



West End
presbyterian church

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Ordinary Time

We are now in the season after Pentecost, known as "Ordinary Time." Having celebrated the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church at Pentecost, Ordinary Time signals the interim of the Church until Christ comes again in glory. Jesus is faithfully advancing His Kingdom in the power of His Spirit in this season. We anticipate the consummation of all things when Christ comes in His glory as King of all.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP & Communion

ABIDES FOREVER

"For his mercies, they endure
Ever faithful, ever sure."

--*John Milton*

"You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock."

--*Isaiah 26:3-4*

"Trusting God means connecting yourself to the one Person who will endure forever. And that means you will endure as well...in a world in which seemingly everything changes and nothing lasts, fix your mind on that."

--*Tim Keller*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Daniel 6:26

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.

He is the living God, enduring forever.
His Kingdom shall never be destroyed,
and His dominion shall be to the end.

Invocation

Asking God to be
with us.

INVOCATION

SONG OF ADORATION

CORNERSTONE

VERSE



1. My hope is built on no - thing less,
2. When dark - ness seems to hide His face,
3. When He shall come with trump - et sound,



than Je - sus' blood and right - eous - ness.
I rest on His un - chang - ing grace,
oh may I then in Him be found.



I dare not trust the sweet - est frame,
In ev - 'ry high and storm - y gale,
Dressed in His right - eous - ness a - lone.



but whol - ly trust in Je - sus' name.
my an - chor holds with - in the veil. My an - chor holds with - in the
Fault - less stand be - fore the throne.

REFRAIN



veil. Christ a - lone. Corn - er - stone. Weak made



strong in the Sav - ior's love. Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.

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.

"Behold, I am the one who has laid as a foundation in Zion, a stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, of a sure foundation."
Isaiah 28:16

Lyrics: Edward Mote (1834); Tune: ©2011 Hillsong MP Songs. Used by permission.
CCLI #708363

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.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 7:24-27

“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”

DECLARATION OF FAITH

*Heidelberg Catechism
Q&A 21 (1563)*

What is true faith?

**True faith is
not only a sure knowledge by which I hold as true
all that God has revealed to us in Scripture;
it is also a wholehearted trust,
which the Holy Spirit creates in me by the gospel,
that God has freely granted,
not only to others but to me also,
forgiveness of sins,
eternal righteousness,
and salvation.
These are gifts of sheer grace,
granted solely by Christ’s merit.**

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

OFFERING

You can place your offering and/or tear-off as the plates pass. Please visit www.wepc.org/giving, scan the QR code for online giving options, or mail your offering to the church office. All checks will be converted to electronic deposit.



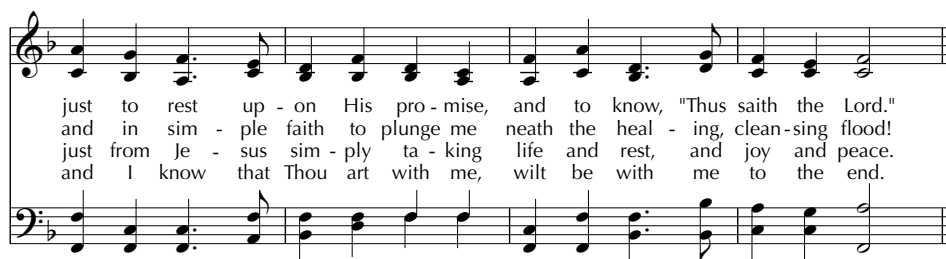
'TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS



1. 'Tis so sweet to trust in Je - sus, and to take Him at His word;
 2. O how sweet to trust in Je - sus, just to trust His clean-sing blood;
 3. Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Je - sus, just from sin and self to cease;
 4. I'm so glad I learned to trust Thee, pre - cious Je - sus, Sa - vior, friend;

"The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." Galatians 2:20

Louisa M. R. Stead (1882); Tune: TRUST IN JESUS, William J. Kirkpatrick (1882). Public domain.



just to rest up - on His pro - mise, and to know, "Thus saith the Lord."
 and in sim - ple faith to plunge me neath the heal - ing, clean-sing flood!
 just from Je - sus sim - ply ta - king life and rest, and joy and peace.
 and I know that Thou art with me, wilt be with me to the end.



