

# TRANSFORMED

March 2024

## 2024 CAMP ALKULANA REGISTRATION

**Registration is now open for Camp Alkulana for the summer!** The Camp staff is happy to announce the dates for camp and welcome interested families to register. Space is limited, so please share this information as soon as possible with your congregations and youth activities.

Our summer camp program is the heart of our work; we believe a good camping program provides a ripe opportunity for life-changing experiences. Each summer we serve approximately 200 campers, ages 9-14, in a traditional overnight summer camp setting. Our four summer sessions are divided by age and gender. Our aim is to provide a camp experience for campers who would not otherwise be able to afford it. Therefore, the majority of our camper spots go to children and youth who are eligible for the USDA free or reduced lunch programs in their schools. Our campers are from the greater Richmond area, including Richmond city, Henrico, Hanover, Chesterfield, and Petersburg. Campers pay from \$40-\$200 for their camp experience.

Camp Alkulana is recruiting counselors and counselors-in-training for this upcoming summer session. If you are active, energetic and creative and passionate about youth, please contact Beth Wright at 804-329-1701 ext: 114 or [email bwright@alkulana.org](mailto:bwright@alkulana.org) for more information.

## Camp Alkulana '24

**Older Boys Session**  
**June 16-27**

**Older Girls Session**  
**July 15-26**

**Younger Boys Session**  
**July 1-8**

**Younger Girls Session**  
**Jul 30 - Aug 6**

Visit: [alkulana.org](http://alkulana.org)

## Ministry of the Week

Please pray for our churches and the activities providing ministry around the RCFN each week. Each week we focus on a different church or program here in Richmond.

### MARCH 2024

3/3- Community Mission  
3/10- Camp Alkulana Auction  
3/17- Derbyshire Baptist  
3/24- Central VA Raceway Ministry  
3/31- First Baptist

## Upcoming Events

Please be sure to check for all the happenings on the RCFN website for the most up to date information and to register for certain events!

3/4- FBC Book Discussion  
3/5- Baptist Women in Ministry  
3/12- CAST Meeting  
3/16- Camp Alkulana Auction  
3/19- RCFN Board Meeting  
3/26- Mental Health First Aid  
3/28- Children's Books and CVRM Cookies Due to RCFN  
3/30-3/31- CVRM Richmond Race Weekend



## UPDATES FROM AROUND THE RIVER CITY FAITH NETWORK



Any questions about this event, please call 804-355-8637.

### A CHALLENGE TO OUR CITY

Please join Rev. Jim Somerville and David Bailey (pictured left) on March 4th at First Baptist Richmond for this year's choice for the FBC city-wide book read. The selection is *The Fire Next Time* by James Baldwin, written as a letter to his nephew on the 100th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. And because it's a short book (only 111 pages), they are recommending a second short book, *Between the World and Me*, by Ta-Nehisi Coates. **The challenge** is to read one or both books and then join the discussion in the fellowship hall of Richmond's First Baptist Church on March 4, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. The discussion is free and open to the public. No reservation is required. Both books are available at Amazon.com

## PREACH ENDURE 2024

MARCH 10-12, 2024

EAGLE EYRIE CONFERENCE CENTER  
1 EAGLE EYRIE DRIVE, LYNCHBURG, VA 24503

### PREACH 2024 CONFERENCE FOR PASTORS

Join us for Preach 2024, a conference designed to help pastors sharpen their skills in a peer-learning environment. Experience a time of renewal through four worship services, while also gaining valuable insights and knowledge from twenty breakout sessions on a variety of topics. The serene retreat setting at Eagle Eyrie Conference Center in the Blue Ridge Mountains provides a beautiful backdrop to this special time of renewal, reflection and connection with fellow pastors. Register today at [www.preach2024.org](http://www.preach2024.org)

### RICHMOND RACEWAY SPRING EVENT NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

Please join CVRM at Richmond Raceway's Easter weekend Worship Service and the TOYOTA OWNERS 400! Any ticket sales purchased through THIS LINK will benefit Central Virginia Raceway Ministries, in their ministry of hospitality to fans through acts of service. They still need volunteers to help, please contact Charles at the email below to get involved. In addition, RCFN is collecting homemade cookies and Easter eggs! Place 2-3 cookies per bag with a label including if they are nut-free and "compliments of [your church]." Plastic Easter eggs should contain factory-wrapped candy and should not be taped shut. Please deliver all COOKIE AND EASTER EGG DONATIONS to the RCFN Office at 2828 Emerywood Pkwy, Richmond, VA 23294 **by Thursday, March 28th**. You can email Charles Ward at [abcdward73@yahoo.com](mailto:abcdward73@yahoo.com) with any questions and online volunteer training information.

