



Ridge Digest

January 1, 2023

Happy New Year! As we begin 2023 I want to do something I rarely do, suggest some commitments or re-commitments to make at the beginning of this new year. Normally I try to shy away from such things, because the practice of making “New Year’s Resolutions” is rarely a highly successful venture. But this year I want to encourage you, not to make resolutions, but covenants with God. Begin each covenant with the statement, “As God is my helper, I covenant with him that I will...” What are the things that you believe God would have you covenant with him about in 2023? Here are a few ideas to think about and pray about.

Return to worship in person in 2023. During the COVID pandemic, we endeavored to make it possible for everyone to stay as connected to the Ridge family as possible. One of the ways we did that was by making our worship services available online each week. At first we streamed them live, then we began delaying them so that we could correct any technical issues. Lindsay Ray has worked tirelessly, sacrificed time off and engaged way above and beyond the call of duty to make these services available. I am personally grateful for her work, and for the fact that our services have been able to reach people in various parts of the United States and also several villages in Liberia where we have the chance to share the gospel online. Unfortunately, I think that for some people, having an online option has replaced the gathering in person, and watching a screen has NEVER been an adequate substitute for gathering with the people of God. This would be a good time to covenant with God that we will make worship in person a priority.

Commit to involvement in the work of the ministry of Ridge Baptist Church. This is another good place to consider covenanting with God. I anticipate that we will shortly have a new staff minister as part of the Ridge family. However, the addition of staff leadership is not a substitute for the involvement of the church family in the work of the ministry. We have some very faithful volunteers, but the faithful few are often overburdened with the work of the ministry, work that should be shared by the entire church family.

Commit to personal spiritual growth. This covenant is at the heart of what helps us be faithful, and what makes it possible to please God in the year ahead. A covenant with God to read the Bible through, or at least reading the scriptures designated daily in the weekly email, is a good start. We should always seek more opportunities to spend time with God in prayer, and a covenant to commune with God daily is a great one.

The result of keeping a covenant with God in the Scriptures was the abundance of his blessing. 2023 can be a year of blessing if we will make and renew covenants with God and follow through in keeping them. Join me in making 2023 a covenant year like none before!

Financial Health
Ministry Stewardship

To Date Giving: \$246,218.78

To Date Budget Requirement: \$263,170.64

Weekly Online Presence:

SUNDAYS:

9:30 Sunday Morning Worship Service - in person; Facebook Live and YouTube

WEDNESDAYS:

10am Morning Bible Study with Alan Ray (ray5778@gmail.com)

Please Remember!!!

Our New Year's Day schedule will be different. We will gather for Worship at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, January 1. There will be no Bible Study gatherings this day.



Mark your calendars! Sunday, January 29 is a FIFTH SUNDAY. This means that our Bible Study classes will NOT meet. Following our Morning Worship time at 9:30 a.m. we will have our Quarterly Business Meeting in the Sanctuary at 10:45 a.m. (approximately), followed by a Covered Dish Fellowship luncheon in the CLC

May God Bless You on Your Birthday...



1/1- Harrison Blevins (15)	1/16- Alexis Johnson (13)
1/1- Hayley Fogleman	1/18- Jeff Foster
1/1- Helen Price	1/21- Luitgard Webb
1/5- Hannah Perera-Smith (17)	1/21- Susan Reilly
1/9- Harry Blaylock	1/21- Chuck Woolard
1/9- Shannon Peed	1/22- Jonathan Breeden
1/11- Autumn Fry (4)	1/22- Tom Day
1/11- Matt Evington	1/22- Jacque Flora
1/13- Sam Duenckel	1/23- Helen Johnson
1/14- Marley Ferraro (18)	1/24- Meredith Carter
1/15- Sheila Gill	1/25- Christina Holleman
1/15- Dewy Searcy	1/26- Robin Riley
1/15- Kevin Winston	1/31- Molly Corr (15)

Walk Through the Bible...

Jan. 1	Genesis 1-3; Matthew 1	Jan. 16	Genesis 39-40; Matthew 9:27-38
Jan. 2	Genesis 4-6; Matthew 2:1-12	Jan. 17	Genesis 41-42; Matthew 10
Jan. 3	Genesis 7-8; Matthew 2:13-23	Jan. 18	Genesis 43-45; Matthew 11:1-19
Jan. 4	Genesis 9-11; Matthew 3	Jan. 19	Genesis 46-47; Matthew 11:20-30
Jan. 5	Genesis 12-14; Matthew 4:1-11	Jan. 20	Genesis 48-50; Matthew 12:1-21
Jan. 6	Genesis 15-17; Matthew 4:12-25	Jan. 21	Exodus 1-2; Matthew 12:22-50
Jan. 7	Genesis 18-19; Matthew 5:1-16	Jan. 22	Exodus 3-4; Matthew 13:1-23
Jan. 8	Genesis 20-22; Matthew 5:17-48	Jan. 23	Exodus 5-7; Matthew 13:24-58
Jan. 9	Genesis 23-24; Matthew 6:1-18	Jan. 24	Exodus 8-9; Matthew 14:1-21
Jan. 10	Genesis 25-27; Matthew 6:19-34	Jan. 25	Exodus 10-11; Matthew 14:22-36
Jan. 11	Genesis 28-29; Matthew 7:1-14	Jan. 26	Exodus 12-13; Matthew 15:1-20
Jan. 12	Genesis 30-31; Matthew 7:15-29	Jan. 27	Exodus 14-15; Matthew 15:21-39
Jan. 13	Genesis 32-33; Matthew 8:1-17	Jan. 28	Exodus 16-18; Matthew 16:1-12
Jan. 14	Genesis 34-36; Matthew 8:18-34	Jan. 29	Exodus 19-21; Matthew 16:13-28
Jan. 15	Genesis 37-38; Matthew 9:1-26	Jan. 30	Exodus 22-23; Matthew 17:1-13
		Jan. 31	Exodus 24-26; Matthew 17:14-27

