

*We're excited to welcome our Covenant Partner Justin Earley as the lead teacher for our February Term this year! Justin's new book is releasing this month and is based on the premise that our habits – whether we are aware of them or not—are forming us more than we know it. Below we are featuring an excerpt of this upcoming book, in the hope that you'll join us for our February Term (more details on the next page) and read the book when it's released!*

I started talking about habits a lot. I probably annoyed a lot of my friends, who had to hear about it over and over. One day I was explaining some of my realizations about habits to my pastor, and he asked to see what I was doing. I'll never forget what he said when he looked at them: "Oh, I see. You've crafted your own rule of life."

I answered with the ironic words of someone who would go on to write a book about it: "What's a rule of life?"

I now know that a "rule of life" is a term for a pattern of communal habits for formation. The most well-known rules of life were originally developed by church fathers and ancient monastics, such as St. Augustine or St. Benedict. But for thousands of years, spiritual communities have been using the frame of the rule of life as a mechanism of communal formation.

Despite our understanding of the word "rule," a "rule of life" is much less about obeying rules than it is about finding communal purpose. For example, while both St. Augustine's and St. Benedict's rule have all kinds of tiny habits that we might either consider too inane to matter or too strict to be appropriate, we should notice that both of them had the same goal in mind: *love*.

Both were obsessed with taking the small patterns of life and organizing them towards the big goal of life: to love God and neighbor. St. Augustine's rule began with this sentence: "Before all things, most dear brothers, we must love God and after Him our neighbor; for these are the principal commands which have been given to us." St. Benedict's rule opens declaring that it means to establish "nothing harsh, nothing burdensome," but goes on to describe walking in God's commandments as being in the "ineffable sweetness of love."

Both saw habits as the gears by which to direct life toward the purpose of love. In fact, the word *rule* is used because it comes from the Latin word *regula*, a word associated with a bar or trellis, the woodwork on which a plant grows. The idea is that we (like plants) are always growing and changing. But when there is no order, growth can take something that was supposed to produce fruit and turn it into a twisted vine of decay. That description was frighteningly accurate in my case. The rule of life is intended to pattern communal life in the direction of purpose and love instead of chaos and decay. ➔

Anyone who stops to think about it comes to the same realization— humans are largely defined by the small routines that make up our days and weeks. Author Annie Dillard wrote, “How we spend our days is, of course, how we spend our lives. What we do with this hour, and that one, is what we are doing. A schedule defends from chaos and whim. It is a net for catching days. It is a scaffolding on which a worker can stand and labor with both hands at sections of time.”

The best way to understand a “rule of life” or a program of habits is by picturing Dillard’s scaffolding, her version of the trellis. Habits are how we stand up and get our hands on time. And because time is the currency of our purpose, habits are how we get our hands on our purpose. If you want to get your hands on what you know, you need to seek out the right words. If you want to get your hands on who you are becoming, you need to get your hands on habits. A rule of life is how we get our hands on our habits. Understanding this insight, monastic orders have for millennia lived according to rules of life for the purpose of unifying head and habit.

It’s high time that this ancient spiritual wisdom become modern common sense. All those who want to be attentive to who they are becoming must realize that formation begins with a framework of habits.

Justin Earley. *The Common Rule: Habits of Purpose for an Age of Distraction*. (IVP Books, 2019)

## 2019 FEBRUARY TERM

# HABITS OF PURPOSE IN AN AGE OF DISTRACTION

Each February, we push pause on our normal Sunday school classes so we can spend a month together as a full church community studying a topic that has bearing on all our lives. February Term proves to be one of our most special events each year—when else do we get to spend four Sundays all together in one room?!—so we hope you join us.

In this year’s class, we’ll be looking at how powerful and pervasive habits are in the substructure of our lives, and how Scripture calls us to be much more intentional and thoughtful about our habitual lives than we normally are.

### HERE’S THE SCHEDULE:

All classes are at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall (coffee provided!)

