

ON SEPTEMBER 9, WE'RE HOSTING A CHURCH-WIDE FALL KICKOFF EVENT



Last January we launched Parish Life at Third Church. Two weeks later, Parish Groups launched all across Richmond. For the last six months, we have seen God at work in amazing ways through this ministry. As we align our communal life around God's Word, God's people and God's purposes in our neighborhoods, we are seeing glimpses of New Creation in the here and now, in our streets and in our homes.

As we begin our fall season of Parish Life at Third, we want to offer an easy opportunity for you to connect with others who live near you, and meet your Shepherding Elders, Deacons, and Parish Group leaders.

On September 9, we'll host a fall kickoff event in the form of open-house style gatherings across the city. Our plan is that, a few times a year, we'll have parish-wide gatherings across the city, open to everyone, whether you are in a Parish Group or not.

**YOU'RE
INVITED.**

What does this mean? Well, each Parish Area (which is just a geographic area around Richmond) will host a gathering—like a picnic in the park or block party in the neighborhood—on September 9 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. And we want you to be there. There's no homework, no qualifications, and no commitment needed. We're just inviting everyone to come, meet your Third neighbors and leaders, and experience some community in your own backyard. Come get a snapshot of what Parish Life is all about.

No matter where you are right now or what your circumstances are, Parish Life is here to serve you and help you connect with God's mission and God's people where you actually live.

Find all the details for your Area Gathering by checking thirdrva.org/parish-life in the coming weeks.

So mark your calendars for September 9 and come out ready to experience good food, good fellowship and to hear a little bit more about what God is doing through Parish Life.

TURQUOISE TABLES

A CHANCE TO LOVE YOUR NEIGHBORS



Jeff and Lyric Hassler, City South Parish

We recently hosted a turquoise table* gathering at our home and it was a beautiful evening of fellowship. We had texted almost all the neighbors on our street early the day before. (Those we didn't have numbers for, we messaged through the app *Nextdoor*). Everyone was thrilled...and most were around!

Throughout the evening we had over 25 neighbors drop by—kids included. We made a pan of brownies, cut up a watermelon and made rhubarb/strawberry crisp. We made a pitcher of lemonade, put out a small trough of some beers we had on hand, and a jug of water.

We deepened our relationships with neighbors—neighbors' relationships with each other—introduced neighbors to each other and really felt like we hosted not a party—but an easily replicable event of neighbors chatting and enjoying each other casually. Every single one of our neighbors commented on what a great thing The Table is and what it can do. And everyone talked about “next time.”

Jeff and I are planning to get a small brass plate made which we can mount to the table-top inviting neighbors to stop and sit. We all went to bed late. Hot and tired. With the house a wreck and 1st grade Sunday School to teach the next morning. But, we are deeply grateful for the chance to do this with and for our neighborhood.

Are you finding creative ways to meet and love your neighbors? Tell us about it! Get in touch with Beth Nichols to share your story of loving your actual neighbors: bethn@thirdrva.org.



**The Turquoise Table: Finding Community and Connection in Your Own Front Yard* by Kristin Schell



Getting to Know Your Missions Department

THE ANNUAL BUDGET

In an effort to provide more exposure into how things run in our Missions Department and how we manage our budget and Mission Partners, we'll be running a series of pieces giving the Third family a bit more insight. We know that missions is a core passion for so many in our congregation, and hope you are informed and encouraged by this series!

EVER WONDER HOW THE MISSION TEAM MANAGES OUR ANNUAL BUDGET?

Each January and February, questionnaires are sent to all of Third's local and global mission partners and they are then given up to five months to complete it and return it back to us.

This questionnaire includes a variety of questions such as:

- *Tell us about significant accomplishments, changes, and challenges over the last 12 months.*
- *What is your total budget?*
- *What is your total financial shortfall or surplus for the next calendar year?*
- *Over the last 12 months, how many organizations, including churches, have provided you regular recurring funding? How many individuals?*
- *Have you had or do you foresee any significant changes in your income or expenses for the next year?*
- *If your organization has a mission statement, vision statement, statement of beliefs and values and/or current year goals/objectives, please provide those to us.*
- *If we funded a special project, provide a report specifically focusing on it: expected outcomes and results, costs and the future of the project.*

Once we receive their responses, a small team of people who serve on the annual mission budget team read the surveys and evaluate them. These individuals are seasoned mission team members—uniquely gifted to assess our current partners, their needs and their alignment with Third's mission priorities (find our priorities at thirdrva.org/outreach).

