WHITE'S CHAPEL





FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2025

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What happened in the In-Between Years From Malachi to Matthew with Dr. Todd Renner Monday, April 7 | 6–7:30 p.m. | Evans Hall

By Debbie McKellar

hen I was a child if I got bored during sermons, I would spend the time perusing materials at hand. Typically, these materials included the hymnal and the Bible.

There were a lot of things in the hymnal that would become important to me later

as I learned to play a musical instrument. Important things like what page *Amazing Grace* was on. I actually almost memorized many listings of well-known hymns through my 'studies.'

I studied a lot of elements of the Bible as well: all the maps, which at that time I thought were make-believe or far-away lands, the Concordance, the paintings included in my King James Bible, my family tree, the index,—in other words any and everything included in my Biblical edition. I occasionally read different stories on my own, and studied the real words of Jesus, set aside by the red lettering. I asked a lot of childlike questions and found what most likely were childlike answers.

MALACHI cont'd on page 3



Lori Campagna, Robin Cassell, Donna Friedel, Thad Fuller, Traci Hinchcliffe, Rev. Tristan Hunt, Julie Richardson, Leslie Roskydoll, Michele Schmidt, and Shelly Slagle.

Stephen Ministries, headquartered in St. Louis, is a not-for-profit Christian education organization founded in 1975 that produces training and resources known for their excellence, practicality, psychological integrity, and theological depth. These resources cover topics such as caring ministry, assertive relating, spiritual gifts discovery, grief support, spiritual growth, and more.

Stephen Ministry is part of an international ministry dedicated to providing on-going and one-on-one Christian care in an individualized setting. Since White's Chapel's first Stephen Ministers were commissioned in 1999, over 140 lay people have been trained in the Stephen Ministry way of



ON A MISSION

Mission Mania's Third and Fourth grade students met on Sunday afternoon to stuff Easter eggs for our Easter outreach. About 30 students joined in the fun.



Editor's note: Lessons from Lent is an annual series of reflections on the six-week Lenten Season. A daily devotional guide, "Conflicted," is available at various kiosks at White's Chapel, or at the administrative building front desk. Written by White's Chapel Co-Pastors Drs. John McKellar and Todd Renner, the guide is available at no charge.

Being A Kingdom People

"I want to take my rightful share of life by force, I want to give lavishly, I want love to flow from my heart, to ripen and bear fruit. There are many horizons that must be visited, fruit that must be plucked, books read, and white pages in the scrolls of life to be inscribed with vivid sentences in a bold hand." —Tayeb Salihesus taught that the kingdom of God was not just a future reality, but that it was equally present in the lives of his followers. This means that followers of Christ have dual citizenship: in this world and in God's. To those who are "poor in spirit," God's kingdom has a power and a draw that directs their lives. Success is defined in different terms. They will take risks others cannot understand. They literally march to the drumbeat of heaven. In 1996, the Ku Klux Klan held a rally in the unlikely town of Ann Arbor, Michigan, where they found themselves opposed by an equal but opposite force of protesters. Although police in riot gear did an outstanding job of keeping the two sides apart, one man bedecked in SS tattoos and Confederate flags strolled through the wrong side of the crowd. He was brutally attacked. In the

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providing distinctively Christian care to people in need. Today, we have 34 Stephen Ministers who provide care to

STEPHEN cont'd on page 2



By Rev. Sam Robbins

Matthew 7:24-27

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!"

everal years ago my wife Hannah and I went on the grand adventure that is house hunting. We really wanted to move closer to church and some friends had mentioned a house in Grapevine that had been on the market a while.

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Musings

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Well, we jumped to go see this house. We loved the area, it was going to cut our commute by 40 min a day, and we figured that since it'd been on the market a while, we might be able to actually afford it.

So we went to see this house... **and it was awesome**. Admittedly, it was pretty small, but it had all new paint, cool modern fixtures, and it had one of those fancy clawfoot tubs. From the moment we walked in, I was sold.

But luckily for me, we had Darla Barnes with us. Darla's a long-time church

member at White's Chapel. She worked with our student ministry and also does real estate.