Je - sus, Je - sus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!



Je - sus, Je - sus, pre - cious Je - sus! O for grace to trust Him more!

CHILDREN's MESSAGE (10:30am)

Children, ages 4 through 2nd grade, are invited to the front of the Sanctuary prior to the sermon for a Bible lesson.

GOD THE SON RENEWS US THROUGH HIS WORD & SACRAMENT

SCRIPTURE READING

*Psalm 125.
A Song of
Ascents.*

¹Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

²As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
so the Lord surrounds his people,
from this time forth and forevermore.

³For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest
on the land allotted to the righteous,
lest the righteous stretch out
their hands to do wrong.

⁴Do good, O Lord, to those who are good,
and to those who are upright in their hearts!

⁵But those who turn aside to their crooked ways
the Lord will lead away with evildoers!
Peace be upon Israel!

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

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.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

CONFESSION OF SIN

**Heavenly Father,
every day we are reminded that we fall short of Your glory:
You are strong; we are blown about by every whim.
You call for justice; we play favorites and prefer our comfort.
You are holy through and through;
our best efforts are marred by sin and cannot save us.
Oh, how we need a Savior to ransom us from bondage to sin!
Thank You for Jesus, our full atonement.
Oh how we need continued renewal in Your image!
Thank You for the Holy Spirit who convicts, sanctifies,
and leads us into all truth.
Forgive us our sins, and lead us to rest in Your grace. Amen.**

Silent 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.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

1 Peter 1:17b-19

Conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ.

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

ROCK OF AGES (WHEN THE DAY SEEMS LONG)

"He only is my rock and my salvation; my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken."
Psalm 62:2

Kevin Twit
Sandra McCracken
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VERSE



1. Rock of Ag - es, when the day seems long, from this
 2. Rock of Ag - es, when in want or rest, my des-perate
 3. Rock of Ag - es, "It is done!" You cried. The cur-tain's

la - bor and this heart-ache, I have come. The skies will wear out, but You re -
 need for such a Sav - ior, I con - fess. Pull these i - dols out from my
 torn and I see jus - tice sat - is - fied. Now write Your mer - cy, on my

main the same. Rock of A - ges, I praise Your name. Rock of
 heart's em-brace. Rock of A - ges, I need Your grace. Rock of
 heart and hands. Rock of A - ges, in faith I stand. Rock of

A - ges, You have brought me near. You have
 A - ges, bro - ken, scorned for me. Who am
 A - ges, my great hope se - cure. Your pro-mise

poured out Your life - blood, Your love, Your tears, to make this
 I that You would die to make me free? To give me
 holds just like an anch - or to my soul. Bind Your

stone heart come a - live a - gain. Rock of A - ges, for-give my -
 glo - ry, You took the death and pain. Rock of A - ges, my Off - er -
 chil - dren with cords of love and grace. Rock of A - ges, we give You -

REFRAIN

— sin. Rock of A - ges. Rock of A - ges. Bind Your chil - dren un-til the
 — ing.
 — praise.

king - dom comes. Rock of A - ges, Your will be done.

“Trust in the Lord with
all your heart, and
do not lean on your
own understanding.”
Proverbs 3:5

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THOSE WHO TRUST (PSALM 125)

VERSE



1. Those who trust _____ in the Lord _____ are a strong moun -
2. Those who trust _____ in the Lord _____ are as Mount Zi -
3. Christ the King _____ sets my feet _____ on a firm foun -



- tain, they will not, _____ not be moved. _____
- on, they will not, _____ not be moved. _____
da-tion, He will not, _____ not be moved. _____

REFRAIN



Though the world _____ fades a - way, You, O Lord, are faith - ful.