The mission budget team is given one month to read through over 85 mission partner responses. After that, we begin a series of long meetings to review the mission partner needs and begin to draft the following year's budget. After about 3-4 sessions, we finish the process and bring in the whole mission team to review. Together, we make changes or affirm our support based on their input. The budget is finalized by the end of August for the next year and submitted to Third's accounting office. Then, in just six short months, the process begins again!

There's much prayer, crunching of numbers, and discerning that happens in order to best steward the funds that are entrusted to us. Those who serve on the mission budget team consider it a privilege to partner with our local and global mission partners, and serve the church in this way. We take our work seriously and are grateful for it!

Have another question for LJ and the missions team? Send it over! Email LJ: lj@thirdrva.org.

— NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR CHRISTIAN RECOVERY CONFERENCE —

ARE YOU STRUGGLING TO THRIVE IN A WOUNDED WORLD?

Friday - Saturday, September 28 - 29, 2018

Third Church | 600 Forest Avenue

The National Association for Christian Recovery and Third Church invite you to come to a safe place to find not just compassion, but information, resources, peer support and recovery that address issues related to our emotional, physical and spiritual well-being. Topics include understanding shame, healing shame within a family system, detachment as a spiritual practice, boundaries, and the theology of recovery.

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Juanita Ryan: *Licensed Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist. Certified Life Coach specializing in spiritual issues.*

Dale Ryan: *Associate Professor of Recovery Ministry and Director of the Fuller Institute for Recovery Ministry, Fuller Theological Seminary. CEO of Christian Recovery International.*

Teresa McBean: *Executive Director for the National Association for Christian Recovery. Pastor of NorthStar Community ("NSC") a recovery church.*

Registration and details:
nacr.org/richmond-va-regional-conference

Questions? Contact Mary Damon: merryoh@gmail.com.

Our study this summer *Among American Gods, a Study of the Ten Commandments* has challenged us as a congregation to look at our idols. Underneath our behavior, our speech, and our attitudes are things that we regularly look to for meaning and life that are not the real source of life and fulfillment for which God created us. We have expectations of our work and relationships that cannot truly provide for us. Our lifestyles form patterns that keep producing conflict, disappointment, and emptiness. We long for freedom and yet continue to find ourselves stuck.

Third has been a home to a group who has been meeting weekly for several years to wrestle with these deep struggles. This community has taken the step to invite and host the National Association for Christian Recovery to hold this event at Third on September 28 and 29, 2018. Our hope is to widen the community in engaging our idols, our lifestyle patterns that bind us so that we together might experience the freedom that Christ offers us. Third's Pastoral staff highly recommends that you consider being part of this weekend to continue to address the things that we have learned throughout the summer.

— Ed Satterfield

EVENTS



DISCERN: YOUR PLACE IN GOD'S GLOBAL MISSION

Urbana Missions Conference
December 27-31 | St. Louis, MO

InterVarsity's Urbana Conference is a global missions conference in St. Louis for college and graduate students to hear and explore God's call into missions. We'll be leading a group of Third college students in what will be a life-changing few days.

During this five-day conference, over 16,000 participants engage in a kaleidoscope of experiences including worship, messages and seminars, manuscript Bible studies, testimonies from the global church, prayer ministry, and a chance to meet with over 260 missions and outreach organizations.

Are you a student or parent of a student who would be interested in going? We're assembling our team now! Find out more by visiting urbana.org and contacting LJ: lj@thirdrva.org. Scholarships available!



COMPASS LAUNCH PARTY

Saturday, August 4 and Thursday, August 16
Fellowship Hall | 7:00 p.m.