Well, Darla went with us to see this house and from the moment we stepped inside she was suspect. She said there was probably a reason this house has been on the market so long. And

she kept pointing things out. The floors were uneven. There was a slight mildew smell. There were cracks in the ceiling.

But it looked amazing, so I wasn't hearing any of it. I thought we had found our future home! Sure, the floors were a little slanted, but I figured we'd get used to that. Same with the smell. I figured we would just become big candle people.

I didn't want to see the truth.

Darla went off and did some more digging, and she found a recent foundation inspection on this property. And it turns out this house really was the epitome of the phrase *lipstick on a pig*. The owners had a structural engineer look at the house and we read his recommendation. He essentially said to completely demolish the house. He said the structure was *just a hair* above getting condemned and the best thing to do was start all over. But instead of doing that the owners decided to renovate and make it look really nice on the inside. Perhaps they were hoping that some naïve young Methodist pastor would come by and fall in love with it just because it had a fancy looking tub.

See, that house had a terrible foundation. It looked really beautiful but at its base, at its most fundamental part, it was broken. It truly couldn't support us. And I almost fell for it. **And don't we all?** We all have proverbial houses in

life we're tempted to buy... broken foundations we almost build on... things that look great but just don't last.

It's things like our careers, our wealth, our status, our social media clout. All of those things look really nice and we're

tempted to buy into them, to build our foundation on them. But when the storms of life come those things blow away.

When we face those really hard seasons of life, when things get real, we can't trust that we can lean on our careers, or our money, or our reputation or the amount

of engagement we get on social media. All of those things are fleeting. All of those things are lipstick on a pig. **Or as Jesus says, they're sand**.

That's why this season of Lent we're in right now is such a powerful opportunity for us. Lent is like a spiritual foundation inspection.

We get a chance to step back and look at the base of our lives and see what shape it's in. And if we discover that it's anything like that house in Grapevine, we have a chance to go find a better house with a better foundation.

Because we all know that I would've been crazy to buy that house. It would've been a huge money pit and I would've put myself in a really bad spot doing it.

So, the question is... if we wouldn't buy a house with an inferior foundation why would we build a life with one?



Stephen

Cont'd from page 1

our Care Receivers both from our church and the community. White's Chapel is one of over 13,000 U.S. and international congregations that have established Stephen Ministry programs, including about 1,000 in Texas. The focus of the program is to walk beside an individual and offer listening skills, prayer, and time.

Stephen Ministers are from all backgrounds, life experiences, and faith journeys, but share a common trait-the desire to be a conduit for Christ's love in a special caring relationship. The journey for many has been challenging and life changing. The support of other Stephen Ministers as well as God's strength can often lead to new insights about one's faith and life's mission. The skills and knowledge learned by participating in Stephen Ministry have benefitted them in their personal, business, and family lives. Even with the onset of COVID, Stephen Ministers were able to meet either on Zoom or using CDC protocols for meeting in person.

This is the 16th class of commissioned Stephen Ministers at White's Chapel. Prior to commissioning, volunteers are required to complete 50 hours of training. Several Stephen Ministers and WC Pastors serve as trainers.

Upon commission, each Stephen Minister makes a one-year commitment of service in caregiving according to Rev. Kyle Roberson, Pastor for Care and Support. Each of them is assigned one care receiver with whom they meet weekly.

"This usually is a person experiencing a specific kind of transition," said Roberson. "They may be trying to get acclimated to a new community. Some are navigating divorce, terminal illness or grief."

"We have excellent teachers and instructors in our program," said Roberson. "We found it works best to offer the training every other year so that we can get our new group acclimated to the Steven Ministry group."

"They are not counselors but spiritual guides. The walk is actually a process versus a result. The Stephen Ministers are not trying to fix anything; they're not trying to get to a result. They're just being with them through a process until these care receivers have come to a place where their lives are more stable or in a more normal place."

