

# RIVER CITY FAITH NETWORK

*Working together until Metro Richmond is*

## TRANSFORMED

**November 2025**



*Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever. Psalms 118:1*

### *Lighting a Spark!*

2026 will mark the 75th anniversary of the Richmond Baptist Association. Although 1951 is the official launch date of the RBA, Baptist churches in Richmond have been ministering in the city through the Baptist City Missionary Society (1888), Baptist Council and the Women's Mission Society (1872) for more than a hundred and fifty years. We will celebrate this milestone in several ways, the most important one being the gift of rekindling the spark of what it means to be God's people in this place at this time.

As I began my tenure here in 2022 the Board was examining the ministries, programs, and property to develop a plan for the best stewardship of our resources that will bear the most fruit. Pruning is a difficult task when dealing with limited income, great staff, and important ministries. Pruning is necessary at times for preventing disease, reshaping the plant, taming unguided and unrestricted growth. But how much do we cut, what and when do we prune? In the end, pruning brings about health, beauty, and better fruit.

In January, our Board made the decision to acquire the services of a consultant to help us envision the future of our work among our Richmond Baptist churches. In July, the Board approved the consulting help of Iwa Collaborative and their principal partner, Dr. Joshua Hayden. Iwa Collaborative exists to help churches make discipleship central and connect it with their local mission. They help remission established churches and associations that are trying to adapt to their culture and seek the flourishing of their local communities.

The remissioning process will take approximately 18-24 months and include a three-pronged approach. First, the staff will participate in a 25-week remissioning collective with other leaders from across the United States. Our cohort will help us recalibrate our ministries around missional presence, tackle old policies and outdated procedures, and honor the past while innovating toward the future. Second, our associational leadership will engage in three leadership retreats as we discover, plan, and implement the vision for the future. Third, our churches are invited to join us in their own remissioning as well. Associations are only as strong as their churches and we want to invest in the health and kingdom mission for all of us.

There are three phases to this process:

*Discovery: will help us gain clarity on our remissioning pathway in conjunction with identifying where our member churches are at the same time. This involves interviewing our church leaders and listening to the heartbeat of our churches.*

*Planning: will identify gaps from where we are to where we want to be. This involves looking at how we operate, trying something new and aligning our structure with our mission.*

*Implementation: will clarify the practical ways to develop and implement a plan for the association. This may involve remissioning the centers, forming funding plans exploring new partnerships.*

*"For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands."*

*2 Timothy 1: 6*

*"And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."*

*Hebrews 10 : 24 - 25*

*I am excited about this remissioning process as we reconnect with our churches, discovering who we are as a body of churches. I look forward to imagining what opportunities for missional discipleship might look like for the RCFN. Most importantly, to strengthen and regenerate our association and her churches for God's kingdom. I believe we have many years to continue God's transforming work in Richmond. My hope is that we can Light a Spark in 2026 to do what only God can make possible!*

*With Hopeful Expectation,  
Maria Lynn, Executive Director Mission Strategist*



# MINISTRY CENTERS



## CHURCH HILL CHRISTIAN WELLNESS CENTER

Rev. Glinda Ford, Director 804.329.1701 ext 104

### Join us for Bible Study and Lunch on Fridays!

Our group enjoys lively conversation as we dig into the Scripture and fellowship around the lunch table.

### Sponsor a Lunch

If you would like to prepare lunch, sponsor a lunch, or provide gift cards for lunch from Food Lion, Jason's Deli, Papa John's, or Sally Bell's please contact Glinda.



## CHURCH HILL CHRISTIAN WELLNESS CENTER



### Christmas Store

Wish list: Coat or Outfit (Top & Bottom) or Pajamas  
Large or Small Toy

### Store Date and Location

Saturday, December 6, 2025  
Mount Tabor Baptist Church  
2011 Fairmount Ave.  
Richmond, VA 23223



## OREGON HILL COMMUNITY Pine Street Church

**Delivery Days for Christmas Joy:**  
**Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> (9am-5pm)**  
**Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> (1pm-5pm)**

**Contact Rev. Jennifer Turner for  
Delivery Appointment**

Community Meal will be held on Thursday, December 4th, 11th, 18th  
9:30 am - 11:00 am

