

How People Change

JANUARY 6 | COLOSSIANS 3:1-4

NEW LIFE

JANUARY 13 | COLOSSIANS 3:1-17

NEW IDENTITY

JANUARY 20 | COLOSSIANS 3:5-14

NEW HABITS

JANUARY 27 | COLOSSIANS 3:15-17

NEW COMMUNITY

Making new year resolutions is a favorite American hobby. Every January, new gym memberships skyrocket, budget software sales rise, and millions of people quit smoking and start dieting. It's like a collective movement fueled by a desire for personal change. No matter how trivial some of these resolutions may be, they speak to a near universal longing of humans to become better versions of themselves. "To change is one of the great dreams of every heart," writes John O'Donahue, "to change the limitations, the sameness, the banality, or the pain." Yet change is often far out of reach, and we find ourselves stuck in the same patterns again and again.

And yet, one of the great promises of the gospel is that personal change is possible. "If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation—the old is gone, the new is come!" (2 Cor. 5:17). God is on a mission to change not just the exterior behaviors but the interior heart and soul of every man, woman and child through his grace. Becoming a new person is truly possible through Jesus.

Our church vision is "Called together for the renewal of all things through Jesus Christ." Every January we take a closer look into one aspect of our vision through a dedicated preaching series. This January we're going to focus on how Jesus renews *people*. We'll do this through a deep dive in Colossians 3:1-17, exploring what Paul teaches us about how God transforms his people through our union with Jesus.

Let's begin our new year with a vision of real change—change that God alone can bring.



COREY WIDMER

GET TO KNOW THE STAFF OF THIRD CHURCH WORSHIP AND COMMUNICATION STAFF

As our congregation has grown, so has Third's staff. In our third installment of 'Get to Know The Third Staff,' we're highlighting the members of the Worship and Communication teams and how they use their gifts to serve our growing church.



1. COREY WIDMER has served as Third's Lead Pastor since 2015 after having been an Associate Pastor here since 2005 and a co-founding pastor of East End Fellowship with Don Coleman. He combines the unique gifts of powerful biblical preaching with strong visionary leadership. He provides overall leadership and direction for the church, leading the Session and working closely with its Strategic Planning Committee. He supervises Ed Satterfield and Derek Mondeau with whom he works as a Senior Leadership Team, and supervises and works closely with Third's worship and communication staff. The best way to connect with Corey is through his Executive Assistant, Andi Redmond: andir@thindrva.org.

2. ANDI REDMOND is Corey's Executive Assistant and is the person to talk to for any communication you want to get to Corey and for anything related to our leadership at Third. In addition to supporting Corey, she helps manage communication and correspondence for Third's Session and its leadership teams, and maintains Third's membership data. She and her husband Brian are now empty nesters as their three children are on their own.

3. BECCA PAYNE is Third's Communication Director. She helps manage, shape, and coordinate all of our communication over the diverse verbal, physical, video and digital platforms we use. She has been with us for three years and has greatly advanced Third's communication including leading Working Group 1 which developed Third's vision statement. She and her husband Chris are enjoying life together with their beautiful almost 2-year-old daughter Nellie.

4. CHRIS PORTER started at Third this past April working 3 days a week as Third's Graphics and Publications Designer. He helps produce the weekly bulletin, provide graphics for sermon series, the layout and design of Third Press, and for ministry events. He is married to Bethany, Kim Taulbee's daughter. His part-time assignment at Third allows him to do freelance design with the rest of his week.

5. JOHN WHITE serves as Pastor of Worship and Care. Since coming to Third in April 2000, he has overseen and directed Third's music and worship ministries. In 2018,

his title and responsibilities were modified to make use of John's pastoral gifts. He now spends 40% of his time visiting and caring for the congregation and assisting with funeral planning. John leads a team of four who help plan and prepare our weekly worship services, and leads Third's choirs. He and his wife Marilee live in Chesterfield.

6. KIM TAULBEE has served as Third's Associate for Music and Worship since 2003, initially leading our Contemporary Worship Service. He is a classically trained vocalist and gifted in composing and writing parts for our musicians which he does regularly. In his free time he teaches music at a small local Christian school and teams up with fellow Third Covenant Partner Craig Truitt in the band Stillwater Hum to perform in the local area. He and his wife Nancy live in Mechanicsville.

7. JEFF HUMMEL is Third's organist/accompanist with 40 years of experience. Coming to Third in 2015 from St. Giles Presbyterian, he has brought great experience and versatility. Having retired from many years working for AAA, Jeff now also works part time at Bliley's Funeral home. He is a father of three and grandfather of four.

