

OCTOBER 2023

WESTOVER REFLECTIONS

Greetings Westover Family,

Welcome to October! I am praying for all of you. We are looking forward to cooler weather and changing seasons. For some, the changing temperatures feel like progress. The extreme heat is leaving and hopefully, the moderate fall temperatures are settling in.

The changing seasons seem like an appropriate time to discuss our future. Just as the weather is going through a time of transition, so is Westover. Transition is change, but change is not always progress. We are hoping to progress towards a future where Westover is financially stronger and supported by many more active members.

At the beginning of September, we held a church-wide meeting to discuss the future of Westover. Several members came and offered ideas and made a commitment to help Westover grow. Since then, we have worked to begin organizing teams that might work on a number of projects to help build our community financially and practically.

This month we will hold a charge conference and officially approve our church leaders and our financial commitments for the future. This will mark the start of our next chapter as a church. I pray that we will all be available to assist in any way we can.

I asked members to commit to attending worship for 7 consecutive Sundays. I know it is a large commitment, but it cannot compare to what we ask of God. My hope is that we appreciate our responsibility to God. We have been blessed with this extraordinary church family, to love, care for, and fellowship with. When we are absent, we rob one other and God of our presence and fail to share our gifts with one another.

Westover needs every one of us to do our part. If you were unable to attend the meeting, but are willing to help, reach out to me and let me know where you feel led to serve.

FINAL THOUGHTS

I want you all to know that I am available. As we navigate the complicated and uncertain path forward, I hope you will bring your questions, concerns, and complaints to me. Together we can work to build something stronger, more loving, and better than even what we had before. The thing about change is; it is neither good nor bad on its own, but we must be diligent and engaged to make sure that what we become after all this, and what we learn from this, makes us better servants to God, and that our change actually is progress.

Blessings,
Your Pastor
Damion Quaye



PLEASE JOIN US

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS...

Adult Sunday School meets each Sunday morning around 10:00 in the Education Building, with the lesson beginning at 10:10. So, if you attend Arise and Shine service, you'll have time for Sunday School after that service. If you attend the 11:00 Sanctuary Service, we dismiss in plenty of time for you to get to that service.

We've been studying Psalms and will do that through October. If we still have Psalms to discuss, we'll pick up again in January. During the months of November and December, we'll be focusing on Advent studies with the class deciding which ones we'd like to do. So, join us to learn more about the Book of Psalms and to join in the discussion of what our Advent studies will be. There's a place for you!



Fair booth is October 12-22. It's not too late to sign up and serve!

CRAFT CIRCLE NEWS!

The month of October has a busy schedule, so Craft Circle will not meet until Saturday, November 4, 10:00 a.m., Wesley Hall. We'll be making the knotted fleece blankets to give to a local charity as a mission project. We need lots of nimble hands so we can get many blankets completed. This is an easy project – if you can use scissors and tie a knot, you can make one of the blankets! As always, there will be coffee and snacks, lots of laughs and great fellowship – so please mark your calendar and join us on Saturday, November 4 at 10:00 in Wesley Hall. We promise that you'll have a great time – and be helping out those who need a warm covering.

Questions? Ask Sharron Gibson or Clara Worsley.

WE ARE THANKFUL

Dear Westover Family and Friends, Thank you so much for the love, support and prayers for our family for well over a year as my dear husband Lou's memory declined. The rides, phone calls checking on us, visits, and "baby sitting", and much more. It would have been so much more difficult. We are grateful for you all and the amazing people at Transitions LifeCare Hospice.

Much love,
Janet Giannattasio and Family



Just a note to mention how blessed we felt to have John Mitchell once again lighting the altar candles Sunday morning, September 24! John has been through a lot, but what he wanted so much was to be back with his Westover family! We are hopeful that he will be with us in Sunday School and for worship as often as possible now. Sunday worship felt so right with John back in the pews! He's been blessed – and we are blessed with his faithfulness to his Lord and his church!

LET US CELEBRATE TOGETHER

We need your help for our fall family festivities!

We need volunteers to:

- **Decorate their cars and give treats to our young visitors at Trunk or Treat.**
- **Donate baked goods for the bake sale (Most cakes, cookies, breads, etc. freeze really well. Bake now & freeze them before the Fair rush!)**
- **Volunteers to help with the event.**
- **Help us spread the word! We'd love to see dozens of families on the 28th!**

Please contact Sharron Gibson if you are willing to help. Thanks much!

**A newsletter note- Although I've done similar projects, this is my first attempt at our Westover newsletter. I appreciate your patience and grace as I learn my way around a new program. I welcome your feedback as I am learning. Blessings,
Sharron Gibson**



Happy birthday in October to:

**2 Pastor Damion Quaye
4 Budd Batts
6 Christa Crowder
7 Shannon Fisher
10 Phyllis Danskin
10 Bill Jones
15 Betty Cox
17 Kristen Anne Lowsky
18 Vincent Guilbaud
19 Danny Poole
22 Stephen Unartel
23 Kelly Burleson
25 Megan Chin
26 Denise Land
26 Lynne Price
27 Yemi Adebisi
27 Richard Gradle, Jr.
28 Tenley Gordon
30 Becky Rogers
31 Dot Avery
31 Bruce Smith**



TRUNK OR TREAT

CAMPFIRE PARTY

Bake sale October 28th

4:00-5:00 PM Trunk or Treat.

5:00-6:30 Campfire Party

Westover UMC

300 Powell Dr

JOIN US FOR FREE HOTDOG
DINNER, CAMPFIRE, GAMES,
PUMPKIN PAINTING AND
STORYTELLING