## OREGON HILL BAPTIST CENTER

Rev. Jennifer Turner, Director 804.329.1701 ext 103

### Men's Gently Used Clothing ONLY

*Underwear (New or Like New - washed, unstained, no tears)*

*Athletic Shoes, Athletic Sweat Pants (sizes 30-34)*

*Athletic Long Pants and Jeans*

*Underwear & White Athletic Socks*

*Coats, Jackets and Hoodies*

*No dress pants or trousers*



### Grocery Store Gift Cards

**Bottle Water & Protein (Vienna Sausage, Chicken, Tuna)**

**Snack Bags for the Unhoused**

## SOUTH RICHMOND BAPTIST CENTER

Christmas Joy!

December 4, 2025

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

### NEW PICK UP LOCATION

Friendship Memorial Baptist Church

1901 Hicks Road

North Chesterfield, Virginia 23235

804.404.2402

### Drop off and Delivery Dates:

**December 1 to December 3**

**Time: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm**

## SOUTH RICHMOND BAPTIST CENTER BAG REFILL

Rev. Wesley Garrett, Director 804.404.2402

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month**

### 40 Bags for those in NEED!

- |                                                  |                              |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2- cans of Green Vegetable                       | 2 - cans of Yellow Vegetable |
| 1- Jar of peanut butter                          | 2- cans of Fruit             |
| 2 - cans of soup                                 | 2- cans of beans             |
| 2 -cans of meat(corn beef hash, tuna, chili)     |                              |
| 1 - entree-canned tomato sauce/paste/pasta       |                              |
| 2- Large boxed of cereal or 6-8 packs of oatmeal |                              |
| 1- additional staple: Rice meal, ect             |                              |



# Connecting the Light

Your gifts to the RCFN help support these events - Thank you!

## LIGHTING A SPARK 2025 RCFN 74th Annual Meeting



RISE AGAINST HUNGER MEAL PACKING  
Packed over 6000 meals to feed the community around the world!



River City Faith Network  
Richmond Baptist Association  
2828 Emerywood Parkway  
Richmond, VA 23294  
804-329-1701  
office@baonline.org  
[www.richmondbaptist.org](http://www.richmondbaptist.org)

Electronic Service Requested

*Working together until  
Metro Richmond is...*

**TRANSFORMED**

November 2025



**NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
RICHMOND, VA.  
Permit No. 3022**

#### 2025 RCFN CALENDAR

|           |                                      |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| Nov 10-12 | BGAV Annual Meeting                  |
| Nov 11    | Camp Alkulana CAST Meeting           |
| Nov 16    | Woodland Heights Pastor Installation |
| Nov 18    | RCFN Staff Meeting & Board Meeting   |
| Nov 19    | Personnel Committee Mtg              |
| Nov 22    | Camp Alkulana Turkey Delivery        |
| Nov 25    | SRBC Christmas Joy Parents Meeting   |
| Nov 27-28 | RCFN Thanksgiving Holiday            |

#### Center Ministry Program Schedule

|               |                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>CHCWC:</b> | Mondays: Clothes Closet<br>Tues- Thurs: Financial Assistance<br>Fridays: Bible Study<br>Third Wednesday & Thursday: Food Collection & Pantry |
| <b>OHBC:</b>  | Mondays: Mail Distribution<br>First & Third Wednesdays: Laundry Ministry<br>Thursdays: Meal, Lockers, Clothes Closet                         |
| <b>SRBC:</b>  | Mondays: Furniture & Clothing<br>Wednesdays: Bible Study<br>Third Thursday: Food Pantry                                                      |

#### Condolences for

Rev. Lois Carter, Mount Tabor Baptist Church,  
in the death of her Father-in-law.

#### Congratulations

Dr. Lance D. Watson on his 40<sup>th</sup> Pastoral Anniversary.  
Dr. Watson has served the community and people in eastern  
Henrico at St. Paul's Baptist Church.

#### Church Employment Opportunities

First Baptist - Director of Stewardship & Development  
Gravel Hill BC - Bi-Vocational Pastor  
Poplar Springs BC - Children's Ministry Coordinator  
Lakeside Baptist Church- Pianist  
Broadus Memorial BC - Minister of Youth-PT  
Gayton BC - Part-Time Church Office Manager