February 3:	<b><i>How Habits Inevitably Shape Our Lives</i></b>	<i>Taught by Justin Earley</i>
February 10:	<b><i>Habits that Cultivate Love for Neighbor</i></b>	<i>Taught by Justin Earley</i>
February 17:	<b><i>Habits that Cultivate Love for Community</i></b>	<i>Taught by Derek Mondeau</i>
February 24:	<b><i>Habits that Cultivate Love for God</i></b>	<i>Taught by Corey Widmer</i>

# GET TO KNOW THE STAFF OF THIRD CHURCH DISCIPLESHIP TEAM

*As our congregation has grown, so has Third's staff. In our fourth and final installment of 'Get to Know The Third Staff,' we're highlighting the members of the Discipleship team and how they use their gifts to serve our growing church.*



**DEREK MONDEAU** is Pastor of Discipleship and Parish Ministry. Having worked with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship for years, Derek came to Third in late 2017 to lead and shape discipleship here. He supervises the Discipleship Team, works with our teachers, and manages our parish ministry by casting vision, teaching, and leading our Parish Area Leaders (Shepherding Elders and Deacons) and our Parish Group Core leaders. He and his wife Sue live in Manchester with their sons Fisher and Remi. Contacting Valerie Holland is a good way to connect with him: [valerieh@thirdrva.org](mailto:valerieh@thirdrva.org).



**BETH NICHOLS MARRIOTT** is our Director of Connections Ministry. She has been on staff since 2001, working with Women's Ministry and helping people connect in the life of the body of Christ at Third. She oversees our welcoming of visitors through a greeting ministry led by the Deacons, helping connect folks into parish life, and leading potential Covenant Partners through the Newcomers Class. She is gifted at helping people learn about their gifts and how they might serve Christ. She married Phil Marriott this past September and lives in the Chesterfield Parish. She would be delighted to explore with you how you might fit in the life of the church: [bethn@thirdrva.org](mailto:bethn@thirdrva.org).



**RICK HUTTON** has served as Pastor for Student Ministry since 2009. He trains and directs a large team of leaders who work with our Junior and Senior High students, leading classes and small groups. Rick has fostered an environment where every student builds many strong and significant relationships as part of their involvement at Third, which has proved to be a powerful factor in their remaining a follower of Christ after high school. Rick supervises Andrea Woie, is connected with the College Ministry team, and works with Tracie Meadows to oversee the Club 56 ministry. He and his wife Caroline have two boys, McCray and William and live in the Gayton Parish. Reach Rick: [rickh@thirdrva.org](mailto:rickh@thirdrva.org).



**ANDREA WOIE** joined Third staff in February 2015. As Student Ministry Associate, she helps provide leadership for the Student Ministry, with particular focus on caring for women in the ministry. She executes most of the communication and administration for the ministry, working closely with Rick to manage these areas. She and her husband Ian live with their sweet 2-year-old Hannah in the River West Parish. Get in touch with Andrea at [andreaw@thirdrva.org](mailto:andreaw@thirdrva.org).

Get to know the rest of our staff: [thirdrva.org/leadership-and-staff](https://thirdrva.org/leadership-and-staff)





**DREW CLEVELAND** joined our staff in January replacing two previous part-time intern staff in a full time position as Director of Young Adult and College Ministry. A Covenant Partner at Third since the fall of 2017, he has been heavily involved in Parish life and Jobs For Life. A graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, Drew loves talking with people about the longings, joys and sorrows of life and the intersection of faith, work and culture with the way of Jesus. He will be spending much of his time connecting with Young Adults and College Students. He lives in the City North Parish and attends the City South Wednesday night Parish Group. Connect with Drew at [drewc@thirdrva.org](mailto:drewc@thirdrva.org).



**TRACIE MEADOWS** is Third's Family Ministry Associate working with our elementary age children, 1st through 6th grade. She has spent her four years on staff recruiting, training and overseeing teachers for Sunday morning children's classes as well as leading a team to provide discipleship and outreach opportunities such as Vacation Bible School and Family Adventure Camp. She also teams up with Rick and Andrea to oversee Club 56 as those 5th and 6th graders transition from elementary to middle school. She and her husband Mark live in the Gayton Parish with the two children Peyton and Liam. Get in touch with Tracie at [traciem@thirdrva.org](mailto:traciem@thirdrva.org).



**KATHY WHITE** has served as Third's Family Ministry Associate since 2015. She works with our children from birth through Kindergarten. She oversees a team of child care workers who provide care in our nurseries on Sunday mornings and child care for the many weekday and evening events at Third. She also helps lead the Mosaic Ministry that connects, supports, and cares for families with children with special needs, and serves as a resource for the Shiloh ministry, a support group for couples dealing with fertility issues. Kathy and her husband Randall live in the Northwest Parish and have three grown children and four grandchildren. Connect with Kathy at [kathyw@thirdrva.org](mailto:kathyw@thirdrva.org).