8. BROOKE WINTERS joined Third staff as an intern in the summer of 2017. In 2019, Brooke will become a permanent, part-time employee adding an additional 10 hours a week. She assists John and Kim in helping lead Third's worship teams and makes a significant contribution with the addition of her organizational gifts. Brooke also works part-time for our mission partner Arrabon as Communication and Development Specialist. She married Marcellus Wright on December 29, who often plays percussion at Third.

9. RICHARD HANEY volunteers his time to Third as Pastor and Theologian in Residence. Former Associate Pastor at Third, Richard and his wife Pam are glad to be back at Third. Richard is Executive Director of Frontier Fellowship, one of Third's Mission Partners and one of our denomination's (ECO) key Mission partners. Richard is a significant mentor for the Missions Team and LJ, meeting regularly with them, and also preaches multiple times a year, and shares his wisdom with the pastoral team.

Get to know the rest of our staff: thindrva.org/leadership-and-staff

WHAT'S IT LIKE TO HOST A PARISH GROUP?



By Betsy and Arthur McCray

We open our home to host the Grove2 Parish which meets on Wednesday evenings. Pretty quickly, folks have gotten to know us well. They can see our family photos, observe our hobbies/interests and even learn where we keep our supply of trash bags! To be 'known' at this level has been a rich experience. By offering our home to host, our parish friends have become more like a parish family. An added bonus is that they are so appreciative and clean up after themselves!

One of our concerns when we considered becoming a host home was that we felt the burden of a weekly commitment. However, a few other families have been willing to offer their homes when we have a conflict and our parish has started a host home rotation. On the flip side, a benefit of hosting is that we don't have to cook as our parish friends bring the food to us!

If you are considering becoming a host home, it might be helpful to know that you are not entertaining. There is some tidying up that will happen in advance but hosting becomes a team effort. We have a set up and break down team that knows where everything is located and once you develop a system that works for you, hosting becomes routine.

It has also given our family unit the opportunity to work together as a team. When our individual daily routines and obligations pull us in different directions it is a rewarding experience for us to come together at the end of the day and open our home together.

**ARE YOU INTERESTED
IN HOSTING
A PARISH GROUP
IN YOUR HOME?**

Contact Beth N. Marriott
at bethn@thirdrva.org.



MEET DREW CLEVELAND

DIRECTOR OF YOUNG ADULT AND COLLEGE MINISTRIES

FROM ED SATTERFIELD:

We are excited to announce Drew Cleveland as our new *Director of Young Adult and College Ministries*. Drew Cleveland replaces Tim Latham and Phillip Yelverton and will begin serving on January 2, 2019. This full time position was originally approved by the Personnel Committee over 5 years ago. Unable to fund the position full time, we began to address these ministry areas using our pastoral intern position. Tim Latham served part-time in this role for the past four years. Then, last year we were able to free Tim to focus more fully on Young Adult Ministry while Phillip Yelverton- in a one-year internship- lead college ministry. When Tim left Third to take a pastoral call in Philadelphia and Philip finished his internship to attend Duke Divinity School, we combined the funds for both positions and are excited to have Drew provide leadership for the original position we have desired for many years.

Drew will continue to develop the existing Young Adult Leadership team and build ministry with young adults (generally ages 21-35). College ministry will continue to focus both on connecting with University of Richmond students through our two on-campus Mission Partners (InterVarsity and the Christian Study Center) as well as supporting our college students away at school through the Anchors While Away program. Drew will bring a discipleship focus to applying faith to life and work as those he works with give shape to significant relationships and their early careers.



Drew is a Covenant Partner of Third, and has been involved in Jobs for Life, teaching in the Reveal class on Sunday mornings, and much more. Drew is the son of a Marine and a homeschooling mom, who both loved Jesus and sought to share their faith with their children. The strength of his own faith came through traveling and experiencing the wide diversity of God's people in the world and the transformative power of God's word.

Drew graduated from Virginia Tech in 2007, attended the Trinity Forum Academy (a fellows program on the Eastern Shore), worked in DC, and then in 2017, graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary with a Masters in Divinity. In his free time, Drew enjoys thoughtful conversations and big ideas, deep friendships, intentional dinner parties, playing guitar and listening to live music, trying to be 'Uncle Drew' to his five nieces and nephews, and hiking and camping—need mountains!



“I love coming alongside people, listening, and helping them think through the joys, sorrows and deepest desires of life — especially with the intersection of faith, work, culture and the way of Jesus. I’m excited to be a part of cultivating community at Third and helping people grasp the integration of all things — how our faith connects into all of life — for the renewal of all things and the common good of Richmond.”

