

Follow the Leader

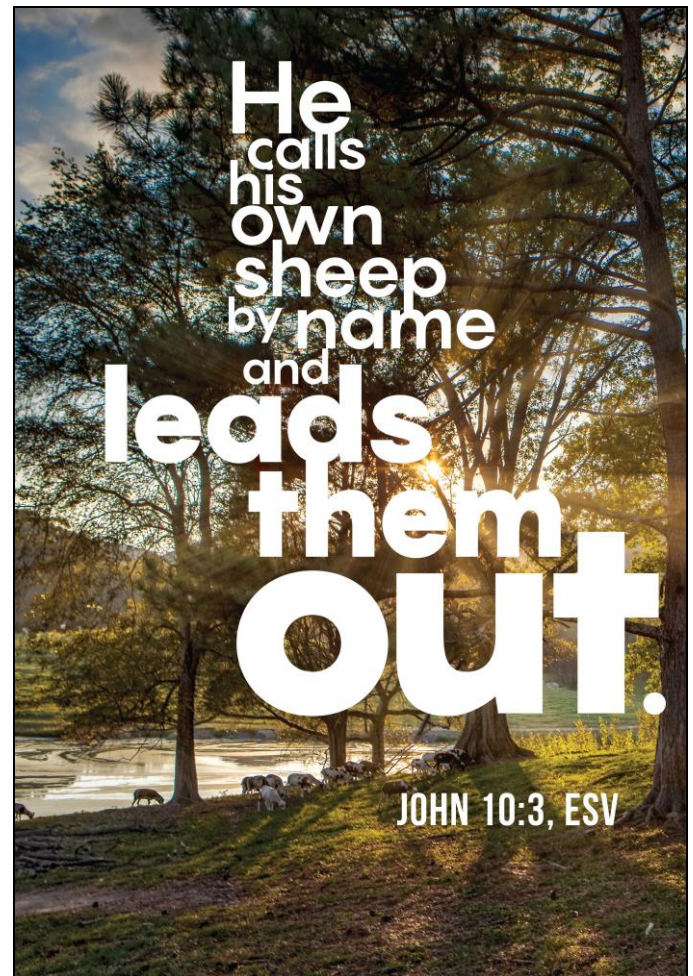
By Janet Berrill

Some of you may remember that in the spring of 2023 I hiked part of the Appalachian Trail (AT). To show where the trail is, the AT is marked with white blazes. The blazes are white rectangles two inches wide by six inches tall that are painted on trees and rocks. When hiking the trail, it is very important to follow the blazes so you stay on the trail and don't get lost. The frequency of the painted blazes varies greatly depending on where you are. In some places I could look ahead and see six blazes painted on trees in front of me. Other times I wouldn't see a blaze for a quarter of a mile or so.

There are many paths and trails that intersect with the Appalachian Trail. At times it is easy to get off the trail without realizing it, especially in a section where the blazes are less frequent. That happened to me once. The AT took a sharp turn to the right, but I kept on going straight, continuing to follow a path where clearly others had walked. Fortunately for me I hadn't gone too far before I realized something was wrong – I wasn't seeing any blazes and the path was looking less traveled. I suspected I was no longer on the AT, so I worked my way back the way I had come until I found a blaze marking the correct trail.

Just like following the blazes is critical when hiking the AT, following Jesus is critical as we walk through this life. In John 10:2-4 we read about Jesus as our Good Shepherd. Verses 3 and 4 say, *"The sheep hear His voice, and He calls His own sheep by name and leads them out. When He has brought out all His own, He goes before them, and the sheep follow Him, for they know His voice."*

Continued on page 2...



Installation Sunday

Please join us on Sunday, October 5, at 9:30 am, for a special service installing Pastor Jame John as Windsor Chapel's senior pastor and celebrating God's faithfulness to us! Pastor Jaspar Jalal will preach.