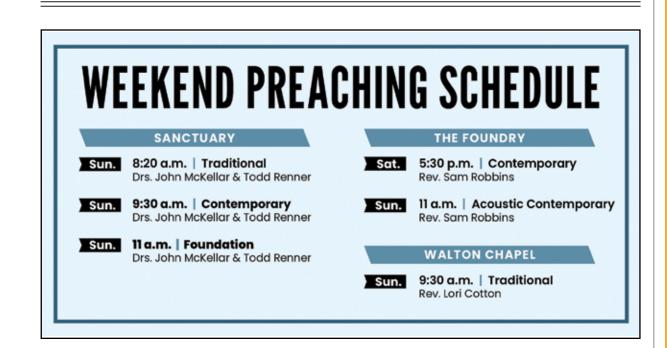
Stephen Ministers and care receivers typically meet once a week. Additionally, Stephen Ministers meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month to continue to be provided with supervision, support and ongoing education.

Upon completion of the commitment, Stephen Ministers may renew their commitment, each for a year at a time. Many commissioned Ministers serve for numerous years.

www.stephenministries.org stephenministry@whiteschapel.org

If we wouldn't buy a house with an inferior foundation—why would we build a life with one?

FINANCIALS	March Week 1 Week 2 Week 3 Week 4	2025 \$433,973 \$220,104 \$216,334 \$251,957	2024 \$286,609 \$166,565 \$209,802 \$202,801
MARCH	MTD Actual MTD Goal	\$1,122,368 <u>\$795,410</u> \$326,958	\$865,777 <u>\$755,322</u> \$110,455
	YTD Actual YTD Goal	\$2,661,993 <u>\$2,386,230</u> \$ 275,763	\$2,398,304 <u>\$2,153,603</u> \$ 244,701





Editor Debbie McKellar Managing Editor Cassidy Johnson Graphics and Design Susanna Cunningham Graphics Consultants Alec Hanson & Sarah Hamilton

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Spring Degetable Settucine Alfredo

Ingredients

Extra-virgin olive oil, for tossing 2 cups shiitake mushrooms (about 4 ounces), stems removed and discarded 1 bunch thin asparagus, about 1 pound 1 stick (8 tablespoons) unsalted butter 1/2 cup frozen peas Freshly ground black pepper 2 cups heavy cream 1 1/2 cups freshly grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese 1 tablespoon chopped chives Finely grated zest of ½ lemon

Directions

1. Bring a large pot of generously salted water to a boil. Add the pasta and cook according to package directions until al dente, tender but slightly firm. Reserve 1/2 cup of the pasta water, then strain the pasta and toss with a splash of oil in the colander.

2. Meanwhile, slice the mushroom caps into 1/4-inch-thick strips. Snap the woody ends off the asparagus and cut into 2-inch lengths. Heat a large skillet over medium heat and add 2 tablespoons of the butter. When the butter melts, raise the heat to medium-high and add the mushrooms in 1 layer. Cook, without moving, until the undersides have browned, 1 to 2 minutes, then stir and cook until golden about 2 minutes more. Add the asparagus, another tablespoon of butter, and 1/2 teaspoon salt and continue to cook, stirring occasionally until the asparagus is tender and the mushrooms are browned, 2 to 4 minutes. Transfer the vegetables to the colander with the pasta.

3. Reduce the heat to medium and add the remaining 5 tablespoons butter. When the butter has mostly melted, whisk in the cream and bring to a simmer, then add the peas and cook for 2 minutes. Turn off the heat.

4. Whisk the Parmigiano-Reggiano into the sauce. Add the vegetables, cooked pasta, chives and lemon zest and toss well. Season with salt and pepper. The pasta will thicken as it cools. To thin it, add reserved pasta water 1 tablespoon at a time and toss to reach the desired consistency. Serve hot in heated bowls.



High School Mission Trip July 13–18

Registration for the High School Mission Trip is now open! This weeklong trip will provide students with the opportunity to serve the people of San Antonio while growing in their faith alongside their peers. All students of the graduating classes of 2025-2029 are welcome to register for the High School Mission Trip. Because space is limited for both trips, ALL students will initially be placed on a WAIT LIST on a first come first served basis and when an adult signs up, five students will be placed on the final roster. If a parent of a student on the wait list registers as a work group leader, their student will automatically be added to the final roster. Registration forms for this trip can be found at wcstudents.com.