**VALERIE HOLLAND** is our Database manager and the administrative support for Derek in Discipleship and Parish Ministry. Valerie manages and oversees our Shelby Database, training staff and volunteer leaders in its use, setting protocols and maintaining quality control for the use of the database. She assists Derek in running his calendar and in managing communication and organization for the large umbrella of Discipleship and Parish Ministry. Valerie has six grown children and two grown step children and lives with her husband Garret in Rockville. Contact Valerie to connect with Derek or for any questions about Parish life and organization: [valerieh@thirdrva.org](mailto:valerieh@thirdrva.org).



**STERLING LLOYD** serves as Administrative Assistant for the Discipleship Team and the Deacons. She supports more staff than any of our other Administrative Assistants (six different staff!). Sterling is a member of Ginter Park Presbyterian Church. If you have any questions about Care and Discipleship ministries or event registration, Sterling is the best person to contact: [sterlingl@thirdrva.org](mailto:sterlingl@thirdrva.org).



## MISSIONS TRIP HAITI

**When:** July 13–20 (Saturday – Saturday)

**Flight:** Flying in and out of RIC, through Ft. Lauderdale

**Cost:** \$1440 (includes flights, all meals, lodging,  
and transportation while in Haiti)

**Team Leaders:** Billy and Jen Martin

The poorest country in the Western Hemisphere is just over four hours from Richmond by plane. For many Haitians, food is scarce or non-existent. They need healthcare, dentistry, education, construction, and friendship with people who care.

Third Church is heading back to Port-au-Prince, Haiti this July to serve our brothers and sisters at Haiti Outreach Ministries and Hope United. We hope you can join us!

### THERE WILL BE THREE TEAMS:

**Medical:** Looking for doctors, nurses, dentists, and pharmacists

**Construction:** No specific skills needed to serve

**Vacation Bible School:** No specific skills needed to serve

It's time to save your spot—we anticipate this trip filling up! To reserve your spot, drop off or mail a \$100 deposit or full payment to:

Third Church  
ATTN: Rebecca Hatton/Haiti  
500 Forest Ave.  
Henrico, VA 23229

*Note: please write Haiti Trip in the memo field*

**Questions?** Call Billy (843.364.0885) or Jen (843.364.0670), or email [thirdteamhaiti@gmail.com](mailto:thirdteamhaiti@gmail.com).

## MISSIONS TRIP RUSSIA

**Trip to Russia with Frontier Fellowship**

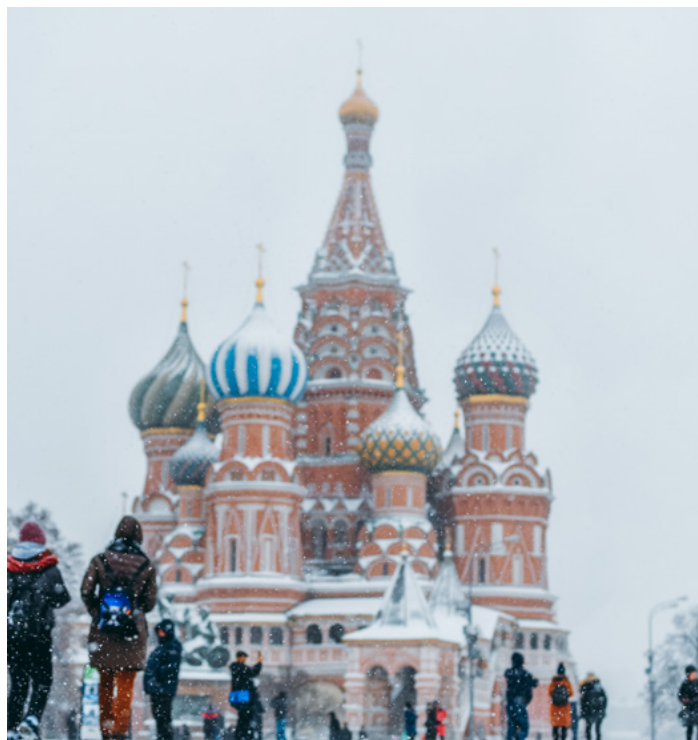
**When:** May 31 – June 9

**Cost:** \$2,409 (not including airfare)

**Team Leaders:** Donald Marsden and LJ Jaworski

The purpose of this trip is to expand your vision of how God is at work in the world as we travel to Moscow and St. Petersburg to meet with those who are sharing the good news of Jesus among the more than 20 million Muslims and other minority groups living in Russia. We will also visit Red Square, the Kremlin, the Hermitage and attend other cultural events.