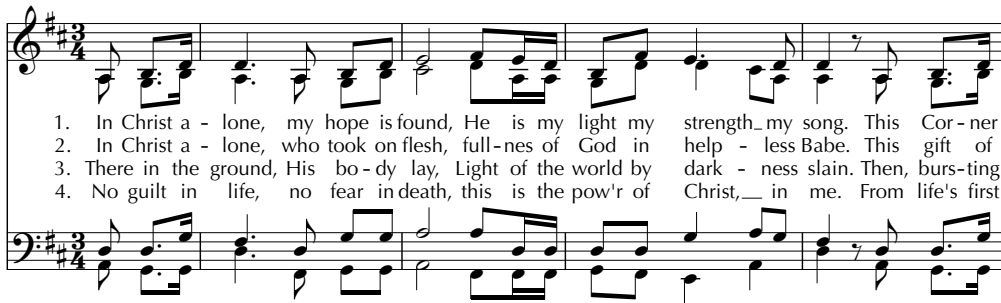


Je-sus, You, _____ You will not, _____ not be _____ changed. _____

IN CHRIST ALONE

"Jesus... there is salvation in no one else." Acts 4:11-12

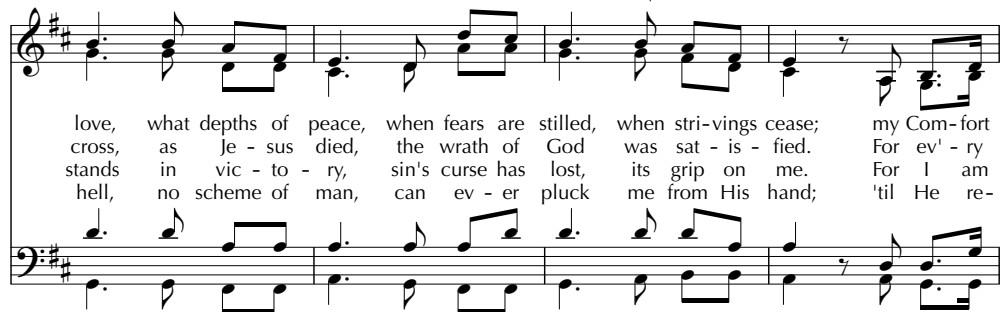
Keith Getty | Stuart Townend ©2001
Thankyou Music.
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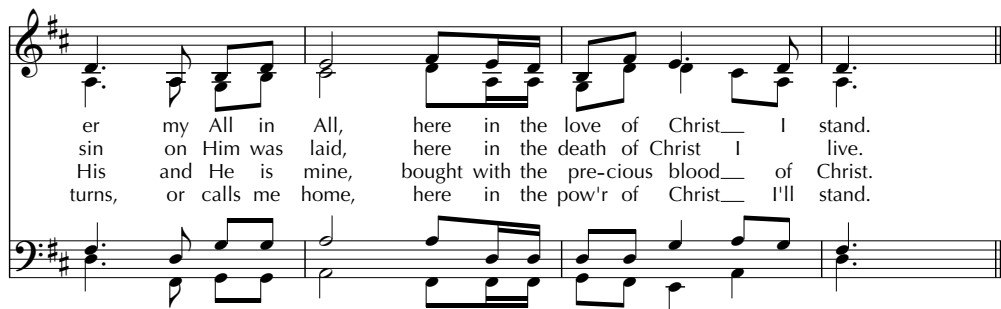
1. In Christ a - lone, my hope is found, He is my light my strength_ my song. This Cor - ner
2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full-nes of God in help - less Babe. This gift of
3. There in the ground, His bo - dy lay, Light of the world by dark - ness slain. Then, burs-ting
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ, in me. From life's first



stone, this so - lid ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of
love, and right-eous ness, scorned by the ones He came to save. 'Til on that
forth, in glor - ious day, up from the grave He rose_ a - gain. And as He
cry, to fin - al breath, Je - sus com mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of



love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when stri-vings cease; my Com-fort
cross, as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is - fied. For ev' - ry
stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on me. For I am
hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His hand; 'til He re-



er my All in All, here in the love of Christ_ I stand.
sin on Him was laid, here in the death of Christ I live.
His and He is mine, bought with the pre-cious blood_ of Christ.
turns, or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ_ I'll stand.