Middle School Mission Trip June 9–13

All students of the graduating classes of 2030–2031 are welcome to register for Middle School Mission Trip. This week-long trip provides students with the opportunity to serve the people of San Antonio, Texas while growing in their faith alongside their peers. Students will stay at UTSA in San Antonio and then participate in work projects to serve local churches, ministries, and neighborhoods. Registration forms for this trip can be found at wcstudents.com.

7th Grade Trip June 2–3

We have a jam-packed schedule for the class of 2031 on this year's 7th Grade Trip. The trip, which takes place June 2-3, will be two action-packed days of ridiculous fun. Students will travel around the metroplex, going from one adventure to the next. This trip is designed to provide an opportunity for students to become acclimated with WC Student Ministry as they prepare for life as a 7th

grader. Every effort is made in helping students connect in friendships with each other and with our Student Ministry Team to lay a foundation of community. Registration forms for this trip can be found at wcstudents.com.

Leaders

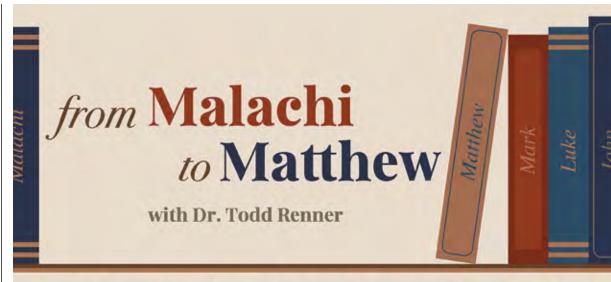
In order for these trips to be a success, more than 75 adults are needed as work group leaders for High School Mission Trip alone! We hope you will consider joining us. We are happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have. Work group leaders are responsible for co-leading a team of students with one or two other adults in assigned projects and facilitating group discussion/ devotion times (provided). Because we are required to provide one work group leader for every five students, the number of students who can attend this trip is strictly determined by the number of adults who register for this role. This year, to keep work groups small, we will need adult leaders more than ever. If you have ever wanted a shot at being a hero for a week, this is definitely it!

Senior Sunday Photos

We would like all graduating seniors to be a part of Senior Recognition Sunday, a memorable service during the Traditional Worship Service at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary on Sunday, May 4. To be included in the video slideshow that morning, please upload two photos of your senior in jpeg form (one photo taken during your student's senior year and one taken as a baby or during early childhood) via the QR code below. Please submit photos no later than April 24. If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Joseph. We will send out more information

about Senior Recognition Sunday (such as arrival times, dress, etc) as we get closer to the date.





Monday, April 7 | 6-7:30 p.m. | Evans Hall

Register at whiteschapel.org for class and for childcare. Dinner will be served.

Malachi

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But there was one question I never found an answer to, nor was it addressed in my Sunday School classes: What happened between Malachi and Matthew?

Malachi is, of course, the last book of the Old Testament, while Matthew is the first book of the New. And if this is a burning question you long to have answered, you should be interested to know that you can learn that answer on April 7.

Dr. Todd Renner will present From Matthew to Malachi in one of his endearing lectures in Evans Hall that evening at 6 p.m.

Dinner will be served. Separated by only one page in our Bibles, there are 400 years of history, culture, and faith developed in the span that separates the closing of the Old Testament and the beginning of the New. Often called the "Silent Years," understanding this pivotal era will embolden our

background in the social arena that Jesus lived in."

Renner earned his B.A. degree from Baylor in Religion with an emphasis in Hebrew Bible and Semitic languages.

"My undergrad program was all on the Old Testament, and [most of my stuff] usually ended with a little bit of Malachi... and so this was just personal study of mine. I really tried to dig deep: I did a personal study on the New Testament, the New Testament world, and the Greco Roman world [a study that included women] that Jesus lived in. These personal studies were so illuminating for me. It transformed the gospel from just black-and-white to Living Color to know the backstory of it all."

