

Principles We Live By

We are a Christian community whose worship, communion, and fellowship are open to all without restriction to gender, race, ethnicity, economic situation or sexual orientation. We affirm that all have access to the love of Christ and service to God. We practice in the Baptist tradition, the core principles being:

- **Soul Freedom** — The individual is responsible to none except God, is totally competent to stand before God, and is capable of discerning meaning and action in life and practice under the direct inspiration of the Spirit of God and Holy Scripture.
- **Bible Freedom** — The Bible is our authority in matters of faith and practice and is to be interpreted in its entirety, using the best scholarship and the discernment of the community.
- **Church Freedom** — We are autonomous and congregational in governance. Our practices, policies, associations, and ministries are set by the congregation under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and Holy Scripture.
- **Religious Freedom** — The Church and civil government are independent of each other (separation of church and state). We support a free Church and a free state, separate and individually responsible to God.

Come Worship with Us

Our main worship service is at 11:00 am on Sunday mornings. This service consists of singing, prayers, meditation, scripture readings, and a thoughtful sermon. Our dress is casual or traditional, so you are always welcome to come as you prefer. The length of our worship service is approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes. After worship, join us for Coffee Hour in the Plaza Room downstairs at a lunch provided by hospitality teams, giving members and visitors alike the opportunity to share in fellowship. We look forward to meeting you one Sunday soon.

About Our Pastor



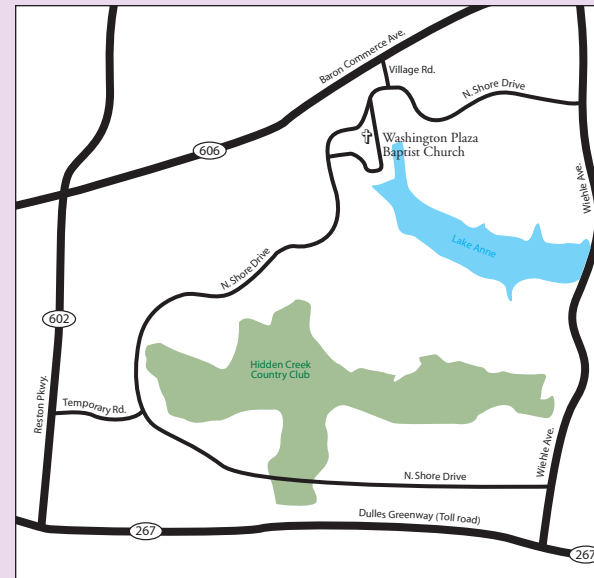
Rev. Elizabeth Evans Hagan earned her BS Degree from Samford University in Birmingham AL and her Master of Divinity Degree from Duke University in Durham NC. She came to Washington Plaza in January 2009 with a variety of previous experiences: ministry internships with children and youth in places such as Charleston SC, Lexington KY, and even in Jamaica and Mexico. She also taught 5th grade in an inner city school in Birmingham AL. Since 2003, she has served churches as an associate pastor in North Carolina, Washington DC and Maryland.

Elizabeth is passionate about building a strong community of faith at Washington Plaza, people who know and love each other well and will use their gifts and resources for the good of God's purposes in the world. She has traveled extensively in the past several years to places like Uganda, Rwanda, Kenya, Burma, Thailand and Argentina, using these trips to shape her worldview and find opportunities for shared learning and service. She thinks that the Washington DC area is one of the most exciting places to be and is thrilled to have the opportunity to serve this community!

Elizabeth always signs her email communications with "happy to be your minister," and that's exactly the way the congregation feels about her.

"Every Sunday I am greeted with sincere friendship and a joy to see me."

DIRECTIONS TO OUR CHURCH



Park at the lower end of the parking lot, close to the entrance to the Plaza. Walk into the Plaza toward the benches at the lake. The Church is to the immediate right of the benches and left of the coffee shop. Go up the stairs to enter the Church sanctuary or use the sidewalk located to the right of the Church to enter the Plaza Room.

"I love this church because I feel God's presence and His love every time I enter."

