children's Worship. Children's Ministry Director Audrey Snyder will give the Children's Message prior to the sermon.

****On Sunday, January 4, we will resume our usual schedule of two worship services at 9 and 10:30 AM and Sunday School for all ages at 9 AM. Because it will be the first Sunday of the month, there will be a Children's Message instead of Children's Worship during the 10:30 AM service. Children's Worship will resume on January 11.*

Year End Giving

Please drop off any 2025 tax-deductible donations by 12 PM on 12/31 or make sure they are postmarked by 12/31. You can also drop off any contributions in the offering plates during either worship service on 12/28. Contact AmyCaroline Wilks (acwilks@wepc.org) with any questions.

UPDATE: Fruit from Fruitful Friday

Neighborhood Outreach has received 3 separate offers for a guitar donation. Thank you, WEPC, for loving our neighbors.

Financial Peace University Class

January 8-March 12 / 6 PM / Room 35

Financial Peace University is a biblically-based personal finance program that teaches people how to budget, get out of debt, save, invest, and build wealth through a 9-week course, using video lessons, group discussions, and practical tools. Contact & to register: Bill Shirey (bill.shirey1@gmail.com / 804.617.0221)

James River Presbytery Church Planting Summit

January 24 / 9 AM-12:30 PM

Stony Point Church (2330 Buford Road, 23235)

Speaker: Dr. Robert Kim, Associate Professor at Covenant Seminary

Join a collaboration of pastors and church members who are partnering together for church planting. Women, men, and youth are invited to 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. Registration is free at <https://tinyurl.com/4z728d69>. Contact: Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org)

Night to Shine 2026--Volunteers Needed

February 6 / 6-9 PM / WEPC

Join us as WEPC hosts Night to Shine, a prom-night experience centered on God's love for people with disabilities. We need many volunteers to help, including buddies, dining room servers, welcome team, and more! Register at www.nighttoshinerva.com to volunteer. Contact Heather Jarvis (heather.p.jarvis@gmail.com) or Mollie Greenhill (nighttoshine@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 nbc12.com. In case of inclement weather on a Sunday morning, WEPC will meet for the 10:30 AM service.

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
- ◇ Small 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.