"That's really my hope-for those who come for this evening-that their

Dr. Todd Renner will present From Matthew to Malachi in one of his endearing lectures in Evans Hall on April 7 at 6 p.m. Dinner will be served.

relationship and their religious imagination will also be illuminated as they're doing their own personal devotionals and Bible studies. I'm hoping they can set themselves kind of in Jesus' world and understand why there was such a pushback to some of the radical things that Jesus was saying—and why they were radical."

Like any great

TWO IS BETTER/MANISTRY

WC Students recently experienced their annual retreats, Two is Better and Student Manistry. Two is Better was for female students in eighth through twelfth grade, while Student Manistry took place for male students in eighth through twelfth grade.

The two retreats took place simultaneously, each offering a unique and enriching experience for different groups of students. Both retreats provided meaningful experiences, fostering spiritual growth and building strong, lasting connections among peers.



faith (especially

in the "silent times" of our own lives) and deepen our grasp of the New Testament's message: its point, its personalities, and its power.

"During those centuries the scene is set for the world that Jesus will inhabit, the world that Jesus will come to save," said Renner, "so this is really a passion I think of all pastors. The knowledge of what happens in these years will help people understand the Bible, and especially the gospel message, better. To understand the context in which Jesus was preaching, administering, and serving helps us see the correlations between the struggles that He was facing and the struggles that we have faced ever since. I think it helps us to find a sense of hope and encouragement in the midst of struggle, and to better understand what it is that we're reading whenever we look at the New Testament and the gospel in particular. It just helps to know the religious and political

Lent

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confusion of the fighting, something amazing happened. A young 18-year old African American woman threw herself atop the man to protect him from the rampaging crowd. The protesters, moved by the sight of this lady protecting a man with whom she did not agree with at all, backed off. She never saw the man again; but months later, she was approached by another man—this one offering thanks. When she asked what for, the young man replied, "That was my dad."

That is what kingdom people do. They move beyond rancor and hostility to see the world through the eyes of Jesus.

historian or storyteller,

Renner will discuss both the good guys and the bad. One of his favorite bad guys is Antiochus IV Epiphanes.

A Roman governor in a time of Jewish rebellion there's a "whole lot of Jewish history that happens around him. He's the anti-hero but he's just such a quirky, gritty character. I'm not rooting for him, but he's just so bad and he is so wicked that it's an interesting study."

"Rome was trying to eradicate Judaism," Renner said. "How did it hang on? What gave them the courage to endure what they did? I

think we can find lessons for our own faith life in the midst of that."

Reservations are necessary for the dinner/



Tracy Christensen

tchristensen@whiteschapel.org

Kingdom people do not ask, "What's in it for me," but instead their great motivating desire is to further God's mission. Lent beckons us to live with that awareness, with the reality that we are already heirs of the Kingdom—a realm that is currently around us. Is it fulfilled yet? Of course not. But it grows closer and closer every time we cast off our earthly entanglements to become more concerned with pleasing God rather than pleasing others. It nears as we dare to stop chasing happiness in the futility of earthly pursuits and find ourselves basking in the work of the Kingdom's joys.

Excerpt from "Echoes from the Mountainside," a Lenten study published in 2018 and written by White's Chapel Co-pastors Dr. John McKellar and Dr. M Todd Renner. All rights reserved.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



Lenten Devotional **Available Now Online and in Print**

This year's devotional books are out on campus. You can also sign up to receive daily emails in your inbox or listen online. Scan above QR code or visit whiteschapel.org.



Holy Week: Embodied: A Lenten Prayer Experience

Monday, April 14–Thursday, April 17 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Friday, April 18 | 10 a.m. to Noon

During Holy Week, the church will offer different prayer experiences to engage people's minds and bodies as they focus on the significance of the season.

Six different independent prayer stations will be available Monday, April 14–Thursday, April 17 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Friday, April 18 from 10 a.m. to noon. Stations will include aspects of movement as well as contemplative ideas at each prayer station. People are invited to bring their journals to record their divine inspirations. While there will be a guide available at each station,

there is no right or wrong way to go through the experiences; participants are encouraged to let the Holy Spirit guide them.



Holy Week: Come and Go Prayer Friday, April 18 | Noon-3 p.m. **Grace Chapel**

This is personal time of prayer and silence. Any and all welcome.