EVENTS AND UPDATES



GUIDED TOUR OF THE BIBLE

The Guided Tour is designed to help you get familiar with the Bible, making it easy to understand any section of Scripture. We dig into one section at a time, looking at a different book each week, so we can better understand and be impacted by its message. We read on our own in-between classes, so then time in class together is an opportunity to explore things you want to know more about, ask questions about what you've read, and learn from each other.

Ed Satterfield authored the Guided Tour as short five-week studies, each on one section of the Bible. There are ten studies in all, five for the Old Testament and five for the New. You can join the tour for just five weeks and take any study in any order but our hope is that at some point you will take them all. The only homework is reading a short assigned section of the Bible each day, noting your questions and observations.

THE 10 GUIDED TOUR CLASSES ARE:

Old Testament: *Pentateuch, Historical Books, Poets, Prophets (before Israel's exile), Prophets (after Israel's exile and return)*

New Testament: *Gospels, Acts of the Apostles, Letters of Paul, Non-Pauline Letters, Revelation of John*


The next Guided Tour begins January 10, but you can join in anytime. We meet weekly on Thursday evenings from 7:00–8:30 p.m. in Room 217.

January 10 – February 7: *The Poets (Psalms, Job, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Proverbs)*

February 14 – March 14: *The Prophets Before the Exile (Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, Micah, Jonah, Nahum, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Zephaniah, Habakkuk)*

March 21 – April 4, May 2 and 9: *The Prophets After the Exile (Daniel, Ezekiel, Obadiah, Haggai, Zechariah, Joel, Malachi)*

Please e-mail or call Sterling Lloyd in the church office (sterlingl@thirdrva.org or 282-4645 X 115) to let her know you'd like to join so she can prepare materials for you.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ADULTS

As we prepare for February Term—the special month where we gather together as a full church for Sunday School—we'll hold two classes, both starting on January 6, please drop in! Classes happen at 10:00 a.m. Sunday mornings.

GOOD NEWS CLASS

The Good News Class gathers for the purpose of renewing our minds through the study of God's holy word. Our classes usually focus on expository teaching that is centered on understanding and applying God's word for his glory and our growth as his people.

Where: Room 101

METAMORPHOSIS CLASS

What are the spiritual rhythms suggested in the recovery movement that can help us in our struggle to find healing? Join us for a close-up look at practices that can transform our daily lives.

Where: Multipurpose Room, 500 Forest Ave



newcomers CLASS

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, January 13

10:00–11:00 a.m. | Parlor

Friday evening, January 18

6:00–9:00 p.m. | Dinner provided

Saturday, January 19

1:00–4:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 27

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

Ready to sign up? Go to thirdrva.org/newcomers.

Childcare available with an RSVP to Kathy White (kathyw@thirdrva.org) by January 13.



IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE TUTORING

Immigrant and Refugee Tutoring will start back with our weekly tutoring sessions on Wednesday, January 9 and will run through March 27! We had a great fall session with both new and returning students – lots of wonderful friendships formed!

With our largest group ever, we are always in need of weekly tutors (tutors who work with the same child each week, building relationship) and substitute tutors, who come when their schedules permit. Tutoring happens on Wednesdays from 6:45 – 7:45 p.m. throughout the 600 Forest building.

If you have any interest, or would like further information, please contact Andi Redmond: andir@thirdrva.org.

CLUB 56

Wednesday Nights with Club 56 Starts Again on January 9!

Club 56, our ministry for 5th and 6th graders, will resume weekly Wednesday gatherings on January 9, 2019. Students meet from 6:45 – 7:45 p.m. in the basement for games, Bible study, and time together. Contact Tracie Meadows if you have questions: traciem@thirdrva.org.



MEN'S QUARTERLY DINNER

Join us for a great meal, connection with other men and being challenged as we start the year with a message that will help shape your year. Tommy Thompson will speak on “Four Fundamental Firsts: Four Priorities for Living.”

When: Tuesday, January 15, 6:00 p.m.

Where: Fellowship Hall

Sign up: thirdrva.org/events (Cost: \$5 for dinner)

THIRD CHURCH MEN'S RETREAT

Bill Copeland and Derek Mondeau will speak on “Adam’s Return – the communal journey towards cruciform (cross-shaped) masculinity.”

In American culture today, the question of what it means to be a man is confusing. Most men long for the support and nurture of other men to help in the journey toward masculinity, maturity, and a deeper experience of God. But rarely do we get to actually experience what we long for. Derek and Bill will help us explore our own masculinity, our own spirituality, and our own potential for leadership.

