

March 2023

## Working together until Metro Richmond is... TRANSFORMED

## Installation and Mission Gathering

At the Annual Meeting on October 16, 2022, The River City Faith Network elected the Reverend Doctor Maria Ellis Lynn as our new Executive Director Mission Strategist. Maria began her work among us on November 1; and has been actively participating in and leading the work of the Network, providing opportunities for engagement, and connecting with Board, Support Team members and church leadership.

The time has come for us to celebrate a new season of ministry in the River City Faith Network under her leadership. We hope you and members of your church will join us on Sunday, March 19th for an Installation Service and Mission Gathering. The event will be held at 3:00 pm at Bon Air Baptist Church at the Buford Rd location. If you have questions or would like to RSVP for this event, please call the RCFN office at 804-329-1701\*101. Please share this invitation with those in your church family and invite them to join us!

We will also be collecting jars of peanut butter and jelly for use of our centers and Camp Alkulana. All gentleman are asked to bring a peanut butter and the ladies attending are asked to bring a jelly. We hope to benefit our ministries and have some fun when welcoming everyone to this event. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you then.

- Bob Thompson, RCFN Board Chairman





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#### Noteworthy Dates

CAST Meeting March 14, 2023 Room 265 6 pm

**PREACH 2023** March 12-14, 2023

Maria Lynn Installation March 19, 2023 Bon Air Baptist 3pm

RCFN Board Meeting March 28, 2023 Room 265 3:30 pm

MINISTRY OF THE WEEK March 2023 3/5 Community Mission

3/12 Deaf Mission 3/19 Derbyshire Baptist 3/26 Central VA Race Ministry

#### WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

WE ARE COLLECTING INFORMATION FROM OUR CHURCHES ABOUT HOW WE CAN BEST HELP THEM PREPARE FOR THIS YEAR'S WEEK OF PRAYER. PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE WITH ANY IMMEDIATE QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE AT 804-329-1701 EXT 101

### Haircuts for the Homeless

The OHBC is excited to announce that beginning in March 2023, we will be partnering with TRUFades Haircuts and Beards Barbershop Apprentice Program one or two Tuesdays a month to provide haircuts for our homeless program participants. Those receiving cuts will need to sign up at our Thursday Meal Program and receive an appointment. It is our hope to be able to provide up to 10-15 cuts each Tuesday! This will be such a self -esteem booster not to mention the impact a haircut makes when applying for jobs, housing, etc.!!

Thanks to all who have kept this OHBC ministry 2022 Week Of Prayer goal in your prayers! It will soon be a reality!

As we slowly move closer to spring, but still have some cold nights, please let us know if you have any of the following to assist the needs of OHBC: Men's Clothing (Casual, comfortable, seasonally appropriate) Pants, Shirts, Shoes, Coats, Underwear, Rain Ponchos, Umbrellas

- Jennifer Turner, OHBC



#### **CAMP ALKULANA** 2023 Summer Camp Dates

Older Boys Session: June 16-27 Younger Boys Session: July 1-July 8 Older Girls Session: July 15-July 26 Younger Girls Session: July 30-Aug 6

# Need a summer job? WE ARE HIRING!



Camp Alkulana is seeking active, creative, and enthusiastic young adults to serve as summer camp counselors for children and youth from the Richmond, Virginia area. Camp counselors are at least 18 years old.

> Contact: bwright@alkulana.org

Apply now at alkulana.org



### Moving Along at Satellite!

Things have been progressing at the South Richmond Satellite Center. We are excited to begin the Furniture ministry at the Satellite building. Please contact us at 804-232-0174 if you have donations of furniture, washer/dryers and household goods like appliances, silverware and dishes; which are always needed.