<https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Centralvirginia> for CVRM tickets

### CHILDREN'S BOOKS FOR LIBERIA

Calvina Birch, member of Lighthouse International Church and daughter of Pastor, Calvin Birch is a graduating senior at Randolph Macon College. As part of a leadership project, she is hoping to establish a library for a church school in Liberia this summer. The RCFN would like to support her in this project by collecting new and gently used books for the elementary children.

Calvina hopes to partner with the Virginia Church Library Association to assist with cataloging the books before sending them to Liberia. Please join us in collecting books for Liberia! Books may be dropped off at the RCFN offices Monday - Thursday between 9 am - 3 pm until **March 28th, 2024**.

CVRM has exclusive ticket opportunity!



## RIVER CITY FAITH NETWORK EVENTS THIS MONTH

### CAMP ALKULANA AUCTION EVENT- MARCH 16, 2024

The Camp Alkulana Staff and Support Team are looking forward to seeing you at the upcoming Auction event. Please join others from around the River City Faith Network at this special event that puts Camp Alkulana summer programs in the spotlight. The event will be at Derbyshire Baptist Church beginning at 5 p.m. Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served. Attendees will have the opportunity to bring home the Oscar of items from some of your favorite Richmond area businesses, crafted goods and experiences you are sure to enjoy. Register to attend today!! Limited tickets remain. If you have any questions, please contact Beth Wright, [bwright@alkulana.org](mailto:bwright@alkulana.org) or 804-329-1701 ext:114 or you can register for tickets online at

[alkulana.org](http://alkulana.org)



### RCFN WILL BE HOSTING A YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING ON MARCH 26, 2024

This is a public education program which introduces participants to the unique risk factors and warning signs of mental health problems in adolescents, builds understanding of the importance of early intervention, and teaches individuals how to help an adolescent (ages 12-18) in crisis or experiencing a mental health challenge.

**WHAT WILL PARTICIPANTS LEARN?** The course teaches participants the risk factors and warning signs of a variety of mental health challenges common among adolescents, including anxiety, depression, psychosis, eating disorders, AD/HD, disruptive behavior disorders, and substance use disorder.

**WHO SHOULD TAKE THE COURSE?** The course is designed for all adults who regularly interact with adolescents (teachers, school staff, coaches, youth group leaders, parents, etc.) This session will be held from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. at 2828 Emerywood Parkway, Richmond, VA 23294 You can register online at [www.richmondbaptist.org](http://www.richmondbaptist.org).

**Please register by March 10th. \$50.00 Fee includes materials and lunch for the session.**

**WHY YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID?**  
Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among children and adolescents ages 12-18.

- 10.2%** of youth will be diagnosed with a substance use disorder in their lifetime. Source: Youth Mental Health First Aid\*\*
- 1 IN 5** teens and young adults lives with a mental health condition. Source: National Alliance for Mental Illness\*
- 50%** of all mental illnesses begin by age 14, and 75% by the mid-20s. Source: Archives of General Psychiatry\*\*\*

### MIDWIVES OF A MOVEMENT DOCUMENTARY AT THE BYRD THEATER



The feature documentary film chronicles the stories of the women who boldly birthed a movement to seek greater visibility and opportunities for women in the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC). Despite great opposition, their courage blazed pathways for advancing women in ministry and leadership among Baptists. There will be a screening for Richmond at the Byrd Theatre on March 5, 2024 at 7 p.m. Tickets can be obtained at <https://churchbenefits.org/bwimdoctour/> or call **(770) 220-1672**

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

**Electronic Service Requested**

*Working together until  
Metro Richmond is...*

**TRANSFORMED**

**March 2024**



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

## **RCFN CENTER CORNER**

Our Centers are currently looking for assistance with the following items:

**Church Hill CWC**- is working to assist a family with the following needs: a living room set, kitchenette, twin beds with mattresses and a mattress topper.

**Oregon Hill**- Now collecting spring and summer men's clothes for the unhoused in Oregon Hill. Help serve a Thursday meal to the Oregon Hill Community!! Available dates are: **March 14, April 4, April 25**

**South Richmond**- canned food items are always appreciated for the urgent food insecurity in South Richmond.

Please contact our Center Directors for more information and to make an appointment to deliver your items. Thank you for your support of our Centers!

804-329-1701

## **RCFN CARE AND CONGRATULATIONS**

The River City Faith Network would like to share congratulations to:



**Rev. Wesley Garrett** of Friendship Memorial Baptist Church and **Rev. Dr. Bob Lee** of Huguenot Road Baptist Church on their Pastor Anniversaries in March! *pictured above respectively*

**The River City Faith Network extends sympathy to the family and friends of:**

**Ms. Georgia Bowles**, a longtime supporter and volunteer of South Richmond Satellite Center.  
**Gertrude "Ms. Gertie" Blake**, a parent of campers and longtime volunteer at Camp Alkulana who cooked each summer from 1983-2019.

[www.richmondbaptist.org](http://www.richmondbaptist.org)