Our Covenant Partners Brad and Marmi Houff are starting a new ministry called the Compass Center for Christian Formation & Leadership. They want to help Christians stay rooted in Christ so that their leadership and work will flow from an ever-deepening relationship with Christ. The Compass Center will offer one-on-one spiritual direction and monthly Soul Care Retreats for Christian leaders.

You are invited to their Launch Party this month. Come out and learn more about this ministry and how you can be a part.

RSVP: compasscenterva@gmail.com



BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER GATHERING

Sunday, August 26 | 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. | Parlor

Parents, teachers and students are invited to come pray for the start up of the school year. Come gather to lift a chorus of prayers for our schools, teachers and students.

*“For where two or three are gathered in my name,
there am I with them.”*

Questions? Contact Kathy White: kathyw@thirdrva.org.



DAVE RAMSEY'S FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Sunday mornings, starting September 9

10:00 – 11:30 a.m. | Room 215

Taught by Keith and Connie Byers

The money class that will change your life. No matter where you are with your money, this class will teach you to create a budget, pay off debt, spend and save wisely, and give generously! We all need a plan for our money and God wants us to have financial peace. This class is being offered by Third for \$59 per individual or \$99 per couple (to cover FPU workbook and materials).

Please note that this special class runs from 10:00 am to 11:30 am with child care provided for newborn–6th grades. Scholarships are available and you can contact Derek Mondeau (derekm@thirdrva.org) in advance with any questions.



CLUB 56 KICKOFF DINNER

Wednesday, September 12
6:30 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

5th and 6th grade students and their families are invited to attend the annual Club 56 kick-off dinner. We will talk about the ministry of Club 56, introduce our Sunday morning teaching team, and talk about what to expect during the “middle years.”

Please RSVP to Andrea Woie by Wednesday, September 5th: andreaw@thirdrva.org.

WELCOME COFFEE

Sunday mornings
September 9, October 21, November 18, December 16
10:00 a.m. | Parlor

This is the perfect place to start to learn more about Third. This monthly event gives you a chance to learn more about our history, what we believe and what we care about. You'll also get to start meeting some other Third folks and enjoy Blanchard's coffee and snacks.



NEWCOMERS CLASS

Are you ready to explore a deeper commitment to this part of the Body of Christ? We'd love to get to know you and provide an opportunity for you to learn about Third's vision for worship, discipleship, community, serving and outreach. We host this class several times a year where you'll hear from Corey Widmer, other Third leaders and laypeople, and find out more about the community and missional life of Third.

At the end of the class, you'll have an opportunity to become a covenant partner of our church family.

Here's the schedule:

Sunday morning, September 16
 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. | Parlor

Friday evening, September 21
 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. | Dinner provided

Saturday, September 22
 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 30
 the Sunday Morning service you normally attend
 (for those deciding to become members)

Ready to sign up? Visit: thirdrva.org/newcomers.



Third Church
500 Forest Ave.
Richmond, VA 23229
(804) 282-4645



Called together for the renewal of all things through Jesus Christ.

OUR STAFF

REV. COREY WIDMER
Lead Pastor

REV. ED SATTERFIELD
Executive Pastor

DEREK MONDEAU
Pastor of Discipleship & Parish Ministry

REV. LAURIE JAWORSKI
Mission Pastor

REV. RICK HUTTON
Associate Pastor for Students (grades 6–12)

ANDREA WOIE
Student Ministry Associate

ALAN WARE
Director of Finance & Administration

TRACIE MEADOWS
Associate Dir. of Family Ministry

KATHY WHITE
Associate Dir. of Family Ministry

DR. JOHN WHITE
Pastor for Worship and Pastoral Care

KIM TAULBEE
Associate Music Director

BETH NICHOLS
Director of Connection Ministries

BECCA PAYNE
Director of Communications

ALEX SAWYER
Technical Director

TIM LATHAM
Director of Young Adult Ministries

REV. RICHARD HANEY
Theologian and Missiologist in Residence

REV. NAN CLARKE
Pastor for Care Ministries

THIRD PRESS DEADLINE FOR JULY: FRIDAY, JUNE 8. SUBMIT TO: BECCAP@THIRDVA.ORG