In attendance will be several of the pastors who ministered to us over the past eighteen months and several special guests of Pastor Jame who will share a few words. The service will be followed by a celebratory lunch. We thank God for His guidance and provision!

“Follow the Leader,” continued...

In this passage, we see:

Jesus calls His sheep by name – this is very personal. He knows the name of each sheep and calls each one by name because He wants each one of His sheep to follow Him.

Jesus leads the sheep – He does not prod the sheep from behind with a stick forcing them to go; He goes first and leads the sheep.

The sheep must listen – they must pay attention to the voice of the Shepherd and respond when they hear it.

Jesus leads the sheep, going before them – He goes first making sure the path is safe from dangers before leading the sheep in that direction. He knows where to lead the sheep.

The sheep must follow – they do not go on their own path but follow the Shepherd.

The sheep must stay on the path – if they wander even just a little from the path, they will get lost.

You are a beloved sheep, and Jesus is your Good Shepherd. He calls you by name to follow Him. When He calls, listen to His voice and follow. He will not force you. Jesus knows the way where He is leading you, and He will always be with you; He will not lead you someplace where He is not already going. If you veer away from following Him, you will quickly get lost. But take heart, your Good Shepherd will seek you out to bring you back, for He loves you so much that He would give His life for you.



We are planning to make slight improvements to our Sunday Worship Service starting October 12. The gathering song will begin at 9:25 am, and the Children's Sunday School

will start in their designated classrooms. After the gathering song, Adult Sunday School will take place in the sanctuary. Pastor Jame's class will be studying the Book of Acts. At 10 am, the Worship Service will begin, and the Sunday School classes will end and join in the sanctuary. The service will end at 11 am.



Happy Birthday!

Blessings to all who celebrate a birthday this month. May you feel the love, joy and presence of the Lord as we all celebrate your special day with prayers and warmest wishes.

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Anshi Duggireddi | October 3 |
| Nancy Muldrow | October 4 |
| Robert MacQueen | October 12 |
| Donald MacQueen | October 20 |
| Andres Chiles | October 23 |



Harvest Party Saturday, October 25

As the fall leaves turn autumn colors and the days get shorter, there's a refreshing crispness in the evening breeze. What better way to enjoy the beauty of this season than by gathering together for our annual Harvest Party! Please join us in the Windsor Chapel picnic grove on Saturday, October 25, from 7:00 – 8:30 pm. We'll enjoy the glow of a crackling campfire, the warmth of fellowship, and a suspenseful campfire story told under the stars.

Bring a folding chair for additional comfort, and invite your family, friends, and neighbors to share in the fun as we celebrate this fall tradition. Everyone is welcome!

Elders' Corner

By Ed MacQueen

Blessings in the Lord. I hope this finds you and your loved ones well. It is an exciting season for us at Windsor Chapel. The Lord answered our prayers in sending Pastor Jame and his family, and just as He was faithful in that, the elders have every hope that He will also hear our prayers for our church to grow and develop as a thriving local body of Christ.

I thank God for your faithfulness to Him and to our church family. We have weathered the storm as it were, by His grace, and are positioned now to proceed full steam ahead. We are small, but like Pastor Jame said from his first Sunday here, the Lord turned the whole world upside down with just twelve men. It is just like the Lord to use the weak, the simple, to accomplish His purposes. He whittled down Gideon's army until it was too small to claim glory for itself. He chose Abraham to begin a godly lineage when Abraham was well past his prime. Jesus chose core disciples who had nothing to boast of in the flesh. We may look at ourselves and ask how we could impact our area with the gospel when there are already larger, stronger churches. That's not what God looks at; He looks the heart where no one else can see. In our weakness God's strength and love may shine through. May He take our humble offering and use it to feed the multitudes around us who do not know Christ.

We are looking forward to adjusting the start time for the main worship service to 10:00 am starting October 12, with Sunday School preceding at 9:30 am. The goal is to make it easier for visitors to join us—visitors who perhaps haven't attended church previously. Let's pray that God uses this small change to make a large impact!