WC Open Golf Tournament Sunday, April 27 | 1 p.m. Shotgun Start **Grapevine Golf Course**

3800 Fairway Drive, Grapevine, TX

The 2025 WC Open will take place on Sunday, April 27. Come support our students as they prepare for summer mission trips to Little Rock, AR. This tournament is a 4-player scramble format with a 2 p.m. shotgun start, with lunch provided before the round begins. The cost to play is \$150 per golfer (lunch included). For information on sponsorship opportunities and player registration, please visit wc-open.com. If you have any questions, contact Rev. Jon Reeves. Jon Reeves | jreeves@whiteschapel.org



This is a fun-filled come-and-go family event! Listen to the Easter story in an interactive and engaging way and enjoy this event that is packed with egg hunts, crafts, face painting, inflatables, petting zoo, snacks, and games.

Multiple egg hunts available throughout the morning, choose the time that works best for your family. The Family Egg Hunts are for all ages at 10:30 or 11:30 a.m. The Tiny Tots Hunt is 3 and under only at 11 a.m. The Eggsessible Hunt is for any child who has special needs

or limited mobility and it is at 10:15 a.m. Students (5th grade and up) and adult volunteers are need for this fun family event. Scan this QR code to sign up.



Contact Denise Bennett at dbennett@whiteschapel.org with questions.









Subha Akula, Mike Anderson, Sandi Attwood, Shannon Bafaro, Jack Bair, Paula Baker, Dorothy Bartkowiak, Kait Rhone Batts, Julie Bessire, Vickie Blalack, Mindy Bogan, Tricia Bosak, Heather Bossow, Bonnie Jo Bramhall, Cheryl Brashear, Carol Burns, Peggy Butner, Connie Center, Jim Clancy, Carolyn Cockerell, Andrea Collins, John Corder, Willene Corder, Barbara Cross, Barton Davis, Marie Denton, Wilma Dykman, Randy Fabrien, Sumali Fernando, Mark Fidler, Ed Foltz, Dorothy Fontana, Frank Forcelli, Morris Gates, Carolyn Gillum, Buddy Hall, Brenda Hazzard, Debbee Heldoorn, Kevin Hernandez, Doris Hockett, Elyse Huettl, Judy Hurt, Evelyn Iszak, Tim James, Bob Keim, Ann King, Lynda Knorpp, Mike Kopesec, Audry Kovach, Audra Kruk, Connie Lamb, Jeff Landen, Ashley Barret Leder, Mike Lee, Reese and Andrew Levengood, Luke Lunday, Emily Luther, Maddie Marchand, Blake Martens, Dale McCauley, Virginia McCauley, Matthew Mitchell, Doreen Mladenovic, Roland Moore, Terri and Mike Moore, Chuck Neuman, Paul Nolan, Tim O'Connor, Dee Perkins, Andy Prickett and Family, Wanda Pyhtila, Becky Saenz, Jason Sampson, Ann Sawyers, Danny Searls, Paul Sikes, Robbie Smith, Doris Splichal, Charles Stahl, Candace Stegint, Janet Stewart, Taylor Cameron Stotts, Steve Swanston, Peggy Sward, Tracy Thomas, Jeannine Tuggle, Gary Turner, Pam Van Dyke, Frances Votaw, Drew Watkins, John Will, Dick Williams, William Wilson, Linda Winant, Vicki Winn, Lazette Woods, Barbara and Lew Zapko, Jake. Recent deaths: The Family of Joanna Boren, The Family of Tom Campagna, The Family of Peter Colvin, The Family of James Devine, The Family of Tyler Dunn, The Family

of Sandra Hedrick, The Family of Suzonne Lawrence, The Family of Bill Oswald, The Family of Lorraine Love, The Family of Fred Luke, The Family of Paolo Natale, The Family of Jim Warsaw, The Family of Helen.

Submit names via QR code or www.whiteschapel.org/prayers.html. (Names will remain on this prayer list for two weeks unless otherwise notified via QR code or www.whiteschapel.org/prayers.html.)



WAYS TO GIVE AT WHITE'S CHAPEL







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