Washington Plaza Baptist Church

1615 Washington Plaza • Lake Anne Center
Reston, VA 20190

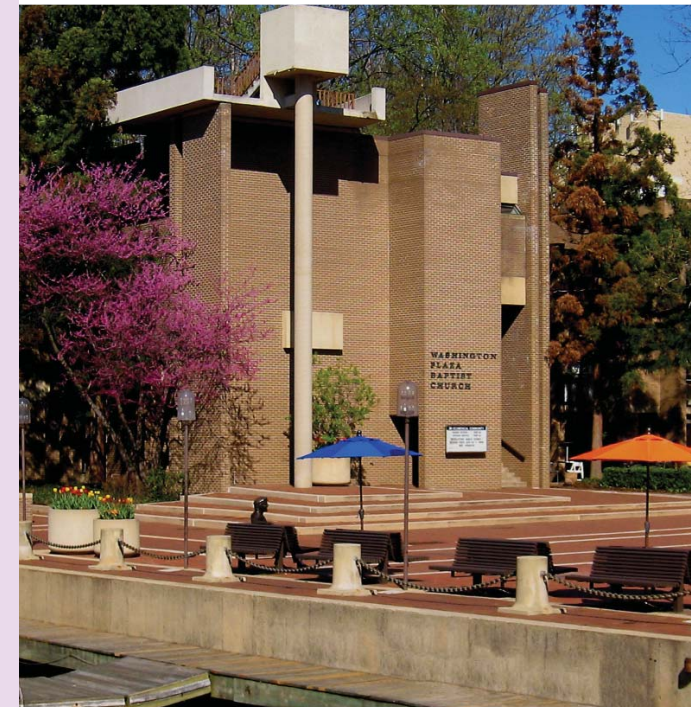
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Washington Plaza Baptist Church...



A Place Where All Are Welcome

Washington Plaza Baptist Church

is a growing Christian, multicultural church, with young people, baby-boomers, and active 80 and 90 year-old members.

We are a church that welcomes all people: those who have doubts about their faith from time to time, those who believe in individual access to God, and those who delight in the beauty of diversity.

We are a community that has historically stood for promoting justice and civil rights, affirming the gifts of women in ministry, and helping the homeless.

We are a community where you don't have to agree with everyone to be accepted, a community where you can come with all your questions, all your uncertainties, all your burdens and find hope and people who love you and care for you. We welcome all who come in our doors.

"I love this church for its diversity — its acceptance of all — its support for one another."



Our Ministries — the Short List

Music Ministry

We have a growing choir, an ambitious music program and an outstanding Choir Director. Our choir meets every Monday from 7:00 to 8:30 PM in the church sanctuary to rehearse for Sunday services and upcoming special events.

Our choir often performs in benefit concerts and we host concerts with visiting musicians. New choir members are always welcome, and we are constantly looking for quality musicians to perform in our concerts. If you would like to participate, call (703.471.5225) or email our church office (administrator@washingtonplazachurch.com) to set up an audition.

Reston Interfaith

WPBC is one of the founding members of Reston Interfaith, a non-profit organization supported by the religious community of Reston and Herndon. Reston Interfaith provides affordable housing, runs a high quality day care center, a food pantry, and manages the Embry Rucker Community Shelter. WPBC actively participates in many of these programs including collections for food, school backpacks and holiday baskets, advocates for the homeless and participates in Works Sunday and the county's Hypothermia Project.

ESOL Classes

We offer multi-level classes in English for Speakers of Other Languages designed to aid students in conversing in English. Classes are available three times a week from September to May, as well as two months in the summer. Participants may join at any time. Please come to one of the classes and speak to a teacher!

The Closet

WPBC members have been serving on The Closet's board of directors and supplying volunteers for 35 years. This community thrift shop has been an important source of clothing and home furnishings for people of little means. Its tremendous volume generates thousands of dollars annually which are dispersed to many local charities.

A Few of Our Fellowship and Education Opportunities

Children's Sunday School

We welcome children at WPBC and offer children's Sunday School during the time of worship for adults. Students attending our Sunday School will grow through Bible stories, application of Bible lessons to everyday living, and a variety of age-appropriate activities. It is a great opportunity for children to work together with a group of all ages

"A friend recommended WPBC as a loving community. The church members are warm and welcoming, and the pastor is young, intelligent and enthusiastic. After four long years of searching, I immediately knew this was the church for me!"

and for older children to begin to learn more about mentoring.

Adult Sunday Morning Bible Study

Our Adult Bible Study is held on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am in the Plaza Room. We study a variety of topics about the Christian faith through the year. Bring your Bible if you have one and join in the conversation. Know that this is an open minded gathering where all are welcome. The goals are openness, sharing, acceptance and spiritual growth. Whether faith in Christ is something you embrace or are still wondering about, you will feel right at home!

Noon Bible Study for Ladies

This women's group has been in existence for about 35 years. It is open to all women in and out of WPBC. The group uses a study book in seeking the meaning of God's word. Meeting once a month at different homes for lunch, conversation and study has led to forming a close bond of fellowship and love.

Evening Women's Group

This group provides a community of support in which women can freely discuss triumphs, problems and losses, and also have fun. Laughter, hugs and self knowledge abound. Plans include discussing books of a religious nature, a possible creative writing course, trips, concerts and movies.