On behalf of the elders, thank you to everyone who was able to join Pastor Jame and his family to pray over their new home and help them move in. It means a lot to know that they have a new church family that loves and supports them. This fall, may you grow deeper in your knowledge of the love of God for you, and may you be emboldened by the Spirit to share that love with others.

Please join us on Sunday, October 5, at 9:30 am for a special service installing Pastor Jame John as Windsor Chapel's senior pastor and celebrating God's faithfulness to us! Pastor Jasper Jalal will preach. In attendance will be several of the pastors who ministered to us over the past 18 months and several special guests of Pastor Jame who will share a few words. The service will be followed by a celebratory lunch. We thank God for His guidance and provision!



Pastor Jame is available to meet and pray with anyone. He is available Monday through Thursday, in the mornings from 10:30 am or in the evenings from 5:30 pm. Please contact him in advance via email, phone call, text, or message him on WhatsApp to schedule an appointment ahead of time.

Please make note of the following information:

pastorjamejohn@gmail.com
Pastor Jame John – 1 (609) 940-9012
Ansu John – 1 (640) 252-4963

Further Up and Further In

*Inviting dialogue to encourage growth in
and among us*



By Cindy Bills

The Mightiest Sword

One of the elements of Evangelical Christianity that I appreciate is the commitment to the Word of God. And the conviction that the Bible is the inerrant, inspired Word of God is at the foundation of Windsor Chapel and of the Evangelical Free Church of America, of which we are a part.

What does our commitment to the Word of God look like? Certainly, the Apostle Paul's words to Timothy are a good place to start: *All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.* (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

The Bible gives us a foundation of truth upon which we can build our lives of faith. It can correct us and give us the boundaries we need to pursue righteous living as fallen people in a fallen world. And apart from personal benefit, the Word of God equips and prepares us to participate in our Lord's kingdom work. We are to manifest Christ and proclaim the Gospel to those around us and to the entire world....

As significant as the Bible is in directing our lives, it seems to me that if we use God's Word solely or mostly as a rule book, we will cheat ourselves of tremendous benefit and put ourselves at risk of becoming Pharisees. When asked about the greatest commandment, Jesus did not pick the most important rule to follow. Rather, he proclaimed that loving the Lord and loving our neighbor were the Lord's priorities for us. And Paul's words of exhortation go well beyond his statement to Timothy. In Romans, Paul calls believers to present their whole selves to the Lord as a living sacrifice, to avoid being conformed to the world but instead to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. (Romans 12:1-2) In order to accomplish this, we once again turn to Paul, who exhorts us to put on the full armor of God, including

"the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."
(Ephesians 6:17)

What better way to renew our minds, conform to the character of Christ, and be transformed by the work of the Holy Spirit than to set our minds to the study of God's Word? Paul tells us that the Word of God is the sword of the Spirit, living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword (Hebrews 4:12), able to pierce through our pretenses and disguises, to heal us and make us whole in Him. And more than that, the study of God's Word implies an encounter with the eternal Word, Christ Himself. (John 1:1)

The eternal God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, wants us to know Him even as He knows us. His Word invites us to a Divine encounter that takes us on the ultimate journey of discovery, gives us glimpses of God's glory, and yields personal growth and transformation. May we accept His most gracious invitation!

*Please feel free to contact Cindy (609-275-8557) or
cynthiabills@gmail.com to continue the dialogue....*

Financial Update

(Through August 31, 2025)

"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want..."

| | Actual | Budget |
|---------|----------|----------|
| Income | \$76,513 | \$96,000 |
| Expense | \$83,138 | \$96,000 |

If you have any items or information you would like to share in the newsletter, please e-mail:

Susan Seiboth at

susan@quiltingsquare.com

Dorothy Soi at

dsoi@windsorchapel.org

Chapel Office (609) 799-2559

www.windsorchapel.org