Prayer Concerns:

Members at Home:

Steve Bider
Cheryl McCartney
Betty Foster

Jan Jones
Thelma Ford
Bob Mahone

Members in Hospital or Healthcare:

Phyllis Benner
Mae Callaham
Trudy English
Audrey "Kay" Meyers
Irene Taylor
Sue Douglas

Earline Isom
Mary Jane Cook
Pat Godfrey
B.J. Noel
Judy Dzarnows

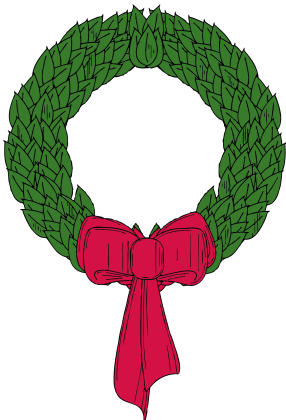
Friends of Ridge

Zlatko Buckoski (North Macedonia)
Helen Fitzgerald (P. Mahone)
John Smart Jr. (M. Gleason)
Joy Jones (B. Rahmlow)
Nelson Santana (B. & H. Johnson)
Kevin Isom (D. Isom & E. Isom)
Sherrie & Grace Holliday (C. & P. Woolard)

Jimmy McNamara (B. Gleason)
Bobby Stallworth (E. Stewart)
David (R. Peed)
Laura Nixon (P & B Coffman)
David Isom (E. Isom)
Christine Anthony (D. Janss)

Ridge Member Update!

For those who may not be aware, Rev. Sam Duenckel is concluding his ministry at the Dover Baptist Association. His last day at the Dover office will be January 5, 2023. After that, he will be embarking on a new ministry to which the Lord has called him. We are grateful for Sam's dedicated service over the past 14 years. There will be a drop-in fellowship time at the Dover Baptist Association Office from 6:15-7:00pm to give folks the opportunity to express appreciation to Sam and wish him God's blessing in his new ministry endeavor. This is prior to the scheduled Dover Executive Committee meeting that is scheduled for 7:00pm.



The Christmas season may be passing, but it is never too early to prepare for Christmas 2023. The Floral Committee is making 12-15 Christmas wreaths with ribbons available on a first come, first served basis. If you would like to have one of these wreaths to decorate your home, please contact Michael Gleason to arrange to pick one up!

January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship at 11:00am	2	3 1:30pm - WMU Meeting (Choir Room)	4	5	6	7 7:30pm- Arabic Prayer Service (Chapel)
8 Reg. Sun. Sch. Communion VME Meeting 1:00 – 4:30 pm CLC	9	10 Richmond Gem and Mineral Society 6:30 - 9:30pm	11 Reg Wed. Sch.	12 Worship-Fellowship Ministry Council 7:00-8:00 pm (choir room)	13	14 7:30pm- Arabic Prayer Service (Chapel)
15 Reg. Sun. Sch. Handbell Rehearsal 1:00-2:00 pm Deacons Meeting 3 PM - Choir Room	16 Martin Luther King Day Promise Care Committee Mtg 6:15 – 8:15 pm (choir room)	17	18 Reg Wed. Sch.	19 Financial Management Team Meeting 10AM (Choir Room) US Too Meeting 2-4PM (CLC)	20	21 7:30pm- Arabic Prayer Service (Chapel)
22 Reg. Sun. Sch. Cooperative Ministries Council 2:00 PM (CLC)	23	24	25 Reg Wed. Sch.	26	27	28 7:30pm- Arabic Prayer Service (Chapel)
29 Fifth Sunday Schedule Worship at 9:30am Quarterly Business Mtg. @ 10:45am and Covered Dish Fellowship lunch to follow	30	31				

Ridge Baptist Church

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Henrico, Virginia 23229

Phone: (804) 288-5805

Email: rbc5805@gmail.com

Website: www.ridgechurch.org

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1515 Eastridge Road

Henrico, VA 23229

Ridge Baptist Church Worship Leaders & Support Staff

Rev. Alan Ray, *Senior Pastor*

Rev. Lindsay Ray, *Minister for Students*

Mr. Robert Blaylock, *Media Director*

Mr. Robert Coffman, *Music Ministry Director*

Mrs. Phyllis Coffman, *Church Accompanist*

Ms. Deanna Janss, *Financial Secretary*

Weekly Schedule Online:

Sundays:

Worship Live Stream at 1:00pm

(Facebook and YouTube)

Wednesdays:

Morning Bible Study with Alan Ray @ 10
a.m.

Weekly In Person Schedule:

Sundays:

9:30 a.m. Morning Worship in the
Sanctuary

10:45 a.m. Morning Fellowship in the CLC

11:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Bible Study

Wednesdays:

5:45 p.m. Youth Fellowship in the Youth
Center

6:15 p.m. Evening Bible Study in CLC with
Alan Ray

7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the
Choir Room