When: February 1-2

Where: Fellowship Hall

Sign up: thirdrva.org/events (Cost: \$50)



WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

When: Saturday, February 23

Where: Fellowship Hall

Save the Date! More details to come!



WINTER WEATHER UPDATE

WINTER WEATHER UPDATE

In case of inclement weather over the winter, when snow and ice may make it dangerous to drive or walk, we sometimes have to alter our service schedule or usage of our building. If you're wondering whether there are changes to our service schedule or building activities, we update the following places to alert you:

- **Main Phone Line:** 804-282-4645. Call our main line and if there are any updates, we will change the voicemail greeting to let you know.
- **Website:** thirdrva.org. We'll post an announcement bar on the top of our website with any changes.
- **Facebook:** facebook.com/thirdrva. Follow us on Facebook to make sure you see any updates we post.

COMMUNITY POSTING

HEALING PRAYER ROOMS UPDATE

The Healing Prayer Room ministry meets every first and third Thursday evening at Third, but will be taking a break for the month of January. Their first meeting of 2019 will be on Thursday, February 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the Student Ministry Area. Any and all are invited to join us for prayer on these evenings!



HAITI TRIP

SUMMER 2019

The poorest country in the Western Hemisphere is just over four hours from Richmond by plane. Food is scarce or non-existent. They are in need of healthcare, dentistry, education, construction, and friendship with people who care. God uses our relationships to encourage these amazing people.

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 would love for you to join us!

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

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

To hold your spot, please send a \$250 deposit check to:

Third Church
500 Forest Ave.
Henrico, VA 23229

Note: please write Haiti Trip in the memo field

Please feel free to email or call Billy or Jen with questions:
843-364-0885, thirdteamhaiti@gmail.com.



MISSION PARTNER FEATURE



International Cooperating Ministries



WWW.ICM.ORG

International Cooperating Ministries (ICM) is very blessed to have a long and productive relationship with Third Church that has spanned more than twenty years! The fruits of that relationship are a very clear testimony to the faithfulness and stewardship of God's people in the Third Church community. Through combined partnership with the Third Church body as well as individual covenant partners, and in partnership with indigenous believers around the world, 240 church building projects in 43 nations have been completed to the glory of God!

The real impact, though, is reflected not in the buildings but in the people. These 240 churches represent nearly 43,000 people in regular worship, discipleship, fellowship, and ministry and have planted an additional 555 daughter congregations! Together, those 795 unique but united churches and daughter congregations have seen more than 12,500 people respond positively to the Gospel and become new believers in Jesus Christ – nearly 10,000 of those experiencing believers' baptism! Praise God for Third Church's partnership in the Great Commission!

As you might imagine there are many, many stories and testimonies from those churches. Stories from places like Uganda, the Congo, and Burkina Faso in Africa; India and Bangladesh in South Asia; Vietnam, Cambodia, and even China further east.

But no story is perhaps more poignant or compelling than the story of El Melkia Church in Egypt. Third Church decided to invest the Vacation Bible School missions offering with ICM and we began a partnership between Third Church, ICM, and the El Melkia congregation.

When the congregation of El Melkia began the partnership, they were being persecuted by the Muslim Brotherhood. Work was very slow on the building. Only the leaders of

the church felt able to go on Sundays and pray. Parents were afraid to let their children go near the church. In a neighborhood a mile and a half from the church, four young girls were kidnapped as a warning to Christians to not build any churches. By God's grace, the girls were returned unharmed.

Soon, however, the VBS investment began to grow – just like a grain of mustard seed – and changes began to occur. A group of teenagers courageously decided to begin meeting weekly at the church site for prayer and Bible study. Within a few months, the congregation felt more confident and was able to meet regularly on Sundays for corporate worship. But even after a year, there were no children attending.

Then came a breakthrough! As a result of prayer and faithful worship, eighteen months after construction started, the situation in the village calmed down – the Muslim Brotherhood presence seemed to disappear. The congregation began to grow and had to divide into two Bible study groups. About 15 children started coming to Sunday School.

By the end of the second year, families who had been fighting for years were being reconciled. The church was being used every day of the week for people to gather for prayer and Bible Study; and 25 children were regularly attending the Children's Ministry. The lives of those families and the destiny of that village in Egypt have been changed forever through the faithful stewardship of Third Church.

In addition, a new generation of young VBS believers, right here in Richmond, learned that through generosity and stewardship, they can be a part of God's great plan of redemption among the nations. All Glory belongs to God!



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 FEBRUARY: FRIDAY, JANUARY 11. SUBMIT TO: BECCAP@THIRDVA.ORG