We will also be placing a new, updated food box outside the center for anyone who has an immediate food need. This is being gifted to us from students at the University of Richmond. We are excited about this addition and working hard to provide groceries for the on-going needs of this community. If you are interested in helping with our food ministry, our food pantry provides service to the community on the third Thursdays of the month. Items usually placed in bags are standard (14.5 - 16oz) cans of: green beans, peas, assorted vegetables, baked beans, corn, soups, tuna, tomato paste, chicken, applesauce, peaches, apples, peanut butter and jelly (Jars), dry milk or evaporated milk, macaroni and cheese meals, ravioli can meals, boxes of cereal and instant oatmeal, etc. We collect items throughout the month and have available for this monthly event and emergency needs as well.

We are also looking for assistance with translating items and documents and to provide religious informational literature for our Spanish speaking clients. If you can help provide support to these individuals, please contact me to discuss this ministry opportunity. Thank you for the support of these needs at our center.

- Wesley Garrett, SRBC

## River City Leadership Opportunities to Gather and Grow

As we begin a new season of ministry among the RCFN churches, we want to encourage and support our ministers, key leaders and volunteers in their congregational and community ministry by offering new opportunities to gather, grow, connect and collaborate. Please complete the survey on our website or click this <u>link</u> to take you to the survey. Please let us know any and all sessions you may be interested in learning more about. Your feedback will help us schedule programming based on your responses.

#### **Pastors & Ministers Support Groups**

Meet regularly for personal prayer and encouragement around the needs of the group

#### **Pastors & Ministers Peer Learning Groups**

Meet for learning and discussion with your ministry peers around topics related to ministry

#### Age-Level and Specialized Ministry Networks

Children, Youth, Young Adult, Music, ESL, etc. leaders meet for idea sharing, training opportunities, and collaboration related to their specialized area of ministry.

#### **Minister's Book Discussion**

Meet once a quarter for discussion of current literature applicable to ministry.

#### Key Leadership Training Workshops

Periodic trainings for church leadership positions: church finances, child- care, deacons, discipleship, pastor search teams, etc.

#### **Mission Dialogs**

Discussion of mission engagement models and how our church might expand its reach.

#### **Cultural Competence Workshops**

Develop our cultural understanding, behaviors, and attitudes, to relate effectively in cross-cultural situations.

#### Into the Neighborhood Events

Opportunities to learn more about the needs of our Richmond neighborhoods and the work of the ministry centers serving those communities.



RCFN team at the Darkness to Light event. From bottom left: Brittany Bell (VCU Intern), Kate Wakeland (CA Intern), SaraAnne Burgess, Jo Ellen Schneider, Back Row from left: Eric Paz (VCU Intern), Beth Wright, Glinda Ford, Wesley Garrett, Maria Lynn and Jennifer Turner

#### CVRM NEEDS YOUR HELP!! COOKIES NEEDED!

Central Virginia Raceway Ministries (CVRM) invites you to participate and asks for your help by making cookies (please - no store bought cookies). CVRM leaders ask that church mission groups, Sunday School classes, youth groups, and individuals make "homemade" cookies. Please bag these in small clear lock-style plastic bags, 2-3 medium sized cookies per bag. Put a label on the outside of each bag "compliments of \_\_\_\_\_\_ Baptist Church." Please contact Charles Ward at 804-262-3612 or abcdward73@yahoo.com if you plan to prepare cookies. They will need to be ready by March 30th. *Food Allergy Alert:* CVRM appreciates all the cookies, but, if you use peanuts or a peanut product in your cookies, please be sure to note that on the bag.

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Electronic Service Requested

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The River City Faith Network expresses their sincere condolences to the families, friends, and congregations on the passing of:

Rev. Tom Ficklin, Pastor Emeritus of Woodland Heights Baptist Church

Ruth Guill, a driving force for RCFN mission partnerships, WMU and the work of the ministry centers

Rebecca Richerson, wife of Stephen Richerson, former pastor of Westover Hills Baptist Church

Please be in prayer for the families and congregations as they grieve the loss of these remarkable people. NON-PROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID RICHMOND, VA. Permit No. 3022

## 2023 IRS MILEAGE RATES

 Rate has incresed to 65.5 cents per mile driven for business use.

• Effective from January 1, 2023

HTTPS://WWW.IRS.GOV FOR MORE INFO