Apply by May 15 by contacting Donald at 804-432-5654 or [dmarsden@frontierfellowship.com](mailto:dmarsden@frontierfellowship.com).



# URBANA RECAP

A group of thirteen from Third and Christian Arabic Church (CAC) traveled to St. Louis by bus to attend the Urbana18 Conference, a renowned mission conference for college students put on by InterVarsity Christian Fellowship every three years.

Many at Third have fond memories of their own personal Urbana experiences and I have had the privilege of leading an Urbana team three times before this one. Each time I'm delighted to have the opportunity to walk with students for months or years coaching them on how to discern God's call and fulfill the commitments they made at the conference.

## WHAT IMPACTED YOU THE MOST ABOUT URBANA?

*"God is inviting me to share his kingdom to non-believers everywhere I go. He has blessed me to reach more people (Muslims, Arabic speakers) through his bilingual gift to me."*

*"This year I have been considering the possibilities of providing opportunities for inner city students to learn trades. During Urbana I purposed in my heart to pursue this with more fervor. My reluctance thus far has been my lack of knowledge and experience but the need is real so I will step out of the boat and if it is of God He will confirm."*

*"The highlight of the conference for me was the expository Bible teaching on Revelation. The theme - Faithful Witness - was beautifully fleshed out as Jesus. He was the Faithful Witness. We lifted our sights to Him with encouragement that we too can be faithful witnesses."*

*"So many people were telling me about how amazing Urbana was and I was worried I would not feel the same, but I was completely blown away...Urbana most convicted me on how important it was for "Babylon" to not be living in us although we live in it. I was able to really repent. I literally wept (several times actually)."*

*"Urbana gave me a chance to dive deeper into social justice issues that have always interested me. I feel an urgent need to actively educate myself on issues hidden from us in American classrooms, such as the reality of mass incarceration, the U.S.'s involvement in exploiting developing countries and the persistence of racism. I feel inspired to pursue a career that defends the impoverished and oppressed."*

Thanks church family for helping send these students to a life changing conference and for allowing me to attend with this fine group of students and adults. As God continues to use the Urbana conference, please pray that the seeds planted in the hearts of our students, as well as all the Urbana18 students, grow and blossom.

- LJ Jaworski, Missions Pastor



## HIGHLIGHTS

- We partnered with CAC and having these two churches come together enriched our experience. New friendships were formed and the students really bonded.
- Brad and Marmi Houff, gave the students prepaid Urbana cards to use. What a gift! Our team purchased books for the Houffs and expressed thanks to them for this sweet gift.
- Powerful worship, inspiring talks, and impactful and creative interactive experiences.







# JOBS *for* LIFE™

Restoring dignity. Changing lives. Transforming communities.

**1 NIGHT × 2.5 HOURS × 12 WEEKS = LIVES CHANGED.**

## THIS ISN'T FALSE ADVERTISING OR NEW MATH. IT'S JOBS FOR LIFE.

You've probably heard Jobs for Life talked about around Third for the last three years but do you really know what it is? And does it really change lives in such a short time? If so, how? What better way to understand something than from someone who doubted what he was told about the program could be true? Meet Scott Frayser, Jobs for Life Champion...

From Scott:

*"I had heard pulpit announcements about Jobs for Life for several years and I really did not connect with what it was. One Sunday last summer I heard an announcement about a new session starting and felt strongly called to reach out to Ginger and find out more.*

*She said it would change my life. I responded that was a bold claim. After participating with the Fall 2018 JFL session, I can happily confess, Ginger was right. Participating in Jobs for life, whether as a student or mentor is truly a life changing experience.*

*Get involved with Jobs for Life. It will change your life. Really."*

## READY TO JOIN JOBS FOR LIFE?

New session kicks off February 18 – May 13\*

**When:** Monday nights, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

**Where:** Fellowship Hall

**Learn more:** [gingerjames1@icloud.com](mailto:gingerjames1@icloud.com)

\*Taking a break for April 1, Spring Break

From Erika G., a student: \*

*"I was so blessed by the JFL course. I like to share it with many people, because I think that we need this program to prepare us when we go to find a job or to just be the best at the place where we are at the moment."*