*"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
9 AM & 10:30 AM services.*

***Pastor Steve Shelby** preached today's sermon and administered the Lord's Supper. **Pastor Kevin Greene** led worship. **Elder Mark Crutcher, Rebecca Crutcher, Cora Snyder, Jamison Taggart, Worship Arts Director Becca Wethered, and Gordon Collier** led this morning's congregational singing. **Deacon Luke Shrader, Nissie Mukora, and Chris Malak** managed today's audio and video live stream. **Michael Whitman** managed the in-house video system. **Children's Ministry Director Audrey Snyder** gave the Children's Message at the 10:30 AM service.*

Sermon Notes

Announcements

ADULT MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/adults

Sunday Morning Discipleship: 9AM / Rm 810

- **Growing Together / Through Sept 27**
Join us for this class designed to anchor our church as we prepare for this season of transition. Through deep reflection on the sovereignty of God, we will find out how to walk in unity and with hope.
- **Sonship / Beginning Oct 11 - Spring 2027**
Join us as we learn more about how we experience God's delight over us as His beloved children and learn what it means to practically live by faith. *Sonship*, developed by Serge, aims to increase our love for God and others. Make sure to stop by our table in the gallery today and Meredith will be glad to answer any questions! Contact: Sandy or Meredith Elder (santeecoop@gmail.com; elderelder1204@gmail.com)

Wednesday Night Fellowship:

The Story of Peter

www.wepc.org/WNF

Sept 16 - Nov 18 / 6-7:30 PM / WEPC Chapel
The apostle Peter's life helps us see that there is plenty of grace for sinners, and that the Gospel will certainly change us. That's our story, too. Join us for a look at the story of the apostle Peter. Led by Kevin Greene, Gordon Collier, and Becca Wethered. Contact: Kevin (kevin@wepc.org)

Women's Ministry

www.wepc.org/grow/women

Fall Wellspring & Restore Bible Studies:

Wellspring: Tuesdays AM - *begins Sep 15*

Restore: Wednesdays PM - *begins Sep 16*

Join us as we consider Paul's letter to the church at Philippi--a letter of great joy and encouragement in the face of difficult challenges. All women are welcome. Register now! Contact: Brice Bowman (brice@wepc.org)

Men's Ministry - Second Monday

www.wepc.org/grow/men

September 14 / 6:30 PM / Side Parking Lot

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

The Table Fellowship & Prayer

Fridays beginning Sept 11 / 12-1 PM / Room 160
The Table is an informal gathering to pray and fellowship as a church, open to anyone. We'll have a short devotional, pray for the needs of the church and each other, and eat a packed lunch together. Contact: Matt (matt@wepc.org)

Small Groups

Want to connect with others and deepen your faith this fall? Consider joining a Small Group, helping start a new one, or stepping into one of our newly forming discipleship groups. Contact: Matt (matt@wepc.org) or Joy (joy@wepc.org).

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/children

Sundays:

- **9 AM:** Nursery (infant-3 years old) & Sunday School
- **10:30 AM:** Nursery (infant-3 years old) & Children's Message
- **Nursing Mom's Room** (service audio available during both services)

Volunteers Needed!!

- **2 Sunday School Helpers (PreK-5th)** (Rotating 1x per month)
- **Nursery** - adults needed during both services
- **Wednesday Night Childcare Worker (PAID Position):** Seeking a warm, dependable adult to care for children (0-PreK) during Wednesday Night Ministry programming, beginning September 16th. Contact: Audrey (audrey@wepc.org)

YOUTH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/grow/youth

- **Parents vs Students:** September 9 / 6-7:30 PM
- **Fall Middle & High School Youth Group:** Beginning September 16 / 6-7:30 PM

MISSIONS

Child Evangelism Fellowship of Virginia Dinner

November 5 / 6 PM / Jefferson Hotel

Join WEPC Missions Partner CEFV for a night of music, testimony, and a vision for what God has for the future. Contact: Cheryl (cheryl.simmons@cevfa.com)

WORLD RELIEF RESOURCES

Nepal Disaster Relief

See the PCA's Mission to the World's [website](http://www.missiontotheworld.org) for opportunities to give and support those affected by the floods in Nepal & Tibet.

NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH MINISTRY

www.wepc.org/neighborhood

ESL Volunteers Needed

Adult ESL needs 3 more volunteers in order to be able to offer all classes on Tuesday evenings from 6-8PM. We invite you to join our team, enjoy dinner together on Tuesdays, and make relationships both with other volunteers & our neighborhood friends. **Orientation is Sept 13 from 12-5:30 PM.** Contact: Heather Glissman (heatheresl@wepc.org).

General Information

Deacons of the Week: Jon Greenhill, Chris May, Stephen Hunn

Welcome Back, Chang!

Pastor Changjwok Deng is back from Sabbatical! He is very grateful for your prayers this summer and is looking forward to being back and connecting with folks around WEPC. Make sure you say hello when you see him!

NEW Website and Logo coming this week!

Beginning September 8, we will be transitioning to a new website and logo rollout. We are looking forward to the updated look. We ask for your patience as we deal with any glitches and transitions.

Inquirer's Weekend: FRI, Sept 18-SUN, Sept 20

The pastors of WEPC extend a warm invitation to those interested in our church and the possibility of membership in the future (*membership does give an individual a vote in all congregational meetings*). Inquirers' Weekend is a wonderful time to meet our pastors in a group setting and learn some foundations of Christianity, foundations for our church's worship, and opportunities for connection and worship with others. (Please note that the Friday and Saturday sessions serve as the first step towards membership.)

Friday: 6:30-9 PM (dinner included)

Saturday: 9 AM-12 PM (breakfast included)

No childcare provided for Friday & Saturday.

Sunday: 7 PM: Dessert at the Shelbys' home.
Children welcome.

RSVP by September 14 to Karen Howe (karen@wepc.org) or mark your tear-off.

WEPC Camping Trip

September 18-20 / \$55 per family

Join us for a weekend of faith, fun, and adventure as we camp in the great outdoors and fellowship together at Sherando Lake! Contact: Andi Alberts (alberts.andrea@gmail.com)

Psalms for Pilgrims Sermon Series Playlist

Check out our [Psalms for Pilgrims Playlist](#) as we turn our eyes to our Father for Refuge, Helper, Keeper, and Merciful Deliverer. You can find it by searching "WEPC Psalms for Pilgrims" or "West End Presbyterian Church RVA"

WEPC Employment Opportunity:

Neighborhood Outreach ESL Assistant Director

WEPC is currently seeking those who desire to build relationships with our neighbors and love to work on a team that supports church ministry. Read the job description [HERE](#). Contact: Heather Glissman (heatheresl@wepc.org)

PCA Mercy Ministries Conference

October 2-3, 2026 / Annapolis, MD

Join Kevin Greene and a group from WEPC for this year's PCA Mercy Ministries Conference: Compassion in Action. Worship, teaching, and practical workshops focused on living out our faith through Christ-centered service. Questions? Contact: Kevin Greene (kevin@wepc.org). Register at <https://brushfire.com/mna/mercy/628192>

FOOD PANTRY

www.wepc.org/mercyministry

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

FY26 Financial Summary

		Last Fiscal Year (ended 6/30/26)	
		Offerings	Expenses
	\$	\$ 2,550,259	\$ 2,478,634
	%	103.3%	99.7%
FY26 budget surplus designated to LT Maintenance Fund:		\$	118,000
LT Maintenance Fund Balance as of 7/1/26:		\$	215,736
		Current Fiscal Year (as of 8/30/26)	
		Offerings	Expenses
	\$	\$ 359,990	\$ 408,955
	%	86.5%	

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.