From Mi Yoo, a student: \*

*"One day Ginger visited the ESL school at church and introduced the Jobs for Life program. At that time, I really didn't understand the program, I just wanted to get an opportunity to study English.*

*When speaking English, I had no confidence and I was ashamed and uneasy when I had to communicate with people. When I enrolled in this program, my mind was full of anxiety. It was not only because of my lack of English. Even in front of Korean people, I had trembling and panic, and I was not able to express my opinion because I was worried about being rejected.*

*While participating in this program, I feel Jesus was with me and Sherry (my champion) always encouraged me. So, I decided to overcome my weaknesses. I found that I am not worthless. I have known from God that I am precious.*

*From now on, I will try to be a confident and courageous person and to live my life with dignity. I think I am already strong enough to tell others about myself."*

*\*Both of these incredible women have come from ESL backgrounds to graduate from Jobs for Life with renewed confidence and energy in themselves and in their work.*

# MAKERS THE SERIES

# intimate

FRIDAY NIGHT

SATURDAY MORNING

SATURDAY NIGHT

*This next installment of the Makers Series will explore how the arts connect us with one another, and the material “stuff” that takes on intensely personal terms. Join us Friday night for our Makers panel with glassblower Peter Jacobsen, poet Nathaniel Perry, and musical duo The Welcome Wagon. Then join The Welcome Wagon on Saturday morning for a worship workshop, and a concert later that evening.*

## MAKERS SERIES: INTIMATE

*Friday, February 8 in the Fellowship Hall*

*Doors open at 6:30 p.m. | Program begins at 7:00 p.m.*

Our next Makers Series explores how visual, written and musical arts can still connect us with each other and the material “stuff” of the world on intensely personal—though not always private—terms. Our makers include Peter Jacobsen, glassblower, Nathaniel Perry, a poet, and the Welcome Wagon, a musical duo.

## MAKERS CONVERSATION: INTIMATE WORSHIP WITH THE WELCOME WAGON

*Saturday, February 9, from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. at Third Church*

In an informal, conversational format, we’ll examine the possibilities and challenges of inviting people into spiritual intimacy in small gatherings like house churches, parish groups, and bible studies, and how the lessons learned there can help transform our experience of leading worship—and just playing music—in settings of any size.

In a time balanced between teaching and conversation, we’ll hear about Vito and Monique Aiuto’s path to becoming church-planters and then starting The Welcome Wagon.

**RSVP:** [valerieh@thirdrva.org](mailto:valerieh@thirdrva.org)

## WELCOME WAGON CONCERT

*Saturday, February 9, at 7:00 p.m.*

*Redeemer Anglican Church, 2715 Grove Avenue*

Join The Welcome Wagon for an intimate concert of new and old music at the corner of Grove and Boulevard in Richmond’s Fan District.

**Tickets:** \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door

**More Info:** [thirdrva.org/events](http://thirdrva.org/events)





## PIZZA AND MOVIE NIGHT

Join us for pizza and the movie *Charlotte's Web* (2006)! This is a great way to meet new people and spend some time together as a church family! And families can also read the book before they see the movie. It is a great one to read out aloud!

**When:** Saturday, February 16, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

**Where:** Fellowship Hall

**RSVP:** [thirdrva.org/events](http://thirdrva.org/events) (\$3 adults, \$2 children)

**Please Bring:** a sweet or salty snack to share, a beach chair or blanket to sit on, and a food donation for the hunger-relief organization, FeedMore.

## FEED MORE

One of Third's Faith Milestones is service and this year we wanted to give families an opportunity to serve together as part of movie night. So we're asking for non-perishable food donations to be given to the hunger-relief organization, FeedMore. We will also have a table set up where children can make a card to encourage a patient at Children's Hospital. We hope you will invite another family to join you for this fun and mission-minded evening!

Aurelia, Eliana, and Renata Hassler have made cards for the patients at Children's and had a few thoughts to share:

*"I like to make cards so they (the patients) know we actually care. They matter to us and that's why we take the time to make cards."*

– Aurelia, age 10

*"I hope it makes them feel special. I want them to know other people care about them."* – Eliana, age 9

*"I like making cards to they know that I care about them and not only the doctors are about them."* – Renata, age 7

### FEEDMORE: MOST WANTED ITEMS

- Peanut Butter
- Canned tuna, salmon or chicken in water
- Canned vegetables (low sodium or no salt)
- Canned fruits (in their own juice or water)
- Spaghetti sauce
- Dried tomatoes
- Pasta, brown rice, and quinoa
- Canned or dry beans
- Whole grain cereal
- Healthy snacks, like fruit cups, raisins, and granola bars



## WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: YOU ARE KNOWN

This year's focus for the women's ministry has been around building authentic and intentional relationships, including mentorship and spiritual friendships. So we hope through this day together, we will help women understand that they are seen, known, and loved by God, and how he works through our relationships with one another.

*Erin Rose, Val Kling, Bradley Crawford, Connie Byers will be speaking, and worship will be led by Brooke Wright (Winters).*

**When:** Saturday, February 23, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Where:** Fellowship Hall

**RSVP:** [thirdrva.org/events](http://thirdrva.org/events) (\$25 – scholarships available)

## ANNUAL MISSIONS CONFERENCE

*Save the Date: May 3-5, 2019*

More details to come!



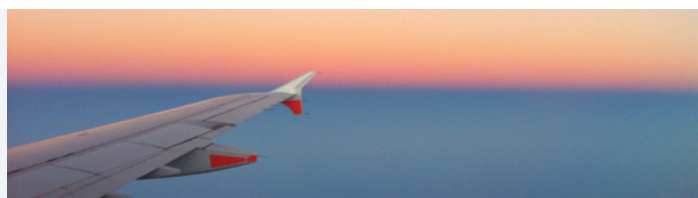
## CLUB 56 RETREAT

5th and 6th grade students are invited to the annual Club 56 retreat. We will gather for games, food, fellowship, and a great guest speaker. Don't forget to invite friends to join you!

**When:** March 1-2

**Where:** Third Church

**RSVP:** [thirdrva.org/events](http://thirdrva.org/events) (\$10)





## LOOKING FOR COMMUNITY?

It's time to see what all the Parish talk is about! Parish Groups are starting their spring term the first week of February, and it's the perfect time to try one out. Parish Groups are the primary way that we as a church build community, grow as disciples, and love our neighbors. It's not meant to be another program or event on your calendar, but a way of life, intentionally lived alongside others.

*Questions? Email Valerie Holland at [valerieh@thirdrva.org](mailto:valerieh@thirdrva.org).*

VISIT [THIRDVA.ORG/PARISH-LIFE](https://thirdrva.org/parish-life) TO FIND A PARISH GROUP MEETING NEAR YOU!

## COMMUNITY POSTING

### NEW DEDICATED PLAYGROUND BENCH

Have you noticed the beautiful new bench outside of the playground? This bench was donated to Third in memory of Kate Thompson, a young woman who passed away at too young an age in 2017. Her family has started a non-profit called "Kindness for Kate" where acts of kindness, which were Kate's way of going through life, are done for others.

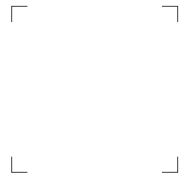
*Our daughter, Kate, was always known for her kindness toward others, as well as for including everyone, extending a helping hand, and offering encouragement to all she knew. I can think of no greater mission or way to honor her than to create a nonprofit business, [kindness4kate.org](https://kindness4kate.org), that will encourage us to become kinder, more compassionate individuals, in mind, body and spirit.*

*"K.A.T.E." benches will be our version of buddy/friendship benches—a place where children who are lonely or in need of a friend on the playground can go sit, so that another student can reach out an inclusive hand in kindness. Gosh, don't we all wish we had such "benches" in our daily lives, a place where friendships are fostered, and a place where we are reminded that kindness matters and can make a difference? After all, that is what Kate was all about.*





THIRD CHURCH  
500 FOREST AVE.  
RICHMOND, VA 23229  
(804) 282-4645



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

## OUR MINISTRY STAFF

**REV. COREY WIDMER**

Lead Pastor

**REV. ED SATTERFIELD**

Executive Pastor

**REV. 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 MARRIOTT**

Director of Connection Ministries

**BECCA PAYNE**

Director of Communications

**ALEX SAWYER**

Technical Director

**DREW CLEVELAND**

Director of Young Adult & College Ministries

**REV. RICHARD HANEY**

Theologian and Missiologist in Residence

**REV. NAN CLARKE**

Pastor for Care Ministries

THIRD PRESS DEADLINE FOR MARCH: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8. SUBMIT TO: [BECCAP@THIRDVA.ORG](mailto:BECCAP@THIRDVA.ORG)